

SHERWELL VALLEY PRIMARY SCHOOL



Sherwell Valley Family Guide



Our Values

At Sherwell Valley Primary School, our values are more than expectations for behaviour - they represent our hopes for the children who leave our school. We want every child to grow into a young person who is aspirational, respectful, collaborative, responsible, and resilient, equipped with the life skills needed to approach any challenge with confidence and positivity.

These values shape the kind of people we want our children to become. They guide how we teach, how we interact, and how we support children to understand themselves and others. When our children embody these values, they leave them ready to contribute positively to their communities and to navigate the wider world with maturity and purpose.





Attendance

**School starts at
8.50 am and
finishes at
3.25 pm**

**Our gates open
from 8.40am**

We encourage our children to walk to their class from the school gates by themselves, please do try to support us with this by dropping them off at the gate. We will have staff at hand to help!

Due to government law, we can't authorise any holiday requests during school term time.

Please see our attendance policy on our school website for further details.

**A
child's punctuality is
vital for their education. If
a child is 10 minutes late each
day, that is almost 2 weeks of
learning lost over the
academic year!**

Equivalent to number of school days off each year			
		100%	Perfection
4	School days missed	98%	Impressive
6	School days missed	97%	Good
7	School days missed	96%	On Target
9	School days missed	95%	Slight Concern
13	School days missed	93%	Concerns
20	School days missed	90%	Very Concerned
30	School days missed	85%	Serious Concerns



School Uniform

Wearing our school uniform helps create a strong sense of pride, community, and belonging at Sherwell Valley. It brings all our children together as equals, takes the daily pressure off choosing outfits, and helps pupils arrive feeling smart, confident, and ready to learn.

We have a summer and winter school uniform.

Children can wear black school shoes or trainers, as long as they are all black. They may also bring in a spare pair of trainers if you would prefer that they change for break and lunch times.



Our school PE kit consists of a plain white t-shirt, black shorts and a change of footwear (this is non-negotiable).

We recommend that the children's PE kit comes to school on the Monday and remains in school until Friday.

If earrings are worn, they must be studs (no hooped or dangling).

Necklaces, bracelets and rings are prohibited. If a watch is worn, it must not be connected to the internet or have the function to take photography.



Shershop

We have our own 'Pre-Loved' uniform shop on site. This is open at everyday at drop-off and collection time on Monday and Friday.



SHERWELL VALLEY PRIMARY SCHOOL

Supporting your child at home

The most important ways you can help your child is to ensure they have a high attendance rate, eat a nutritious breakfast and get plenty of sleep.

You can also help by talking to them about what they have been doing in school, hearing them read and supporting them with their home learning tasks.

See our *Home Learning Guidance* on our website for more information.

Enjoying sharing books

Reading aloud to children is the best way to get them interested in reading. It can also help with:

- Cognitive development
- Improved language skills
- Preparation for academic success
- Developing a special bond with your child
- Increased concentration and discipline
- Increased imagination and creativity

Most importantly, it cultivates a lifelong love of reading!

A healthy breakfast is important:

- It boosts energy levels
- It boosts brainpower
- It reduces the risk of illness
- It provides a lot of the day's total nutrient intake

Packed Lunches and Snacks

A healthy lunch is important to support your child with their energy levels for learning.

If your child has a packed lunch, we recommend the following items to help keep it healthy:

- A sandwich / wrap / salad / pasta
- Fruit / vegetables
- Yoghurt
- Packet of crisps
- Chocolate bar / biscuit

(list not exhaustive)

Water is the best way to hydrate in readiness for learning. We encourage the children to have water in their bottles in the classroom. Please contact your child's teacher if necessary.



Snacks

We encourage the children to have a healthy snack at break time. This could be a piece of fruit, a low sugar cereal bar or vegetables.

Chocolate and crisps are not eaten as our break time snacks but may make up part of a lunchtime treat. In nursery, reception and KS1, fruit is provided.

Free Choice Friday

We talk to our children about healthy choices and the idea that there is not 'bad' food groups, but moderation is important.

At playtime on a Friday, we allow children to have something of their choice from a traditional lunchbox (e.g. Chocolate bar, crisps, fruit)

Sweets and Fizzy drinks are not permitted in school.



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Breakfast and Afterschool Clubs

Care Bears

We provide a before and after school provision for those parents that may need wrap around care. These are known as 'Care Bears'.

Our morning session starts 7:45am and our after school session runs to 6pm. You may wish to access either all of the sessions or parts of each session.

You can book your child into Care Bears through the school office.

Bagel Bites

Bagel Bites is our free breakfast club. It begins at 8:15am in the morning. The children can come into school and enjoy breakfast with their friends before going to class.

Bagel Bites can be booked on the School Gateway App.

Other School Clubs

We also offer a wide range of after school clubs each half-term and these are linked to our curriculum at school.

Parents can sign their child up to these FREE clubs by completing the Google Forms that are sent out via school email at the start of each half-term.

Over the course of the year, we strive to ensure that every child has an opportunity to attend one of these clubs if they wish.





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Communication

We communicate with our parents via several different platforms. General school information will come via the school admin address. Towards the end of each half term you will receive a whole school newsletter, which will include notices, key dates, the children's learning and our celebrations.

Class teachers will also communicate with parents using either Parenta (Nursery / Reception) or Class Dojo (Years 1-6) depending on which year group your child is in. Please see our *Communication Guidance* for more information.

Our school website also holds a wealth of information and can be accessed at anytime.

If you wish to opt in to of any forms or communication and have not already done so, please let the school office know. We will always endeavour to get back to our parents messages within a 48 hour period.



ClassDojo



We also communicate with our parents using our celebration platforms. We do this either by our celebration newsletter or Facebook and Instagram accounts.



WhatsApp can be a really useful tool when families engage with it positively. Often, answers or concerns cannot always be found here, so please do reach out to a staff member at school.

Safeguarding

SHERWELL VALLEY PRIMARY SCHOOL

SAFEGUARDING



SAFEGUARDING IS EVERYONE'S RESPONSIBILITY.

SAFEGUARDING LEADS



DSL
Cristy Nelson



DDSL
Fran Steer



Safeguarding Governor
Maria Beer

Our Safeguarding Team includes a Designated Safeguarding Lead (DSL), Deputy Designated Safeguarding Leads (DDSL), and a Safeguarding Governor who oversees our procedures to ensure all children are safe and supported.

DEPUTY SAFEGUARDING TEAM



DDSL
Matt Briant



DDSL
Hannah Sennett



DDSL
Andy Robinson



DDSL
Ella Dix

PASTORAL TEAM



Provision Lead
Hannah Sennett



Pastoral Support Lead
Janine Lane



Family Support Worker
Ella Dix

At Sherwell Valley Primary School Wellbeing is a priority. All of our support staff are able to support our children in a variety of ways. Our Pastoral Team help support and coordinate this with our families.

SHERWELL VALLEY PRIMARY SCHOOL



EXCELLENCE IN ALL WE DO