



Somerton Primary School School Prospectus Prospectws yr Ysgol 2026-2027



Respectful, Safe, Successful Parchus,Diogel,Llwyddiannu

Dear Parent/Carers,

I am extremely proud to be the Headteacher of Somerton Primary School and it is a privilege to welcome you to our school. Somerton Primary School works in a federation arrangement with Eveswell Primary School which is located nearby. Partnership between home and school is a vital part of your child's education. We are passionate about providing the best education and improving the life chances for every child in our care, within a positive and inclusive, nurturing and caring learning environment.

We are very proud of our recent Estyn report, published in April 2024, which highlights that *“Staff across the school establish and develop positive working relationships with pupils. This creates a happy and safe space with well-being at the heart of the school’s work” and “The school is a highly inclusive, caring community. A particular strength of the school is its effective care, support and guidance for pupils and their families. Staff know their pupils, families and the local community very well and place a high priority on pupils’ well-being”.*

Please follow this link to read the full report:

<https://estyn.gov.wales/system/files/202404/Inspection%20report%20Somerton%20Primary%20School%202024.pdf>

Most recently, ESTYN have carried out an interim visit to evaluate the school’s progress towards recommendations in the 2024 report. Please follow this link to read the April 2026 interim visit letter:

[Interim visit letter Somerton Primary School 2026](#)

We trust this prospectus will prove a useful source of information for you to keep and that it answers most general questions. You may also wish to visit our website for further information:

https://eveswellandsomertonschoolspartnership.co.uk/en_GB/.

I look forward to meeting you and if you have any questions or concerns please contact me or Miss. Eaves in school at any time.

Mrs C Orford (Executive Headteacher)

Miss J Eaves (Deputy Headteacher)

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



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. Absences 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 three weeks and if a child has a high percentage of absences, authorised or unauthorised, then parents are contacted by the Educational Welfare Officer and could receive a Fixed Penalty Notice.

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.

Attendance data from September to April 2026 was 95.5%.

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 knows of their child having

any allergies should let us know, in writing.

ADDITIONAL EDUCATIONAL NEEDS AND NEW TO ENGLISH SUPPORT (ALN)

In line with the Welsh Government ALN Act we aim to identify children who need extra provision as early as possible and ensure that appropriate provision/ intervention is provided to meet their needs. Our school has an ALNCO (Additional Learning Needs Coordinator), Mrs L Jordan. The role of the ALNCO is to liaise with class teachers, teaching assistants, families and outside agencies to ensure suitable provision is provided for identified pupils.

Provision is provided for children in line with the ALN Act at the following levels:

- Universal
- Targeted
- Specialised

All children are supported at a universal level with a Pupil Passport with readily available resources to support learning in class. If a child needs provision at a targeted level parents will be invited into school to discuss this further and it may be decided to write a One Page Profile with targets. This will be written by the class teacher, in conjunction with parents and reviewed twice a year. Some children need specific support and require a School Based IDP which is reviewed on an annual basis.

We work closely with a range of outside agencies to ensure the best provision is available for our children. Parent permission is sought prior to contact with outside agencies e.g Educational Psychology Service.

The school enjoys partnership working with Gwent Education Multilingual Service (GEMS). GEMS staff work in school to support our multilingual learners to access the curriculum and to make good progress with language acquisition and in curriculum areas. This has a positive impact on the well-being of learners and families. GEMS also provides resources that enrich our school projects and lead exciting family engagement events.

Further information can be found on the school's website.

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.

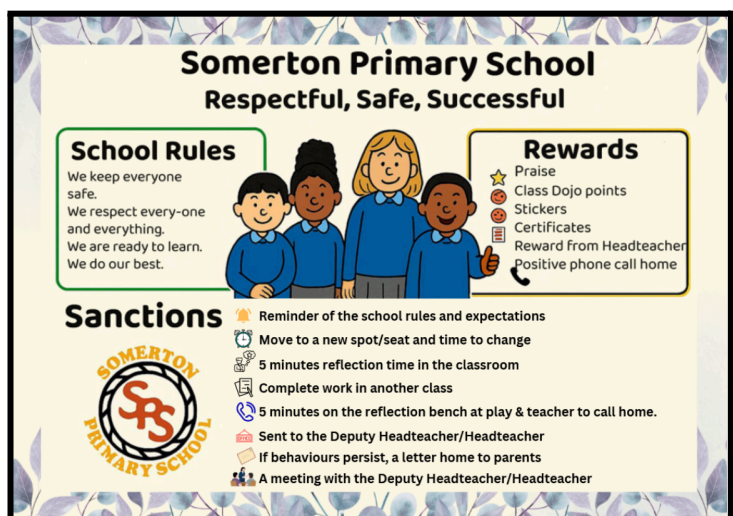
Full details of the admissions process, including application forms for admission, should be obtained from Newport City Council at www.newport.gov.uk/schooladmissions or by ringing the City Contact Centre on 01633 656656.



BEHAVIOUR / RULES

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. Rewards such as positive praise, Class Dojo points, stickers, certificates and notes home celebrate positive behaviour and achievements.

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 Deputy Headteacher or Headteacher. 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.



BREAKFAST CLUB

A Breakfast Club operates from 8.20am and is free to parents, funded by a Welsh Government grant. There is a limit on numbers, please speak to the school office for further details.

BUILDING

The four buildings on the school site 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 during the afternoon sessions.

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 Year 2) and 12.30pm (Year 3, 4, 5 and 6). School dinners are now free for all primary school children in Wales. Dinners are booked online through the ParentPay app two weeks in advance.

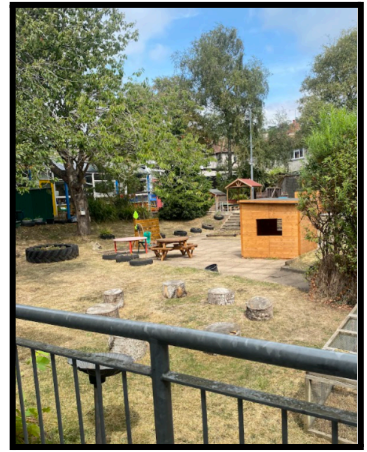
Main Building

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 (Years 3, 4, 5 and 6) and a library space. These blocks are arranged around an inner courtyard with outdoor teaching areas.

The school uses the demountable building for the nurture provision.

The school is furnished with sufficient toilet areas for the number of pupils. The school building, including the toilets and communal areas, is maintained in good condition by the local authority and the governing body. The school caretaker takes day-to-day responsibility for minor repairs and security. Local authority cleaning contractors are employed to clean all areas daily.

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 where 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.

CHILD PROTECTION ISSUES/SAFEGUARDING

All staff have had safeguarding training that equips them to recognise and respond to child welfare concerns. These concerns are passed to the Designated or Deputy designated safeguarding officer, who follow strict guidelines on how to deal with any issues raised. 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.

Children who are Looked After (CLA)

We work in partnership with Newport City Council, and other local councils, and as corporate parents we have a duty to safeguard and promote the education of Children who are Looked After. We aim to provide a safe and secure environment, where there is belief in the abilities and potential of all children, including those who are looked after. We support our CLA children and give them equal access to every opportunity to achieve their full potential. The Deputy Headteacher is the designated person for promoting the educational achievement of Children who are Looked After.

COLLECTING PUPILS AT THE END OF SESSIONS

Please inform us if anyone other than yourself is collecting your child. We require written permission from you if a child is to go by taxi, with full details of the taxi firm. We also ask for written permission if pupils in Year 5 or Year 6 walk home alone. Younger pupils must not be collected by anyone under the age of 16.

COLLECTIVE WORSHIP

The school act of worship is considered an important part of the school day when children and staff come together as a family. This provides the opportunity to promote thoughtful attitudes regarding children's relationship with each other, with others in their families and communities and with the world community.

Parents may ask that their children be excused from the daily act of worship. However, we would ask that they first visit the school to discuss their decision and the alternative arrangements to be made for their children at these times. The school enjoys established links with representatives from our local church as well as from other religious denominations in the local area.

COMPUTERS

Each classroom has computers linked to a network, additionally all classrooms have Chromebooks. 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.

COMMUNICATION

Effective communication between parents/carers and school is instrumental in ensuring your child achieves their full potential. When school and home work in partnership this allows for a shared understanding of your child's needs, promotes positive relationships and supports their academic attainment and well-being.

If you have any concerns or matters you wish to discuss at any time you are invited to make an appointment to discuss these further. You may wish to meet with your child's class teacher, Deputy Head-teacher (Miss Eaves) or the Executive Head-teacher (Mrs Orford).

You will be invited into school to discuss your child's progress twice during the year at Parent Consultations and look at their school books. However, If you have any concerns over progress or need advice or guidance to support your child you are welcome to discuss this with your child's class teacher as and when required.

The school's main forms of communication is via Seesaw. You will be given information to sign up to Seesaw when your child starts with us. It is important that you engage with this platform to receive updates from your child's class teacher, homework, school newsletters and important dates.

Please ensure your telephone number is always kept up to date in the school office and that an additional emergency number is provided.

We recognise how busy life can be and therefore aim to give as much notice as possible about upcoming events. There may be times when events have to be organised/cancelled at short notice however we do our best to ensure this is kept to a minimum.

DATES 2026–2027

Autumn Term: 1 September 2026 – 18 December 2026

Half Term: 26 October 2026 – 30 October 2026

Spring Term: 4 January 2027 – 19 March 2027

Half Term: 8 February 2027 – 12 February 2027

Summer Term: 5 April 2027 – 20 July 2027

Half Term: 31 May 2027 – 4 June 2027

SCHOOL CLOSURES FOR TEACHERS IN SERVICE TRAINING (INSET) – 6 DAYS

There are 6 INSET days planned for this academic year. The dates for these will be shared in September.

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.

Children from Nursery- Year 2 are involved in the 'Designed to Smile' tooth brush project, which helps them to develop good hygiene habits. Ask your class teacher for more details.

EQUAL OPPORTUNITY

The Governors, Headteacher and staff promote equal access to all areas of the curriculum for all pupils; regardless of race, gender, ability, disability, faith, sexuality and cultural background. All children have equal access to all activities and support is available to ensure this.

The additional learning needs within the school includes pupils with disabilities who integrate into mainstream classes with appropriate support according to their disability. These pupils are encouraged to take a full part in the curriculum provision - all the activities provided within the school environment. The school accommodation is furnished with disabled facilities. The school has an accessibility policy, equality policy and action plan, which is reviewed annually.

Our school is an anti-racist school and we are committed to addressing racism in any form. We aim to work with our school community to be actively anti-racist as we do not believe that not being racist is enough. Pupils take a lead on anti-racism across the school and discuss this at every pupil group meeting. Racism in any form is not tolerated at our school and if a racist incident occurs it will be thoroughly investigated and dealt with, with support being provided to all involved. Everyone has the right to feel safe and to be treated with respect regardless of their ethnic background or identity and we continue to develop our curriculum to support this.

The school aims to be as inclusive as possible and our policy explains how we achieve this. We take a positive stance on promoting diversity in all its forms and we do not tolerate bullying including racism or homophobia or any of the protected characteristics of the Equality Act 2010.

No form of harassment on the school site will be tolerated. This includes pupils and adults, all staff, parents, contractors and 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 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, deputy headteacher or headteacher. You can follow the complaints policy if you are still concerned; this is available from the school or on the school website. Parents and carers are asked **not** to use social media to air concerns or complaints. We ask parents to work with us to resolve any problems.



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 experiences) take place in classrooms every day. 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 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 Primary, 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:

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 for a variety of reasons, e.g. if a child is taken ill suddenly, or has 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 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 often share information about events via our Seesaw platform.

EXTRA-CURRICULAR ACTIVITIES

Children are offered a number of extra-curricular activities. Some of these activities include football, Lego, art, mindfulness and dance. Children are given a range of authentic experiences to broaden their knowledge of the world around them, which are supported by our links with community organisations such as Dragons RFC, Newport County, Lliswerry Fishing Group, etc.



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.

FREE SCHOOL MEALS AND CLOTHING GRANT

All Primary school children in Wales now receive Free school meals, however if you are low income and are in receipt of benefits such as Income support or Universal Credit there is additional support you can receive. These include a school essentials grant for uniforms. Application forms are available from the school at any time or on the Newport City Council Website.

GOVERNORS

Under legislation the school's Governing Body supports 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 parents represent the interests of parents across the federation. Any issues of concern to parents should first be brought to the attention of the Deputy Headteacher or Executive Headteacher, who very often may be able to settle such matters or, if not, to advise who to contact the Governing Body.

GROUND

Gates are locked during school hours.

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.

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 tins, packets, fruit and vegetables which are displayed on the day of the service. The produce is later donated to a local food bank.

HEALTHY SCHOOLS

DRINKS, SNACKS & FREE MILK

All children are required to bring a water bottle filled with water into school each day. Children are able to access fresh water throughout the day and are encouraged to drink regularly. As a healthy school we ask that children do not bring in flavoured water, squash or fizzy drinks. Children from Nursery to Year 2 will also be offered free milk to drink. Please inform us if you do not wish for your child to be offered this or if your child has any allergies that the school should be aware of.

All children have a break during the morning session where they are able to enjoy a snack of fruit/vegetables from home or purchase an item from our healthy fruit tuck shop at a cost of 25p. If you provide grapes for your children please ensure these are cut in half.

HOLIDAYS

Parents are notified of forthcoming holidays, half terms and inset days well in advance via the half termly newsletter. The school does not authorise holidays during term time, as this will affect pupil progress.



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.

Weekly homework expectations will be shared via the class 'Friday Flyer' which will be uploaded to Seesaw at the end of each week.

LUNCH TIME

School lunch for children in Reception, Year 1 and Year 2 is from 12pm to 1pm, and for Years 3, 4, 5 and 6 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. Children may bring packed lunches to school to eat at lunchtime. These must be in a 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, but no glass bottles. Please do not include sweets or fizzy drinks in lunch boxes. Children have to take their wrappings and leftover food home so please ensure you check their lunch box daily.

A reminder to all families: please do not send items containing nuts into school as we have staff and pupils with serious allergies.

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.

MEDICAL/MEDICINE/ALLERGIES

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

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.

NEIGHBOURS

The school site 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.

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.

'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.

Owing to fluctuating numbers, 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 circumstances 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.

Physical Development

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. It is important to be appropriately dressed for these activities with games kit and footwear. Pupils will need a PE kit in school. Year 3 currently

attends a 3 week swimming programme during the Summer term.

PERSONALISED ASSESSMENTS

Wales' personalised assessments are mandatory, adaptive online tests for learners in Years 2 to 9, covering reading and numeracy. Tailored to each student, the tests adjust question difficulty based on prior answers. The primary goal is to help your child progress by identifying their strengths and next steps. [Personalised assessments: information for parents and carers - Hwb](#). These tests take place twice a year.

POLICE

The school is visited 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.

We want parents to feel valued and an integral part of school life. As well as being invited to many events throughout the year we develop a 'Parent Group' at the start of each academic year. This group meets once a term with the Deputy Headteacher to share the school's priorities for the year ahead and discuss progress towards these.

We invite you to parent teacher consultations twice a year to discuss your child's progress with the class teacher. These meetings are held during the Autumn and Spring terms. Written reports are sent home in the Summer term when parents will also be offered the opportunity to discuss the report with teachers. Your child's attendance will also be discussed at these meetings.

If at any time, a parent has a concern about a matter relating to school life you are invited to make an appointment to see the teacher, deputy headteacher or headteacher. Parents are requested not to approach a teacher when they are teaching a class. All matters will be dealt with in confidence except for child protection or anything necessary for further investigation

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.

PUPIL PARTICIPATION

Pupils have opportunities to take on leadership roles. 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. The groups include:

- School Council (make decisions about aspects of curriculum and school policy)
- Language Ambassadors (represent languages across the school and welcome pupils new to English)
- Digital Leaders (take a responsibility for ICT and internet safety)
- Healthy Gurus (Encourage our pupils to make healthy choices)
- Eco Warriors (Lead on issues of sustainability, biodiversity, healthy living, school grounds)
- Heddlu Bach (Mini police who work with Gwent Police on matters such as anti-bullying)
- Somerton Buddies (Encourage respectful behaviour at playtimes and lunchtimes)
- Criw Cymraeg (Promote the Welsh language and encourage bilingualism across the school.

PUPIL RECORDS

We do not share information about our pupils with anyone without consent unless the law and our policies allow us to do so. When you give your consent for your child's information to be held and/or shared for any purpose, you can withdraw that consent at any time, by contacting the Data Protection Officer named above.



We are required, by law, to pass certain information about our pupils to Newport City Council and Welsh Government. Please see the Privacy Policy on our website.

RELATIONSHIPS AND SEXUALITY EDUCATION (RSE)

RSE is mandatory from ages 3-16 in the new curriculum for Wales for both primary and secondary schools. The RSE code for teachers ensures lessons must be developmentally appropriate. Under the new curriculum, parents will no longer be able to remove children from sex education lessons. The RSE policy is available on our website.

RELIGION, VALUES & ETHICS (RVE)

Religion, Values & Ethics is mandatory for all learners aged 3 to 16. RVE is still locally determined and therefore, as well as having regard to the Curriculum for Wales Framework Guidance, we also have regard to the Newport Agreed Syllabus for RVE when designing our curriculum. From September 2022 there will be no parental right to withdraw children from RVE.

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.

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 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 Summer and Christmas fete, fruit tuck shop and sponsored events.

If you would like to join the PTA please contact the 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, annual pantomime, etc.

SCHOOL VALUES

Our Values	Behaviours
Collaboration	We work together and play together successfully
Respect	We treat everyone fairly
Aspiration	We are capable and ambitious
Curiosity	We are ready to learn
Difference and diversity	We celebrate everyone as an individual
Inspiration	We are interested, creative and enthusiastic
Safety	We keep everyone safe
Positivity	We show gratitude
Life- long learning and achievement	We try our best and know how to learn

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.

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.

SMOKING

The school has a strict NO SMOKING policy on the whole site.

SECONDARY SCHOOL

Strong links are kept with the three main comprehensive schools to which we send children after Year 6 at Somerton. 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.

SOMERTON HALF TERMLY NEWSLETTER

A newsletter is sent to every family each half term. 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).

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, 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 Year 3. The swimming programme consists of three weeks of daily lessons. This intensive course is held at the Newport International Sports Village in Spyttty. 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. The cost of funding this course is considerable for both parents and the school's budget. However, we hope that you would agree that the ability to swim is an essential life-skill which all children should have access to.

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.

UNIFORM

School uniform is plain blue v neck jumper, or sweatshirt, white polo or white shirt, grey skirt or trousers, white, grey or black socks and plain black shoes. School jumpers, fleeces and cardigans with the logo can be ordered/bought



from the School Office, we only accept cash.

PE uniform for PE lessons, is black shorts, white t-shirts for all children. For outdoor PE plain black tracksuit bottoms are required. A PE bag is essential.

Lost property, if it does occur, should be handed to a class teacher and efforts will be made to find the correct owner. Please label all clothing, including coats, as we have a very full lost property on a weekly basis.

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. Long acrylic nails are not permitted for health and safety reasons.

VALUABLES

Children are strongly advised not to bring valuables to school. As a school, we cannot take responsibility for any items that are lost, damaged or stolen. Mobile phones are not allowed in school. However, if a Year 5 or 6 parent feels that it is imperative that a pupil brings a mobile phone to school as they walk home on their own, phones will be stored securely in the school office until the end of the day and must be switched off.

VISITS

All children take part from time to time in visits to places of interest outside the school. The cost is kept to a minimum and no child is excluded solely because of hardship. These visits usually take place because of their relevance to a topic being studied by the pupils. Visits enhance learning and bring it into a 'real life' context. We expect children to participate in visits as places are experienced from an educational perspective. The school aims to foster links with the community and some of the visits are supported by entrepreneurial events in school, by school funds or by grants.

The Governing Body recognises the valuable contribution that a wide range of additional activities and experiences can make towards pupils' personal and social education. The Governors aim to promote and provide such activities both as part of a broad and balanced curriculum for the pupils in the school and as additional extras.

Activities for which charging is allowed under local authority policies are residential visits, such as the Year 6 visit to Gilwern.

Activities for which voluntary contributions are sought will generally be cancelled if the cost to the school is not adequately covered. We do not make any profit on these activities.

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, singing, 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.

Although this was correct at time of publishing, information contained within it could be liable to change. June 2026

APPENDIX A

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

Mrs C Orford Executive Headteacher
Miss J Eaves Deputy Headteacher
Somerton Primary School
Hawthorne Fosse
Newport
Tel: 01633 272504
E-mail: somerton.primary@newportschools.wales
Website: <https://eveswellandsomertonschoolspartnership.co.uk/>

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

GOVERNORS
Chair of Governors
Mr A Speight
c/o the school

APPENDIX B

SOMERTON PRIMARY SCHOOL
SCHOOL UNIFORM
PRICE LIST

ITEM	COLOUR/STYLE	PRICE
Sweatshirt (v neck)	Royal blue(Inc. school logo)	£13.00
Sweatshirt cardigan	Royal blue with embroidered logo	£13.00
Fleece Jackets	Royal blue with embroidered logo	£15.00
PE Bags	Royal blue with logo and space for name	£5.00
Book Bag	Royal blue with logo	£5.00