

Frequently Asked Questions

What is the school's mission?

Our mission is to 'Grow Curious minds' right from their very first days at school until they leave us as confident, well-rounded children in year 6. Through our holistic approach, children are nurtured and have the highest aspirations for themselves.

What is the settling in process?

Before your child starts, they will be invited to attend some pre visits during the 6 week holidays. Class teachers will do their best to visit your child in their pre-school setting. During the first week of term, children will attend for half days. The afternoon sessions will be used to complete home visits. Children will start school full time from the second week of term. Every child is an individual and the settling in process can be tailored to suit their needs.

What is the usual staff to child ratio?

One class teacher and one nursery nurse. This may change depending on the need of children in the class.

What are the lunch options?

Children are encouraged to have school dinners (they are currently free for Reception). Meals are cooked on site. A meat, vegetarian and jacket potato with various toppings is offered. Children can bring their own packed lunch but we are a healthy school so encourage healthy lunch boxes too.

Are there clubs before and after school?

Apex run a breakfast and after school club for wrap around care. This runs from 7.30-6.00 term time and they also run a holiday club- there details can be found on our website. Extra-curricular clubs do run at lunch time and after school- please bear in mind that for the first term your child will be exhausted! (these are also dependent on Covid restrictions)

Is there an open door policy?

Yes, we do have an open door policy where you can catch us in the morning or after school with any questions. If more time is needed, the teacher will ask you to call them or make an appointment for another time.

What's the school take on bullying?

We are very proud that bullying is rare at Sauncey Wood. Any issues that do arise are dealt with immediately using our Steps approach where children are encouraged to be reflective about their behaviour to support them in making good choices in the future.

How long have the staff been here?

We have a stable, committed staff team who we are incredible proud of. We like to support our staff in their career development so from time to time we do have staff who move on to different posts- usually for promotion.

How are children rewarded?

Children are rewarded in so many ways; stickers, postcards home, certificates in Celebration assembly, verbal feedback, trophies, medals. The most important way for us is verbal praise as this really does make a world of difference to the children.

How do you support low and high achievers?

Every child is treated as an individual. Where possible, individual needs are met by the class teacher supported by the teaching assistants and through differentiated learning. This is the case for both children who require extra support and those who need extra challenge. We are fortunate enough to have staff members who run power learning sessions (interventions) to support areas for development. Our teacher are skilled in questioning and differentiation and use this to challenge our children with higher learning potential.

How often do the children do PE?

Children have 2 hours minimum of PE each week. They are also encouraged to run the daily mile every day and attend extra- curricular clubs. Active lunch and break times are also encouraged.

How will I know how my child is getting on?

Parents evening take places in the Autumn and spring term. A written report is provided during the summer term. Tapestry is used in Reception to record the children's learning journals and parents are asked to contribute to this.

What does Ofsted think of the school?

We were rated 'good' in 2018 by Ofsted. Our latest report can be found on our website.

What will they wear to school?

Our children wear grey skirt/ trousers, white polo shirt and green school jumper or cardigan. They will also need a PE kit of black shorts and a school PR shirt.

What will my child be expected to be able to do before they start school?

Every child is different and we treat ours as individuals. If you do pick us as your child's school, an information evening for new parents will give you further details about routine, expectations and what to expect.

How can I be involved in school life?

We are very much about working in partnership with our families and there are many ways that you can be involved in school life. Join our Friends of Sauncey Wood and help to fundraise. Support events that take place. Volunteer as a helper/hear readers.

How can I help my child at home?

Have them read daily. Complete home learning when it is set. Instil good routines and encourage our learning powers at home too. Be a positive role model. Talk to and encourage your child to be the best that they can be.