



WELCOME MEETING FOR PARENTS OF CHILDREN STARTING SCHOOL IN --- SEPTEMBER 2024

Holywell Village First School:
Making Learning an Adventure



Our vision for pupils at our school:

- At Holywell Village First School we have high aspirations for our children to become well-rounded, **respectful** and responsible future citizens. They are happy, independent and have positive self-esteem. They have a thirst for learning and are emotionally regulated so they are **'Ready to Learn'**. They are curious about the world around them and are confident to 'have a go'. They are reflective learners who persevere and demonstrate good communication and social skills. They are **thoughtful, caring and kind.**



Our Ethos

- The school has a busy, purposeful and engaging atmosphere. There is a respectful, safe and caring environment throughout. Children are **supported** and **challenged** in all they do. **Pupils' views** help shape the work of the school. Learning opportunities and support systems are tailored to individual needs. **Partnerships** are **powerful**; **parents/carers** are an integral part of children's learning, care, guidance and support. Pupils actively engage in **community** projects ensuring they foster a sense of **pride** in their local area.



How we aim to deliver our vision

We will:

- Provide a **safe** environment where children will be challenged and encouraged to 'have a go'
- Through our **relationships** with each other we will be good role models
- Through our wider **curriculum** children will develop good personal and social skills
- Foster strong, positive and long-lasting **partnerships** with parents, carers and the wider community.



- **OUR UNIQUE CURRICULUM IS KEY TO DELIVERING OUR VISION:**

- Deliver the **National Curriculum** and **Early Years Foundation Stage Curriculum**, as well as statutory PSHE and RE requirements, through a **creative and engaging** approach that **excites** and **motivates** children and staff
- Be prepared to **reflect** and **refine** in the light of new information/intelligence
- **Prepare** our pupils for the future by ensuring they are taught the **necessary English, maths and ICT skills** in order to meet the demands of the 21st Century and beyond
- **Equip** our pupils with the **skills and knowledge** required to keep themselves **healthy** and **safe** in both the **real and virtual world**
- Use **data** and other appropriate information to **provide for** each unique pupil based on their individual needs
- **Listen and respond** appropriately to the views of pupils regarding **school life**.





WE WANT OUR
CHILDREN TO BE THE
BEST THAT THEY CAN
BE



Key People

Head Teacher & Deputy:

- Mrs Sarah Brett & Mrs Samantha Endacott
- **Parent Governors: (wearing orange lanyards)**
- Mr Dave Anderson
- **Other Governors:(wearing orange lanyards)**
- Mrs Angela Hall (Chair of Governors) Mr Adrian Dougherty, (parent), Mrs Sandra Hogarth (staff) & Mrs Samantha Endacott (teacher), Mrs Amy Douglas (parent), Mrs Emma Fagan, Mrs Carol Redhead, Mr Martin Swaffield (parent) Mrs Emma Williamson, Mrs Sarah Hornby (Parent Governor representative)

Office staff:

- Mrs Emma Reed & Mr Stephen Wood

Nursery and Reception staff:

- Mrs Leanne Saxton, Miss Caroline Orchard, Mrs Hayley Stewart, & Mrs Juliet Freel

Parent Governors –What is their role in school?

- Make strategic plans for school improvement
- Formulate policies to make sure improvements happen
- Visits into school to monitor and evaluate leadership and management
- Visits into classes to monitor subject areas
- Check data, performance management etc
- Give a parental viewpoint to inform decision-making in school
- Respond to parental queries on behalf of the governing body- formal and informal

Nursery Staff

- Mrs Hayley Stewart – Nursery Teacher



Mrs Juliet Freel – Nursery Nurse

Reception Staff

- Mrs Leanne Saxton – Reception Teacher



- Mrs Caroline Orchard - Reception Teacher



- Support staff from September 2024 to be confirmed...

Wraparound care: our onsite partner is:

Current provision is:

7:30 am - 9 am

12 pm - 6 pm



The boring bits ...

- **Attendance:**

Even if your child is not compulsory school age, we do expect excellent attendance and absences only in the most exceptional circumstances (Attendance Policy 'New Starters' section on our website).

The importance of good school attendance

Protective factor

If children are in school then they are visible to professionals and we know that they are safe.



Learning & achievement

Regular attendance is vital for children to make the most of educational opportunities to become emotionally resilient, confident, competent young adults. It's crucial to establish good habits for attendance from Early Years.

Meeting needs

If children are in school then they can get access to the support that they need, when they need it, including from health & social support services



The law

All children are entitled by law to a suitable education and it is the parents' duty to ensure they get it (either at school or home educated).



Good school attendance is ...



190 **184** **171** **161** **152** **143**

School days in each academic year
Days of education
Days of education
Days of education
Days of education
Days of education

100% **97%** **90%** **85%** **80%** **75%**
attendance attendance attendance attendance attendance attendance



Well done



Concerned



Seriously worried

• Punctuality

Why do children need to arrive on time for school?

Your child's education is important and being late will mean:-

- Missing the beginning of lessons
- Not hearing important information about school and lessons. And could mean: Not being able to complete work because your child was not given vital information
- Your child being embarrassed at having to enter a room where a lesson has already started
- Being late for the start of important assessment work or exams
- Your child failing to learn important knowledge, life skills; employers will expect good time keeping and children need to learn this from an early age.

- **We request that you read all of the required information and user agreements prior to your child starting school in September...**
- **The website is about to undergo a revamp so may look a little different. The required information will still be found within the New Starters tab.**

Holywell Village First School



- Home
- Information
- Statutory Information
- Parent & Carer Zone
- Our School Curriculum
- Policies
- Ofsted
- New Starters
- News
- Calendar
- Galleries
- Contact
- Blogs



Mrs. Reed (School Manager) is happy to answer any queries from parents/carers and other members of the public on 0191 2370384

Welcome to Holywell Village First School website

Our vision for pupils within our school:

At Holywell Village First School we have high aspirations for our children to become well-rounded, respectful and responsible future citizens. They are happy, independent and have positive self-esteem. They have a thirst for learning and are emotionally regulated so they are 'Ready to Learn'. They are curious about the world around them and are confident to 'have a go'. They are reflective learners who persevere and demonstrate good communication and social skills. They are thoughtful,



www.holywell.northumberland.sch.uk

Click on 'New Starters' tab and all of the information and user agreements you are required to read are here. Once you have read these, please complete the signed declaration within your New Starters pack and return to school by 17th July 2024

Communication

- We communicate in many ways, mostly electronically via email and via the website.
- Please see Mrs Reed if you have any issue receiving information electronically/accessing websites etc.

- Please bring your child's birth certificate when you next visit school so we can verify your child's date of birth and their eligibility for a Nursery/Reception place.
- Alternatively you can scan and send a copy via the school email address:
- admin@holywell.northumberland.sch.uk.

A word of caution

- Parents of children who get a Nursery place at any Local Authority school MUST re-apply for a place in Reception in the autumn term. We will let you know when the portal is open.
- Parents MUST do this because nurseries are not statutory and admissions are administered and allocated by the school. Reception places are part of statutory provision therefore the Local Authority must administer these applications. In this case the authority is Northumberland County Council.
- Having a place in a school's Nursery does not mean you will automatically be allocated a place in Reception.

Current NCC admission policy

- In accordance with the School Admission Code, children with a Statement of Special Educational need or an Education Health and Care Plan (EHCP) where the school is named in the Statement or EHC Plan will be given priority of admission. In addition, those children who are deemed to be 'looked after' or who have previously been 'looked after' will be given priority of admission.**
- 1. Children living within the catchment area of the school and those on whose behalf firm evidence is presented that they will be living in the catchment area by the appropriate admission date.
- 2. Children with an exceptional social or medical reason that means that they can only attend that specific school (for example, where the child or one or both parents has a disability that means that the child can only go to one school).
- 3. Children resident in the greater catchment area of the school partnership who have siblings already in the school and who are expected to be on roll at the school at the time of admission who live within the greater catchment area of the school partnership. Evidence must be presented to confirm that the child will be living in the greater catchment area.
- 4. Children resident in the greater catchment area of the school partnership who are expected to be on the roll at the school at the time of admission. Evidence must be presented to confirm that the child will be living in the greater catchment area by the appropriate admission date.
- 5. Children who have a sibling who already attends the school and who is expected to be on roll at the school at the time of admission.
- 6. Children on whose behalf preferences are expressed on grounds other than those outlined above.

School Meals

Will be provided by Dolce



Stay for Lunch – New Reception: Friday 12th July 2024. Please let Mr Wood in the school office know if your child will be staying for lunch on this date.

All meals are **free** for pupils in Reception, Year 1 and Year 2.

Organisational Issues

- Before/after school care – Trinity Youth
- Safety - car park / entrances / visiting the office / gates
- School uniform – Ciel School Uniform– online ordering
- Milk / lunches
- Medical issues – emergency contacts –update us after a change in address/telephone etc.
- Parents and Friends Association- **SCHOOL FAIR 29TH JUNE 12-4 PM**
- website www.holywell.northumberland.sch.uk
- Facebook page search for @holywellschool on Facebook - will appear as HVFS and logo

Ciel -

<https://cielschooluniform.co.uk/holywell-village-first-school/>



Ciel School Uniform



[Your School](#) ▾

[Schoolwear](#) ▾

[Workwear](#) ▾

[Accessories](#) ▾

[Clubs & Activities](#) ▾

[Equipment](#) ▾

[Home](#) > [Your School](#) > Holywell Village First School



Pre-worn Uniform

Our Parents and Friends Association sell a range of uniform and shoes for a nominal fee. Please consider purchasing uniform from them to keep the costs down.

Arrangements for visiting/starting Nursery/Reception (in pack)

New to Nursery:

- **Familiarisation visits for children and parents.**
- **Group 1** - Thursday 27th June, 1.15-2.15pm
- **Group 2** - Friday 28th June, 1.15 - 2.15pm
- **Stay and Play for children.**
- **Wednesday 4th September 2024**
- **Group 1** - 9.15 - 10.15 **Group 2** - 11am to Midday
- Children will start Nursery between Thursday 5th September and at 2 day intervals until all children are in nursery by 13th September.
Start dates will be provided at the familiarisation visits on 27th and 28th June.

Arrangements for visiting/starting Nursery/Reception

New To Reception:

- **Familiarisation visit & stay for lunch (for children only.)**
- **Friday 12th July, 9am to Midday**
- Children will start Reception on Wednesday 4th September 2024. Children will start at 8.55am and stay until 3pm.

Parental Involvement

'Parents are a child's first and most enduring educators' EYFS

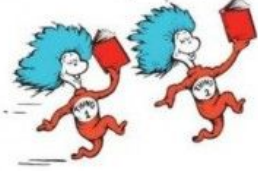
'Every child deserves the best possible start in life and the support that enables them to fulfil their potential. Children develop quickly in the early years and a child's experiences between birth and age five have a major impact on their future life chances. A secure, safe and happy childhood is important in its own right. Good parenting and high quality early learning together provide the foundation children need to make the most of their abilities and talents as they grow up.'

Parents as partners



- Tapestry (more information will be provided by the class teacher):
 - An **easy-to-use online** learning journal, Tapestry helps educators and parents to **record, track and celebrate children's progress** in early years education.
 - Nurseries, pre-schools and reception classes are fun-packed and busy. From messy play and first steps to learning phonics and new games, there's so much for children to do, learn and take in.
 - Tapestry enhances this special time, helping teachers and practitioners **to capture children's experiences as well as monitor development and learning**. This unique journal is shared online with parents, who are able to **see special moments** and view their **child's progress**.
 - **Text, images and videos can be easily uploaded via PC, tablet or our mobile app** - anywhere there's an online connection. Every entry helps to create a complete story of a child's time at nursery, pre-school or school. MORE INFORMATION TO FOLLOW

The MORE
that you read,
the MORE things
you will know.
The MORE that you
LEARN,
the MORE places you'll go.



Reading

"Children are made
readers on the
laps of their
parents."
Emilie Buchwald

- *Parents can improve their children's academic performance by the equivalent of up to six months' schooling by reading together, singing songs and even sharing family meals, according to international research.*
- **The Book Trust 2020**
- *Regularly reading to a child for the love of it provides a connection between parent and child from the very early days and helps build strong family ties. Lines from favourite stories enter the family lexicon. Families who enjoy reading together have more opportunities for discussion, developing empathy and attachment. Reading to their infant is one of the greatest gifts parents can give. By starting the journey of building a lifelong love of reading for pleasure, parents are giving their child the opportunity to be the best they can be: children who read for pleasure do better in a wide range of subjects at school and it also positively impacts children's wellbeing.*



Toilet Training



NHS APP

This is a poster about the Growing Healthy 0-19 app. In the app there is a function called Health Chat which is our messaging service. If a parent/carer needs to contact a health visitor about anything at all they can use this function with their questions responded to during office hours, Monday to Friday. We would urge anyone to use this so they're not waiting for a call back from their named health visitor who could be on annual leave or, in some instances, left the service.



Download the NEW Growing Healthy Northumberland 0-19 App



Scan the QR code or search for
'Children's Health Service HDFT App'

www.hdftchildrenshealthservice.co.uk



• What makes Holywell Village First School unique?

- Outdoor, practical, physical, healthy, outward-looking, innovative (Creative Curriculum, Seaton Valley Sports Partnership, **Platinum Mark for Sport**, **Bike it Bronze award**, Mastery in Maths school, research for education trusts (Newcastle research School))
- A curriculum that is led by children's interests
- Parental & community involvement (church, pond, community centre, care home, allotments)
- Active PTA who help us provide lots of 'above and beyond' experiences for children
- Safety is paramount – CEOP (e-safety) ambassador, Anti-bullying awards
- **Happy children!**

Need more tips?

[BBC Bitesize](#) has a great site with short explanations about understanding starting school.



Is your child starting school in September?

Here are some great ideas to help them get ready for it

 Bitesize

One final plea....



- As you may be aware, funding in schools is at crisis point.
- *How can you help?*
- If you are in the following circumstance you can help school by applying for free school meals so school can claim Pupil Premium:
 - *Income Support*
 - *income-based Jobseeker's Allowance*
 - *income-related Employment and Support Allowance*
 - *support under Part VI of the Immigration and Asylum Act 1999*
 - *the guaranteed element of Pension Credit*
 - *Child Tax Credit (provided you're not also entitled to Working Tax Credit and have an annual gross income of no more than £16,190)*
 - *Working Tax Credit run-on - paid for 4 weeks after you stop qualifying for Working Tax Credit*
 - *Universal Credit - if you apply on or after 1 April 2018 your household income must be less than £7,400 a year (after tax and not including any benefits you get)*
- **If you think you can help, please see Mrs Reed.**

Making



Learning



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We will do whatever may be ordered and be ready at every command



Adventure!

