



THE BLUE SCHOOL

CHURCH OF ENGLAND

*Whatever you do in word or deed,
do everything in the name of the Lord Jesus,
giving thanks to God the Father through him.*

Colossians 3:17

Parent Handbook 2025-26

The Blue School Parent Handbook

Dear Parents and Carers,

Welcome to The Blue School Parent Handbook. We aim to provide you with clear guidance on our daily routines, policies and procedures. More information is available in policies and documents easily available on our website. The Parent Handbook is reviewed and updated periodically to ensure that all information is current.

Please check for updates, read and use the handbook. It is always 'work in progress', so if you spot any gaps or opportunities for improvement, please let us know!

Matt White

Headteacher

Parent Handbook 2025-26	1
The Blue School Parent Handbook	2
Vision and Values	6
The Blue School's Mission Statement	6
How we relate to children at The Blue School	7
How we relate to parents at The Blue School	7
Communications	8
Website	8
Friday Newsletter	8
Arbor and Email	8
Paper vs Digital	9
Contacting Senior Staff	9
Lost Property	9
Mobile Phones	10
Parent Prayer Group	10
Clergy and Churches	10
Leadership and Management	10
Senior Leadership Team	11
Phase Leaders	11
Staff Development and CPD	11
Induction of new staff	11
Trainee Teachers	11
Parental Helping	12
Pupil Absence	12
Illness	12
Infectious Illnesses	12
Absence Requests	12
Punctuality	13
Musical Instruments	13
Parent Pay	14
School Meals	14
Arbor Parent Portal	14
Medical Information	14
The School Day	15
Drop-Off	15
Mornings	15
Worship	15
Afternoons	15
PE, Daily Mile and Competitions	15
Lunchtimes	16
Packed lunches	16

Lunchtime Supervision	17
Break time snacks	17
Drinks Bottles	17
End of the school day 15.20 Nursery 15.30	17
Picking Up Arrangements	17
Drop Off and Pick Up Points	18
Left children	18
After School Clubs / Extended Curriculum	18
Late Pick Up from Clubs	19
Birthdays	19
Collective Worship	19
School Policies	20
Uniform and Jewellery	20
Online Safety / Social Media	21
Online Safety - Free Training for Parents	22
Safeguarding and Child Protection	22
Designated Safeguarding Leaders (DSLs)	22
Safeguarding and Child Protection Policy	23
Staff Training on Safeguarding	23
Safeguarding and Confidentiality	23
Safer Recruitment and DBS Checks	23
Emergency Procedures	23
Secure Doors and Lockdown	23
Emergency Evacuation / Fire Drill	23
Bomb Alert & Evacuation	24
Rewards and Behaviour	24
School Rules	24
Rewards (Whole School)	24
Rewards (Class-based)	24
Behaviour Sanctions	25
Curriculum	26
Overview	26
English	27
Reading	27
Curriculum allocation:	27
Reading Homework	27
Handwriting	27
Science	28
Religious Education	28
History and Geography	29
Music	29

Physical Education	29
Art	29
Design Technology	30
Enhanced Curriculum	30
Homework Guidelines by Phase	31
Homework in EYFS	31
Homework in KS1	32
Homework in Lower KS2	32
Homework in Upper KS2	33
Special Educational Needs and Disabilities (SEND)	34
Overview	34
Supporting Children with SEND	35
High Needs	36
Additional Provision and Support for Pupil Premium	37
Progress and Standards	37
Overview	37
Progress Meetings	38
School Workshops, Trips and Visits	38
Parent Workshops	38
Payment for Workshops, Visits and Trips	39
Site Access, Safety and Maintenance	39

Vision and Values

The Blue School's Mission Statement

***“ Whatever you do in word or deed,
do everything in the name of the Lord Jesus,
giving thanks to God the Father through him.”
Colossians 3:17***

We aim to be an inspirational community, where everyone has the courage and confidence to succeed. Our strong Christian vision drives our commitment to provide every child in our community with an exceptional education. In line with the Church of England's role as the established Church, our vision is for the common good of the whole community:

- Educating for wisdom, knowledge and skills: enabling discipline, confidence and delight in seeking wisdom and knowledge, and developing talents in all areas of life.
- Educating for hope and aspiration: enabling healing, repair and renewal, coping wisely when things go wrong, opening horizons and guiding people into ways of fulfilling them.
- Educating for community and living well together: a core focus on relationships, participation in communities and the qualities of character that enable people to flourish together.
- Educating for dignity and respect: the basic principle of respect for the value and preciousness of each person, treating each person as a unique individual of inherent worth.

Our school is exciting; it dates back to 1630 and we value tradition, while being highly futures-focused and promoting innovation. Ours is a high-performing and happy school, with a strong, inclusive and supportive ethos.

How we relate to children at The Blue School

Staff are expected to speak politely and kindly to children at school. Children are used to staff using a quiet voice, and in the Early Years and KS1, also singing instructions. Our children are keen to please and respond enthusiastically to encouragement. The approach of promoting positive behaviour by noticing it and providing consistent positive feedback is embedded in our practice. Staff working with each class may use various techniques for drawing children's attention e.g. clapping rhythms, counting down, or tingling a bell or tambourine. We work here because we really like our children and want them to feel happy and successful in a loving community.

How we relate to parents at The Blue School

We have a very strong relationship with the vast majority of parents and carers. The first point of contact will always be the class teacher. All key messages whether concerns or praise should be communicated between the class teacher and the parent directly.

While parents are encouraged to have end of the day 'quick chats' with the class teacher, sometimes it becomes clear that a parent wishes to have a conversation that will take more than a couple of minutes, or might be inappropriate for others to overhear. If this is the case, the teacher may ask to meet you in the meeting room at the front of school the next day, so that s/he can offer you full attention. If that is not possible for you, you will be asked to wait at the front of school until the staff member has dealt with other families.

We do not wish to receive lengthy emails from parents regarding any issues or concerns around children. We are very happy to meet in person or arrange a call to discuss these concerns. Emails should be brief and used to request a meeting with the relevant staff member, allowing staff to focus fully on teaching and learning during the school day.

For parents who excessively contact The Blue School, causing a significant level of disruption, we may specify methods of communication and limit the number of contacts, using a communication plan.

We make every effort to resolve any concerns or disagreements parents may have. Parents must follow the procedures as listed above, should further action be required, matters will be escalated to the Phase Leader (as detailed in 'Contacting Senior Staff' section on Page 9).

As employers, the school has a duty of care to all staff. Aggressive or violent behaviour towards staff will not be tolerated. In extreme circumstances should such incidents occur, parents will not be permitted on the school site.

Parents should note that staff who work at the school with children attending the school follow the same procedures as set out in the parent handbook. (Reporting concerns to the class teacher, and escalating to the PL followed by the AHT/ DHT and HT if unresolved).

Staff members who are parents use the same booking systems and book appointments through Arbor.

Parents should not discuss their child's progress with a staff member unless at a prearranged meeting at school.

Parents should note that staff who have children at school will have access to academic/behavioural information about their class / phase (if in a leadership role) / school (if in an office admin role). Parents should never enquire or question a staff member about this information, unless relating to their child and do so through the correct process (emailing the school office).

Parents who know staff members outside of school must contact staff members regarding queries about school through the correct means (emailing the school office). Staff members should not be contacted on their personal email/phones regarding issues relating to school.

Communications

Class/Year WhatsApp Groups

Class/Year WhatsApp groups are a very useful and efficient way of communicating to the whole class. The aim of using WhatsApp is to send messages to an entire group, which are relevant to school.

The messages in the class/year WhatsApp groups come from parents/carers in their personal capacity. The school does not post directly on any WhatsApp parent/carer groups. Please read the code of conduct, [here](#), for our school expectations for how these groups should be used.

Website

The [website](#) is the main point of information for parents. There is a wealth of information to be found here including class information, access to forms for leave of absence, key dates and important policies.

Calendar

Here is the school's [calendar on the website](#). It includes most of the main events / visits for the whole of the year to assist you with your own planning. We have booked everything that it is actually possible to at this stage, and are committed to ensuring any additional activities are booked and on the calendar as early as we can. We aim to avoid making calendar changes, and if we absolutely must, will give as

much notice as possible. Anything new or any minor changes will be notified via the weekly newsletter.

Friday Newsletter

This provides up to date information about our various activities and includes links for parent permission letters and other details about trips. The Parents' Association always has a featured box to help you to keep up with their sterling efforts.

[Newsletters are also on the website.](#)

Arbor and Email

Arbor is our secure management information system. Information about children is held on it and it complies with data protection legislation. Parents are asked to check and update information that we hold about you and your children on Arbor.

If we need to contact a family directly you will normally receive an email via Arbor from the Blue School.

Paper vs Digital

All of the above assume that you would prefer to access information digitally as it comes direct to your device and is better for the environment. However we recognise that there may be some families who may require printed material. If so please contact our Office Manager and we will ensure we record this on your child's record and set it up for you.

Contacting Senior Staff

Each class is within a 'Phase' - Early Years Foundation Stage (EYFS), KS1, Lower KS2 (LKS2) or Upper KS2 (UKS2). EYFS, KS1, LKS2 and UKS2 have a Phase Leader who manages the day to day work of the staff team, and has responsibility for children's progress and good behaviour. The Phase Leader can deal with most issues that go beyond the remit of the Class Teacher.

Each Phase also has an assigned member of the senior team (Deputy or Assistant Headteacher) who maintains an oversight of the phase and is a reference point for any unresolved or whole school issues. At the start and end of the school day senior staff are in the playground in case you wish to raise anything urgent or just say hello.

Phase	Contact
EYFS	Mrs Bhatarah, Phase Leader, or Mr Hammer, Deputy Head
KS1	Mrs Lonsdale, Phase Leader, or Mr Kelly, Assistant Head
LKS2	Mrs Stallwood, Phase Leader, or Miss Wilkinson, Deputy Head
UKS2	Mrs Old, Phase Leader or Mr Matheron, Assistant Head

Contacting School

The switchboard is 020 8560 6721 and is staffed from 8.30 to 15.30. If you don't get an answer at peak times it is because all the lines are busy, not that staff aren't answering.

Please email office@theblueschool.com **for any queries that need to go to teachers or senior staff**. This email address reaches the Office Team. They will direct your email to the relevant staff member and also copy in anyone else who may need to be aware (e.g. an AHT or the Headteacher).

Lost Property

Please label your child's clothes!

Lost property is kept in the large brown chest by the main building (opposite the South Street gate). You are welcome to hunt for missing items there at drop off / pick up times.

At the end of each term, any remaining lost property is given to the Parents' Association for resale.

Mobile Phones

Y6 children are allowed to travel to school on their own (with parental permission), hence we permit them to bring a phone (from the list outlined in the [Mobile Phone Policy](#)). Children are not permitted to use phones on the school site and they are stored in the office during the day.

Parents, please be aware that in the locality there have been instances of children / teenagers being targeted by muggers in the 3.30-5pm 'after school' time and their phones stolen, which is traumatic. We are making children aware of this, and are sure you will also advise children to be vigilant and keep their phones hidden.

Parent Prayer Group

The Parent Prayer Group meets in the main hall at the front of school every Friday morning at 09.00. Parents pray for the school and members of our community as well as other matters of concern in our society. Please do feel free to join in.

Clergy and Churches

The Blue School is in the parish of All Saints, but is attached to three churches - All Saints, All Souls, and St John's, and representatives of each of these are Foundation Governors on our Governing Body. We also have strong links with St Mary's, Spring Grove and St Francis of Assis. The clergy from the churches support us enormously. Reverend Joe, Rev William, Rev Peter, and Rev Elis lead the children's worship on Wednesdays, and also lead a staff prayer group which meets on Wednesday mornings.

We have four Church Services per year: Harvest, Christmas, Easter and Leavers. These are held at school or at All Saints Church at 09.30 / 11.00. Dates are on the

school calendar and details of which classes attend which services classes attend are circulated via the newsletter.

Leadership and Management

The Senior Leadership Team (SLT) is made up of the Headteacher, two Deputy Headteachers and two Assistant Heads (AHT). It is responsible for the strategic improvement and operational running of the school. It meets weekly. The Leadership Group (LG) is made up of the SLT and the four Phase Leaders. It meets every month, is a consultative and developmental forum and is key to the effective operational running of the school.

Senior Leadership Team

Mr White - Headteacher

Mr Hammer - Deputy Headteacher (Standards and Teaching)

Miss Wilkinson - Deputy Headteacher (Mission)

Mr Kelly - Assistant Headteacher (Curriculum and Inclusion)

Mr Matheron - Assistant Headteacher (SEN and Wellbeing)

Phase Leaders

Mrs Bhatara - EYFS

Mrs Lonsdale - KS1

Mrs Stallwood - LKS2

Mrs Old - UKS2

Staff Development and CPD

The Blue School has a 'Whole Staff' approach. We have 62 staff at The Blue School. Our core purpose is to provide an exceptional education to our children and it requires our whole team to achieve this. All of our staff make an important contribution to school life and the children's education. Each of us is part of a jigsaw of provision and every piece in the jigsaw is needed for the picture to be whole. Valuing and appreciating each colleague as an individual exemplifies our Christian ethos.

Induction of new staff

New members of staff are invited into school before they are due to start their role for an induction. They are familiarised with school procedures, our expectations and safeguarding. This will be led by the Senior Leadership Team. If you have a new teacher assigned to your child's class, please feel able to contact the Phase Leader on any issues that the teacher may not immediately be familiar with.

Trainee Teachers

As a high performing school The Blue School is expected to do 'outreach' work and to develop strategic relationships to build professional expertise. We have relationships with a number of teacher training organisations, including Saint Mary's University, Kingston University, the London West Teaching School Alliance, and also Cambridge University.

Trainees may visit the school and some will join us for placements which may last several weeks. They observe experienced teachers and take classes for parts of the day. The teacher remains present and is fully accountable for the quality of provision in your child's class. These programmes are overseen by Mr Kelly (AHT)

Parental Helping

Thank you so much to our Parent Helpers. You fabulous people make a huge difference to what we can achieve as a school. Some of you help regularly and some come out when we need 'all hands on deck' e.g. Sports Day. Whatever your contribution, it is appreciated! We aim to make volunteers welcome and provide advice and support as appears necessary or is requested.

Parent helpers are asked to complete DBS checks and records are kept on our Single Central Record of safeguarding checks. Parent helpers are expected to abide by the same rules of confidentiality and observe safeguarding procedures in the same way as staff members while they are assisting us. There is a policy to support this, which volunteers need to adhere to.

Pupil Absence

We have excellent attendance and anything below 96% attendance starts to raise a concern. Attendance below 94% is a serious matter and the school will involve the Education Welfare service if a child is persistently absent.

Illness

If your child is ill, please contact the school office at the earliest opportunity on the same day, giving the reason. absence@theblueschool.com . If you are not sure whether your child is too unwell for school please check [DfE guidance](#).

Infectious Illnesses

If a child vomits or has diarrhoea, they must not attend school for 48 hours in line with LB Hounslow guidance on infections.

Occasionally we have outbreaks of childhood illnesses in school. We notify parents of these additional risks and advise on symptoms to be aware of.

Absence Requests

All requests for absence should be made via an [Absence Request form](#) from the school office. Routine doctor and dentist appointments should not be made during school hours. We understand that hospital / orthodontic appointments are almost always during the school day and authorise these. Leave is normally only permitted for urgent medical appointments.

It is the school's policy, in line with local and national guidelines, **not** to authorise absence for family holidays. We appreciate that some families have close relatives far overseas (as do many of our staff), but will not authorise extended leave in term time for holidays visiting family.

If you have a special circumstance please provide full details with the absence request form.

Punctuality

Punctuality is an important life habit and we are very keen that all the children should arrive at the same time and be settled happily into the daily routine. Late arrival is stressful for the child who is late, and also disrupts the start of the day for other children and the teacher.

Children should be in their class by 08.50. We open the gate just before 08.40 so please arrive at the latest by 08.45.

As children up to Y5 are brought to school by their parents, we never comment to them directly about being late, as it is not their fault.

Please plan to leave home in plenty of time if you have to drive as West London traffic is unpredictable. Barring exceptional situations, we do not regard "traffic" as an acceptable reason for late arrival at school.

If children are brought to school persistently late, the Phase Leader will contact you.

Musical Instruments

If your child is learning an instrument, s/he must take it home the same day, not least to practise! We encourage the children to take good care and ownership of their instruments at all times and reiterate that the school cannot accept responsibility for damage or loss of these instruments.

Instruments must be taken to your child's class on the day of their lesson and then home on the same day. They must not be left at the New Hall as this is used for external lettings in the evenings and we cannot monitor the safe care of the instrument. If they are lost or damaged because they were left in the New Hall the school will not accept any responsibility for this.

The only exception to the requirement to take instruments home will be Y4 on swimming days. In these cases, they may be kept in children's classrooms overnight.

Parent Pay

ParentPay is used by many schools nationwide. In an attempt to remove all cash and cheques from school we ask all parents to only use our e-payment method to pay for dinner money, and the occasional P.A and school initiative. This can be done online using a very secure website called [ParentPay](#)

ParentPay offers you the freedom to make payments whenever and wherever you like, 24 hours a day, 7 days a week - safe in the knowledge that the technology used is of the highest internet security available.

School Meals

This is a direct contract between parents and the school meals provider Stir Foods. Please ensure that you book your child's meals in advance. If you are at all uncertain how to do this, please contact the school office.

Please ensure that your child is happy with the choices you make on her / his behalf. If they don't, we are unable to offer an alternative due to (a) allergy management and (b) the kitchen does not make spare meals.

As a school we monitor the quality of the meals and service on a daily basis. If you have any concerns please email via the office.

Arbor Parent Portal

The Arbor Parent Portal is a one stop source of information regarding your child. By logging on to the portal and viewing the dashboard, you can check your child's attendance, update contact and medical details and access your child's end of year report.

We also use Arbor for bookings for extra-curricular clubs, school trips and for parent meetings throughout the year.

Log in details to the portal are sent to parents via their email addresses.

Medical Information

Please ensure that details of any medical conditions your child has are kept up to date on Arbor. If you have any trouble doing this, please contact the office for help. Also please ensure that any medicines that we keep for your child are 'in date'.

The School Day

Drop-Off

There is a soft start for all year groups where children can enter the school building, from 08.40, put their things in the cloakroom and then make their way into class. Pupils must arrive in class by 8.50am on each school day.

Mornings

We settle the children quickly and start the day with a class prayer. These are composed by the children and each class has a file of class prayers. During the morning children learn English and mathematics.

Worship

Takes place from 9.00am - 9.20am. Morning break up takes place at 10.15 am for Reception, and 10.30 for years 1 to 6.

Afternoons

During the afternoons children study RE and the 'foundation subjects'. These include science, music, art, computing, design technology, geography and history. KS2 also has French and Y4 has swimming in certain half term blocks. Some subjects are taught as quite conventional lessons, others are projects. Your child's teacher will provide you with an overview.

PE, Daily Mile and Competitions

All classes have 2 PE lessons each week. Years 3, 4, 5 and 6 are taught PE by specialist sports coaches once a week and by class teachers for the other session. We are part of the local 'Sport Impact' scheme. The school achieved Games Mark Gold Award in the summer term in 2024/25 in recognition of the quality of provision.

Throughout the school year we will attend competitions organised by the local Borough. When selecting teams we follow the process below -

Places available are evenly split between both year groups and their classes. For example, if there is a team of 8 for a Year 5/6 competition then each class in years 5 and 6 would have two places each.

If a larger number of children wish to be selected than there are places available the following criteria will be used:

- Priority will be given to those children who have not represented the school before
- Priority will be given to children who display model behaviour in the classroom

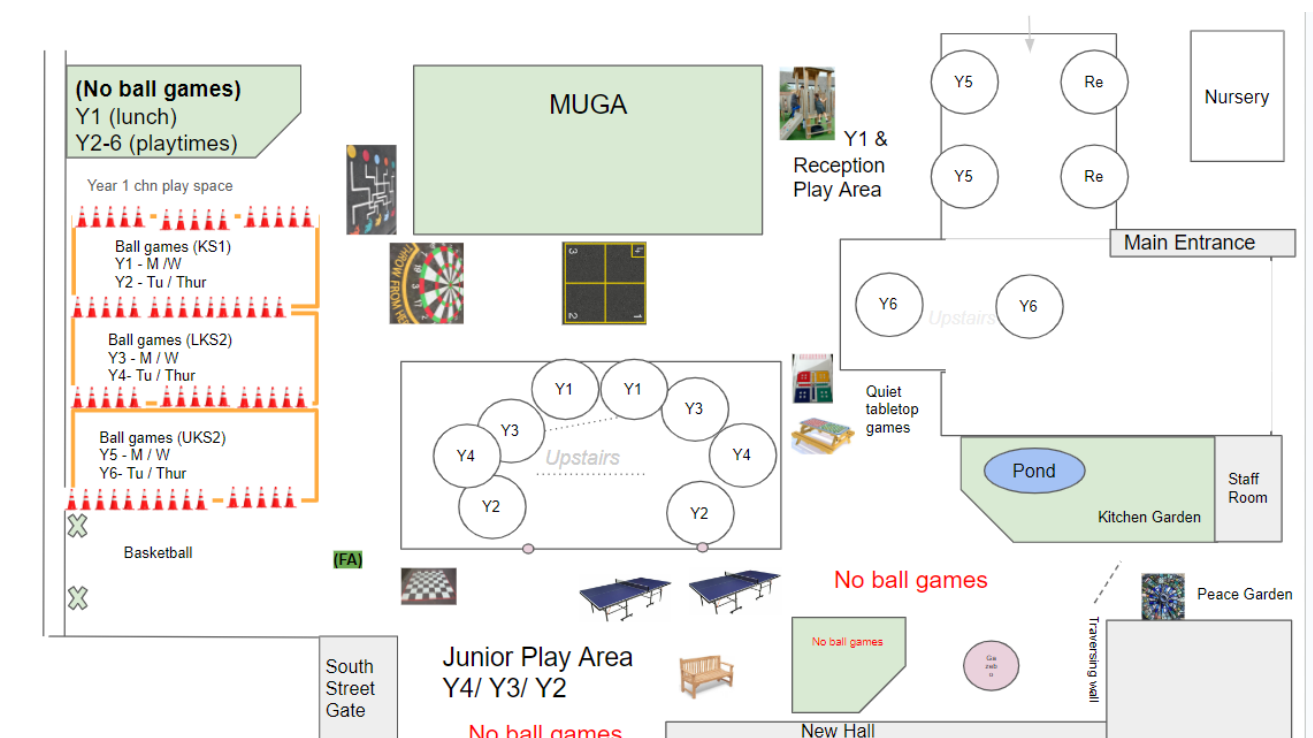
Lunchtimes

Nursery Lunch is from 11:30 to 12:30 and children eat a packed lunch in the nursery classroom or may have an outdoors picnic weather permitting.

Reception Lunch starts at 11.30. Reception staff supervise children until 12.00 and guide them in using cutlery appropriately. Reception lunch ends at 12:50.

KS1 begins at 11.50 and LKS2 Lunch 12.10-13.10 // UKS2 Lunch 12.10-13.10)

The school playground is divided into zones (see image below) to allow for a variety of activities to take place, and for year groups to have access to space to enjoy their time out of the classroom. In the coming months, the playground zones will change as we are going to invest in [Opal Play](#), to provide a more inclusive environment for all children.



Packed lunches

Lunch boxes are kept in class trolleys. Please do not include any nut products in packed lunches as we have a few children with serious allergies.

Lunchtime Supervision

Schools Meals Supervisory Assistants (SMSAs) are employed at lunchtimes. Mrs Perkins manages the team. The SLT also monitors the site on a 'roving' basis at lunchtime.

Break time snacks

KS1 has an additional afternoon break 2.15 - 2.30. Reception has a flexible afternoon break.

All children in EYFS and KS1 are eligible for milk (please register your child at [Cool Milk](#)) and a portion of government funded fruit per day. This is distributed to the phases.

Children can bring in a healthy snack such as dried or fresh fruit. If children need an alternative to fruit, breadsticks and crackers can be brought in. We ask parents not to send in crisps, sweets, chocolate and biscuits.

Children should not be taking food from their lunch as a breaktime snack.

Children should not be bringing chewing gum into school.

Drinks Bottles

All children are asked to bring a bottle of water into school each day, clearly labelled with their name, which they must have access to at any time. Classes have drinking cups available for those children that do not have a bottle in school.

Children should not be bringing energy drinks to school.

End of the school day 15.20 Nursery 15.30

Children must be collected by their parent / designated adult or club. If you need to make any change to pick up arrangements, please contact the school office or send in a written note to the class teacher.

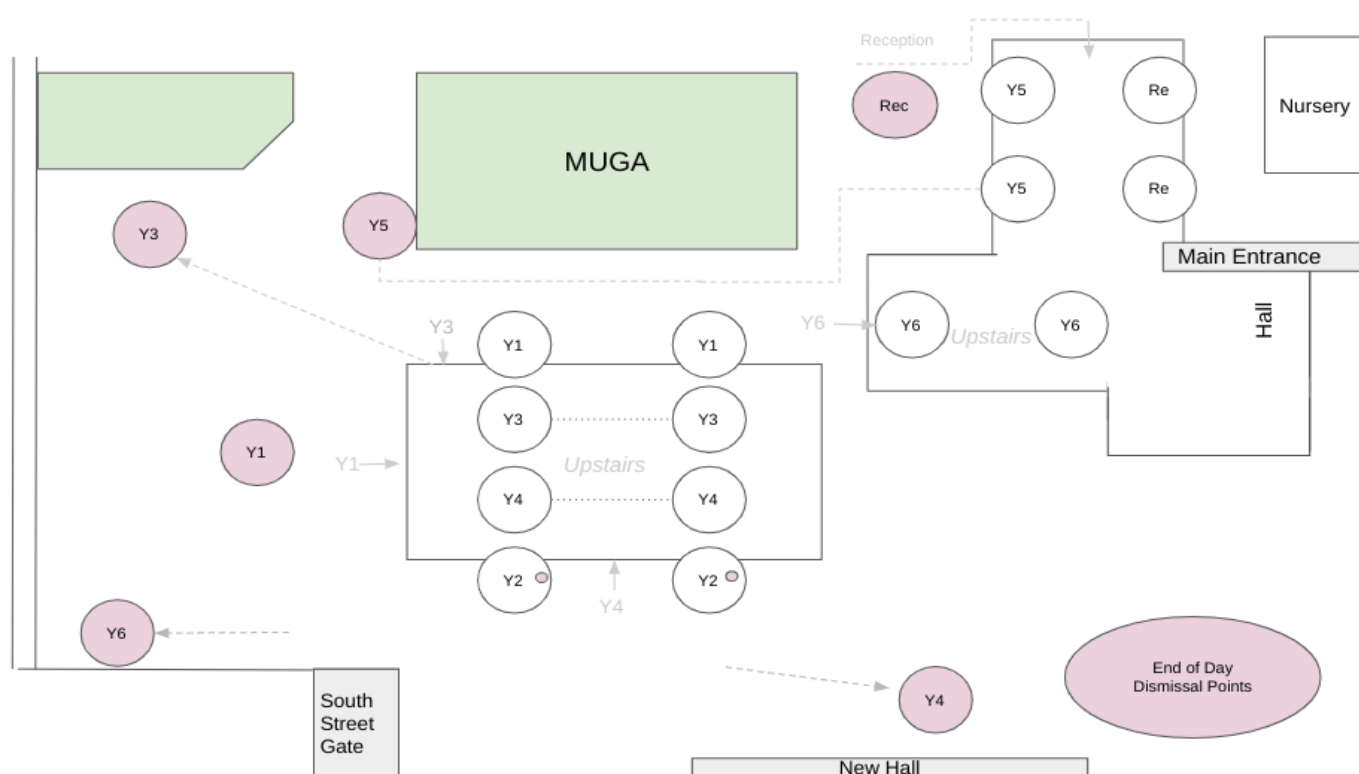
Picking Up Arrangements

Year 6 children may have arrangements for going home on their own and this must be communicated in writing before a child can be released. Please complete permission on Arbor.

Staff will only hand over children to known adults. If there is any change to a normal pick up arrangement (a different person or the child to go with a friend) this must be communicated in writing.

Pick up points are as indicated on the plan below. The grey arrows indicate where children enter the buildings. The pink spots indicate collection points.

Drop Off and Pick Up Points



Left children

If the adult who is collecting the child from school has not arrived by 3.30, your child will be accompanied to the school office by the class teacher and you will be contacted.

After School Clubs / Extended Curriculum

Children attending clubs meet by 3.30 in the corridor outside of the Y2 classrooms (unless another location has been previously agreed with SLT). The children are collected by their club leader and taken to the space in which their club takes place. The children are dismissed from the Junior Playground at 16.30. Please be prompt in collecting your child. The gate will be locked at 16.45.

Mrs Baker supervises the after school provision and is available as a first aider if needed. If there are any immediate issues, i.e. sickness or a club leader has not arrived, Mrs Baker is on hand to help.

Mrs Hunt has oversight of the extended curriculum provided via the clubs. We appreciate that there is a lot of competition for places and have extended the range of clubs on offer considerably. Our only constraint is space!

Late Pick Up from Clubs

Any children who have not been collected by 16.45 will wait in the foyer supervised by staff until parents arrive. We appreciate that exceptional situations can happen, please ensure that you notify the school in these circumstances.

Birthdays

Birthdays will be announced in worship (see below). Children must not bring in sweets or gifts to give to other children on their birthdays / to celebrate their birthdays. Should parents wish to do this outside of school, that is at their own discretion.

We are aware families may be facing financial challenges and want to ensure that no family feels pressured to provide sweets / gifts for the class when it is their child's birthday therefore this will be a rule enforced across the whole school.

Collective Worship

Collective Worship takes place every day at 9.00am for Y1-6 in the main hall. Reception children begin to join in the second half of the autumn term. Collective Worship is the heartbeat of our life as a Christian school. Our worship themes are based on the school's Collective Worship schedule which includes topics from the Church Calendar and the London Diocesan Board Collective worship cycle. The usual pattern is:

Monday Worship- led by Mr White / Mr Hammer, launches the whole school worship focus for the week.

Tuesday Singing Worship- led by Mrs Lonsdale

Wednesday Clergy Worship- the whole school led by clergy, supported by Miss Wilkinson.

Thursday - Led by a member of SLT/ teaching staff. Classes in KS1 and KS2 will take turns in leading the whole school worship, which will be based on the theme taken from the school's Collective Worship Cycle. Parents will be invited to attend their child's class worship.

Friday Worship - In Class Worship led by the class teacher. During this worship children may have the opportunity to complete written reflections / spiritual drawings

Parents Attending Worship

Parents will have the opportunity to see their child's worship during the year. These dates will be on the school calendar and class teachers will notify classes on Google Classroom. Worship is a time to come together to learn about teachings from the Bible. Class led worship may include short role plays / readings from the Bible etc. Worships differ to a performance and therefore have no staging/ curtains/ props etc. Parents who wish to attend are encouraged to join with prayers and hymns led by the children. Photography is permitted during class worship, **but is for personal viewing and is not to be shared on social media**. Following the worship, the children will receive recognition of their efforts from a member of SLT.

Reception and Nursery teachers hold class-based worship daily. In the second part of the Autumn term Reception classes begin to join Whole School Worship on Tuesday and Fridays.

The school year will begin with a Church Service at All Souls Church for Y1-6. Parents are also invited to attend.

Each term ends with a Church service at school, led by Year 5 (Easter Service) and Year 6 (Christmas and Leavers service). We also hold a Harvest Service before October half term, also led by Year 6.

Celebration Assembly takes place on Friday mornings in the main hall. This assembly is led by Mr Kelly / Miss Wilkinson. During this assembly, awards are presented (stars of the week and work of the week). Birthdays are celebrated, as are team points.

School Policies

Statutory policies are listed on the school [website](#).

Uniform and Jewellery

All children must wear the school uniform. Full uniform details are available [here on the website](#). Children wear “winter uniform” for the first two terms of the school year and summer uniform in the summer term only.

Children in Key stage 2 (Years 3-6) may wear an analogue watch. Children should not wear digital or smart watches (including fitness trackers), jewellery (except for stud earrings), make-up or nail varnish in school. Only small stud earrings are allowed and children need to have tape on them during PE. If children do wear stud earrings, it is at the parents’ own risk and the school will not take responsibility for injury or loss.

Hair ornamentation should be minimal e.g. small blue bows / clips in keeping with our uniform. Extravagant hair accessories are not allowed.

Shoes should be plain black and not include lights or wheels! They should be shoes and not black trainers.

Parents will receive a note from the class teacher if the child is not in the correct uniform.

Uniform label checks take place at the start of the year. This helps to reduce items being lost and children being distressed.

Uniform slips may be sent out when labels are missing/ items are not appropriate.

Affordable Uniform

Most items can be bought online or in supermarkets. The jumpers are available from [SANCO](#) and the blazer is optional. Parents are encouraged to make use of the Parents’ Association sale of second hand uniforms as children grow quickly and this reduces cost to parents. Parents who may be on a low income can get a uniform grant from LB Hounslow - please ask the office for details.

The governing body determines the uniform and reviews this every 4 or 5 years.

Online Safety / Social Media

Teaching children how to keep themselves safe online is embedded in the school's Computing curriculum to improve children's awareness of this important issue. It also features in our PSHE lessons and in day to day discussions with children. Please be aware that as fast as we try to teach children, new products, trends and risks arise, and most children access much more at home than in school. Online safety is very much a joint effort for parents and school staff.

Please do not allow your children to have accounts on platforms which they are too young for - [Age Restrictions](#). See also some [NSPCC guidance](#) about social media.

Online Safety - Free Training for Parents

To improve parents' awareness of this topic The Blue School has bought into the National Online Safety scheme, including purchasing parental access so that you can get regular updates and also do little online webinars and training.

If you have not already registered please do so here: [online training](#).

The courses can be taken at your own convenience and cover:

- Information about online dangers and the newest platforms
- What online risks to look out for and how to protect your child

We also have [online safety guidance](#) on the school website.

As general guidance, please remember that primary school children are under-age for social media accounts e.g. WhatsApp, Snapchat or Facebook. It is not just a concern about the risk of strangers gaining access to your child (which is crucial), but at this stage of their development, children's screen time should be quite limited. If they are overly concerned about who might have messaged them, it can become stressful and distracting. Similarly multi-user online games can become quite addictive and many popular games e.g. Fortnite, have a PEGI rating of 12, so are unsuitable for primary-age children.

Safeguarding and Child Protection

Designated Safeguarding Leaders (DSLs)

The Blue School's DSLs are the headteacher, Mr White, Mr Hammer (DHT) and Mr Kelly (AHT) . They deal with all matters to do with child protection and keeping children safe. Mr Kelly is currently the Lead DSL, coordinating our safeguarding work and liaison with statutory agencies.

Mrs McLoughlin (Welfare) is also trained as a DSL, and deals principally with medical aspects of safeguarding. Mrs Picotti provides wellbeing support for KS2 and

is also trained as a DSL. Mrs Perkins is also in our safeguarding team and offers well-being support. The safeguarding team works closely with each phase.

All concerns that come to staff attention are recorded on [CPOMS](#) which provides a long-term overview of each child. DSLs are alerted to concerns raised and review this log regularly.

Safeguarding and Child Protection Policy

This is on the website [here](#). It is reviewed annually to ensure that the school's guidance to staff and procedures are up to date. The policy is in line with national guidance '[Keeping Children Safe in Education](#)'.

Staff Training on Safeguarding

All staff receive a safeguarding briefing during induction and annual training.

Safeguarding and Confidentiality

Information about safeguarding concerns is shared on a 'need to know' basis. Details are held confidentially on a specialist online platform (CPOMS), and only the DSLs have full access to this. Class teachers and TAs are informed by DSLs about specific concerns as appropriate.

Safer Recruitment and DBS Checks

All appointments are made using safer employment procedures, including Disclosure and Barring Service (DBS) checks, checks of identity and employment history. We always take up references.

All staff, volunteers, work experience (over 18 years) and any companies working onsite need to be DBS checked. Parent volunteers will be asked by the Office to complete the DBS application process. The process is initiated by e-mail and the relevant documentation is required to be presented in person for validation. Only original documents can be accepted. You will receive your DBS disclosure by post and this should be presented in its original form to the Office.

Emergency Procedures

Secure Doors and Lockdown

We have an electronic door entry system requiring use of a badge to release the doors. Much as we want parents to feel welcome, with a parent community of almost

1000, we cannot be 100% confident who is who and allow adults onsite and into buildings without checks. This is standard practice in schools and enables us to 'lockdown' should the need arise.

Emergency Evacuation / Fire Drill

Directions are signed around the site. Drills are practised regularly in school.

Bomb Alert & Evacuation

Sadly we also have to plan for this. LB Hounslow has a procedure (which involves the police) and we alert the emergencies team first to seek advice.

Evacuation procedures are:

- Nursery, Reception and Y5 evacuate to The Green opposite school on North Street for a headcount and then to Gumley House Convent School.
- Y1-4 & Y6 evacuate to the Junior Playground for a headcount and then to Gumley House Convent School. Should this occur, the school will contact parents via SMS and email and ask you to collect children from Gumley.

Rewards and Behaviour

At The Blue School we believe the consistent and regular use of praise and rewards to be a very important feature of our school and of good behaviour management.

School Rules

- Rule Number One: Show good manners at all times
- Rule Number Two: Care for everything and everyone
- Rule Number Three: Follow instructions straightaway

Rewards (Whole School)

These are high profile and children's success are regularly praised in Worship. We are careful to celebrate a range of types of success. These include:

- Stars of the Week (awarded each Friday) which is displayed outside classroom doors. Nominations are for being kind / helpful, good effort, achievements.
- House Points - yearly accumulation, with rewards for the leading team at the end of each term. Points are awarded by any member of staff for anything good that children do.
- Opportunities to share extra-curricular activity successes which are celebrated in Worship. Please remind your child to let us know if they do something out of school!

- 'WOW!' (work of the week) Children who have done particularly excellent work from across the whole school and subjects have it displayed at the front of school between the main office and the headteacher's office. Names are read out and they are applauded at our Celebration Assembly.

Rewards (Class-based)

Under guidance by the Phase Leaders teachers implement their own classroom praise and rewards systems, which consist of many varied approaches such as:

- Class Dojos
- Table points
- Raffle Tickets
- Certificates
- Extra responsibilities
- Team points
- Notes home to parents and carers

Behaviour Sanctions

The vast majority of our children behave very well indeed. We have very clear routines to ensure this. However, there are occasional exceptions. We use a 'Steps' approach to help the children to manage their behaviour. The steps range from Step 1 (basic) to Step 5 (Most serious) and have appropriate sanctions assigned to each step. A detailed list of which can be found in the Behaviour Policy on the [website](#). The Step system helps support the implementation of our school rules.

Staff will remind children / guide behaviour as a matter of course in their interactions with children. If a child is not responding they will be put on 'Step 1' which is a warning. In most instances this is the end of any off-track behaviour.

'Step 2' is a serious warning as the child has not yet responded, ensuring that they understand that continuing with poor behaviour is unacceptable and will have consequences. If a child repeatedly reaches Step 2 this persistence will raise a concern and we will treat the matter as Step 3.

We cannot allow children to disrupt others' learning so if a child reaches 'Step 3' this will involve a serious conversation about what happened, and will take place at playtime, Phase Leaders are involved and parents / carers will be informed. In such situations it is really important that parents and staff work together to help the child understand what is going wrong and get them back on track.

Step 4 is only implemented for serious disruption or incidents and the child will be removed from class. We take a therapeutic approach to poor behaviour and will work with the child to understand what has gone wrong. Poor behaviour can be an

identifier for social and communication difficulties or as a result of upset and trauma that the child is experiencing. Mr Matheron (AHT for Inclusion and Wellbeing) and SENCO and his team will get involved or with children in this situation. In some instances however, Step 4 level poor behaviour is simply rudeness or aggression, in which case the child may work out of class under the supervision of SLT for a half day.

Step 5 is suspension from school and would only be used in extremis.

We emphasise to staff that it is important to be consistent in their approach, providing children with a reason for the step, or an opportunity for them to reflect on why the Step has been given. When a step 3 or 4 is reached, the child or children will be required to complete a reflection sheet, which allows for staff and the child to discuss the situation in greater depth, identifying the causes of the incident and understanding how the child reacted in order to prevent further incidents from occurring.

Behaviour and Special Needs

Please be aware that The Blue School includes a number of children who have significant special needs, which can manifest as bad behaviour and aggression. While they too have to work within the step system, it may be adapted to make it understandable for the child concerned. Alongside this, we conduct specialist assessments and interventions to provide the best chance for the child to continue to be included in our mainstream school long-term. Sometimes a child may not be able to respond and may move on to a specialist setting, which can meet his / her needs.

Curriculum

Overview

At The Blue School we follow the National Curriculum and add a local flavour to help make this relevant and interesting for the children. Details of our curriculum are on our website, which includes the [curriculum](#) statement and a link with details for each subject in the dropdown menu. We have systematically revised our approach to the curriculum across each subject over the last three years, and further reviews will continue. Our approach is 'knowledge-led' and staff receive regular training in curriculum and teaching approaches.

Where possible we promote cross curricular sequenced planning to ensure that knowledge gained for example in maths is then built upon in science. It is key that all subjects are delivered to a high standard so that we can encourage, celebrate and extend all of our learners to meet their potential.

Many subjects (history, geography, art, DT, science and computing) are taught in blocks over a period of 2-3 weeks. This ensures complete coverage of each topic and allows children to immerse themselves and improve their knowledge and skills.

English

Reading

At The Blue School, we aim for our pupils to become critical and resourceful readers with a genuine love for literature. There is a strong emphasis on early reading.

Reception and KS1 classes use the Read Write Inc phonics programme, a systematic approach to enable pupils to decode fluently and accurately, whilst ensuring competent comprehension.

Reading is taught through carefully planned English sessions, which follow the National Curriculum guidance. Teachers think carefully about the 'reading-diet' they are providing; ensuring children are introduced to a range of genres and styles.

Curriculum allocation:

EYFS: Reading, writing, speaking and listening taught throughout the school day.

KS1: 2½ hours of phonics, 5 hours of English.

KS2: 5 hours of English, alongside guided reading (spread over the week)

Each classroom has a reading corner, which is always inviting and attractive. Classes visit the library and children are encouraged to choose their own library books.

Reading Homework

Pupils are expected to complete reading at home on a daily basis. Teachers will ask children either to fill in their reading records or record on google classroom or 'reading scrapbooks'.reading journals Children can also complete their reading homework online, using the Oxford Reading Buddy programme (KS1and KS2) and First News iHub (KS2). Parents are encouraged strongly to support children's reading and ensure they spend time, not just on their reading homework, but also reading for pleasure.

Handwriting

The Blue School uses the '[teachhandwriting](#)' website along with the National Curriculum to teach handwriting. Our aim is that by the end of Key Stage 2, all pupils will have the ability to produce automatic, fluent and legible cursive handwriting, in

addition to understanding the different forms of handwriting used for a variety of purposes.

Handwriting is a cross-curricular task but formal teaching of handwriting is carried out regularly and systematically to ensure that targets are met. Pupils should experience coherence and continuity in the learning and teaching of handwriting across all school years and are encouraged to take pride in the presentation of their work.

As a catalyst to fluent handwriting, parents are encouraged to use the 'teachhandwriting' resources at home along with suggestions on English Knowledge Organisers.

Writing is assessed across several subjects, as different genres of writing may be used in science or geography from those in English. Miss Ruane is our English Subject Leader and is also an experienced moderator, to ensure that standards are consistent.

Mathematics

We use a combination of a maths mastery approach and the White Rose program of study from Reception to Year 6.

In LKS2 children are expected to practise time tables regularly until they know them by heart. Having important building blocks of knowledge such as this at their fingertips is widely recognised as being a real key to success. We seek parents' support in encouraging your child to practise.

Mrs Merry is our Mathematics Subject Leader.

Science

This year we are starting a very similar approach with the science curriculum. We will be starting our journey to the Primary Science Quality Mark. We are investing in new teaching resources and working with the Association for Science Education, using their materials and also those produced by the Wellcome Foundation. Miss Ansell is our Science Subject Leader.

Religious Education

We regard RE as a core subject and children enjoy it greatly. We follow the London Diocesan Board scheme and have a wide range of resources in the school. Ms Stallwood is the Subject Leader for RE.

History and Geography

These two subjects are mainly taught in alternate half terms so that children can get properly into a topic. We have revised some of the topics this year and are placing a great emphasis on building children's specialist vocabulary. We are increasing the focus on specialist knowledge including timelines of facts and also how historical periods or geographical areas of study relate to one another. Mrs Cheung leads history and geography.

Music

Music is taught by class teachers. There is an emphasis on singing and on learning about rhythm. Children receive specialist music teaching in KS2 and have access to instrumental tuition. There is a school choir which is led by Mrs Lonsdale and is for children from year 2 to 6.

Physical Education

PE is a strength of the school. We buy into the Sport Impact Scheme, which provides specialist training for our teachers so that they can teach PE well. Children have regular formal PE sessions of 2 hours each week. They also do the 'daily mile' and in Y4 children go swimming for blocks.

We are continuing with early morning wake up activities, and some of our clubs are before school e.g. football. There are many sports clubs after school.

Our Sports Day takes place in Redlees Park in early July. EYFS Sports Day takes place in the MUGA.

We enter many inter-school competitions and Mrs Hunt is in charge of competitions and events, as well as leading on the taught curriculum.

Art

We follow a planned curriculum based on PlanBee resources, then much enhanced by our teaching team. We really enjoy art and look at ways to connect it with many other aspects of the curriculum. Children develop their artistic skills further through cards and designs for posters and special events. Mrs Bhatarah is our subject leader for art.

Design Technology

This subject greatly benefits from being taught in blocks, so that children can design and realise their creations. A major emphasis currently is on food as a subject and children have specialist workshops with the development chef from Stir Food, our catering provider. The subject leader for DT is Miss Muir.

French

Bonjour! Children in KS2 really enjoy French, which is taught using the Language Angels resources. Our curriculum has been enhanced so that children can connect French with other subjects they are learning such as art or history. Their lessons are very lively with a big emphasis on developing confidence in speaking and understanding. Mrs Couch is our curriculum lead for French.

Enhanced Curriculum

We enrich the curriculum through special weeks, workshops and visits and are very proud of the considerable range of experiences children are provided with. Some of these are chargeable. If any parents are experiencing financial hardship, please contact the headteacher via the school office. We will not allow children to be disadvantaged for such reasons.

EYFS

The Nursery and Reception classes work within a discrete phase of education, from birth to 5 years called the Early Years Foundation Stage. It uses a holistic approach to learning, based on the belief that young children learn more effectively when they are actively involved in play and other first hand experiences and places a strong emphasis on each individual child. The EYFS finishes at the end of the Reception year and prepares children for learning in Key stage 1.

The EYFS cover seven areas of learning:

Personal, Social and Emotional Development

Communication and Language

Physical Development

Literacy

Maths

Understanding the World

Expressive Arts and Design

The curriculum is delivered through a combination of whole class, small group and paired teaching and child initiated activities.

Homework Guidelines by Phase

Homework helps pupils to develop their learning skills. It demonstrates our school's commitment to academic progress and our determination that pupils achieve their best. It should be a positive reinforcement of school learning, as well as preparation for the pupil's future school career, and increasingly the need to work independently in adulthood.

At The Blue School we believe that homework has a significant part to play in the academic development of the child and that it is helpful to parents to provide some understanding of the work in each age group. As can be seen, expectations develop during your child's time at The Blue School so that by the end of Y6 s/he should be able to work independently and with commitment.

The full homework policy was revised in 2018 and is on the website. Guidelines for the 2025-26 academic year have been slightly updated and are below.

Homework in EYFS

In Nursery, children choose story books to take home to share with their parents in the Spring and Summer terms.

In Reception, children take linked phonics books home to read with parents to practise and improve the skills they have been learning in class. Children have individualised reading records that parents complete.

Children in the EYFS are encouraged to complete challenges in the half term holidays. For example hunting for shapes or letters or craft activities. Parents should upload the activities on Tapestry.

Parents in the Early Years are also encouraged to share their children's learning and experiences from home on Tapestry, thus promoting a strong partnership with parents. They have immediate access to their child's learning. They can leave comments and also upload their own observations from home.

“Children of all ages often take work home, including reading and mathematical work. For the under fives, careful and judicious use of homework is important in providing a successful bridge from home to school and it can be influential in supporting and extending the curriculum throughout the primary years”. (OFSTED)

Homework in KS1

Homework in KS1 is given to consolidate work learnt in the classroom, and strengthen mathematics and English skills. Homework tasks are usually quite short and help develop extended learning habits at home.

Learning spellings is very important at this stage, and there is a weekly spelling test. It is also important for the children to read for 5-10 minutes each night. Parents should encourage sounding out, fluency and expression. It is important to ask questions relating to the text. Parents should record what page their child has read up to and write a comment to inform us of your child's progress in the Reading Record.

Across KS1 we expect parents to supervise their child's homework and correct and give assistance where necessary. If parents are unclear on what to do for the homework, please speak to the class teacher before the Wednesday deadline. The homework sheet should be fully completed at home each week in pencil.

Please encourage your child to keep their homework neat and tidy, set out their work carefully and neatly, use a ruler to draw lines and always use a sharp pencil.

High quality homework is often used for displays and celebrated within the classroom and sometimes on the WOW board at the front of the school.

Homework in Lower KS2

Homework in LKS2 is given to consolidate work learnt in class, encourage learning of spellings for Year 3 or 4 and to develop a good understanding of the times tables.

Year 3 are given spelling, times tables and **one piece** of homework each week.
Year 4 are given spelling, times tables and **two pieces** of homework each week.
These two pieces of homework for Year 4 will consist of one maths task and a project based task.

Homework for both year groups will be set on Google Classroom on a Friday afternoon by 4pm and is due back the following Wednesday. Each week the children will need to practise their spellings. Children are to learn five words every week that

have been taken from the National Curriculum. They will explore strategies and put their words in sentences as an extended task to show their understanding. Spelling homework will be written neatly in pencil in their spelling homework books or on blank paper. For updated guidance about spelling homework please refer to the Parent Zone on the school's website. Pupils will be tested on their spelling words each week.

Times tables will also be learned and practised each week for Year 3 and Year 4. Children have access to Times Tables Rock Stars website which they can use at any time in addition to, or on instruction from their teacher. Weekly times table tests will be given to check their knowledge of the times tables.

Children should read each night for approximately 10-20 minutes. Parents are asked to listen to their fluency regularly and question their understanding of the text. A Reading Record will be provided to record the reading at home and the exploration of texts by the children. Books will be changed once they return to school and will be checked by their class teacher.

It is important homework is completed neatly in pencil unless it is a poster for topic work. The homework should be of a high standard and be completed independently (but with some parental guidance).

If homework is regularly late or of a poor standard the class teacher will arrange a meeting with the child and their parents to discuss ways of supporting the child to complete their homework satisfactorily. If on a rare occasion, a child will be unable to complete homework, parents are asked to contact or email the office, or talk to the class teacher before the deadline and a new time can be set.

As with other years, high-quality homework is often used for displays around the school and celebrated in class.

Homework in Upper KS2

Homework in UKS2 gives the children an opportunity to take ownership of their learning, scheduling in time to complete homework each evening. The homework will consolidate learning, but additionally will provide ample opportunity for research and scholarship, as is fitting for children approaching secondary school.

All homework tasks are allocated via Google Classroom or Atom.

It is crucial that homework is completed to a high standard; however, this should be independent work and should not require excessive time, due to the volume of homework set in UKS2. No piece of homework should take longer than an hour. If a

child has worked hard for that amount of time and still not finished, we would ask parents to stop them and inform the teacher. This way we can offer the child specific support in school.

If there is a legitimate reason for non-completion of homework, parents should advise the class teacher in person or make contact via the school official email.

If homework is frequently incomplete or to a poor standard, the teacher will arrange a meeting with the pupil and parent to discuss particular barriers and ways to support the child in completing their homework.

Special Educational Needs and Disabilities (SEND)

Overview

The Blue School aims to ensure the best possible provision for all pupils who have Special Educational Needs. The school encourages parent partnership and co-operation for the benefit of its pupils, striving to give every pupil the opportunity to maximise their life chances by experiencing a positive learning environment.

Mr Matheron (AHT SEN and Wellbeing) is the Special Educational Needs Coordinator (SENCO) at The Blue School. He leads the Inclusion Team of specialist teaching assistants, who have training in supporting children with specific needs.

Class teachers and the Leadership Team make termly assessments of progress for all children. We identify those children who are making less than expected progress given their age and individual circumstance. This can be characterised by progress which:

- is significantly slower than that of their peers starting from the same baseline
- fails to match or better the child's previous rate of progress
- fails to close the attainment gap between the child and their peers
- widens the attainment gap

Furthermore, a child has a learning difficulty or disability if he or she:

- Has a significantly greater difficulty in learning than the majority of others of the same age
- Has a disability which prevents or hinders him or her from making use of facilities of a kind generally provided for others of the same age in mainstream schools

There are four broad areas of need:

Communication and interaction

Children with speech, language and communication needs (SCLN) have difficulty in communicating with others. This may be because they have difficulty saying what they want to, understanding what is being said to them or they do not understand or use social rules of communication. The profile for every child with SCLN is different and their needs may change over time. They may have difficulty with one, some or all of the different aspects of speech, language or social communication at different times of their lives. Children with ASD, including Asperger's Syndrome and Autism, are likely to have particular difficulties with social interaction. They may also experience difficulties with language, communication and imagination, which can impact on how they relate to others.

Cognition and learning

Support for learning difficulties may be required when children learn at a slower pace than their peers, even with appropriate differentiation and support. Learning difficulties cover a wide range of needs, including children with complex diagnoses. Specific learning difficulties (SpLD), affect one or more specific aspects of learning. This encompasses a range of conditions such as dyslexia, dyscalculia and dyspraxia.

Social, emotional and mental health difficulties

Children may experience a wide range of social and emotional difficulties which manifest themselves in many ways. These may include becoming withdrawn or isolated, as well as displaying challenging, disruptive or disturbing behaviour. These behaviours may reflect underlying mental health difficulties such as anxiety or depression, self-harming, substance misuse, eating disorders or physical symptoms that are medically unexplained. Other children may have disorders such as attention deficit disorder, attention deficit hyperactivity disorder or attachment disorder.

Sensory and/or physical needs

Some children require special educational provision because they have a disability which prevents or hinders them from making use of the educational facilities generally provided. These difficulties can be age related and may fluctuate over time. Many children with vision impairment (VI), hearing impairment (HI) or multi-sensory impairment (MSI) will require specialist support and/or equipment to access their learning.

Supporting Children with SEND

Each term all class teachers meet with the SENCO for a Provision Mapping Meeting. The first of these, early in the Autumn Term, allows class teachers to raise any concerns about pupils with the SENCO. In line with the guidance provided in 'The SEND Code Of Practice 2014' these concerns will be documented under one of the following four headings:

- Communication and Interaction Difficulties
- Cognition and Learning Needs
- Social Emotional and Mental Health Difficulties
- Sensory and Physical Needs

The 'Class Provision Map' template includes information on the presenting difficulty for the child and a column for 'Next Steps / Actions' which will be undertaken by the class teacher and / or SENCO. These 'Class Provision Maps' are then shared with each class teacher.

From the Provision Mapping Meeting the SENCO and class teachers will agree interventions to be put in place. Details of these interventions will be drawn up on the Individual Provision Map, which will highlight the intervention, the frequency of the intervention and the expected outcome of the intervention. The impact of these Individual Provision Maps will be reviewed by class teachers every half term and by class teachers and SENCO every term at the Provision Mapping Meeting. These Individual Provision Maps will be shared with parents by class teachers and they will be informed of any changes implemented at the class teacher and SENCO review by the class teacher.

At the end of each school year there is a handover meeting between the previous and the next class teacher at which provision maps are reviewed. This ensures a smooth transition for children with additional needs.

High Needs

Pupils experiencing a higher degree of difficulty are given extensive support and provision and are often referred to specialist external services by the SENCO. These could be the educational psychologist, the speech and language service, occupational therapists, consultant paediatricians, and services which deal with emotional, behavioural issues. Consultation with parents will take place before referrals are made.

Occasionally, if a child's needs are severe, complex and lifelong, a referral for an Education and Healthcare Plan might be necessary. This involves considerable liaison working in partnership with parents. Children with an EHCP are allocated a sum of funding by the local authority. This is used for specific support and is reviewed annually. Children with high needs are supported by the Inclusion Team either individually or in a very small group.

Occasionally it becomes clear that, despite extensive interventions, a mainstream school environment may not provide a child with high needs with the level of support

s/he needs. In such cases the SENCO and / or headteacher will discuss this with parents and will start liaison regarding transfer to a specialist setting.

Additional Provision and Support for Pupil Premium

Children whose parents are on low incomes may be eligible for the 'Pupil Premium' grant. This grant is made to the school in order to provide additional support for these children. Our core approach to this is through high quality teaching and tracking children's progress to ensure they do not perform at a lower standard, which in many schools is the case for children in such circumstances.

We create an overall package of support aimed to tackle potential barriers to achievement such as attendance, resources, parental engagement. We ensure children have access to clubs and school visits and we subsidise these. Children designated as PP will also be eligible for free school meals in KS2.

We provide our staff with professional development focusing on improving outcomes for eligible pupils. This ensures that class teachers, SLT, phase leaders and TAs know which pupils are eligible for Pupil Premium so they can take responsibility for accelerating progress and accountability is shared across the school.

The Blue School uses data to track the impact of targeted spending (interventions, projects or pedagogy) on attainment and progress of eligible pupils. The Pupil Premium Leader, the SLT and governors have a clear overview of how funding is allocated and the difference it is making to the outcomes of pupils termly. An annual report is published on our website. Mrs Davies is the Inclusion Leader and has overall responsibility for children in receipt of Pupil Premium.

Progress and Standards

Overview

Mr Kelly AHT (Standards & Teaching) leads this area of the school's activity. Children's progress in KS1 and KS2 is monitored using the school's Management Information System; Arbor. Teachers input both formative and summative data. The formative data is ongoing throughout the year and teachers select from the following ; 'working towards', 'working towards+', 'expected', 'expected+', 'greater depth' against each curriculum statement for Maths, Reading and Writing. This data then provides staff with a suggested grade for summative assessments. Summative assessment grades are inputted termly in December, March and June, which results in a secure data set to inform the child's annual report.

Children's progress in the EYFS is carefully monitored using Tapestry and a school based tracking system. Teachers input formative data in the form of observations on Tapestry throughout the year. Summative assessments are collected three times a year, a baseline, mid year and end of year where children's progress and attainment are graded as 'emerging' or 'expected'. Reception teachers complete a baseline and end of year EYFSP, both statutory requirements for children completing their final year of the EYFS.

Progress Meetings

Termly progress meetings take place with Mr Kelly, class teacher and Phase Leaders. Children's progress and any additional support / interventions they may need is discussed and agreed for children and recorded. Interventions are reviewed termly and their impact is assessed.

School Workshops, Trips and Visits

The Blue School prides itself on the quality and quantity of the trips, workshops and events planned for the benefit of the children. They enable children to relate their in-class learning to real world experiences and bring the curriculum to life. Such visits are also very important for developing children's sense of identity as residents of Isleworth and West London with all that there is on offer locally and in the capital.

Parents who are regular parent volunteers at school will be invited to support and attend class trips. Should extra parent volunteers be required, the class teacher will notify parents on the trip letter and should parents wish to assist, they should contact the class teacher via the school office.

UKS2 has two residential visits. The first is a 'WW2 Experience' in Y5, which provides support for the curriculum as well as team building. In Y6 there is a residential trip with outdoor and adventurous activities aimed at developing children's resilience, confidence, social skills and independence as they approach the move to secondary school. Residential trips are covered by staff and not parent volunteers.

Parent Workshops

The school offers parent workshops to support parents with areas of children's learning. These workshops range from Phonics/ Maths / Computing Skills / Online safety / reading and information on how to support your child's emotional development. These dates will be published in the school's newsletter.

Payment for Workshops, Visits and Trips

We aim to keep the costs as low as possible for all parents. We are conscious that the cost of living is a big issue for families, so are reviewing all paid activities regarding affordability. Schools are not allowed to require parents to pay for extra activities so we have to work on the basis that all who can afford to, will make a voluntary contribution of the stated amount.

We provide support for children eligible for Pupil Premium and this is planned. We are usually aware of families who are having a difficult time financially and can have discreet conversations and agree on a level of support in such cases by applying for grants. No child should ever be excluded because of hardship so please contact the headteacher if this is a concern.

The school budget is desperately tight and, as indicated above, we cannot subsidise workshops, trips and visits unexpectedly. Please alert us to any need you may have for financial support. If we do not hear from you we will expect you to make the necessary contribution to the activity and will send reminders. If parents do not contribute, we will not be able to run these additional events.

Site Access, Safety and Maintenance

The school's Facilities Coordinator is Mr Parker, and the Facilities Assistant is Mr Needham. To report a health and safety hazard or any concern, please contact the school office or speak to Mr Parker.

There is a rolling programme of maintenance and we are always trying to improve our site. We welcome volunteers who might be interested in assisting with site improvements, many of which can be quite fun to do as a group of parents on a Saturday or in the holidays. Please get in touch with Mr White or Mr Parker to get involved.