

A Warm Welcome to Woodlands Primary School



**Hedgehogs and Squirrels
Nurseries**

Hedgehogs

9 months until the term
after they turn 2 years old



Mrs Vicky Davies
Hedgehogs
Nursery
Room Lead

Mrs Casey- Jo
Jones
Hedgehogs and
Squirrels Nurseries
SEN Lead and
Deputy Room Lead

Miss Emily Skillen
Early Years Lead
and EYFS Teacher

Squirrels 2-3 years old

Children join Foxes Preschool the year before
they start Reception



Mrs Fiona Plage
Squirrels Nursery
Room Lead

We have qualified and experienced staff that will care for your child.
Each child has a key person who is responsible for their observations
and assessments.

We follow the 'Development Matters' document,
focusing on the prime areas which are...

Areas of Learning and Development

Prime Areas

Personal, Social and Emotional Development

- Making Relationships
- Self-confidence and Self-awareness
- Managing Feelings and Behaviour

Physical Development

- Moving and Handling
- Health and Self-care

Communication and Language

- Listening and Attention
- Understanding
- Speaking

Assessment in Hedgehogs

- ▶ Your child's key adult will assess their development in the three prime areas at regular intervals. They will keep you up to date on their progress and targets during their handovers.
- ▶ The health visitor will invite you to the children's centre to complete a one year check. This will be shared with nursery to ensure we work together to help your child meet their milestones.
- ▶ In Hedgehogs we complete 12 month and 18 month milestone progress updates that we will share with you via Tapestry. Your child's key adult will be more than happy to discuss these with you.



Assessment in Squirrels

- ▶ Your child's key adult will assess their development in the three prime areas at regular intervals. They will keep you up to date on their progress and targets during their handovers.
- ▶ Your child's communication and language development will be assessed using Wellcom. Your child will receive a traffic light score based on their age and targets will be shared with you as well as strategies you can use to support your child at home.
- ▶ Your child's key adult will complete a two-year progress check before your child turns three. It is an opportunity for parents, guardians, carers and professionals to come together and collaboratively review where a child is on their learning journey. It identifies their strengths, interests, and any further support or intervention required.
- ▶ In July your child will receive an end of the year report



At Woodlands the children thrive upon having broad and balanced learning experiences.



At Woodlands we are passionate about teaching life skills such as team work, resilience and celebrating diversity in our community and the wider world.



You will need to bring: Squirrels

Uniform is not compulsory in Hedgehogs or Squirrels Nursery but you can purchase it if you wish to do so.

When your child starts with us, we ask that you provide the following in a named bag:

- ☐ Nappies/wipes for your child
- ☐ provide a named sleeping blanket and bed sheet for your child
- ☐ bring in a spare set or two of clothes/underwear
- ☐ provide a waterproof coat and wellies
- ☐ provide a packed lunch or purchase a hot dinner using the app Parent Pay
- ☐ a labelled water bottle/beaker

If your child has a known allergy, please provide medical evidence of this.

If your child has any medical needs (inhalers, medicines etc) which are required during the school day, please go to the Infant Office during one of the transition sessions to complete any necessary paperwork and hand over any medication.



You will need to bring: Hedgehogs

Uniform is not compulsory in Hedgehogs or Squirrels Nursery but you can purchase it if you wish to do so.

When your child starts with us, we ask that you provide the following in a named bag:

- ☐ Nappies/wipes for your child
- ☐ provide a named cellular blanket and bed sheet for your child
- ☐ bring in a spare set or two of clothes/underwear
- ☐ provide a waterproof coat and wellies
- ☐ a labelled water bottle/beaker

Lunch and snacks are provided in Hedgehogs.

If your child has a known allergy, please provide medical evidence of this.

Sunscreen – Sunscreen is provided and you will be asked to sign for consent for Hedgehogs staff to apply sunscreen. If you wish to provide your own sunscreen please check the ingredients list as some sunscreen may contain nut oil. If we notice a sunscreen contains nut oil we will be unable to use that cream.



Emergency medication :Hedgehogs

In Hedgehogs we do provide emergency Calpol and Piriton (for a reaction), Calpol will be used if your child has a high temperature and we need to get the temperature down quickly. You will always be called first before we administer emergency medication and this will then be logged on their signed medication form and your child will need to be collected.

If you feel that your child may need Calpol/Piriton you are able to sign in a bottle in at the Infant office and we can administer this once during the day (please also speak to your child's key worker to inform them of the reason why they may need Calpol/Piriton that day).

We can only give emergency Calpol for a temperature, if your child has had a temperature that morning we ask that you keep them off until the temperature has subsided and medication is no longer needed. If your child does have a temperature over 38 degrees you will be notified and asked for them to be collected.

If your child has any medical needs (inhalers, medicines etc) which are required during the school day, please go to the Infant Office during one of the transition sessions to complete any necessary paperwork and hand over any medication



Comforters and dummies



- ▶ You may wish to provide a comfort toy for your child. These must be named.
- ▶ At Woodlands Primary School we do not provide, supply or introduce dummies to children. If parents provide dummies for their children to use, it is a requirement that they also provide a named, hygienic 'Dummy Pot' or container that can be sealed to store the dummy in when not in use.
- ▶ Dummies will usually be restricted to sleep and rest times. They will not be encouraged in the provision as they can hamper a child's interaction with others and are a major cause of speech delay.
- ▶ No dummy clips please as they can become choking hazards.

Safe Sleep at Woodlands

Adhering to statutory guidance published by the Department for Education

- ▶ Babies under 12 months will sleep in a cot with a flat fitted sheet, on their backs, with a cellular blanket and no other items in the cot.
- ▶ Children over 12 months will sleep on a flat floor mat with a flat fitted sheet, blanket and comforter if needed.
- ▶ All children who use a dummy to sleep at home can use one to sleep at school.
- ▶ We try to let children sleep for as long as their bodies need to. Please speak directly to you child's key adult if you have any questions regarding sleep routines.



Cellular
blanket

Eating in Hedgehogs

- ▶ All children's snacks and meals are included in your nursery fees. There is a separate menu for the Hedgehogs children which is provided in your pack.
- ▶ Please let us know where your child is at in their weaning journey so that we can appropriately modify food e.g. baby lead weaning, purees etc.
- ▶ As part of the weaning process your child may not have been exposed to all the major allergens. It is **ESSENTIAL** that you complete your admissions paperwork correctly to notify us of any intolerances or allergies. If anything changes please let your child's key adult know immediately.



Eating in Squirrels

If your child would like hot dinner in Squirrels, you can pay online using Parent Pay.

Squirrels pay for their snack on a termly basis. This is paid on the app Parent Pay.

<https://www.woodlands.cheshire.sch.uk/page/lunches/3021#:~:text=School%20dinner%20are%20currently%20free,in%20advance%20online%20via%20ParentPay.>

WEEK 1					
WOODLANDS PRIMARY SCHOOL					
	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
RED	 Sausage Pattie, Egg, Hash Browns & Baked Beans	 Tomato & Mascarpone Cheese Pasta with Garlic & Herb Bread & Seasonal Veg	 Roast Chicken with Roast/Mashed Potatoes, Seasonal Veg & Gravy	 Chicken Korma Rice, Naan Bread & Seasonal Vegetables	 Battered Fish with Chips & Peas or Baked Beans
BLUE	 Cheese Toastie Served with Salad	 Egg & Bacon Bagel Served with Salad	 Ham Baguette Served with Salad	 Cheesy Bean Stack Served with Salad	 Cheese & Tomato Pizza with Chips & Peas or Baked Beans
GREEN	 Jacket Potato with Beans, Cheese or Tuna Mayo, Served with Salad	 Jacket Potato with Beans, Cheese or Tuna Mayo, Served with Salad	 Jacket Potato with Beans, Cheese or Tuna Mayo, Served with Salad	 Jacket Potato with Beans, Cheese or Tuna Mayo, Served with Salad	 Jacket Potato with Beans, Cheese or Tuna Mayo, Served with Salad
DESSERT	 Choc Chip Muffin	 Iced Chocolate Oaty Square	 Mixed Fruit Pot	 Ginger Biscuit	 Melting Moment

Eating in Squirrels

If you wish to provide your child with a packed lunch please make sure it is healthy and balanced. The latest Early Years Nutrition Guidance from the Department for Education says...



Core Food Groups

- Starchy Carbohydrates:** Provide essential energy. Choose wholegrain options whenever possible (e.g., wholemeal bread, wraps, pasta, or brown rice).
- Fruit and Vegetables:** At least one portion of fresh or dried fruit and one portion of veg (e.g., carrot sticks, cherry tomatoes, a piece of fruit).
- Protein:** Needed for growth. Includes lean meat, fish, eggs, or pulses/beans (e.g., chicken, tuna, or hummus).
- Dairy or Alternatives:** Provide calcium for bones and teeth. Includes milk, plain yoghurt, or cheese.

Items to Avoid or Limit

- High-sugar or Fatty Foods:** Confectionery, chocolate, and high-sugar items are strongly discouraged
- Excessive Salt and Condiments:** Check labels to avoid high-salt snacks.

Please be mindful of how processed your child's packed lunch is.



Drinks in Hedgehogs and Squirrels

- ▶ For children under 12 months their main source of nutrition is still from breast milk or formula. Please speak to your child's key adult to confirm their feeding routine. We are able to store clearly labelled and dated breastmilk and unopened, labelled tubs of formula at nursery to make your child's bottles. Please provide the correct number of sterilised bottles your child will need per session.



- ▶ In line with the new guidance from the Department of Education children should only drink milk and water in nursery. We understand that some children prefer juice, but let's try and work together to get them to drink more water.

Communication with home



- ▶ Tapestry is an online learning journal which we use across EYFS
- ▶ If you are in Hedgehogs or Squirrels now you already have access. If you are new to Woodlands you have been given a permission form to fill out in the welcome pack we posted to you. You will then be sent a link from Tapestry to create your account.
- ▶ Each week you will receive updates on what your children have been learning through photos, videos and our weekly newsletter.
- ▶ At Woodlands we focus on being fully present with our children in the moment. Therefore we do not post daily photos of our child. If you wish to know more about what your child has done in school your child's key adult will be happy to update you at drop off and pick up times.
- ▶ Key dates will be shared with you via parent pay email as well as reminders on the weekly newsletter on Tapestry

Communication with home

- ▶ Daily communication is provided in both Hedgehogs and Squirrels
- ▶ In both Hedgehogs and Squirrels daily communication will be provided using our Tapestry app.
- ▶ All children in hedgehog's will receive a daily update at the end of each day
- ▶ Squirrels children will receive a care diary until they turn three.
- ▶ After the age of 3, if your child is still toilet training you will receive a slip each day to let you know about their changes. We do not provide daily updates on what your child has eaten after they turn 3 unless your child is non-speaking.
- ▶ Tapestry is not checked throughout the day therefore any message will not be replied to – if you need to speak to a member of the team please email the class emails or call the school office



These are our class emails:

- ▶ hedgehogs@woodlands.cheshire.sch.uk
- ▶ squirrels@woodlands.cheshire.sch.uk

Important information:

- ▶ **Early Years Pupil Premium** – Is extra funding paid to school to improve outcomes for eligible children. If you are in receipt of certain benefits, your child may also be entitled to receive free school meals. To check your child's eligibility please visit the following site and follow the links for Early Years Pupil Premium:
- ▶ **EYPP** - <https://www.cheshirewestandchester.gov.uk/residents/education-and-learning/early-years-and-childcare/information-advice-and-support/early-years-pupil-premium>
- ▶ **FSM** - <https://www.cheshirewestandchester.gov.uk/residents/education-and-learning/free-school-meals>
- ▶ **Attendance** – It is imperative that your child attends school regularly and on time. Research shows that time missed from school directly impacts on learning and may cause undue stress on the child.
- ▶ **ParentPay** – This is our online tool used for the delivery of parent communications, permission slips, weekly bulletins and any costs such as trips and visits. Your child will be allocated a unique login, and details will be sent via a letter following your child's start date.
- ▶ **Wrap around care- Sunbeams-** This is our in-house breakfast and afterschool club. Hedgehogs and Squirrels have a separate room led by EYFS qualified adults who know the children.

Our school website

This is our school website where you can access information about class pages, contact details, school menus, termly updates, and school events.

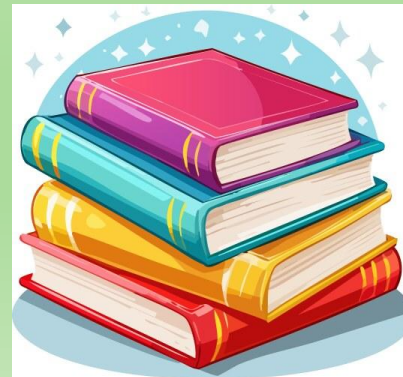
It is updated regularly so that you know what your child is learning.



www.woodlands.cheshire.sch.uk

How can you help at home?

- ▶ Read to your child every day- reading the same book over again helps your child expand their vocabulary and develop a love of reading
- ▶ Sing nursery rhymes and songs to your child. Online videos are great, but are no replacement to singing to a child directly
- ▶ Make time in your daily routine to play, talk and listen to your child
- ▶ Encourage independence: dressing, toileting, tidying up
- ▶ Let us know if there are any changes at home that may impact your child's learning, behaviour and development- we can then put strategies in place to best support your child
- ▶ Attend parent/carers stay and play sessions and parent meetings
- ▶ Ensure your child has a good night sleep, drinks plenty of water and eats a range of nutritious meals every single day.



When will my child start?

- ▶ In September, for a smooth transition and easier settling in period for the children, we will stagger start dates
- ▶ From your child's first day they will continue to attend school full time
- ▶ Your child's start dates and times are stated in your welcome pack

Please let a member of the team know today if your child will require any additional support to help them have a smooth transition to their new class.

We are so excited to welcome you all into our Woodlands School community.