

Whitchurch Primary School and Nursery

Meet the Year 6 team



Teachers:



Mrs Solanki
Head of Year



Mrs Marin



Miss Thomas



Mrs Darr

Whitchurch Primary School and Nursery

Meet the Year 6 team



Learning support assistants:

Mr Coutinho

Mrs Haria

Whitchurch Core Values

Respect

We show respect for those around us, the diversity of our community and for our environment

Responsibility

We take responsibility for our learning, our behaviour and the choices we make

Honesty

We are honest with ourselves and others

Aspiration

We continually strive to be the best we can be

Generosity

We are generous in our words and actions

Resilience

We are resilient to the challenges we face daily

'Learners today, leaders tomorrow'



Our Vision



The Whitchurch family rests at the very heart of everything we do, celebrating our uniqueness and building on our community's strength. We support our children to become confident, resilient and socially responsible global citizens who set and achieve the highest standards for themselves. We work in partnership with the whole community, respecting and responding to its voice and valuing its diversity. Our school provides a broad and rich curriculum that engages each and every child to know more, remember more and aspire for more.

'Learners today, leaders tomorrow'



Pick up and drop off times

Morning drop off:

Children should be dropped at either main gate or Marsh Lane which are opened at 8.40am. We have a 'soft start' which means children can arrive from 8.40am until 8:55am when the gates are locked. After that time children are registered as late and should report to the main school office.

Afternoon collection:

Learning time finishes at 3.25pm and parents/carers need to wait patiently at the patio door. Sometimes it might be a few minutes later. If you want to speak to the teacher please wait until we have dismissed all other children (the handing over of children is our priority at the end of the day).

Walk home permission: This must be consented to via school spider or in writing to the school office. Children who have consent must walk home and not be waiting around the school or in the car park to be collected.

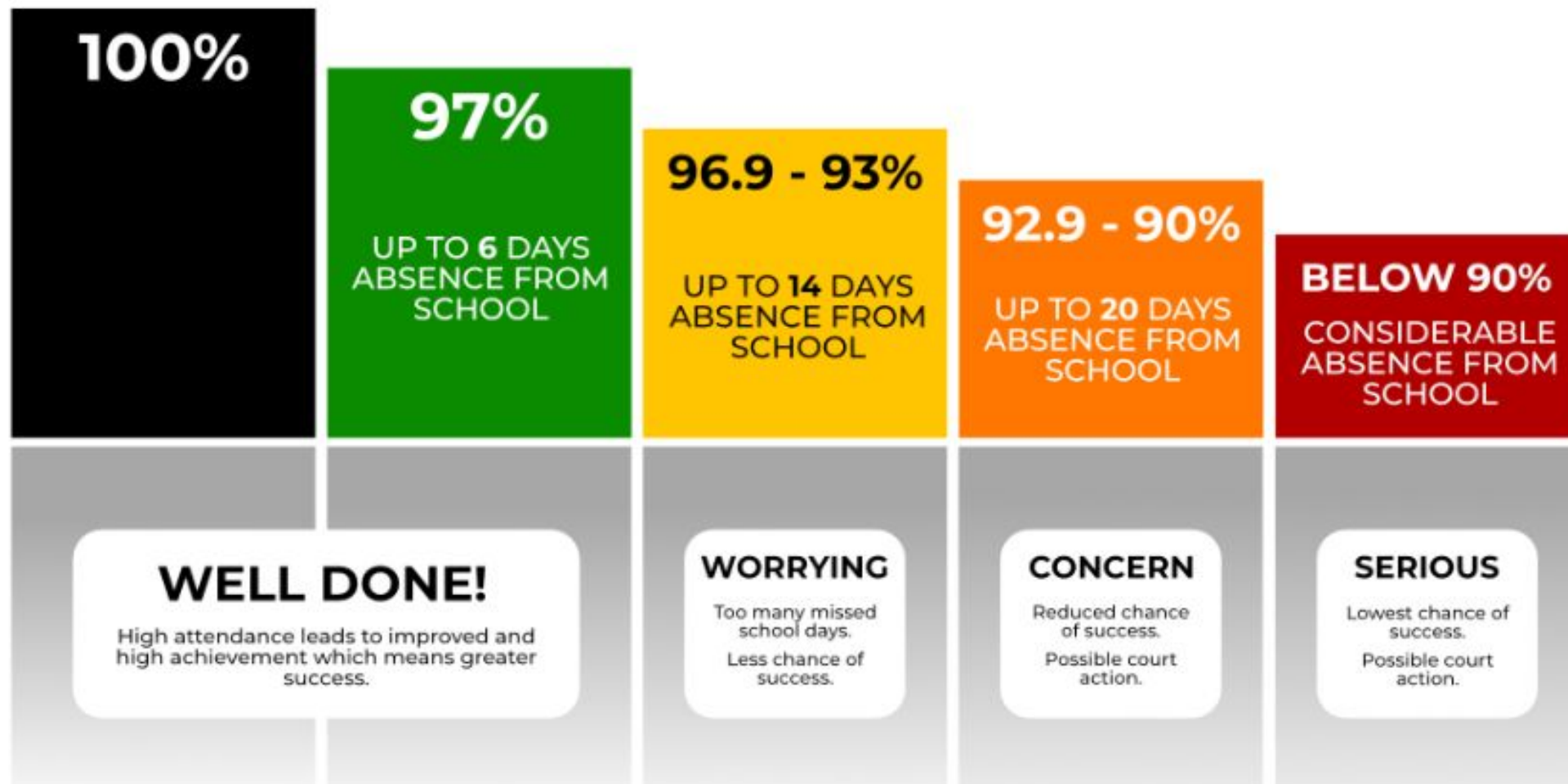


Attendance and punctuality

- Daily attendance at school is of the utmost importance.
- Please ensure that your child is always on time.
- Children are expected to be punctual in the morning so that they do not miss the morning routine / challenges
- Please do not book holidays during term times – these will not be approved and your child will have these days recorded as unauthorised.
- As much as possible, please ensure you book appointments outside of school day
- Interviews and 11+ exams: please ensure you provide evidence of interviews to the school office
- Children are not permitted to miss school for 11+ study days – it is unauthorised absence.



Attendance and punctuality



Booking School Meals

We strongly recommend a hot school meal in the middle of the day. Children are supported in the hall and we ensure they are encouraged to eat and try new things

Kindly book for the full half term through ParentPay. We have bands which are given to the children in the morning. The colour is dependent on your child's choice of food:

Red: meat and fish option

Green: vegetarian options

Yellow: vegan or alternative option

Packed lunches are discouraged for a number of reasons;

- Difficult to ensure a healthy balance of all the essential food groups;
- We have a number of children with extremely serious allergies and have to be strict about the food coming into school;
- It's more difficult for us to monitor what children are eating;
- We may replace any packed lunch that is not compliant with our lunch policies (we will of course advise parents of our concerns).

'Learners today, leaders tomorrow'



Healthy Eating

If your child has packed lunches, please refer to this nutritional guidance

Packed Lunch Guidance

Everyday:

- 1 portion of fruit
- 1 portion of vegetables
- 1 portion of protein (to help you grow and stay healthy)
This includes: meat, fish, chickpeas, lentils, kidney beans, falafel, hummus.
- 1 portion of starchy food (for energy!)
This includes: potatoes, pasta, bread, rice, couscous, noodles, cereals.
- 1 portion of dairy (to build up strength)
This includes: milk, cheese, yoghurt, fromage frais, custard.

Once a week:

- Source of Omega (to help your overall health)
This includes: oily fish, flaxseeds, chia seeds, soy beans, kidney beans.

Drink:

- Only water, milk or yoghurt drinks

You can have healthy treats in your lunch – but eat these after everything else!

Fridays Only: Chocolate bars Crisps Processed Food: sausage rolls, pies, corned meat/sausages		NO NUTS NO FIZZY DRINKS NO FAST FOODS (burgers, chips, McDonalds, KFC etc)
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Key information: school uniform

- We ask that your child always has on a clean uniform;
- Red sweatshirt or cardigan (with or without school logo);
- White polo shirt (with or without school logo);
- Dark grey trousers, skirt or pinafore dress / red and white dress for the summer;
- Smart black school shoes;
- Shirts should be tucked in **at all times**;
- If your child has shoe laces for either their school shoes or PE shoes, please ensure you are teaching them how to tie them if they do not know already;
- Now that we have rainier days, please ensure that your child has a rain mac or coat;
- Please ensure all uniform and PE items are **labelled so they can be easily identified**.



Key information: stationery

Stationery: Please ensure that your child has everything they need for the day.

We have a pop-up stationery shop run by the Year 6 children, every Wednesday at lunch time. The list and prices are as follows:

- Pencil case
- 2 pencils
- Writing pen in **blue**
- Pencil sharpener
- 30cm clear ruler
- Glue stick
- Children's safety scissors
- Green pen (biro)
- **Highlighters- a few different colours (ideally not green)**
- Colouring pencils
- Dry wipe board pen

Y6 run the
Stationery shop
weekly on
Wednesdays at
lunchtime.



Key information: PE

PE Days

Year 6:

Wednesday: outdoor PE

Thursday: indoor PE

Children come to school in their P.E. kit:

- Coloured t-shirt (with or without school logo) - depending on team colour
- Black shorts
- Grey sweatshirt – outdoors
- Grey tracksuit bottoms – outdoors
- We ask that a sweat band is provided to cover a Sikh wrist band.
- No other jewellery is allowed. (Earrings must be removed / covered in masking tape.)
- Long hair should be tied up.
- Please cover verrucas with a plaster or provide a verruca guard (socks are not allowed during indoor PE due to slipping)



Key information:

Items DO NOT NEED

- No gadgets, smart watches;
- Phones are only allowed in Years 5 & 6 and MUST be switched off before entering school and handed in;
- No Pokémon or football / collectable cards at all.



No party bags / food

If a child has birthday we will of course mark it and perhaps read their favourite book/ sing happy birthday but we never give out food or party bags. Please also refrain from doing this in the playground.



Year 6: What to be aware of:

Apart from SATs and 11+ exams there will be a lot going on socially, emotionally and in terms of development for Year 6 pupils. Year 6 children also experience a range of feelings about leaving primary school and moving on to secondary school. The kind of issues they may face and the behaviours they may display could be due to:

Brain development (10-13 years) Development during this time will centre on how children process language, literacy and creative arts. They will move from always viewing something in a concrete way (just the facts) to being able to look at things with an abstract approach (having multiple meanings).



Year 6: What to be aware of:

Social, emotional and physical development (10-13 years) The average age of puberty typically begins between the ages of 9 and 14. Most pre-adolescents want nothing more than to fit in. They are just beginning to cope with hormonal changes. They're also hitting a time when peers will have the most influence on them. They want to be poised and have self-control, but they are often clumsy and in conflict.



Year 6: What to be aware of:

Impact of modern technology One aspect of childhood that has changed dramatically in the past decade, and is causing concern among policy makers and other bodies responsible for safeguarding children, is online social networking. OFCOM has reported that: More than half of children aged 3-10 have used an online social network page and by the age of 10, a quarter of 10-year-olds have social media accounts. The consequences of using social networks a lot can be devastating for children with many suffering from cyberbullying or direct attacks from others on their sense of self-worth. This leads to feelings of isolation, constantly comparing themselves to others with the consequence that they feel inferior and unpopular. Young minds are mouldable, and social media can affect the way a child thinks or behaves.



Year 6: What to be aware of:

Social media

What are the risks of social media for children?

Oversharing +

Sharing their location +

Talking to people they don't know +

Sending or receiving inappropriate content +

Unrealistic sense of body image or reality +

Obsessive focus on likes and comments +

[What is social media? | NSPCC](#)



Year 6: What to be aware of:

Social media- age restrictions- age 13+

Social media apps: features, age ratings, risks and tips

Facebook	+
Instagram	+
Snapchat	+
TikTok	+
X	+
YouTube	+



[What is social media? | NSPCC](#)



Year 6: How to support your child at home

Teach positive coping skills Strong emotions can be frightening for children and can fuel strong reactions. However, giving children the opportunity to talk about their feelings and what might be causing them can make things more manageable.

Raise self-esteem Having healthy self-esteem whether you are a child or an adult makes you feel good about yourself and deserving the respect of others.

Paint a positive picture about the move to secondary school Talk to your children about all the great things that happen in secondary school and ask them what they are looking forward to, discuss what other opportunities will be available to them. Explore through role play how they can make new friends.



"Listen earnestly to anything your children want to tell you, no matter what. If you don't listen eagerly to the little stuff when they are little, they won't tell you the big stuff when they are big, because to them all of it has always been big stuff."



Year 6: How to support your child at home

10 Growth Mindset Statements

Fixed Mindset

Instead of:

I'm not good at this.

I'm awesome at this.

I give up.

This is too hard.

I can't make this any better.

I just can't do maths.

I made a mistake.

She's so smart. I will never be that smart.

It's good enough.

Plan "A" didn't work.

Growth Mindset

Try Thinking:

1 What am I missing?

2 I'm on the right track.

3 I'll use some of the strategies we've learned.

4 This may take some time and effort.

5 I can always improve so I'll keep trying.

6 I'm going to train my brain in maths.

7 Mistakes help me to learn better.

8 I'm going to figure out how she does it.

9 Is it really my best work?

10 Good thing the alphabet has 25 more letters!

Based on illustration work by Sylvia Duckworth



Year 6: Leadership programme and responsibilities- developing and growing a 'well-rounded child'

Year 6 set the example as Role Models for the school. The expectation is for exemplary behaviour at all times. Every child in the year has been given responsibilities that they must commit to.

Leadership roles:

- Head Boy and Girl
- Vice Head Boy and Girl
- House Captains and Vice Captains
- Prefects
- Sports Leaders
- Stationery Shop
- Lunch Managers and Monitors
- Eco- Warriors
- Librarians
- Music Captains
- Corridor monitors
- Bench monitors
- Mud kitchen ambassadors
- Science ambassadors
- Sustainability squad
- Woodland warriors
- Reading ambassadors



Key information: NEW half termly home learning















Year 6 Home Learning Autumn 1

This half term, children are invited to complete a range of home learning tasks linked to the curriculum and the learning taking place in class. While you are welcome to complete as many tasks as you like, we ask that you complete at least three tasks across different subjects, for example, one English, one Maths, and one from another area of the curriculum.

Home learning is due on Monday 20th October when children will have the opportunity to share their work with peers and teachers across the year group and receive feedback. Tasks can be completed in home learning exercise books or in any format you prefer.



English	Maths	Other Curriculum Subjects
 Perform/act out your favourite poem that you have read or written yourself	 Create an information poster to remind others of the place value columns up to millions.	 History: Research 10 facts about WW2
 Research and create a fact sheet on Nazi concentration camps.	 Design a place value board game up to 10 million.	 Create a model of the heart or draw a cartoon showing the heart as a pump delivering blood.
 Write a short story based on a moment from The Boy in the Striped Pyjamas or one of your own ideas.	 Make a fact file of 5 big numbers and what they represent.	 Choose one child's right from the UN Convention on the Rights of the Child. Research how this right is met or denied somewhere in the world. Present your findings in a poster or short paragraph.
 Create an activity to teach and explain Parenthesis to your peers.	 Find out about the largest and smallest numbers you can discover! What are they and how many digits do they use?	 Plan a safe walking or cycling route starting from your home. Include a key with the main features. (e.g., traffic lights, crossings, playgrounds).

Creative Curriculum Project

Research on EITHER Brazil OR South Africa and create a poster (A3) about your chosen country, including drawings and pictures (hand-drawn or printed).

Things to include: Location of the country (hemisphere, longitude, latitude), Mountain ranges, longest rivers, Describe the climate of your country? Is it tropical, temperate climate, arctic climate? Explain....., Capital city, Population, Flag, Official language, Borders with other countries/ water, Famous landmarks, Food, Currency, Type of government- President/Prime minister and any other fun facts.

Useful websites and resources

- RAF Museum recommended for WW2 topic
- [Year 6 English - BBC Bitesize](#)
- [Year 6 Maths - BBC Bitesize](#)

Weekly non-negotiables and reminders

Remember to:

- Read your reading book at least five times a week and ensure an adult signs your reading record/homework diary weekly.

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Century Maths
Bug Club

Set weekly -
Thursdays

Spellings (test
every Friday

Weekly -
Thursdays

Reading

Daily- checked
every Monday

TTRS

Daily



Key information: reading

Reading – Children in Year 6 are working on their reading stamina, pace and understanding. Children need to read **with an adult** for a minimum of 20-30 minutes a day.

This is so that they **can ask questions**, work on their **pronunciation** and **make links** with what they are reading. This cannot be achieved when reading to one's self (this is 'reading for pleasure' and encourages a life-long love of reading.)

When you have read with your child, they need to log the name of the book and pages in the diary and it will need an adult signature. Diaries are signed by the teacher every Monday.

Children should bring their dairies to school **every day** so they can start to log important messages and information.



Key information: reading

Please encourage your child to be responsible and independent.
They need to have their diaries on a Monday morning.
This needs all the evidence of reading and to be signed **by an adult**.

Reading book and pages.
Signed by an adult weekly.



Key information: reading

Why Can't I Skip My 20 Minutes of Reading Tonight?

Student "A"
reads **20 minutes**
each day

3600 minutes in
a school year

1,800,000 words



Student "B"
reads **5 minutes**
each day

900 minutes in
a school year

282,000 words



Student "C"
reads **1 minute**
each day

180 minutes in
a school year

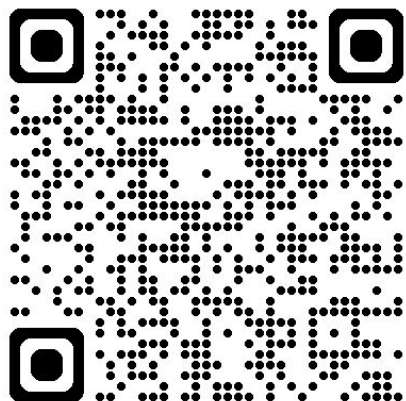
8,000 words



Whitchurch's Recommended Reading List

Year 6

- Launching in Autumn 2 (if enough books are secured)
- High-quality texts for children to read and enjoy at home to develop a love of reading
- A range of 'challenges' for children to complete after reading (for example, design a new front cover, write a review)
- Pupils then work towards Bronze, Silver, Gold and Platinum certificates depending on how many books and challenges they have read and completed



Key information: handwriting

Teachers modelling handwriting:

Cursive handwriting to be implemented by all adults when writing in pupils' books, on the whiteboard, on classroom displays and within the SMART Notebook and printed resources.

Pen licence:

To be awarded to any pupil (irrespective of Year group) who is proficient in writing in cursive/joined up, using most of the rules set out by the Nelson Handwriting Scheme.

Regression in handwriting:

This can lead to the pen license being taken away, however, intervention would be put in place to support children in improving writing, before such action is taken.



Key information: handwriting

The Journey to Continuous Cursive: Handwriting Pangrams

A pangram is a sentence that contains every letter of the alphabet at least once.

Read each pangram carefully, trace it three times and then write it independently in your neatest, joined style three times.

The quick brown fox jumps over the lazy dog.

The quick brown fox jumps over the lazy dog.

The quick brown fox jumps over the lazy dog.

The quick brown fox jumps over the lazy dog.

Aa Bb Cc Dd

Ee Ff Gg Hh Ii

Jj Kk Ll Mm

Nn Oo Pp Qq

Rr Ss Tt Uu Vv

Ww Xx Yy Zz

Key information: topic maps/curriculum



Visit
<https://www.whitchurchprimary.harrow.sch.uk/>



Communication, behaviour expectations and escalation

Your first point of contact is your child's class teacher. We are always happy to talk to you about your child. Parents can **email or phone the school office**. Please allow 48 hours for a response. Contact the **teacher by email through the school office** or the easiest way is to **see the teacher at the end of the school day**. If teachers don't have time or more time is needed they will happily arrange an alternative time for you to come and talk.

If you need to speak to the team leader, please contact Mrs Solanki at the following address: **bsolanki@whitchurchps.co.uk** Depending on your enquiry, she might ask your child's class teacher to respond to you.

Communication

- Remember to read the **weekly newsletter**
- **Important dates and updates** are posted on the school website – **please check regularly**
- Download the **School Spider app** to receive important messages and updates- the school office can help you with this

Important: Please tell us any change of details of people collecting your child



Parent volunteers:

- We feel that the involvement of parents in children's education is vital and we encourage active participation in many ways. In whatever way parents offer their time, we are always extremely grateful.
- There are many different ways in which parents can help in school – These include:
 - Helping with literacy (typically listening to children read)
 - Helping with numeracy
 - Sharing your professional skills (for example, if you're a doctor, you might go in to talk to a class whose topic is healthy living)
 - Helping with classroom activities such as cookery
 - Helping on school trips



Key information: after school activities

WRAPAROUND CARE can be booked via hello@junioradventuresgroup.co.uk and via the link on our school website - [Whitchurch Primary School and Nursery: Wraparound Care](#)

Enrichment clubs

External clubs like Karate, Chess, Robothink, Stage Coach are booked separately and paid for directly to the provider



Key information: assemblies

Children will have 3 assemblies a week.

- Monday- Themed Assembly
- Wednesday- Singing Assembly
- Friday- Celebration Assembly

Please do discuss the themes of our assemblies with your child and also practice their songs at home. Including the introduction of Sustainability and Opal as we move towards becoming these school.

Celebration Assembly is an opportunity to celebrate your children and all their achievements inside and outside of school, so should you have something your child wishes to share please contact their YTL with their achievements.

Class Assemblies - take place on Thursday mornings at 9:05am

6BS Thursday 18th November

6CM Thursday 13th January

6ET Thursday 10th February

6ND Thursday 26th March



Year 6: Key dates

19th - 22nd January 2026: Mock SATs

2nd - 5th March: Mock SATs

11th - 13th March: Year 6 Residential to Danbury

11 - 14th May: SATs Week

8th and 9th July: Year 6 Production

16th July: Leavers' Assembly (morning)

16th July: Leavers' Party 6-8pm

Friday 17th July: Last day of school 2pm finish



WhatsApp groups



Don't forget our wonderful class reps! If you haven't already, please join your class WhatsApp group for updates and messages.

Please keep conversations respectful and professional.

Teachers and team leaders can only speak to you about anything that concerns your child; therefore please approach the class teacher directly and without delay.



Questions:

Thank you for attending, and for working in co-operation with us.

We are one team and on the same side- for the benefit of your child.

Any questions?

