



# Lydgate Junior School

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6 September 2024

Dear parents and carers

Thank you for all your support in settling the children back into school this week. It is wonderful to have the school filled with children again and for us all to settle back into school routines

## Gates and School Timings

Thank you for everyone's support helping to get their children to school on time. The Y3 gate on Tapton field and the main top gate on Manchester Road will be open at 8.35am and closed at 8.50am. The school bell goes at 8.45am, which is the start of school and lessons. We really want the children to start learning swiftly in the morning. We will have the Shore Lane gate open for the morning clubs and Lexia learning, but this gate will be shut by 8.35am, so please use the top gate after that. If you arrive later than 8.50am or need to come to school during the school day please use the Shore Lane gate and go to the School Office.

## Home time Arrangements

To safeguard our children at the end of the school day, we ask for parents and carers to let us know of their general home time arrangements.

For children in Y3, you have already provided these details on their online data collection form. For children in Y4, Y5 & Y6, we will transfer their end of day arrangements from last year. If you would like to update these arrangements (e.g. if your child now has permission to walk home), please complete the form below **by Wednesday 11<sup>th</sup> September** if you have not done so already.

<https://forms.office.com/Pages/ResponsePage.aspx?id=v3mdwHhzMU2pWsdQPymUg9tBehkBrXhKpj5MPcSDDTxUN0pNQThWNjA1NTFMVIZOR0RLWjA3OU1XNy4u>

If you need to update your child's arrangements after the form has closed, please let us know by email to [enquiries@lydgate-jun.sheffield.sch.uk](mailto:enquiries@lydgate-jun.sheffield.sch.uk).

## Requests for Exceptional Leave

As I am sure you appreciate, regular school attendance is essential if pupils are to maximise their educational opportunities. The Local Authority and Lydgate Junior School have a responsibility to provide the best education possible but we can only do this if pupils attend regularly. Taking time out of school for holidays can be disruptive; it can also be difficult for pupils to catch up on work missed.

The Headteacher may only consider giving permission for a pupil to be absent from school in term time in 'exceptional circumstances' and proof will be requested by the Headteacher.

If you need to take your child out of school during term-time, please contact the School Office at [enquires@lydgate-jun.sheffield.sch.uk](mailto:enquires@lydgate-jun.sheffield.sch.uk). Requests for exceptional leave should be made at least 14 days in advance. We understand this is not always possible, but please note **we are unable to authorise absence retrospectively**.

From 19<sup>th</sup> August 2024, government guidance has been updated regarding penalty notice fines for school attendance. Please find a flyer attached with an overview of the changes.



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## Photo Permissions

For children in Y3, you have already provided these details on the online data collection form. For Y4-Y6 pupils we will also transfer photo permissions from last year, including whether your child has permission for their photo to be posted on our social media. Please let us know by email if these permissions have changed.

## Y3 Pupils – Data Collections

As you will see from this letter, we need to hold information in school to help keep your child safe. For those Y3 parents who have not already completed the online data collection form, please can you do so. Thank you.

## Timetables

Teachers will ensure that you know which days are PE days and share the homework expectations for your child's year group. We will also send an overview of the Curriculum learning.

## Facebook/VIP Tea

We have a school Facebook page where we share whole school events, Headteacher awards and the celebratory VIP tea that the class superstars attend on a Friday. VIP tea is on a Friday and each class chooses a Star of the Week. The children join Mrs Hurding or Mrs Noble for a drink and a chat about their learning. The children receive a star pin badge and a VIP token that goes on their star picture that they have in the classroom. It is a joyful end to a busy week of learning in school. The Y3/4 VIP tea is Friday 2.15pm and the Y5/6 VIP tea is Friday 2.45pm.

## Key dates for Autumn

**16.09.24 - Photograph Day** – All the pupils will be having their photographs taken. They will bring a proof home on the day, to enable parents to order their prints.

**16.09.24 - Pop in Open Day** - we have an open evening straight after school if you would like to pop in and see your child's classroom and teacher. The children will be collected as normal then you are welcome to come back into school with your child to visit their class. School will be open from 3.30pm to 4.15pm. We understand that these times do not work for all working parents. You will also have the opportunity to see the classrooms at the Autumn parents evening.

**26.9.24** - Languages day - we will be celebrating the wonderful amount of different languages our children speak at Lydgate Junior School.

**10.10.24 - Hello Yellow - World Mental Health day** - as a school we will be wearing yellow and will be looking at the importance of being aware of our mental health. Please wear as little or as much yellow as you would like, you may want to make and wear a yellow badge, put in a yellow ribbon or wear yellow socks or dress head to toe in yellow. Assembly that week will focus on mental health.

**21.11.24** and **26.11.24** will be our parents' evenings **3.30pm to 6.30pm** - we have an electronic booking system and we will send the information nearer the date.

**15.11.24** Children in Need - more details to follow.

Thank you for everyone's support

**Mrs Rachel Hurding**

**Headteacher**