



Welcome to White Spire

We are delighted to welcome back children, parents and staff! We are also excited to welcome new families in our school community, and we are always looking forward to leading children through wonderful new experiences. It is fantastic to see the children settling back into the school routines and the new pupils adapting to their new setting. We are looking forward to working together in order to achieve the best outcomes for all of our pupils. As always, we are very grateful for your support. Please do not hesitate to contact us if you have any concerns or worries about your child.



Curriculum Areas

Through our termly cross-curricular themes, we aim to make links in all areas of learning to make sure there is cohesion across the whole curriculum. The aim is to make the children's learning vivid, real, engaging and memorable, and to provide challenges and adaptations to encourage their development in all areas. We strive to embed social, emotional and independent life skills holistically across all areas of curriculum.

English

Through adapted Read, Write Inc Phonics Programme, we will revisit and develop our reading and writing skills. In our extended writing programme will be on writing letters and diaries. There will be direct emphasis on developing spelling, grammar, punctuation, adventurous vocabulary and improving handwriting.

Maths

The principal focus of mathematics teaching and learning in Year 8/9 will be to ensure that pupils develop confidence and mental fluency with whole numbers, counting, and place value. In addition, the children will focus on developing addition and subtraction strategies as well as recognising addition and subtraction as related operations. We will solve real life problems.

PSHCE and Life Skills

The PSHCE Curriculum will develop skills and attributes such as resilience, self esteem and risk management in the context of two core themes: physical and mental health wellbeing, family relationships and caring for the environment we live in. The particular focus will be on first aid and recognising and dealing with pressure.

RE

In line with The Milton Keynes Agreed Syllabus for wellbeing Religious Education, we will learn through enquiry led approach about Judaism and Christianity. The focus will be on main beliefs and worship. We will consider key questions including believing, belonging, behaving and reflecting.

Humanities

In history, pupils will explore Britain's past and that of the wider world. They will examine complexity of people's lives and the process of chronological change. The areas covered will include: World War 2. In Geography, the pupils will learn about diverse places, people and resources, and natural human environments as well as processes. There will be development of map reading skills and locational knowledge.

Science

Through enquiry and investigation, the pupils will learn about human body, digestion and circulation.

Computing

The pupils will use Information Technology to learn about online safety and presentation of data.

ART

The pupils will develop their skills in sketching, drawing and painting. Using various artists such as Henry Moore, pupils will create their own pieces of art relating to the theme of war.

Food

The children will develop their vital skills and knowledge in cooking and nutrition through preparing and tasting everyday dishes.

Performing Arts

In Performing Arts, the pupils will create various pieces in drama and playing percussion instruments.

PE

The pupils will take part in a variety of individual and team sports activities including Basketball.

Free School Meals Online Application



If you think your child may be entitled for free school meals, you can register and find out if your child is eligible by visiting a quick and easy system: <https://www.cloudforedu.org.uk/ofsm/sims/>

Our school menu and order form can be downloaded from the website:

https://www.whitespireschool.org.uk/sites/default/files/pdf/Lunch_Order_Form.pdf

Uniform

Please ensure your child wears correct school uniform and each item is labelled with your child's name.



Attendance

We believe regular school attendance is essential to achievement. Please help us by ensuring your child attends school every day.

Autumn Term dates

Friday 25 th October	School closes for half term
Monday 4 th November	School opens for pupils
Friday 20 th December	School closes for Christmas

Whole School Photos: 20th September 2024

Parent's Evening: 21st November 2024

Careers Week: 27th November 2024

Please check the planner daily for updates.

KEY DATES FOR YOUR DIARY



Break and Lunchtime clubs

- Library
- Sports
- Board games
- Arts and Crafts
- Music:
- Singing, guitars, keyboards



Breakfast Club is open daily from 8am to 8.30am.

After School Club offers a variety of activities.

Advance booking is required, please contact the school office or your child's teacher.

Daily Home School Communication



Please ensure the school diary is sent into school every day and check it for regular updates.

Our School Website is updated regularly for key updates, term dates, events and other useful information. Follow the link below:

<https://whitespireschool.org.uk/school-calendar>

Clever Never Goes

We continue to teach children about awareness of personal safety when out and about. Please support us by discussing this with your child. There are several websites that offer support in this area –

<https://clevernevergoes.org/>

https://safety4kids.com.au/safety-zone_stranger-danger.

Equipment



Please note children will not need to bring in their own pencil cases or resources.