

Victoria Park Junior School



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Stretford
Manchester
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www.victoriaparkschool.co.uk

*Learning and Achieving
Together*

Prospectus
2023 - 2024

Welcome to Victoria Park Junior School

On behalf of our school community, I am proud to welcome you to Victoria Park Junior School.

I am James Wilkinson and I am the Headteacher. I know that starting a new school in September is going to be a big transition for everyone including both the children and yourselves. However, I want you to know that by working together, we will do our very best to ensure that your child(ren) settle in and the process is as smooth as possible.

At Victoria Park Junior School, we believe that all children (regardless of ability or background) should experience an engaging, purposeful, knowledge-rich curriculum that will motivate and inspire them so they love to learn and achieve together. We want to equip our children with the knowledge, skills, attitudes and values they will need to be successful life-long learners, effective citizens and happy & healthy people. In order to achieve this, our curriculum builds cultural capital, promotes language and develops children's learner attitudes. Through our curriculum, we build pride in our locality whilst celebrating the diversity of our community. As a school we explore and promote our shared values of respect, responsibility, equality, aspiration, courage & love.

We provide a happy and supportive learning environment in which everyone is equal and all achievements are celebrated. Please look at the school website www.victoriaparkschool.co.uk to gain a further insight.

We are aware that you might want to speak to your child's class teacher or someone else in school. If you need to do this, please ask at the school office. I will be outside school every morning if you wish to speak to me.

I look forward to meeting you all in September, if I have not met you before and to say hello again to familiar faces. I hope that you have a lovely summer and let's hope the sun shines!

Mr. J. Wilkinson
Headteacher
July 2023



Equal Opportunities Policy

We believe every individual, irrespective of their ethnic origin, culture, religion, gender, disability or any other difference has a unique and valuable contribution to make to our school.

We promote a set of shared values which are outlined below in our school "Code of Conduct". This Code of Conduct has been written following considerable input from our children.



Victoria Park Junior School Code of Conduct



In our school community we celebrate being different.

We learn and play together knowing that we have different skin, hair, eyesight
bodies, tastes, abilities, gender, languages and religions.

We know it is the person on the inside that counts, not the appearance on the
outside.

We are kind and friendly to people who are faster or slower, taller or shorter,
younger or older, thinner or fatter, darker or lighter, stronger or weaker,
healthy or ill.

It is up to all of us to make unkindness fade away and disappear for good.

Please read and share our Code of Conduct with your child.
Thank you.

Staff List

The Headteacher of the school is Mr. J. Wilkinson, and the school's Deputy Headteacher & SENDCo is Miss M. Tidman. Mrs. Biddulph and Mr. Holstein are the school's Assistant Headteachers.

Our Teachers are:

Mrs. Biddulph - Year 6

Mr. Holstein - Year 6

Miss Daly - Year 5

Mrs. Jessop - Year 5

Miss McGuilheen - Year 4

Mr. Moroney - Year 4

Mrs. Holmes & Mr. O'Farrell - Year 3

Miss Garner - Year 3

Miss Rowlands is on maternity leave.

Our Teaching Assistants are:

Miss Blunt, Miss Ellis (also Learning Mentor), Miss Fitzgibbon (on maternity leave), Mrs. Kaur, Mrs. Khan, Mrs. Ruddin, Mrs. Shepherd and Mrs. Williams

Other Support Staff in our school are:

Mrs. Dyson - School Business Manager

Mrs. Hall - Attendance Lead & Junior Hub Manager

Mrs. Sutton - Admin Assistant

Mr. Roberts - Caretaker

Our team of lunchtime assistants are: Mrs. Kaur, Mrs. Makwana, Mrs. Malik, Mrs. McCormaic, Ms. Murray, Ms. Soldiew and Mrs. Shaan who all work closely with the school's lunchtime supervisor, Miss Ellis.

Our school kitchen is run and organised by: Mrs. Fairhurst (Cook in Charge) and Miss Card.

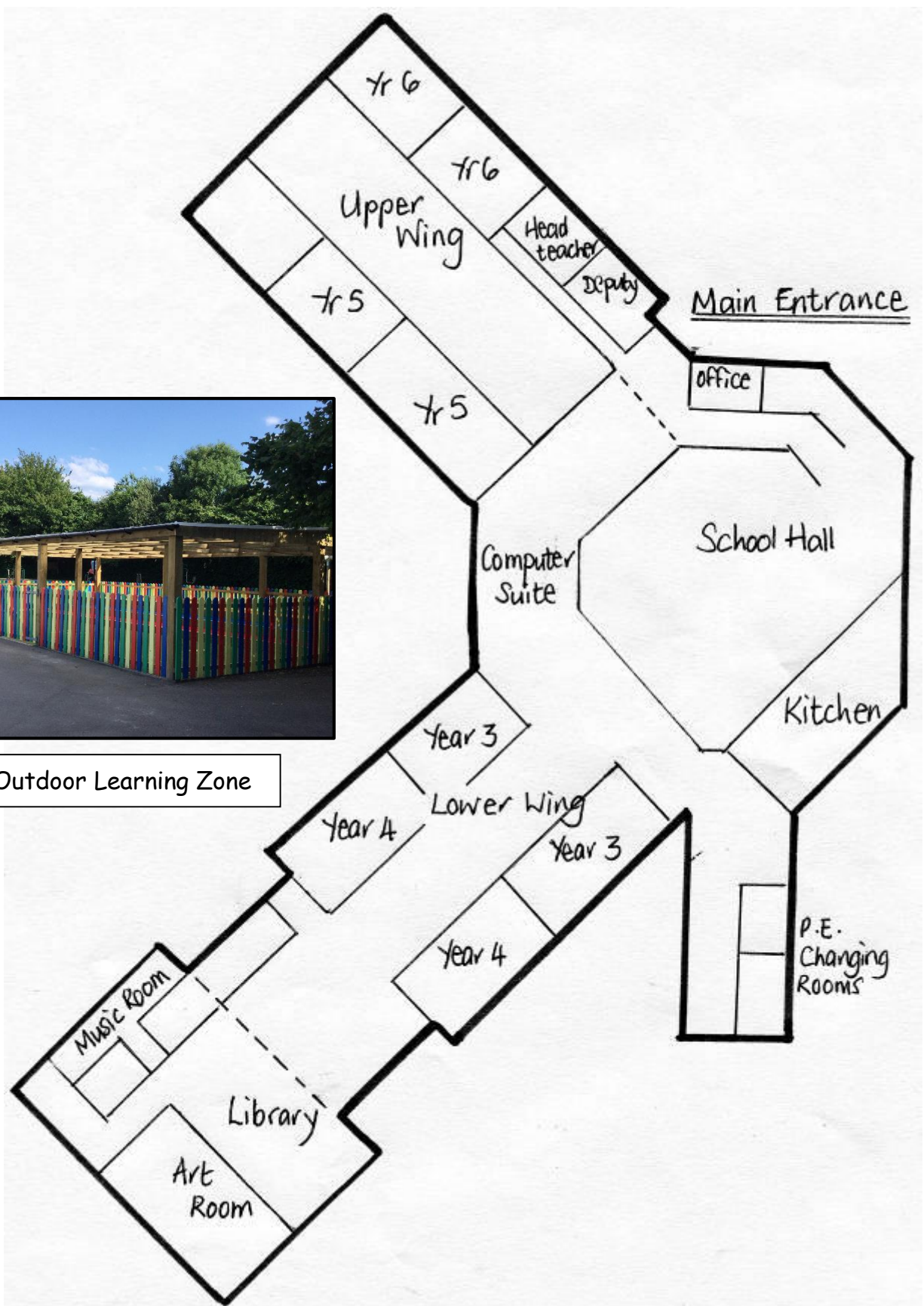
Our Junior Hub staff are: Mrs. Hall (Junior Hub Manager), Mrs. Shepherd, Miss Card, Mrs. Malik and Mrs. McCormaic.

The Chair of Governors is Mrs. Karen Welsh and can be contacted via the school office. The list of governors can be viewed on the website.

School Layout



New Outdoor Learning Zone



School Times

Children are able to come into school between 8.30am and 8.50am. The bell for morning registration is at 8.50am. Children will be marked late if they arrive after 8.50am.

The school day ends at 3.20pm for Years 4 & 6 and 3.25pm for Years 3 & 5.

School Uniform

Yellow polo shirt

Grey trousers / skirt / shorts

Green jumper / cardigan

Green or yellow checked summer dress (optional)

Grey or black socks / tights

Sensible black school shoes

P.E. kit - white t-shirt

black shorts / jogging bottoms (in winter for outside P.E. only)

P.E. pumps / trainers

All children will need a water bottle.

Uniform with our school logo can be purchased from Monkhouse in Stretford Mall if required.

Please ensure that all items of clothing are clearly labelled with your child's name.

Year 3 children will have P.E. on a Thursday and Friday. The children will need to come to school in their P.E. kits on these days.

Children should not wear jewellery for school. They may, however, wear plain studs if they have pierced ears, but even these must be removed for P.E. and swimming.

It is not appropriate for Year 3 children to bring mobile phones into school. As the children progress through the school, they may bring their phones only with prior permission from the Headteacher and if parents/carers complete a permission form.

School Dinners

The cost of school dinners from September 2023 will be **£12.50 (£2.50 per day)**. The children are offered a "choice menu" - please see the school website - Clubs & Activities - Healthy Lunchtimes & School Dinners.

The Universal Infant Free School Meal scheme will cease once your child comes to the Junior School. However, you may be entitled to Free School Meals (FSM) if you receive certain benefits. You will need to reapply at the Junior School for FSMs even if you are currently entitled to them at the Infant School. To see if you are eligible and to apply for FSM then please log onto www.cloudforedu.org.uk/ofsm/sims-trafford and fill in a short online application form. You need to add each of your children separately on the form. The online application form can be completed by any parent just to check if you meet the eligibility criteria as the results are instant. The link to the FSM online application form is also on our school website.

School dinners are payable via ParentPay should be paid for in advance and sufficient funds should be on the account prior to a meal being served. Dinners are charged at midnight on the day they are due to be taken and refunded once we have updated the attendance if your child is off school ill, on a school trip, etc.

Please note that your child will have a new ParentPay account at Victoria Park Junior School and we will provide you with your new Username and Password.

Children may bring a packed lunch. We advise that this contains only one "treat", (for example, a typical lunch box might contain a chocolate biscuit or a packet of crisps, but not both). Please do not allow children to bring fizzy drinks (these spill easily and make a mess as well as being full of sugar), cans, chewing gum or breakable containers.

If you would like your child to change their dinner arrangements and start bringing a packed lunch, or vice versa, please let the school office know as soon as possible. Dinner arrangements can be changed at any time as long as at least one week's notice is given.

Curriculum and Learning

At Victoria Park Junior School, we believe in developing the 'whole child'. This means we have high expectations for all children as we 'learn and achieve together'. We are firmly committed to a broad and balanced curriculum that will inspire and engage the children we teach, and allows the flexibility to adapt to their changing needs and interests. We want all pupils to grow and develop through our school values and learner attitudes. Our pupils learn in a stimulating and exciting environment with teaching and support staff, who work closely with each learner in order to ensure s/he achieves their full potential in all areas of learning.

We look for opportunities to enhance our curriculum through trips, visitors, ICT and rich learning experiences. The children learn all of the National Curriculum subjects including French and 'Values, Attitudes, Safety & Wellbeing', which form part of our RSE (Relationships & Sex Education).

Throughout the year, there will be a number of whole school learning events, including: World Book Day, Subject Showcase, Equalities Week, Safer Internet Day, VPJS Talent Show and Sports Day (at Longford Park).



During the summer term, the children in Year 3 will learn to play a musical instrument. They will also go swimming in Year 4.

VPJS learners are lifelong learners!

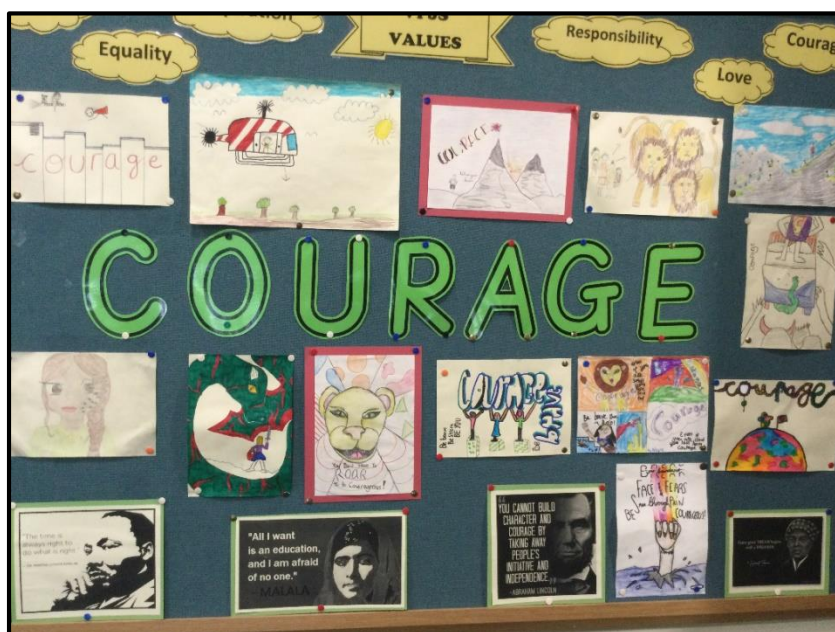
The VPJS learner attitudes are: Self Manager, Team Worker, Curious Questioner, Problem Solver, Clear Communicator & Reflective Learner. These learner attitudes allow children to develop their 'learn to learn' skills as well as other important characteristics that will prepare them for their futures. Learner attitudes are taught as lessons within their own right and are incorporated into other subjects. They appear throughout school life and allow our children to grow and lead a fulfilling and successful life.

You can find out more information about what your child is learning each half term by visiting the school website - Children - Year Pages. There are photos of children's work, which show what the children have been learning.

Religious Education (R.E.) and Worship

The school follows the Trafford Approved Syllabus for the teaching of Religious Education. The emphasis is on learning about the major religions and on learning from their teachings.

Parents/carers have the right to withdraw children from R.E. and / or collective worship. Should you wish to do this you are invited to see the Headteacher to discuss alternative arrangements. We do feel, however, that all our children benefit from religious education and worship, and would like to reassure parents/carers that belief is always treated with respect.



Values

Our school community has highlighted six values that we believe are vitally important to our school and the community. They are Love, Courage, Equality, Aspiration, Responsibility and Respect. Children learn about these values in assemblies, as well as in our values, attitudes and wellbeing weekly sessions. We refer to these values when talking to the children about their behaviour.



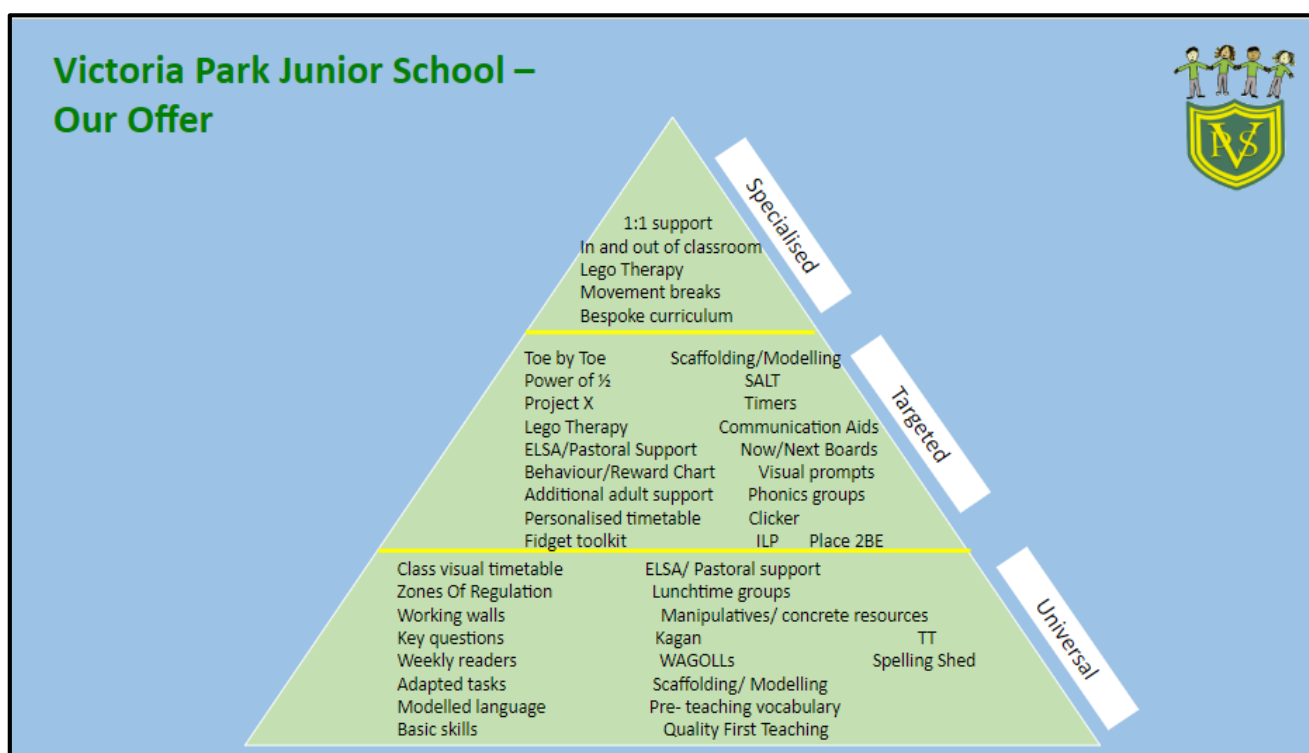
Homework

Children will be set homework every week. This will include reading, spelling and maths. Spelling homework is a written spelling activity and task on Spelling Shed. Maths homework is set on Maths Shed. Children will be given log in details for the online Spelling and Maths Shed resources and games. The Reading Records are made of two different types of task - a 'Reading Review Week' and 'Reading Activity Week.' We will send home a guide on the Reading Records.

If the children complete all of their homework on time, they will earn Golden Time. For Golden Time, the children are able to choose an activity of their choice for the half-term for 30 minutes on a Friday afternoon.

Special Educational Needs (SEND)

All pupils at Victoria Park Junior School have access to our Wave 1 Inclusive Quality First Teaching (QFT) through our broad and balanced curriculum, which is appropriately adjusted to meet individual needs. Our graduated approach to assessing, planning, teaching and reviewing pupils learning and progress ensures that staff can identify areas of need for individuals who may require additional support. This early identification is a priority at Victoria Park Junior School and we identify learner needs through a range of means. Establishing a positive parent/carers partnership is key to this and very important to us and your child's education. We encourage you to talk to us and share any concerns you may have about your child's learning, behaviour or well-being so we can establish the best support as soon as possible.



Some of our pupils require a short-term period of Wave 2 additional support to help them catch-up, make progress or improve their emotional well-being. However, some pupils may have a diagnosis or long term needs in one, or more of the following four areas of Special Educational Needs and Disability (SEND):

- Communication and Interaction
- Cognition and Learning
- Social, Emotional and Mental Health Difficulties
- Sensory and/or Physical including medical

In this case, and in liaison with parents and carers, your child would be placed on the SEND register and Wave 3 SEN support would be established for your child, in partnership with you.

Our Special Educational Needs Disability Co-ordinator (SENDCo) oversees all additional and SEN support and regularly reviews the provision made for our pupils. Funding is allocated from the Local Authority to school to enable us to meet the needs of all our pupils and those with SEND. However, if your child has a high level of need or complex needs, they may have an Education Health Care Plan (EHCP) with additional funding allocated to them already. Your child's class teacher and the SENDCo will work with you to meet the outcomes specified in your child's EHCP. For pupils whose needs become apparent over time, we will work with you to build evidence of need and it may be necessary to make an Education Health and Care Needs Assessment request to the local authority with a view to securing additional funding and more personalised SEN support for your child.

Our website has more information about SEND, the provision we make for our pupils and our SEND Information Report and SEND Policy can be found on the policies page of our website.

Further information about SEND can be found on Trafford SEND Local Offer.

Miss Tidman is the school's Special Educational Needs Co-ordinator (SENDCo).

Behaviour

At Victoria Park Junior School, it is expected that every member of the school community feels valued and respected, and that each person is treated fairly. We are a caring community, whose values are built on mutual trust and respect for all. Our Behaviour Regulation Policy is designed to support the way in which all members of the school can work together in a supportive way. It aims to promote a positive culture and calm environment in which everyone feels happy, safe and supported.

We recognise that behaviour is communicative and often reflects an emotion or feeling. Our Behaviour Regulation Policy is grounded in the belief that we are able to develop our ability to self-regulate our emotions and behaviour. Adult and child relationships are integral for this to occur.

The School Behaviour Curriculum

As a school, we know the importance of teaching children the behaviour that is expected of them. We do this through creating a positive, safe and nurturing environment. Routines are explicitly taught and these are repeatedly practiced to promote the school's values. The children have regular assemblies, specific sessions on the school's values and Zones of Regulation.

The key habits and routines expected at Victoria Park Junior School are:

- Show respect to all adults and children
- In class, make it possible for all pupils to learn
- Move quietly around the school
- Treat the school building and school property with respect
- Wear the correct school uniform

Where appropriate and reasonable, adjustments may be made to routines within the curriculum to ensure all pupils can meet behavioural expectations in the curriculum.

Positive awards are available for pupils throughout the day. These aim to promote confidence, competency, motivation and help pupils to develop growth mind-sets.

These include:

- a. **Golden Tickets** are awarded by adults for children who go over and beyond achieving any of the school's values. They are small tokens. Children write their names on the back of the token and enter them in a raffle each week, with other members of their class. There is a grand draw from the remaining tickets every half term for the whole school.
- b. **Achievers of the Week Assembly** is where two or three children are nominated by an adult or another child as "Achiever of the Week". There is a focus for every week and the adult will explain the pupils' achievement. Children receive a pencil, Headteacher's award certificate and sticker.
- c. **Postcards Home**
- d. **Marbles in the Jar** are a class reward. Any adult can award a class a marble in the jar. When a class earns 10 marbles, they can choose to do an activity for 10 minutes.
- e. **Effort Points** are awarded for the amount of effort a child has put into their work.
- f. **Sharing work with other teachers, adults including the Deputy Headteacher and Headteacher.**

Teachers may use certificates to reward individuals for specific behaviour or achievement. Teachers also use stickers and stamps to ensure that children are encouraged to try their best.



Forms

The following forms need to be completed when your child attends on their first day:

School Data Checking Sheet

Ethnicity Checking Sheet

Photographic/Video Consent

You will also receive your child's new ParentPay log in details for the Junior School. This account needs to be activated as soon as possible so we can communicate with you via email as well as text messages. Important information, all letters home, etc. will be sent to you via ParentPay.

Emergency contact numbers are extremely important. We must have up-to-date contact names and telephone numbers from you so that we can get hold of you in an emergency. If your child is hurt or needs to go to hospital, they need you there as soon as possible. If any of the contact numbers or addresses change during the year, please inform a member of staff in the school office.

The first contact number will be the one that we send important text messages to, so it is important that this is kept up to date.

Attendance

Children are able to come into school anytime between 8.30am - 8.50am. **The bell for morning registration is at 8.50am.** If your child arrives after 8.50am, you must bring them into the school office and provide a reason for being late. Children will be marked late if they arrive after 8.50am.

The school calendar for 2023-2024 is included at the end of the prospectus. It is very important that parents/carers take note of these dates. We do not authorise time off during term time for any holidays.

If your child needs to be absent from school for any reason (other than medical appointments / illness), a written request must be made to the Headteacher.

If your child has a medical appointment, please inform the school office beforehand. We will need to see proof of this appointment.

If your child is ill or going to be absent, please telephone school on the first day of absence by 8.50am. The office is open from 7.30am every day to take your message.

The children's attendance & punctuality are closely monitored. Mrs. Hall (Attendance Lead) will get in touch with parents/carers to discuss your child's attendance and punctuality if needed.

Schools are required by the Department for Education to inform them of all absences which are categorised into authorised and unauthorised.

Keeping Children Safe

Safeguarding & Child Protection

The safety and well-being of children in school is our first priority. We aim to create and maintain a safe learning environment where all children and adults feel safe, secure and valued and know they will be listened to and taken seriously. The school promotes discussion and understanding of safety as part of the children's 'Values, Attitudes & Well-being' learning and also in assemblies. Children are encouraged to talk to their class teacher, teaching assistant or any school adult about any concerns or worries they may have.

Everyone who comes into contact with children and their families has a role to play in safeguarding children. Where adults have concerns about a child's safety, this is reported to Mr. Wilkinson (Designated Safeguarding Lead) or to Miss Tidman (Deputy DSL). Safeguarding concerns are logged & where necessary may be shared with social services.

Security in School

The playground gates are locked at 8:50am every morning. They are opened at 3.15pm every day for parents/carers to wait on the playground to collect their children.

All visitors are required to use the main office entrance only to be signed into school, not the classroom entrances.

Cars and Parking

We are fortunate to have our car park, which parents/carers can use. Please be respectful of other people, pedestrians and vehicles when picking up and dropping off to ensure everybody's safety and well-being.

We also have two disabled parking spaces.

Please make sure that you are aware of the zebra crossing and do not park on this at anytime.

First Aid

There are a number of First Aiders in school. All accidents or injuries are referred to one of the First Aiders. It is important that your contact details are kept up-to-date in case we need to contact you in an emergency.

We do occasionally apply a plaster (but not antiseptic creams) so please let us know if your child has an allergic reaction to these.

If your child has asthma they **must** have an inhaler (and spacer if required), in school every day. A parent/carer must complete a 'School Asthma Card', which will be sent home for you to complete.

If your child has an on-going medical need and they require a health care plan, please contact the school SENDCo, Miss Tidman.

All accidents and injuries are documented and where necessary the local authority are informed.

Medicine

We do allow medicine in school if this means that your child can attend school instead of having an absence. Please come to the school office to complete a medicine form. **Do not send medicine into the classroom in your child's bag.**

The Junior Hub - Before and After School Childcare

The Junior Hub is our own before and after school provision for children who only attend VPJS.

The Junior Hub offers a range of games and activities, including: arts, crafts, sports and board games. We are very lucky to have lots of space for the children to use at the Junior Hub. We have the use of the art room; the library; a "Chill Zone"; the playground, which includes the outdoor learning zone and gym equipment as well as using our school field. Special events and parties are also planned throughout the year.

The Junior Hub provides a happy, welcoming atmosphere in a caring, safe and secure environment where children have the opportunity to have lots of fun with their friends.

Timings and Prices

Breakfast Club Sessions: from 7.30am – 8.30am

Cost: £5.00 per session including breakfast, e.g., cereal, toast & fruit juice.

After School Club - both sessions include a drink and snack.

Full Sessions: from the end of the school day until 5.45pm

Cost: £10.00 per session.

Mini Sessions: from the end of the school day until 4.30pm

Cost: £5.00 per session.

To book or enquire, please contact:
Mrs. S. Hall - Junior Hub Manager
Telephone: 0161 912 5005 (school hours)



CALENDAR 2023 - 2024

2023	SCHOOL CLOSES	SCHOOL OPENS
Summer Holidays	-	Monday 4 th September
Autumn Half Term	Thursday 19 th October	Monday 30 th October
Christmas	Tuesday 19 th December	Thursday 4 th January

2024

Spring Half Term	Friday 9 th February	Monday 19 th February
Easter Holidays	Friday 22 nd March	Monday 8 th April

(Children not in school on Monday 6th May 2024 - Bank Holiday)

Summer Half Term	Friday 24 th May	Monday 10 th June
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(Children not in school on Friday 5th July 2024 - INSET Day)

Summer Holidays	Thursday 25 th July 2024
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Year 6 SATs will take place Monday 13th May to Thursday 16th May 2024

SCHOOL WILL BE CLOSED ON:

INSET DAYS

Friday 1st September 2023

Friday 20th October 2023

Wednesday 3rd January 2024

Friday 5th July 2024

Friday 26th July 2024

Please note no holidays during term time will be authorised.