



Welcome to Year 6!

Introduction

Hello and welcome to Year 6 at Wessex Gardens!



I'm Mrs Sharif and I teach Mahogany Class.



I'm Miss McGowan and I teach Magnolia Class.



We work with Besa, who is the teaching assistant for both classes and Sayeh and Sue, who also provide learning support.



We are very pleased to welcome you and your child on-board and we are really looking forward to a fantastic year.

If you have any questions after receiving this information and reading the attachments on the website, please get in touch with us by contacting the school office, sending in a note with your child, or approaching us during the pick-up times after school. We will be more than happy to help.

What's new for Year 6?



Year 6 is a very special year. It is the last year of children's primary education and it will be a very memorable one for your child. Children typically mature to the point where they are ready to move onto life and learning at secondary school, having acquired the necessary knowledge, skills and developed their confidence and resilience.

In Year 6, children will be doing their SATs- these are Standard Assessment Tests that all children across the country sit in May. We will be communicating with you throughout the year regarding what children need to do to prepare, what they need to practise, ways to form good learning habits and how to overcome any difficulties.

In Year 6, there will also be plenty of opportunities for children to develop their leadership skills. They will be able to apply to Mr Banks to become a part of various leadership teams. For example, we have our Safety Team, House Captain Team, Litter Patrol. There is also an opportunity to become a Young Leader, supporting younger children to be active on the playground by organising games, teaching rules and facilitating fun playtimes. Please encourage your child to apply for these opportunities as leadership skills are invaluable.

What equipment do children need?



In school, we provide exercise books, pencils, pens, rulers, rubbers, sharpeners and colouring equipment. Children can borrow books from the class library, choosing from a wide range of genres.

Your child will need a PE kit (they can come dressed in it on PE days) and a swimming kit. It is really important to label each bit of your child's kit and their uniform with their name, to avoid lost items- which can be costly.

The full uniform requirement can be found on the website, under the Parent Zone tab.

Every child should have some basic equipment at home, such as a pencil, ruler, rubber and sharpener. Please speak to us if you need help with getting there resources.

Behaviour and expectations

At Wessex Gardens, we use positive behaviour management strategies. This means that the focus is on the desired behaviour and not only on what has gone wrong. We listen to the children's explanations about what happened and what they were thinking or feeling. We then help them reflect on what they need to be able to make better choices.

We use the cloud system in every classroom. It's a great tool that you can use at home too. Have a look at the Cloud System guide on our Year Page to find out more about it.

We expect all children to come to school on time. Any lateness is really disruptive to themselves and others and they miss out on early morning tasks which support revision and progress.

We expect children to abide by the Wessex Gardens' 5 Golden Rules, which are:

- 1. We keep ourselves and others safe**
- 2. We are kind and fair to everyone**
- 3. We are honest and truthful**
- 4. We always try our best**
- 5. We look after our environment**



Home learning



To build good habits for home learning beyond primary school, we will be setting daily home learning tasks. This will aid memory and enable children to progress more quickly, as learning is kept fresh and is revisited.

Research shows that a designated space for learning at home can greatly improve the formation of good home-learning habits, so consider a suitable space with your child.

In the unlikely event that we enter another lockdown, we will switch over to Google Classroom and deliver learning via this portal. If you have any problems with passwords, access to an electronic device or understanding the online learning, please get in touch as soon as possible.

Online safety



The Internet can be a very useful resource for learning, keeping in touch with friends and family and for entertainment.

However, there are aspects of Internet use by children that can be concerning. Excessive or inappropriate internet use can interfere with children's learning and development. It is all of our duty as parents, carers and school to support children's safe internet use both in school and at home. Safety can mean many different things, for e.g:

- Not sharing personal information
- Not accessing inappropriate content
- Not developing online relationships with people who are not known to them
- Not overusing devices
- Not losing on sleep

If you feel like your child is affected in any way by their online use, please get in touch with us, as we can help.

These issues are widespread in the age of technology that we live in and often our children are more knowledgeable than their parents. Do not be afraid to approach school, no matter how embarrassing you may think it seems – we can promise you that whatever may be the issue you are having to deal with, you will not be the only one! It is best to talk through any issues as soon as they arise.

Online safety



We will be sharing more helpful information with you throughout the year, but for now, here is a quick checklist for you to use:

- Are you aware of the length of time your child spends online?
- Do you know how to set parental controls on the devices that your child has access to?
- Do you know how to check the browsing history on the devices which your child uses?
- Are you aware of the reason for the Age Rating on any games that your child plays on a console, such as Playstation, Xbox?
- Do you feel that you have the skills to deal with your child's reaction when they are told they cannot play a particular unsuitable game or spend as much time online as they want?

[Do contact us if you need any support with the above.](#)

Communication and Working in Partnership



Children do best when there is a strong partnership between home and school.

If there is ever a time that you or your child are unclear about something, please let us know. It is best to deal with small queries when they arise, rather than letting things build up into big worries.

We are here to help 😊

Thank you



We are very excited to be working with you and your child this year.

Please have a look at some of the other helpful information on our Year Page.