

Thames View Infants



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Dear Parents/Carers;

Welcome back to Thames View Infants – Key Information for Families



Welcome Back! We hope you enjoyed the Summer with your children - It's great to see everyone back. The children have settled well into their classes and there is a really happy atmosphere in school.

We are looking forward to another successful year, building upon last year's achievements, in partnership with my team and Sandy Sanghera at Thames View Juniors, to the benefit of all of our pupils.

This is my 20th year as Headteacher, and over the years I've had the privilege of learning so much about supporting our youngest children as they begin their school journey. I've put together a series of short, bite-sized videos sharing some of the things we've learnt along the way, with practical ideas and advice to help you and your child as they grow and develop through their time at School. I hope you find them useful watch, like and subscribe: [click here to view the playlist](#).



There will be lots more information and opportunities to get to know us over the coming weeks, but for now, we have put together some of the most important things you need to know to help you and your child settle happily into school.

As we always have families joining us throughout the year, I've set out lots of information in this letter - whether you are new or returning - to help you and your child get the most from our School.



A Little Bit About Thames View Infants...

Thames View Infants is a very special school, and we are incredibly proud of our caring and committed staff and the high standards we set for every child. We are a high-performing, inclusive Academy and have been judged **Outstanding by Ofsted three times in a row**. [Click here to read the report!](#)



Our leadership team, including Rosa (my Deputy Headteacher) and I, are very much part of school life and teach across the school, working alongside staff and children every day. We are also fortunate to have a dedicated group of volunteer Governors, known as our LAB, who help us continually improve our curriculum, learning and pupil voice. If you would like to find out more about becoming involved with our LAB later this year, please look out for the application form when a vacancy arises.

Watch our [“Every Day Matters”](#) video to get a feel for life at Thames View Infants!

Parent App – Arbor

- We use **Arbor** for *all* school communications and it is essential **for both parents to have a login to Arbor**.
- We recommend using **the Arbor Parent App** on your mobile. Please [click here](#) for a step-by-step guide on how to get set up on Arbor if you haven't already activated your account.
- **Both parents/carers in the family should be set up on Arbor.**
- If you have any problems with Arbor, please pop in and we'll do our best to help.



You will need Arbor to:

- Receive newsletters, weekly learning summaries and event updates.
- Receive in-app messages from us – for instance – ‘Bumped Head Notifications’ and reminders.
- Buy uniform and PE kit.
- Give consent for your child to go on School visits.
- Sign your child up for after-school clubs.
- Book [Parent-Teacher meetings](#) (the first are in **October**).
- Pay for School Visits and Clubs.

✦ Arbor is essential. Without Arbor you'll miss important information.



We also use **BlueSky** for informal, behind-the-scenes updates:

 [Follow us here](#)

These videos in particular have been made with you in mind – **there's lots of helpful advice here:**

[Bedtime Routines](#), [Developing Independence](#), [Developing Speaking/Listening skills](#), [What to do at Hometime](#), [Developing Resilience](#), [Regulating Play & Emotions](#), [Boundaries during Play](#), [Fussy Eating](#), [Managing Disappointment](#), [Protecting Yourself from Gossip](#), [Walking to School – Park & Stride](#) and what to do if your child [Doesn't Want to Come to School](#).

Attendance – Every Day Matters

- Regular attendance at School is a legal requirement.
- We support your child's well-being with:
 - Administering medication where needed
 - Keeping a watchful eye if they feel unwell
 - Encouraging positive attendance routines
- If absent, contact us on **020 8270 4317 (option 1)** by **9:30am each day**. Do not email.
- We reward good attendance and more information will follow.
-  [Download our Term Dates](#)



- ✗ **Don't be late** – children enter School at 8:45am. (But arrive earlier at 8:40 to meet the teacher).
- ✗ **No term-time holidays** – these will not be authorised.

Absence without good reason, or arrival later than 9:15am, will be recorded as unauthorised in line with DfE legislation. Unfortunately, FPNs are charged at £160 per child/per parent, for irregular attendance on the first occasion, which doubles to £320 per child/per parent on the second occasion. The third occasion may result in court action.

 [Check and sync our School calendar here](#)

!!! If you have a family emergency, let us know at your earliest convenience.

Pupils with **97%+ attendance** do best academically and socially.
Below 90% = **Persistent Absentee** – reported to the DfE.

[Click here](#) to watch my video explaining all about attendance percentages and what they mean.

Parents as Partners

We believe the very best learning happens when parents and teachers work together. Getting to know your child's class teacher and building that connection from the start can make such a positive difference, and our teachers are always happy to have a quick chat with you at drop-off or pick-up. Good communication really matters to us, and I've made 3 short videos explaining why — [click here](#), [here](#) and [here](#) to watch. They emphasise the importance of talking to your teacher the moment there is a concern or worry: "could we have a quick chat when you've got a minute?" is a handy phrase to signal that you need to talk. Talking as soon as possible stops problems growing and can be resolved quicker.

What Your Child Needs

- A **school-branded polo shirt** (£7 each – 6 colours available).
- **PE kit** and **book bag** – both available via Arbor.
- **Indoor slippers**.
- Please ensure all items are **clearly labelled** in permanent marker.
- [Click here](#) for my video on how to avoid lost uniform!
- No jewellery or earrings are allowed in School.
- Most children **don't need jumpers** until the weather changes.



- **Pre-loved alternatives** are available via the School Office.

Uniform shopping list & info:



👉 [Visit our Uniform Page](#) which includes:

- Full uniform checklist
- Links to **two non-branded Asda polos** (cheaper alternatives – but **only the green and purple**)

🕒 After-School Wraparound Care (Until 6PM)



- Our after-school provision is run by **Premier Education**.
- Available daily until 6:00PM.
- Book here:
👉 [After School Club Booking Form](#)
- Other **enrichment-School Clubs** (until 4pm) – run by School Staff will start later on this term.

🏃 PE & Physical Development

- Children have two PE session every week covering Gymnastics, Dance, Games and Orienteering. Year 2 children attend Swimming lessons. All children participate in PE.
- Your child's PE kit should be kept in school **all week**.

🍽️ School Meals – Free for All

- All children receive **free school meals**.
- We give support where children need it, and [run lunch club for reluctant eaters](#).
- 👉 [Check out the menu here](#). All meat served is Halal.
- BUT... if you're on a **low income**, you may also be eligible for **Pupil Premium**.



Why this matters:

- If eligible, the School receives an **extra £1,320 per child** from the government.
- This funds **extra teaching staff, tuition, and after-school activities**.

Check your eligibility & apply here:

👉 [Free School Meals & Pupil Premium Info](#)

Learning & Progress

Every child is different, and we take great care to make sure that learning is individualised to each child's strengths, needs and stage of development. Our flexible groupings mean that children are given the right level of challenge and support, and we are very proud to be among the highest-attaining Infant Schools nationally.

Some classes have more adults than others, and children may change classes during the year if we feel that they will benefit from an alternative provision more tailored to their needs.

There are lots of ways you can support your child at home, and your child's teacher will be very happy to suggest ideas or resources. Most importantly, please spend just five minutes reading together every evening using your child's school reading book — this small, regular routine makes such a difference. Each week, your child's teacher will email you a short summary of what the children have been learning and what they will be exploring the following week. You can also find our [Year 1 and Year 2 Curriculum online](#) so you can see what your child is learning and talk about it together at home.



Children will complete weekly Phonics and Maths homework. There is also family homework for you to complete with your child together.

Please click for my videos on [Homework](#) and [Reading](#) at Thames View Infants.

School Pets



We're lucky to have seven chicken and our little (elderly) school dog, Pear, as part of the Thames View Infants community. They bring lots of joy to school and provide wonderful opportunities for children to learn about kindness, care and responsibility. As the children settle into school, we gradually introduce them to our animals in a calm and gentle way.

Safeguarding & School Conduct

- **Social Media:** No child under 13 should be on platforms like Facebook / Tik Tok / You Tube.
- **Playground Safety:** Parents or childminders must **stay with children** until they enter School. Never leave them at the gate.
- **Reminder:** We are obliged to report any disclosures to **Social Services** and then **follow their lead**.



Respecting Staff & Others

We are always here to listen and support you, so if you have a question, concern or something you're unsure about, please come and talk to us directly. Sometimes information can get passed on incorrectly, so rather than relying on second-hand information, please check with us — [if it doesn't sound right, it's always best to ask!](#)

Our Inclusion Officer, Inclusion Lead and SENDCO are also here to support families, with Emma Murphy also serving as our Designated Safeguarding Lead. We ask that all conversations with our staff are respectful and in line with our Code of Conduct; aggressive, threatening or inappropriate behaviour towards staff may result in a ban from the school premises.

☒ Quick Daily Checklist

-  Use Arbor (check it daily).
-  Watch our [Playlist](#) – and subscribe for regular updates!
-  Book bag and labelled slippers every day.
-  Wear uniform (buy via Arbor or see uniform page).
-  PE kit must stay in school all week.
-  No earrings or jewellery. We do not permit hooped earrings.
-  Label everything.
-  No term-time holidays – fines may apply.
-  After-school care bookable via [Premier Education](#)
-  Apply for **Pupil Premium** if eligible – [check here](#)
-  Sync your calendar with ours: [term dates page](#)
-  Follow us on **BlueSky**: [@tvinfants.bsky.social](#)

We're looking forward to a fantastic year of learning and your partnership.

Please say hello in the playground and keep in touch.

Yours sincerely,



Paul Jordan
Headteacher