

Wisewood Community Primary School
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Head of School: Miss Claire Austin



3rd September 2025

Dear Parents and Carers,

Welcome back. I hope you have enjoyed a wonderful summer and have enjoyed spending time with family and friends. I have already been incredibly proud of the children, who have returned and made a great start to the new academic year. Thank you for ensuring they are wearing the correct uniform and have shoes that mean they can still be active and enjoy the wide variety of sports and activities that we have at playtimes.

Home School Communication

This year, we will continue to post newsletters to the school website and class Facebook pages. There will also be physical copies of these available in the main school office. I have put important dates for the year on the school calendar which is again available on the school website:

[Calendar - Wisewood Community Primary School](#)

I will ask teachers to put dates for their extra-curricular clubs on the calendar as they happen. We will continue to use the class Facebook pages to celebrate the children's success and to show you some of our wonderful curriculum learning. Please do not contact your child's class teacher through this app. If you have questions or worries that we can support you with, please speak to us at the start or end of the day. You can also contact myself via:

headteacher@wisewood.sheffield.sch.uk

Class Names

As you may have heard by now, we have decided to rename our class groups. We have made this decision as two of our younger year groups have merged classes. This is due to the drop in birth rate of our local area and low pupil numbers. As a school community, we need to work really hard to increase our pupil numbers and you can help us do that by spreading the word to friends and family. Wisewood is an incredibly special place to learn. The children here benefit from expertise and extra-curricular opportunities that you often only see in Private and Independent school settings. Our data and outcomes consistently outperform most of the local schools and the children we have are our very best asset. Please help us to spread the word.

After School Club

We are still able to offer wrap around care. Our breakfast club is open from 8:00 and is a FREE provision! We do not charge for children to attend our breakfast club. Children only pay for the items of food and drink they have.



Our after-school club is run by our very own Mr Cassin where the children enjoy lots of sports and craft activities. This club is a flat rate of £10 per day and runs from 3:15- 5:30. Please contact the school office for your place if you are unable to access the booking form.

Again, please help to spread the word that we have this provision so that we can continue to finance the club. If we don't use it, we lose it!

Attendance and Punctuality

As a school, we are committed to supporting attendance. We meet with our Attendance Officer from the Local Authority, Bliss Holland, regularly to review attendance and punctuality and to identify where there is a cause for concern. Frequent absence and lateness can have a serious impact on both your child's learning and their wellbeing.

At Wisewood, we begin registration at 8.45am. Our expectation is that all children will be present. Being punctual allows children to make a good and settled start to the day so they can engage in and enjoy their learning. If a child is brought late to school:

they miss the positive welcome of their teacher, other staff and friends

they may feel panicked, awkward and embarrassed when everyone else has arrived and is settled

they miss out on the teacher's instructions at the beginning of the lesson

they may interrupt the class learning whilst the teacher takes time away from other pupils to explain the learning that has been missed

We understand that it can be very tricky to get your child to school on time in a morning. We want to support those parent/carers who are finding it particularly difficult. Please do not hesitate to come and talk to us in school or contact Mrs Bingham if you need any support or advice. We look forward to working together and giving your child the best possible chance to succeed in their time here at school.

Holidays

The law states that parents or carers do not have a right to take their child out of school for a holiday during term time. Term time holidays in Sheffield will not be authorised unless there are exceptional reasons. If you take your child out of school without the school's permission, you may be issued with a penalty fine. Fines are now being issued again by the Local Authority after being paused for the last two years due to COVID.

It is really important that your child does not miss their statutory assessments. These are posted on the whole-school calendar on the website.

School attendance is imperative for your child's future success. Not only does this mean their academic achievements but also their confidence, ability to form and maintain friendships and their ability to build executive function. Our Education Welfare Officer, Jed, is on hand to support you and your child if you need help.



We are excited to be able to relaunch our home-school reading partnership. Mrs Johnstone has returned from South America and has worked tirelessly on the reading offer we will give our children. Reading for Pleasure is one of the biggest indicators for a child's future success and is the key to whole new worlds. As a school, we teach reading incredibly well. Over 50% of our Y6 children achieved 'Greater Depth' for their SATs which is significantly above both the local and national averages. We would now love to utilise our excellent home school relationships to develop the children's love of reading even more.

As such, we will be sending home reading packets for our younger readers and reading bingo challenges for our older children. There will be rewards and recognition at the end of the year for those who have completed it!

Thank you again for such a positive start to year. It really has been lovely to see what kind, resilient and funny young people we have in our care.

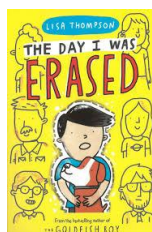
Best wishes,

Claire Austin

'Educating the heart without educating the mind is no education at all.' Aristotle

Miss Johnstone recommends:

'The world belongs to those who read.'



Mrs Beard recommends:

'The pictures tell so much more than the words'

