Welcome to Sheerhatch Primary School



Serving Cople and Willington

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SHEERHATCH PRIMARY SCHOOL

We are a new school, but come from a strong tradition of education in our two villages.

Cople and Willington Schools were both built at the gift of the Duke of Bedford in the 1870s to provide schooling for the local communities, mostly farming families. From the Victorian classrooms of up to 100 children under the strict eye of one school mistress and her young assistants to our modern, technological age, the schools have seen many changes.

We are excited to be entering this next phase as one school across two sites offering a full primary education to the children of our villages and beyond.

We remain a village school, rooted in our communities, small enough to know everyone, but with the advantage of being big enough eventually to offer single age classes as we expand to become a full primary school.

New classroom spaces at Willington this year will give a new lease of life to the learning environment for our youngest children and developing the land use at Cople, along with a new classroom next year, will better provide for the needs of our oldest.

It is a great privilege to have the opportunity to lead the school at this exciting time and I look forward to working with staff, pupils, parents and governors to make Sheerhatch Primary School the best it can be.

Mrs Helen Johnson

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Mrs Helen Johnson

OUR VISION

DEVELOPING INDIVIDUALS, GROWING A COMMUNITY

Sheerhatch Primary School is a warm and friendly school serving the villages of Cople, Willington and surrounding areas. We offer a vibrant, yet safe and secure environment encouraging our children to live and work by the SHEERHATCH values.

We will treat every child as an individual and motivate, challenge and support them to reach their full potential. We believe our children should be happy, inquiring and confident learners and we will encourage a thirst for learning which we hope will stay with them for life.

We promote a broad, creative curriculum that is inclusive to all children, celebrating their strengths and aptitudes, building key skills, knowledge and understanding. This is underpinned by a strong focus on Literacy and Numeracy skills along with a high profile for Science and Technology, along with opportunities for enrichment that develop an appreciation of the Arts and Humanities.

SHEERHATCH VALUES

- Safe
- H Honest
- **E** Enthusiastic
- **E** Encouraging
- R Respectful
- H Hard-working
- A Ambitious
- T Tolerant
- **c** Caring
- **H** Happy

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WHO'S WHO IN OUR SCHOOL (2017-18)

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| Head Leacher |
|---------------------------|
| Assistant Head (EYFS/KS1) |
| Assistant Head (KS2) |
| |

Mrs Helen Johnson Mrs Danica Kipling Mrs Joanne Hymers Head Teacher Mrs Helen Johnson
Assistant Head (EYFS/KS1) Mrs Danica Kipling
Assistant Head (KS2) Mrs Joanne Hymers

Class Teachers Squirrels (Reception)

Mrs Vicki Davy Mrs Carrie Meershoek Mrs Heidi Smith Squirrels (Reception)

Mrs Vicki Davy

Mrs Carrie Meershoek

Rabbits (Year 1/2)

Mrs Heidi Smith

Rabbits (Year 1/2) Otters (Year 1/2)

Mrs Danica Kipling
Mrs Carrie Meershoek

Rabbits (Year 1/2)

Otters (Year 1/2)

Mrs Heidi Smith

Mrs Danica Kipling

Mrs Carrie Meershoek

Foxes (Year 3/4) Badgers (Year 3/4) Mrs Jenny Bowers
Mrs Louise Buisson
Mrs Lisa Lear

Foxes (Year 3/4)

Badgers (Year 3/4)

Mrs Jenny Bowers

Mrs Louise Buisson

Mrs Lisa Lear

Woodpeckers (Year 5)

Mrs Joanne Hymers
Mrs Claire Houghton

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Senior Teaching Assistant

Miss Bruna Molins

Senior Teaching Assistant Miss Bruna Molins

Teaching Assistants

Mrs Diane Bolger Mrs Gill Dickens Mrs Chris Franklin

Mrs Kate Johnson-Murphy
Mrs K atie MacDougall
Miss Roisin McTernan
Mrs Dani Pozella

Mrs Dani Pozella Mrs Lisa Savage

Mrs Naomi Whittingham Mrs Joanne Worth

Teaching Assistants Mrs Diane Bolger

Mrs Gill Dickens Mrs Chris Franklin

Mrs Claire Houghton

Mrs Kate Johnson-Murphy Mrs K atie MacDougall Miss Roisin McTernan Mrs Dani Pozella Mrs Lisa Savage

Mrs Naomi Whittingham Mrs Joanne Worth

Finance Officer

Miss Sharon Bateman

Finance Officer

Class Teachers

Miss Sharon Bateman

WHO'S WHO IN OUR SCHOOL (2017-18) CONT.

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Administration Assistants

(Cople) Mrs Stacie Bourne

(Willington) Mrs Cathy Dutton

Caretakers (Cople) Mrs Gill Dickens

(Willington) Mrs Paulina Dawidcyk

Senior Midday Supervisors

(Cople) Mr Gregg Whittle

(Willington) Mrs Dani Pozella

Midday Supervisors

(Cople) Mrs K atie MacDougall

Mrs Nurije Ramaj

Miss Jodie Whittingham

(Willington) Mrs Paulina Dawidcyk Mrs Julie Torode

Mrs Julie Torode Mrs Joanne Worth

Care Club Play Leader

Play Leader Mrs Naomi Whittingham

Play Assistants Mrs Paulina Dawidcyk

Mrs Gill Dickens Mr Soloman Paris Administration Assistants

(Cople) Mrs Stacie Bourne

(Willington) Mrs Cathy Dutton

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Mrs Julie Torode Mrs Joanne Worth

Care Club Play Leader Mrs Naomi Whittingham

Play Assistants Mrs Paulina Dawidcyk

Mrs Gill Dickens Mr Soloman Paris

SCHOOL TERMS

2017-18

<u>SCHOOL TERMS</u> <u>2017-18</u>

| | <u>Start</u> | <u>End</u> | | <u>Start</u> | <u>End</u> |
|------------------|---------------|---------------|------------------|---------------|---------------|
| Autumn Term 2017 | 4th Sept 2017 | 20th Oct 2017 | Autumn Term 2017 | 4th Sept 2017 | 20th Oct 2017 |
| Second half-term | 31st Oct 2017 | 19th Dec 2017 | Second half-term | 31st Oct 2017 | 19th Dec 2017 |
| | | | | | |
| Spring Term 2018 | 3rd Jan 2018 | 9th Feb 2018 | Spring Term 2018 | 3rd Jan 2018 | 9th Feb 2018 |
| Second half-term | 20th Feb 2018 | 29th Mar 2018 | Second half-term | 20th Feb 2018 | 29th Mar 2018 |
| | | | | | |
| Summer Term 2018 | 17th Apr 2018 | 25th May 2018 | Summer Term 2018 | 17th Apr 2018 | 25th May 2018 |
| Second half-term | 5th Jun 2018 | 20th Jul 2017 | Second half-term | 5th Jun 2018 | 20th Jul 2017 |

Inset days: 1st September 2017, 30th October 2017, 2nd January 2018, 19th February, 16th April 2018

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THE SCHOOL DAY

We will operate a staggered day across the two sites to allow for anyone with children on both sites

| | Cople site | Willington site |
|-------------------------|------------|-----------------|
| Arrival from | 0830 | 0845 |
| Start time | 0845 | 0900 |
| Morning break (15 mins) | 1030 | 1045 |
| Lunch break | 1200 | 1200 |
| Afternoon starts | 1300 | 1300 |
| School finishes | 1515 | 1530 |

ARRIVING AT SCHOOL

Children may come onto the playground from the arrival time above (Please note there will be no supervision before this time, unless booked into Care Club). The bell will ring 5 minutes before the start time to allow the children to line up and be brought into the classrooms ready for the school day to begin . Some children will come in from the playground to read before the bell

Parents may remain on the playground until the bell goes.

If you arrive later than the start time you must bring your child to the school office to sign them in late.

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| Afternoon starts | 1300 | 1300 |
| School finishes | 1515 | 1530 |

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Parents may remain on the playground until the bell goes.

If you arrive later than the start time you must bring your child to the school office to sign them in late.

GOING HOME

Please let us know who will normally collect your child from school. If you arrange for someone unknown to us to deputise for you, then it is important that we know in advance of this arrangement.

Children up to Year 2 will be handed over to you by the class teachers at the gate or classroom door. Older children will be escorted to the play-ground and will then make their own way out to you. If your older child will be making their own way home, please let us know.

School bus pupils will be escorted to the bus or taxi driver by a member of staff.

Please arrive promptly to collect your children, as staff often have meetings or clubs after school.

MINIBUS

The school minibus will offer a shuttle service between the sites at the beginning and end of the school day.

The priority for this service is children living in Cople or Willington whose class is based on the other village site and for children who may be attending Care Club on the other site.

Times will be as follows:

8.30am Willington to Cople

8.45am Cople to Willington

3.15pm Cople to Willington

3.30pm Willington to Cople

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SNACKS AND DRINKS

Children in Squirrels, Rabbits and Otters will be offered a mid morning snack of fruit everyday. Under 5s are al-so entitled to free milk and we continue to offer milk to children entitled to Free School Meals. You can also pay for your child to receive milk beyond the age of 5. Please ask in the office.

ADDITIONAL SNACK

Older children are encouraged to bring in a healthy fruit or vegetable snack to eat mid morning and the younger ones may bring an additional snack for mid afternoon Please ensure it is labelled in some way other wise things can get a lit-tle confusing.

DRINKS DURING THE DAY

Children are encouraged to bring in a named water bottle and to drink regularly throughout the day.





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LUNCH

You may choose for your child to bring a packed lunch or have a hot school dinner.



PACKED LUNCH

Children can bring in a healthy lunch in a clearly labelled lunch box. This will need to be placed on the packed lunch trolley. We are a healthy school so please do not include fizzy drinks, chocolates or sweets. Any food not eaten will be left in the child's lunch box so you can monitor how much they are eating.

SCHOOL DINNERS

We are also able to offer the children a fantastic freshly cooked healthy school dinner provided by Caterlink. All children up to Year 2 are entitled to a free school meal. For older children the cost is currently £2.15 per day and needs to be paid in advance. Cheques are payable to Caterlink. Payment should be in a clearly labelled envelope and placed in the Caterlink post box in the front entrance.

Some of the older children may also be entitled to free school meals if you are on a low income. Please ask at the school office or go to the Bedford Borough Council website for details.

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ILLNESS

We, like all schools, have our fair share of bugs, though we try our best to limit their spread by keeping things clean and following good hygiene protocols. However, you as parents can help us. If your child is ill please do not send them to school especially if they have been suffering from sickness or diarrhoea as they can be infectious for up to 48 hours after the symptoms cease.

We understand that many children suffer from colds and coughs, especially when they first start school and we don't expect them to be kept at home unless they are running a temperature.

Only medicines prescribed by a doctor can be given to children in school and a medical form will need to be completed.

It is vital that we are kept informed of any on-going medical conditions and the recommendations of health professional for care and treatment.

Please see further advice on our website.

SICKNESS AT SCHOOL AND INFECTIOUS DISEASES

If your child falls sick while at school, they will be rested under adult supervision until you can be contacted to make arrangements for collection.

In the case of emergency hospital treatment, every effort will be made to contact you so that you can arrange to accompany your child. If neither parent can be reached, the Headteacher (or her deputy) will act in 'loco parentis' and will deal with formalities at the hospital.

Please take note of the clause on the Admission form regarding your permission for us to act in loco-parentis in an emergency situation.

Please contact the school office immediately if your child contracts any infectious diseases (e.g. measles, mumps, chicken pox) or any contagious conditions that can easily be passed on (e.g. head lice, impetigo, conjunctivitis).

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11

ABSENCE

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If your child is not well enough to attend school or is going to be absent for another reason which has not previously been notified, then please telephone (01234) 838827 as soon as possible on the day of absence.

Unexplained absences will be followed up with a phone call.

If non-urgent medical/dental appointments cannot be made out of school hours, please try to make them at the end of the day rather than the beginning. There is much less disruption to your child's learning if they leave early as opposed to arriving late.

Please make every effort to avoid taking leave of absence during school terms. If you wish to take your child away in school time, please speak to Mrs Johnson and complete the required form. Authorisation can only be given in exceptional circumstances. Permission cannot be granted for absence during the school's assessment period (generally in May).

Taking children out of school for unauthorised holidays could invoke a fine.

If your child is fit for school, you must make every effort to ensure they attend. Unexplained or unauthorised absences will be followed up by letters and if necessary, referred to the Education Welfare department.

Children arriving or leaving during the school day need to come via the school office.

PUNCTUALITY

Arriving late for school can disrupt your child's whole day. They may not only miss out on key learning and opportunities to read to an adult, but also feel out of sorts and confused.

Please make every effort to ensure your child arrives on time. Speak to us if you have a problem. We may be able to help.



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THE CURRICULUM

In our Reception class we follow the **Early Years Foundation Stage** curriculum with it's seven areas of learning: Personal,
Social and Emotional Development; Physical Development;
Communication and Language; Literacy; Mathematics; Understanding the World; Expressive Arts and De-sign

In Year 1 the children begin to follow the **National Curriculum**, which includes English, Maths, Science, Computing, History, Geography, Art, Music, PE, Design Technology and from Year 3 Foreign Languages. RE is also a statutory subject, though not part of the National Curriculum.

Most of the children's learning takes place through topics which offers an exciting and motivating way to learn.

In Years 1 and 2 the children follow **Key Stage 1** of the National Curriculum and in Year 3 they begin Key Stage 2. **Key Stage 2** is completed in 6,

We follow the '**Sounds-Write**' phonics programme in school. This will be introduced from the very beginning of the reception year and continued into Key Stages 1 and 2 to support the children's reading and spelling skills.

The children's learning is monitored and assessed in a number of ways throughout the year and we will inform you of their progress at consultations in the Autumn and Spring Terms and through a written report in the Summer Term.

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UNIFORM

Winter Uniform

White collared shirt or blouse

Tie

School jumper or cardigan (with logo)

Grey trousers/skirt/pinafore/culottes

White, grey, navy or black socks/tights

Black school shoes

<u>Summer Uniform</u> (may be worn in the Summer Term and in the Autumn Term until the end of September)

White polo shirt (plain or with logo)

Grey shorts/skirt/culottes

OR

Red/White checked dress

School jumper or cardigan (with logo)

White/grey socks

Black school shoes

PE Kit

Black plain shorts

Red or White t-shirt (plain or with school logo)

Black plimsolls (older children may also wish to have train-ers for outdoor PE)

Plain black jogging bottoms with plain black or red sweatshirt/hoodie may be worn in colder months

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White collared shirt or blouse

Tie

School jumper or cardigan (with logo)

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Red/White checked dress

School jumper or cardigan (with logo)

White/grey socks

Black school shoes

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Black plain shorts

Red or White t-shirt (plain or with school logo)

Black plimsolls (older children may also wish to have train-ers for outdoor PE)

Plain black jogging bottoms with plain black or red sweatshirt/hoodie may be worn in colder months

UNIFORM (cont.)

Items with the school logo and some other items are available form our uniform suppliers online at www.brigade.uk.com

Optional items include

Red Fleece jacket (with logo)

Red coat (with logo)

Red PE hoodie (with logo)

PE bag

Bookbags with the school logo are provided free to all children on entry to Reception class. Replacements can be ordered (Please note that Cople/Willington bookbags can be used)

Small, plain black backpacks can be used by children in Year 5 and 6 only

Please ensure all uniform items are clearly labelled with your child's name

Rules

Uniform is to be worn correctly at all times in school.

No jewellery is to be worn except for watches and plain gold stud earrings (which must be taken out or taped over for PE activities.)

Long hair should be worn out of the face and tied back for all PE and art/technology activities.

No make-up or nail varnish should be worn.

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15

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CARE CLUB

Care Club offers wrap around child care before school from 7.50am and after school until 6pm.

Care Club will operate on both sites for children from age 4-11.

To use Care Club children need to be registered annually at a cost of £5. Registration forms are available from either school office.

Sessions should be booked half termly in advance to guarantee a place and will be charged as follows:

Before School £4.00 (including breakfast)

After School until 4.45pm £5.50 (including a snack)

4.45pm—6.00pm £5.00

Adhoc bookings can also be taken as long as space is available.

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PSHE AND BEHAVIOUR

We follow a PSHE (Personal, Social and Health Education) scheme called Jigsaw, which focuses on different themes (Puzzles) throughout the year: Being Me In My World, Celebrating Difference, Dreams and Goals, Healthy Me, Relationships and Changing Me. Each puzzle is introduced and reinforced during assemblies and in special lessons, when there are also opportunities to reflect, learn to be calm and to develop skills and values.

We make clear our expectations of children's behaviour in and around school. Our expectations are based on the Sheerhatch values (see the beginning of this booklet) agreed rules which are discussed regularly and displayed around the school. Children will be praised and rewarded for showing kindness, thoughtfulness, respect or making correct behaviour choices.

We encourage our children to manage their own behaviour and expect them to help their peers with reminders and try and resolve conflicts themselves before involving an adult.

If the children are not following rules they will first be given a clear verbal warning. If the behaviour continues further consequences will be applied in line with our behaviour policy which can be viewed in full on our website.



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We make clear our expectations of children's behaviour in and around school. Our expectations are based on the Sheerhatch values (see the beginning of this booklet) agreed rules which are discussed regularly and displayed around the school. Children will be praised and rewarded for showing kindness, thoughtfulness, respect or making correct behaviour choices.

We encourage our children to manage their own behaviour and expect them to help their peers with reminders and try and resolve conflicts themselves before involving an adult.

If the children are not following rules they will first be given a clear verbal warning. If the behaviour continues further consequences will be applied in line with our behaviour policy which can be viewed in full on our website.



PARENTS IN PARTNERSHIP

Your child's success at school depends to a large extent on a positive, open partnership with you as parents.

A 'Home-School' Agreement will be sent home with your child each September, which sets out our commitment as a school to you and asks you to agree with a set of principles to support your child and the school.

Despite being across two sites, we remain a small school, where we all hope to get to know each other quickly. We hope you find that you can approach any member of staff with any queries or concerns.

Queries or concerns regarding your child's academic progress should in the first instance be raised with your child's class teacher. If the concern is relating to your child's well-being, this could also be dealt with by teaching support staff.

Although the class teachers will often be able to have a quick informal word with you at the beginning or end of the day, please remember that in the mornings their responsibility for settling the children into the class is their priority and at the end of the day they may have meetings to attend or clubs to run. A short note can be passed via your child or the school office. If you need to speak in confidence or in more depth, you may e-mail the teacher directly or call the school office so a mutually convenient time can be arranged.

Mrs Johnson (or Mrs Kipling /Mrs Hymers when Mrs Johnson is not on site) will also be happy to speak to you about any concerns or queries.

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PARENTAL INVOLVEMENT

There are many ways in which you can take an active part in your child's learning and we encourage and appreciate parental involvement in many practical ways during the normal week. At the beginning of each school year you will be asked if you would like to help on a regular basis with our daily individual reading programme.

Other activities with which we may ask for support with may include Maths Games, Art, Design & Technology, Science, Cookery, Gardening, group work, concerts and special projects and trips out of school.

There will also be opportunities to support the school by joining with fundraising and social activities, which will be organised from time to time.

Our Parent and Teacher group - Friends of Sheerhatch (FOSH) will also welcome your support and new ideas.

We welcome you to Sheerhatch Primary School and look forward to working with you and your child over their time with us.

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