



Somerton Primary School

School Prospectus

2023/2024



Respectful, Safe, Successful



Parchus, Diogel, Llwyddiannus



Introduction	3/4	Neighbours	11
Aims of Somerton School	3/4	Newsletter	11
Absence/Attendance	5	Nursery	12
Accidents	5	Organisation	12
Addresses (see APPENDIX A)	5	PE	12
Admissions	5	Police	12
Behaviour	6	Parents	13
Building	6	Parent Helpers	13
Catchment Area	7	Punctuality	13
Child Protection Issues	7	Pupil Records	13
Festivals	7	Reception Class	13
Harvest Festivals	7	Religious Education	13
Computers	7	Rules	14
Dental Health	7	Safety	14
Equality Policy	7	Social Media	14
Education Authority	8	School Hours	14
Educational Progress	8	School Private Funds	15
Emergency Contacts	8	Secondary Schooling	15
Extra-Curricular Activities	8	Sex and relationships Education	15
Free Meals	8	Additional Needs	15
Free Milk	9	Sporting Aims	15
School Security	9	Swimming	16
Grounds	9	Teacher/Parent Consultations	16
Healthy Schools	9	Traffic	16
Holidays (see APPENDIX G)	9	Tuck	16
Homework	9/10	Uniform	16
Lost Property	10	Jewellery	17
Lunchtime	10	PE	16
Schools Meal Service	10	Visits	17
Parent Provided Meals	10	Visitors	17
Medical/Medicine	10	Welsh	
FP and National Curriculum	11		

Appendix A ~ Important Addresses

Appendix B ~ School Uniform List and Prices

INTRODUCTION

Dear Parent/Guardian

Partnership between home and school is a vital part of your child's education. This booklet tells you all about the school, the teachers, other staff and how the school is run. It tells you how we teach and the standards we have, as we do our part in caring for your children. We trust that it will prove a useful source of information for you to keep and that it answers most general questions. If not, please contact the school on 01633 272504.

Somerton Primary School works in a federation arrangement with Eveswell Primary School which is nearby on Chepstow Road. The Eveswell and Somerton Partnership allows both schools to provide excellent pastoral and learning experiences and enhances staff development.

Mrs C Barnett

Executive Headteacher, July 2023

Ethos

As a school, we encourage and inspire all our children to see themselves as valued members of the Somerton school family. We work to create an atmosphere and environment in which hard work, courtesy and kindness are expected.



AIMS OF SOMERTON PRIMARY SCHOOL

‘Respectful, Safe, Successful’ – ‘Parchus, Diogel, Llwyddiannus’

While your child is at school, we aim:

- ❖ to enable children to realise their full potential in all aspects of their learning; we aim to meet all pupils’ needs as effectively as we can
- ❖ to actively and consistently promote the health and wellbeing of children and other school stakeholders in our curriculum and our day-to-day work, develop in children a positive sense of moral and social responsibility and self-discipline, based on respect for themselves and others
- ❖ to create a happy, caring environment where everyone develops self-esteem and self-discipline - and feels valued, confident and motivated in all aspects of school life
- ❖ to ensure that all pupils experience high quality and purposeful teaching and learning - encouraging and enabling all pupils to achieve their potential through a broad and balanced curriculum which:
 - encourages creativity and a sense of enquiry and exploration;
 - develops children’s independent thinking, problem solving and ability to reflect and improve on their own learning;
 - encourages pupils to participate in determining what and how they learn;
 - develops learning skills – including resourcefulness, resilience and perseverance, reflection, learning together and from each other
- ❖ to develop children’s bilingual skills and their understanding of their own identity and culture, including their Welsh identity
- ❖ to recognise a wide range of talents, as we encourage all children to aim high and to demonstrate ambition and resilience, in order to prepare them for the future
- ❖ to develop a school which relates to and respects the immediate environment, the wider community and the world beyond
- ❖ to help children to live together in a community, to develop empathy towards different cultures and ways of life so as to become responsible, independent and considerate young people

- ❖ to continually develop a self-improving, forward thinking school, fully involving and consulting staff, governors, pupils and parents and outside agencies as appropriate
- ❖ to ensure that staff are developed and trained and that their performance is managed effectively
- ❖ to continually monitor and evaluate standards in order to improve the quality of education for our pupils

ABSENCE/ATTENDANCE

Attendance at school is a legal requirement and therefore it is important that your child attends regularly. Your child's attendance forms part of his/her school record. Absences due to illness, attendance at clinics etc., are usually recorded as authorised absences if we are informed by letter or telephone. Absence where no explanation is received or when children are late (registers are closed at 9.10 am) are recorded as unauthorised absences. At Somerton Primary, attendance is monitored every half-term and if a child has a high percentage of absences, authorised or unauthorised, then parents are contacted by the Educational Welfare Officer (Appendix D shows recent Attendance Data). Please note:

- Please send a child back to school as soon as they are well after an illness. If there is a medical need, we can consider agreeing to administer non-routine medication. Ask us for a form.
- Holidays during school time will be counted as unauthorised and will affect your child's overall attendance record. A FPN (Fixed Penalty Notice) payable to the Local Authority may be applied. It is important to remember that poor attendance at school affects your child's life chances and it is for this reason that we insist on good attendance.

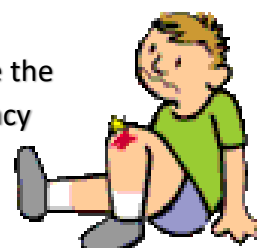
ACCIDENTS

Unfortunately, accidents can occur when large numbers of children are together. The majority of these are only slight, a grazed knee, bruised shin etc., and these are dealt with by staff. Occasionally, however, a more serious injury occurs which appears to require immediate treatment at a doctors' or hospital. In these cases, parents will be contacted as soon as possible (see Emergency Contact).

An emergency may mean that, in the best interests of the child, school may take the decision to take a child for immediate treatment (e.g. the Accident and Emergency Department at the Royal Gwent Hospital/Grange Hospital).

Any parent objecting to this or who know of their child having any allergies should let us know, in writing.

We would like to remind parents that it is important to ensure that your child is up to date with tetanus injections and recommended immunisations.



ADDRESSES

Important addresses concerning your child's primary education are given in APPENDIX A.

ADMISSIONS

Where places are available, it may be possible for your child to be admitted to the Nursery Class at the beginning of the term following their third birthday. Admission to the Reception Class takes place at the beginning of the Autumn term following the child's fourth birthday.

Full details of the admissions process, including application forms for admission, should be obtained from Newport City Council at www.newport.gov.uk/schooladmissions or by ringing the City Contact Centre on 01633 656656.

ANCILLARY STAFF

The school staff is made up of a number of teachers and other people important to the education and welfare of your child.

The School Support Officer performs a wide range of duties as well as being the receptionist for visitors. The Family Engagement Officer aims to work closely with families to ensure they are fully supported. Classroom Teaching Assistants work in classes under the direction of the teacher to give extra support to children where needed. The Caretaker and Cleaners work extremely hard to provide a clean and safe environment for all children. Canteen Assistants and Teaching Assistants ensure children are well fed and well looked after during the lunch break.

All these staff (plus the teachers) form a hard working team dedicated to the welfare and education of your child.

BEHAVIOUR

Children are required to be well-behaved and polite and to adhere to the school rules. We encourage pupils to do their best, to be respectful, to keep themselves and others safe and to always be ready to learn.



BUILDING

The four buildings on the school campus are:

Early Years

This is a purpose built unit for 3-5 year olds with its own toilet and playground facilities. Flying Start provision is available for children aged 2 years in the nursery building every afternoon session.

Canteen

Adjacent to the main school building, this serves as a dining room for cooked meals or sandwich lunches. As this is a small building two lunch sittings are required (12.00 noon - reception, year

1 and year2) and 12.30pm (year 3, 4, 5 and 6). School dinners cost £2.15. We use an online Parent Pay system.

Main Building

A large assembly hall, which also serves other purposes, links the single storey block of 3 classrooms (reception, year 1, year 2) with the 2 storey block of 4 classrooms (year 3, 4, 5 and 6) and a library space. These blocks are arranged around an inner courtyard with outdoor teaching areas. Each classroom has its own storage area.

Demountable

The school uses the demountable building for the nurture provision.

In the Foundation Phase block, cloakrooms and toilet facilities are adjacent to classrooms, while they are at ground level in the Junior block. The administration area of

staff room, office, etc. is situated at ground level near the entrance hall. The headteacher's office sits behind the main administration office. We have extensive grounds with a playing field, multi-use games area and playgrounds.

CATCHMENT AREA

Children often attend the school in the catchment area they live. Applications to attend another school should be made in writing to the Chief Education Officer (School Admissions).

Parents who move out of a school's catchment area, may still bring their children to the school if they already have a place.

The catchment area for Somerton Primary School is the whole of the Somerton and Glanwern estates, Linden Road, parts of Chepstow Road and Farmwood Close.

CHILD PROTECTION ISSUES/SAFEGUARDING

The school has a Child Protection Policy. The safety of all children is paramount. In certain circumstances we are obliged to make referrals to social services without prior contact with you.

Our Child Protection Policy is available at the school and it is on our website. It details the categories of concern, and why a referral to social services might be made. If you would like to see a paper copy of this policy, please contact the Headteacher.

FESTIVALS

During Christmas, Easter, Eid, Diwali and other religious festivals, many additional activities take place to ensure the children celebrate the festivals in an educational and enjoyable way. We look forward to seeing you at our concerts and performances where you can join our celebrations.

HARVEST FESTIVAL

It is customary to hold a harvest festival during the first half-term of each school year. Parents are asked if they wish to contribute fruit and vegetables which are displayed on the day of the service. The produce is later distributed to the senior citizens of the Somerton area by the children.



COMPUTERS

Each classroom has computers linked to a network, additionally all classrooms have laptops, Chromebooks and iPads. Pupils use these on a regular basis to enhance their education and to develop digital skills for the 21st century. They have access to approved internet sites and educational 'apps'. You are asked to sign our 'acceptable use' agreement which helps us to keep everyone safe – we will send you it on admission.

DENTAL HEALTH

With parental consent routine examination of pupils' teeth is undertaken periodically by the Dental Service. If further treatment is necessary, parents are informed and invited to make an appointment with the clinic or their own dentist. If we are told in advance of a dental appointment, a child receives his/her attendance mark for the session involved. Children in Foundation Phase are involved in the 'Designed to Smile' tooth brush project, which helps them to develop good hygiene habits. Ask your teacher for more details.



EQUALITY POLICY

Somerton Primary School has a commitment to promoting the equal treatment of all its pupils, staff, parents, carers and governors. It is further committed to promoting equality of treatment to the wider community which it serves. The school is dedicated to eliminating unlawful discrimination and harassment on the grounds of the protected characteristics in the Equality Act of 2010. We actively promote positive attitudes towards diversity.

Parents or guardians proposing to send their child to Somerton Primary should inform the school of any disability(s) there may be, with either the child or their immediate family, anything in fact that through disability could prevent their child's experience of school being less than they would want it to be. In all cases every effort will be made to accommodate the pupil/parent/guardian.

No form of harassment on the school site will be tolerated. This includes pupils and adults, all staff, parents, contractors, visitors. It is school policy that any comment made by an adult not part of the school staff, that is offensive to another person (adult or child) will result in the person being asked to leave the school and grounds. If a comment is made to you that offends you, please report this immediately.

EDUCATION AUTHORITY

The school comes under the jurisdiction of the Newport Education Authority based at the Civic Centre, Newport. Direct contact can be made to the Chief Education Officer, Newport Education Authority, Newport City Council, Civic Centre, Newport, NP20 4UR.

It is expected that you will approach the school first about any concerns. Governors have a complaints policy which asks that you first try to resolve the issues with the teacher, headteacher or deputy headteacher. You can follow the complaints policy if you are still concerned; this is available from the school.

EDUCATIONAL PROGRESS

The Curriculum for Wales sets out to deliver a broad and balanced curriculum. The aim of a school's curriculum is to support its learners to become:

- ambitious, capable learners, ready to learn throughout their lives
- enterprising, creative contributors, ready to play a full part in life and work
- ethical, informed citizens of Wales and the world
- healthy, confident individuals, ready to lead fulfilling lives as valued members of society

Opportunities to develop skills across the 6 AoLEs (areas of learning and experience) take place in classrooms every day. Teachers and support staff teach reading, writing and mathematics skills in order to meet the needs of all children. Our overall target is to raise standards in Literacy and Numeracy and all aspects of pupil's learning and wellbeing through an exciting and broad curriculum. We would ask parents to support us by ensuring homework is completed when it is sent home. We also aim to enhance pupil's digital competence skills so that pupils know how to use ICT as a resource in an effective, safe and purposeful way.

At Somerton, topics are selected based on the high quality, rich, broad learning experiences they can offer learners, as well as considering pupils' interests, culture and community. Learners are given time to acquire, practise and apply their knowledge and skills across all Areas of Learning and Experiences (AoLEs) that are outlined below:

The Expressive Arts
Health and Wellbeing
Humanities
Mathematics and Numeracy
Languages, Literacy and Communication
Science and Technology

EMERGENCY CONTACT

From time to time it is necessary to contact parents in a hurry for a variety of reasons, e.g. if a child is taken ill suddenly, or meets with an accident, or if all/part of the school is forced to close for some reason such as bad weather or heating failure. Please ensure we have your up-to-date mobile and/or landline telephone number and/or two more numbers of relatives or neighbours. People are now changing their mobile phones quite frequently. Please let us know your new number – there might be an emergency. We now offer a TEXTING to Parents service and often text parents to inform them of events, workshops and school closures. If you have an email, let us have that too.

EXTRA-CURRICULAR ACTIVITIES

Children are offered a number of extra-curricular activities. Some of these activities include football, netball (according to season), art, multi-sports, gardening, eco club and story club.

FREE MEALS

To qualify for free school meals for their children it is now necessary for parents to be in receipt of benefits, such as "Income Support" or other income-related benefits. Applications for free meals should be made to the Chief Education Officer at Newport City Council. Application forms are available from the school at any time.

FREE MILK

Free milk is offered to children every day (Nursery, Reception, Year 1 and Year 2). Any left-over milk is offered to Y3, 4, 5 and 6 children at lunchtime.

SCHOOL SECURITY

To ensure the safety of our pupils, the gates will be shut during the school day and access to school will be through the main gate on Hawthorne Fosse. Entry to the school building is by means of a buzzer and the office staff will control admission during the day. We have made improvements to site safety by providing a walkway from the main building to the canteen and secure fencing to demarcate the walkways approaching the school building.

GOVERNORS

Under legislation the school's governing body support the headteacher in developing the strategic direction for the school. Governors are selected to represent a wide range of stakeholders with an interest in education. Four are selected to represent the interests of parents across the federation. Any issues of concern to parents should first be brought to the attention of the Headteacher, who very often may be able to settle such matters or, if not, to advise who to contact on the Governing Body.

(See APPENDIX A).

GROUND

Gates are locked during school hours. The way through the school is not a public right of way; it should not be used as a short cut. On no account should the yard be crossed while PE/games lessons are taking place or while the children are at play.

Dogs can cause considerable problems at school, disrupting lessons taken outside, upsetting the children at playtime and fouling the grounds.

Please do not bring an unauthorised dog on the school site, it is a health hazard.

Please note there is a 5mph speed limit in place in the car park to ensure the safety of our pupils.

HEALTHY SCHOOLS

The school is proud to have achieved 5 'healthy school' leaves from Welsh Government to recognise our efforts in helping pupils to develop healthy habits which will enable them to grow and develop confidently and safely. We do not allow crisps and sweets as snacks – only fruit is allowed and pupils may buy fruit from our tuck shop by bringing in 25p to the office.



HOLIDAYS

Parents are notified of forthcoming holidays well in advance via the monthly newsletter (Somerton Monthly Newsletter). The school does not authorise holidays during term time, as this will affect pupil progress. APPENDIX E provides term times and dates for those of you planning holidays.



HOMEWORK

Throughout your child's time in Somerton Primary School, they will bring a reading book home along with a homework book. Pupils should read for 10-15 minutes at home with an adult in the early years when they are learning to read. Parents are asked to listen to their children read and to ask questions about the story, characters, settings, etc. and also to note any

words that the child does not understand. More formal homework along with pieces of research work or activities will be given regularly. Work may be set using online platforms such as Hwb, Seesaw and the Google account set up for your child, which pupils can access at home. We have also invested in an online resource called 'My Maths.'

We are keen that children enjoy homework experiences. Your help at home is most important and greatly benefits your child. It is always a good idea to ask what sort of help you should give if you are unsure. Remember that all pupils benefit from just looking at books and comics with you and also being read to.

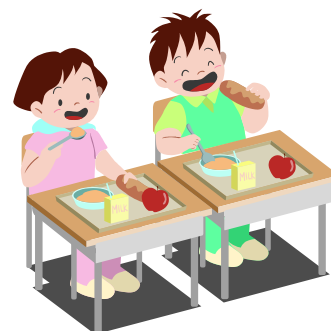
LOST PROPERTY

This causes us considerable problems in school, many of which can easily be avoided. A simple but effective solution to the problem is to expect your child to look after belongings and to label clothes clearly with your child's name. By doing this, far fewer will be lost and what is lost will be easily restored to its rightful owner. Lost property, if it does occur should be handed to a class teacher and efforts will be made to find the correct owner.

LUNCH TIME

School lunch for children in reception, year 1 and year 2 is from 12pm to 1pm, and the year 3,4,5 and 6 lunchtime is 12:30pm – 1:15pm.

During school lunch breaks, either children go home for lunch or they stay in school for a cooked meal or packed lunch. The school assumes responsibility for children who officially stay for lunch, but they must not leave the premises without permission from the headteacher or deputy headteacher. Parents must take responsibility for any child who goes home for lunch and ensure that they return punctually for the afternoon session.



SCHOOL MEALS SERVICE

The school now runs a system called Parent Pay for the payment of school dinners. Payments for dinners can be made online or via the pay point systems in local shops.

The cost of the meals will be £2.15 per dinner.

PARENT PROVIDED MEALS

Children may bring packed lunches to school to eat at lunchtime. These must be in a sturdy container with the child's name on. Drinks may be brought in to accompany a packed lunch but only unbreakable containers will be allowed for reasons of safety. Please do not include chocolate bars, sweets or fizzy drinks in lunch boxes. Children have to take their wrappings and left over food home so please ensure you check their lunch box daily.

MEDICAL

Please let us know of any medical condition which your child suffers from e.g. asthma, allergies, epilepsy etc. Inhalers should be kept in school labelled with your child's name. If a medical condition develops in the period your child is at Somerton, we should also be informed so that any necessary precautions are taken.

Eye tests are carried out in the reception class. Further tests are possible if concern is expressed by parents or the school. Nurses also undertake growth and hearing tests. They will contact you if there are any concerns.

Parents of children who need to take essential medication must contact the headteacher to make special arrangements.

NEIGHBOURS

The school campus is surrounded by houses, so we strive to minimise the problem of annoyance to householders during school hours. It is impossible however, to mitigate for things that happen outside these times. We rely on our neighbours to report any cases of trespass or vandalism to the Caretaker, the Headteacher, the Police or Neighbourhood Watch. It is our hope that we can maintain good relationships with our neighbours which will be to our mutual benefit.

Please try not to park your car in Hawthorne Fosse as it causes obstruction.

SOMERTON MONTHLY NEWSLETTER

A newsletter is sent to every family each month. We provide parents with information of upcoming events, acknowledge good work or achievements by children and include occasional requests for support in fundraising and/or supporting the parent/ teacher association (PTA). If you have any suggestions for the development of the newsletter or items for inclusion in it, we would be delighted to receive them.

NURSERY

The Nursery class has its own purpose built building within the school grounds. It has a large garden which is fenced and secure. In the garden the children are able to use cars, bikes and other outside equipment. The building itself is spacious. We ensure that the nursery is well equipped with resources for creative and physical development such as plenty of books, role play, sand and water, and opportunities to plant and grow seeds outside, all of which support early learners'

development and confidence.

We have a book lending scheme, parents are encouraged to borrow educational materials to use with their child at home. Our aim is to foster parent confidence in supporting a child's learning at home. Research shows that high parental involvement in early learning greatly enhances children's educational progress. 'Flying Start' uses our Nursery building in the afternoons and we have a very positive partnership with them.

ORGANISATION

The internal organisation of the school is the responsibility of the headteacher and her staff. Each class teacher is responsible to the headteacher for the smooth running of their class. Their aims are to ensure that children progress as far as possible in all aspects of the school curriculum. A further responsibility of each teacher is the welfare and discipline of each child in his/her care. Although there may be broad groupings to facilitate maximum efficiency in teaching and learning, the classes are not "streamed" and each child has the opportunity to develop to his/her full potential within the education provided.

Owing to fluctuating numbers, most schools have to be prepared to make changes to their internal organisation from time to time. Somerton is no exception to this and therefore arrangements from year to year will be according to the circumstances prevailing at the time. This means that children from more than one age group may be in any one class if numbers of pupils warrant this.



PE

Physical Education (PE) lessons are an integral part of the Physical Development of children at school. Physical development affects many areas of learning but most importantly coordination, team work and gross motor skills. It is important that children take part in physical activities to maintain a healthy lifestyle to develop a good sense of wellbeing. We would ask that parents make every effort to ensure children participate in such activities unless the child is really ill or incapacitated in some way. A note will be required if this is the case. It is important to be appropriately dressed for these activities with games kit and footwear. Pupils will need a PE kit in

school.

POLICE

The school is visited each term by a Police Officer who talks to each class on a topic from their educational scheme.

The school has a good relationship with Police Community Support Officers who regularly visit the school and support us by attending key events, which develops strong links with the community.



PARENTS

As parents, you are the major influence on your child. In school we place great emphasis on good attendance, punctuality, politeness, fair play, pride in appearance, self-discipline, respect for others and honesty. We would ask that you work with us to ensure that

these values are reinforced whenever possible at home. This will make the life and running of the school happier and more efficient. Our PTA is always looking for new members and new ideas. Please lend your support to them and us in any way you think would be beneficial to the life of the school and all the children in it.

In terms of your child's academic education any help and/or encouragement that you give at home will ensure that progress is not only more rapid but also more sustained. Please consult us if you are concerned about your child's progress. We will regularly seek your views on your child's learning and wider aspects of school life. We will work together to ensure the pupils of Somerton Primary School receive the best education possible.

We are grateful for parents who wish to help in school. You may have particular skills, enjoy hearing children read, be able to help children sew, garden, cook or paint etc. Any help will be appreciated by staff and children. Just speak to a member of staff or call in to speak to the headteacher. Any regular volunteers will need to fill in an application form in line with our Volunteer at Work policy. DBS checks are required for all volunteers.

PUNCTUALITY

It is very important that pupils arrive on time for the start of school as this sets them up well for their learning. It can negatively affect a child if they enter the classroom once the day has started as they will miss out on vital information and lesson input. Please help by ensuring your child is on time every day (session times are below). Arriving late often can be embarrassing for the child and disruptive for others.

PUPIL RECORDS AND CONFIDENTIALITY

We have an 'open door' policy in relation to enquiries from parents about their children. This includes access on request to your child's records, and to a range of documents including the National Curriculum Orders and Curriculum guidelines prepared and followed by the teaching staff. Lengthy conversations with parents should take place either before or after school so as not to disrupt valuable teaching and learning time. Please ask for an appointment if you have important issues to discuss. Our school administrative officers can pass on any messages to the teachers. We fully comply with data protection rules and you will be asked for written permission to use your child's photograph/ video.

PUPIL PARTICIPATION

Pupils have opportunities to take on leadership roles, including being on the School Council, the School Senedd, the Eco Committee or sports teams. We actively promote pupil voice and include pupils' ideas and suggestions in changes to school life and the curriculum, as well as surveying their wellbeing regularly.

NURSERY

We are fortunate to have both Flying Start and nursery provision at Somerton. Taking up a nursery place is strongly recommended as it provides valuable experiences which your child will benefit from and enable him/her to enter Reception confidently. If children do become upset and cry, it is usually better to leave them with the teacher who has experience of dealing with this. The child's tears usually dry up before the carer is even out of the school gate.

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

Religious Education is one of the compulsory subjects of the Curriculum for Wales. Daily acts of collective worship are held for non-denominational Christian worship. Religious education is in accordance with guidelines which take account of the multi-cultural and multi-racial nature of our society. Parents who wish their children to be exempt from RE and/or collective worship are invited to write, telephone or visit, so that their wishes can be made known to the Headteacher and class teacher(s).

RULES

We expect all pupils to respect the rules and each other. Occurrences of poor behaviour in and out of class will be addressed according to school policy. It is essential that parents help the school by supporting any sanctions incurred. Where poor behaviour persists, parents will be notified and requested to visit the school to discuss the matter with the class teacher or for more serious incidents with the Headteacher or her deputy. For discipline purposes, our aim is to help pupils to learn and develop respectful and appropriate behaviour. We often help pupils to resolve conflicts by using a 'restorative approach' so that they learn how to manage disappointment and resolve problems as they go through life.



SAFETY

While your child is in our care, we are responsible for his/her safety and therefore measures are taken to ensure that all children stay safe. The school has a system of security locks that restrict entry, but allow easy exit in case of fire or emergency. Lessons from class teachers, the police, fire officers and other visiting speakers deal with many aspects of safety education: dangers at home, at play, from strangers, using ICT, on the road and railway. All visitors to school must sign in.

SOCIAL MEDIA and E-SAFETY

We teach pupils about the risks in using social media and would remind parents that children should not have access to unsuitable material on the internet or use social media below the age of 13.

Parents must not use social media (Facebook, etc.) to criticise the school, staff, other parents or pupils. If this happens, we will take legal advice and you will be asked to remove the offending post.

SCHOOL HOURS

Nursery	Reception, Year 1, Year 2	Year 3, 4, 5 and 6
8:50 am - 11.20am	8.50 am – 12pm 1.00 pm - 3. 10 pm	8.50 am - 12.30 pm 1.15 pm - 3.10 pm

Gates and doors will open at 8.45 a.m. when a member of staff will be ready to welcome pupils into school. School starts at 8.50 a.m.

Teachers will escort all classes to the outside doors at the end of the day and take the opportunity to speak to parents about any incidents, concerns or good news from the day. Please be patient when teachers are releasing children at the end of the day. This does take some time in order for us to ensure that children go with the correct adult. Please inform school if you are going to be late or you have arranged for someone else to pick up your child. Thank you.

SCHOOL PRIVATE FUNDS

School Private Funds are completely separate from the school budget. The school budget is funded by the Local Authority and is used solely to fund your child's education: i.e. educational materials, resources, books, pencils, exercise books and salaries of all staff. School Private Funds are sustained by various means of fund-raising by parents, staff and children, e.g. our annual bring and buy sale, tuck shop, sponsored events and others too numerous to mention. We have an active PTA who are supporting the school in many ways and we are extremely grateful for this. If you would like to join the PTA please contact school to arrange contact details. These funds are used to enhance the education of your child, for example subsidising school educational visits, Christmas parties, competition prizes, attendance prizes, Easter eggs, theatre trips, etc.

SECONDARY SCHOOLING

Strong links are kept with the three main comprehensive schools to which we send children after Year 6 at Somerton. These are Llanwern High School, Lliswerry High School, Caerleon Comprehensive or St. Julian's Comprehensive for those whose homes are situated in those catchment areas. Our local authority designated secondary school is Llanwern High School and we have strong links with the cluster of schools which feed into it. Arrangements are made, before Christmas when your child is in Year 6, for parents to indicate their choice of secondary school. Visits and meetings are held during the year to ensure that transition is smooth and without trauma for the pupils concerned. Queries regarding transfer to secondary school can be made to us at Somerton or directly to the receiving school in question.

RELATIONSHIPS AND SEX EDUCATION

The Governors of this school have decided that Sex Education will be part of the Curriculum. Parents may, if they wish, read and/or discuss the school's Relationships and Sexual Education Policy, available at the school. If parents wish their child to be exempt from parts of this provision, they should write to the headteacher, stating specifically which aspects of the provision they do not wish to be offered to their child.

SPECIAL/ ADDITIONAL NEEDS / MORE ABLE PUPILS

Children who appear to need additional support are identified as early as possible through our school monitoring of progress. These children are generally supported in the classroom, but in certain circumstances outside agencies are involved to offer specialist support. These can also be pupils who have been identified as more able and/or talented, for whom we will provide appropriate support and challenge to develop their particular skills.

SPORTING AIMS

We aim to give children the opportunity to experience a range of sports and physical development opportunities. We give particular emphasis on developing a whole range of skills that children will find useful as they encounter a wider range of sports at secondary level. The school has a large hall that doubles as a gym, a level playground and its own sports field. We work in collaboration with other agencies to offer after school opportunities and sessions for specific year groups on occasion.



SWIMMING

Every child in Wales has an entitlement to attend school swimming lessons during their time in school. The National Curriculum for Physical Education in Wales states that pupils should be taught to:

- Develop skills of water safety and personal survival
- Swim unaided for a sustained period of time

Swimming lessons are conducted with children while they are in Year3/ 4. The swimming programme consists of three weeks of daily lessons. This intensive course is held at the Newport International SportS Village in Spytty. Progress can be very rapid and the vast majority of "non-swimmers" are able to swim at the end of the course. Provision is made for those children already able to swim and their improvement is also noticeable. An awards scheme based on certificates from Newport Local Authority operates. The cost of funding this course is considerable for both parents and school 'private funds'. However, we hope that you would agree that the ability to swim is an essential life-skill which all children should have access to. (See charging policy).

TEACHER/PARENT Consultations

Parents will be invited to a statutory consultation twice a year to discuss individual pupils' progress. However, you are welcome to contact the school any time during the year should you have any concerns about your child's education.

TRAFFIC

The school is situated in a very awkward spot regarding danger from traffic. The main entrance in Hawthorne Fosse is extremely narrow and therefore parents are asked not to bring vehicles in, but to park on Hawthorne Avenue, away from the school entrance road markings. We are also very near two busy roads: Somerton Road and Chepstow Road. Please make every effort to teach your child road safety awareness, and whenever possible with little ones, ensure they either hold your hand or walk closely by you at all times.

TUCK

At Somerton we run a 'Healthy Eating Tuck Shop', where we sell apples, bananas, satsumas, plums, peaches, grapes, melons, etc. according to season, and milk at morning break. Any small profit from our tuck shop goes to school Private Funds, and benefits pupils.

Fruit
25p



UNIFORM

School uniform is plain blue v neck jumper, or sweatshirt, white polo or white shirt, grey skirt or trousers, white or grey ankle/knee length socks for girls and plain black shoes. These can be ordered/bought from the School Office. See list and prices in Appendix B. Ties are optional.

PE

PE uniform for PE lessons, is black shorts, white t-shirts for all children. For indoor PE lessons, children may wear 'black daps', preferably the elasticated type, but not "trainers" or other outdoor footwear. Many prefer barefoot and this is possible on our flooring inside. For outdoor PE plain black tracksuit bottoms are required. A PE bag is essential.

PE bags and a blue school bag ideal for taking home reading books are available from the office. For art/craft activities it is useful to have an old adult shirt to protect school uniform.

Anoraks, raincoats, wellingtons and "daps" are very difficult to identify unless the owner's name is clearly marked. Lost property causes distress and wastes a lot of time, so please clearly mark all your child's clothes with their name. For the Nursery/Infant children it is helpful for them to wear clothes with easy fastenings so that they can deal with them on their own.

JEWELLERY

The school does not encourage the wearing of any form of jewellery to school, although a watch is acceptable. The school accepts no responsibility for lost or damaged jewellery. School policy is that no jewellery is worn during PE lessons for safety reasons. Rings, necklaces, bracelets and earrings all constitute potential dangers when worn during PE activities. If jewellery is worn to school children will be asked to remove it before a PE lesson. No child will be allowed to take part in a PE lesson wearing large or loose jewellery.

VISITS

It is educationally and socially beneficial for children to receive part of their education away from the school. To this end, visits are incorporated into the curriculum when appropriate. All visits are strictly supervised, and risk assessments are undertaken prior to them taking place to ensure safety and security of children.

The extent of such visits varies considerably from a ¼ hour walk to Lliswerry Pond to a day at Cardiff Museum. Sometimes it is possible for school to cover all/some of the costs, however on some occasions costs have to be met by parents. We ask parents for a voluntary contribution as the school budget will not cover the cost of visits. You will need to sign a permission slip for your child to go off-site.



VISITORS

If you wish to visit the school to discuss anything involving your child, it is often more convenient for all concerned, if you make an appointment so that time can be set aside for you. If the matter is urgent, you should contact the headteacher or deputy headteacher. Parents should not attempt to hold conversations with members of staff '*at the classroom door*' or while '*on duty*' in the grounds since proper supervision of the children then suffers. Any enquiry or complaint (if made in the correct manner) will be given full attention. Visitors must always report to the main office. Parents should not wait around in school for security reasons.

Sometimes members of the clergy or interesting trades or professions are invited to talk to the children and perhaps give demonstrations in connection with a class topic. Offers of help from parents who have interesting occupations or special interest would be welcomed.

WELSH

Welsh Culture

Welsh Literature, History and Geography are an important part of the curriculum for all children. We endeavour to give children a sense of their place in the world in terms of being Welsh from art, sport/rugby, to singing, to myths and legends as well as an understanding of Newport in relation to Wales, and Wales in relation to the rest of the UK and the world.

Welsh Language

Incidental Welsh Language is introduced as soon as children enter nursery class. They build on their language skills every year and are assessed at the end of every year. Pupils' Welsh skills are assessed at the end of Year 6 and levels attained shared with parents.



Mrs C Barnett

July 2023

Somerton Primary School

Hawthorne Fosse

Newport

S Wales

Tel: 01633 272504

Fax: 01633 272504

e-mail: somerton.primary@newportschools.wales

APPENDIX A

Important addresses concerning your child's Primary Education are noted below:

LA

Sarah Morgan
Chief Education Officer
Newport City Council
Civic Centre
Newport
Tel 656656

SCHOOL

Mrs C Barnett (Executive Headteacher)/ Mrs S Rodda (Deputy Headteacher)
Somerton Primary School
Hawthorne Fosse
Newport,
Tel: 272504

GOVERNORS

Chair of Governors
Mr A Speight
c/o the school

APPENDIX B

SOMERTON PRIMARY SCHOOL
SCHOOL UNIFORM
PRICE LIST

ITEM	COLOUR/STYLE	PRICE
Polo Shirts	White (Inc. school logo)	£8.00 (up to 32")
Sweatshirt (v neck)	Royal blue(Inc. school logo)	£10.00 (up to size 32") £11.00 (small adults)
Sweatshirt cardigan	Royal blue with embroidered logo	£11.00 (up to size 32") £12.50 large
Fleece Jackets	Royal blue with embroidered logo	£13.50 (up to 32") £16.50 (small adults)
Tie	Blue and grey striped	£3.50
Showerproof Jackets	Royal blue with embroidered logo	£13.99 up to 32" £15.99 size 34"/36"
PE Bags	Royal blue with logo and space for name	£4.50 stock in school
Book Bag	Royal blue with logo	£5.00 stock in school