



Welcome to Westbrook Old Hall Primary School. We hope that you and your child will feel very welcome at our school. Within this booklet, you will find all of the information that you will need for your child to make a great start at our school. If after reading this booklet, you have any other questions do not hesitate in contacting school.

Our Mission Statement

We believe that the best preparation for tomorrow's future is striving to do our best today. **We believe** that because **our children matter**, they have the right to be safe and healthy, happy and confident, recognised for the individuals they are and for those they might become. **We believe** that because **our children's achievement matters**, they have the right to an excellent learning environment that promotes high expectations, ensures inclusion, recognises diversity and guarantees progress and attainment. **We believe** that because **our children's future matters**, they have the right to lead, the right to follow, the right to take best advantage of present and future technology and the right to a global life free from threat.

Aims of the school

Our **children** matter, as does their **achievement** and so too does their **future**.

Because our children matter, we will work to:

- Ensure they are safe and ensure that they can keep themselves and others safe too
- Make sure that school life is happy, enjoyable and rewarding - taking each and every opportunity to build confident, positive citizens of the future
- Develop individuals with a sense of responsibility to themselves and to their community, able to respond positively to different views and beliefs

Because our children's achievement matters, we will work to:

- Release and develop the excellence latent in all our children
- Ensure high expectations in all we do, developing a culture that remains positive about the steps to success and able to celebrate success accordingly
- Provide an inclusive learning framework where individual needs are recognised and catered for, where diversity is celebrated for what it offers our school community
- Ensure that all children make good progress leading to attainment appropriate to potential
- Develop learners with a love of learning and a commitment to future learning in life

Because our children's futures matter, we will work to:

- Develop their ability to release the opportunities provided by technologies present and future
- Develop their awareness of their footprint upon this 'one' world and how they can contribute to its sustainability
- Develop a skills base and a solution-focussed attitude that can be applied to effect in a variety of circumstances now and in the future
- Develop an ability to lead others and to be led by others in productive working partnerships

Equality Statement

Equal Opportunities is the responsibility of the whole school community and must be reflected throughout the organisation of the school and be addressed in the taught and hidden curriculum.

All staff, governors, parents/guardians and pupils will be involved in developing, implementing and monitoring the equal opportunities policy and practice.

All staff, governors, parents/guardians and pupils regardless of race, religion, ethnicity, disability, age, gender, sexual orientation and socio-economic background, are welcome and will be encouraged to participate in the life of the school.

The school recognises its responsibilities under the Equality Act 2010 to eliminate discrimination and to promote good race relations.

British Values

The government set out its definition of British Values in the 2011 Prevent Strategy. At Westbrook Old Hall, we reinforce regularly the following values through an agreed programme: Democracy, The Rule of Law, Individual Liberty, Mutual Respect and Tolerance of those of Different Faiths and Beliefs.

Information about school life and the school day

Times of the day

School starts at **8.40am**. Children will be allowed through the Early Years outdoor area gates at this time and will enter their classrooms to be met by their class teacher. The gate will be closed at 8.50am. If you arrive after this time, your child will enter school through the main entrance and will be marked late in the register. If you need to see your child's teacher, it is possible to do this in the morning, although it is preferable to see them after school as the teachers are organising the children in the classroom as they enter school. From the beginning, please encourage your child to enter school on their own as we want to promote independence. We also ask this due to current COVID restrictions.

During the morning, children will receive a portion of fruit or vegetables, provided as part of a national government initiative. Children have access to drinking water throughout the school day, to facilitate this we ask that all children bring in a named water bottle. The bottle should be brought in every Monday and stay in school all week. The bottle should be taken home every Friday for washing.

The Early Years children finish school at **3.10pm**. The gates to the Early Years outdoor area will be opened at 3.10pm to allow parents to collect their children from the classroom door. Teachers will only let your child leave the classroom on seeing the person who is collecting them. Your child will only be allowed to leave school with adults that are named on the form from your pack. If, as a one off, your child is to be collected by an adult who is not named on the form, a message must be given to the school office by phone. If you are likely to be late, please call school if you are able.

The Early Years children have a set day for PE each week. On this day we ask that children come to school wearing their PE kit along with their usual school cardigan or jumper. The Early Years PE day is on a **Friday**.

Lunch Times

All children in Early Years, Year 1 and Year 2 are entitled to a free school lunch. You can see an example of the menus on our website (www.westbrookoldhall.co.uk) or see the sample menu provided in your pack. Menus are displayed within the reception area so parents can discuss with their children the choices to make. We would hope that your child will take up the offer of a free school meal; however, you can provide your child with a packed lunch if you choose to.

Packed Lunches - Children bring their lunch box in each day and place it on the trolley inside the classroom. They will collect it at lunch time to take into the dinner hall.

Please make sure lunch boxes are clearly named, with no glass bottles and no fizzy drinks included. We do try to encourage our children to make healthy choices.

If your child has any special dietary requirements or allergies, please let us know, in writing, at your earliest convenience.

Before and After School Provision

Our children access a variety of before and after-school care. This includes a breakfast and after-school club provided by Little Learners (based in the community rooms of our school) and a range of different childminders. Below is a link to the Family Services Directory which offers a wealth of information, including the various childcare options available to you. A leaflet from Little Learners can be found in your pack.

<https://warrington.fsd.org.uk/kb5/warrington/directory/home.page>
(click on the Warrington Families Information Service button)

Reading & Reading Books

Before your child starts school, please try and encourage them to enjoy looking at books and discussing them. Children should enjoy listening to stories or poetry and it is a good idea to try and make a special time for them to listen to a story or poem.

During the first half term, your child will bring home their first reading book. Children enjoy taking reading books home to share with their parents. If your child is tired or experiencing any difficulty, just read the book to them or read one of their books from home; don't allow reading to become a chore. Consult your child's teacher if you are at all concerned.

Some early reading books have just a few words in them. In these books, the pictures are very important and should be discussed with your child so that a story can be told by looking at the pictures. These books also encourage the children to look at books closely.

High Frequency Words

During the year, each child will be sent home a sheet of High Frequency Words (HFW) to learn at home. We appreciate children learn at different rates and, to individualise their learning, the children will be given the next words when they have successfully learnt the previous ones. Ideas of fun activities for learning these words will be provided on a separate sheet.

Reading books are changed on a regular basis if they have been read at home and an adult has signed the reading diary. HFW will be assessed every week.

Home Learning

All home learning is shared via the app Seesaw. You will receive login details when your child starts school with us. This is a wonderful platform that enables school to share home learning tasks with parents and for parents to be able to share photographs and things that children have produced at home.

Phonics

We introduce the teaching of phonics (the sounds that single letters and groups of letters make) using the Jolly Phonics scheme, alongside a government produced scheme 'Letters and Sounds'. This is an interactive approach to teaching phonics with the children learning an accompanying picture and action to associate with a sound. This has been proven to be a useful approach to aid the memorisation of sounds (phonemes-units of sound).

In school, we will focus on 4 phonemes (units of sound) each week. Your child will be given a 'phonic' book which will have pictures in to represent the sounds and their associated action which your child has been learning. This will allow you to reinforce the learning of these phonemes at home.

School Uniform

There is some flexibility of choice with our school uniform, but parents are expected to ensure that their child attends school correctly dressed, so maintaining a high standard of appearance.

Winter Uniform (after autumn half term break and all spring term)

Light blue shirt (long or short sleeved)
School tie
Grey school trousers or skirt
Blue V-neck jumper or cardigan with embroidered school logo
Grey, black or white socks or grey tights
Sensible black shoes (no high heels or boots)
Warm waterproof/all-weather coat



Summer Uniform (all summer term and first half of autumn term)

Light blue shirt (long or short sleeved)
School tie (first half of autumn term only)
Grey school trousers, skirt or shorts
OR Light blue gingham dress/skirt and top
Blue V-neck jumper or cardigan with embroidered school logo
Grey, black or white socks
Sensible black shoes
Waterproof/all-weather coat



All children require sensible black outdoor shoes (no high heels, trainers etc.). Boots are not part of school uniform and should not be worn.

P.E. Kit

Plain white t-shirt or polo shirt - optional logo t-shirt available

Plain black shorts, jogging bottoms or leggings (unbranded)

Trainers (any colour) with Velcro fastening for younger children (children should be able to tie their own laces if they wear lace-ups)

School ties are available from the school office. All other items of uniform are available from Warrington School Wear, Buttermarket Street, Warrington or from **SG Embroidery** (www.sg-embroidery.co.uk). *Parents are asked to individually mark all items of clothing with their child's name (SG Embroidery will do this for you).* School book bags are only available from **SG Embroidery**.

Jewellery

Pupils are discouraged from wearing jewellery at school as removal for P.E. can be difficult and items can go missing. Should a pupil have recently pierced ears, only plain studs should be worn, and they must be covered with a plaster or tape (provided by parents/guardians) during all P.E. activities.

Watches

Watches may be worn to school; however, they must be removed for P.E. lessons. The school is unable to take responsibility for any watches that are lost.

Make-up

No make-up or nail varnish should ever be worn for school.

Hair

Hair should be neat, tidy and worn with no extreme style or colour. Long hair (past collar length) should be tied back to reduce the spread of head lice and for Health and Safety reasons during P.E. lessons. This applies to both girls and boys.