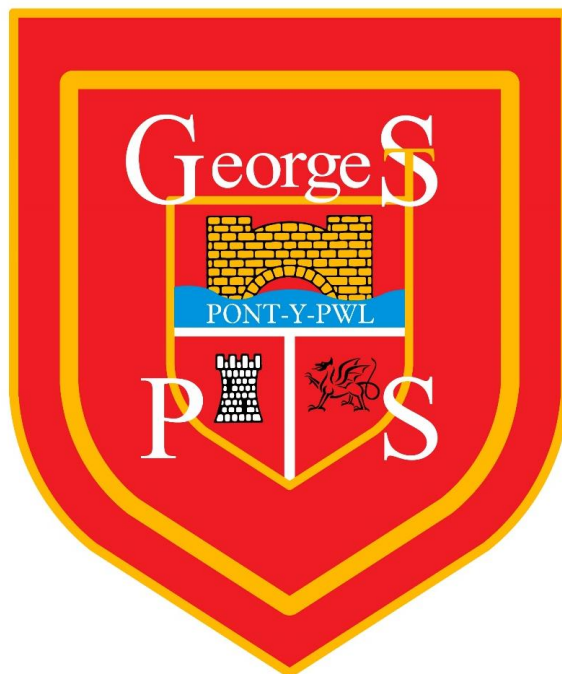


GEORGE STREET PRIMARY AND NURSERY SCHOOL





Ysgol Gynradd A Meithrin Stryd Siors George Street Primary and Nursery School

Wainfelin Road, Pontypool, Torfaen. NP4 6BX

HEADTEACHER
MR A Brasington

e-mail: head.georgestreetprimary@torfaen.gov.uk

Website: www.georgestreetprimary.co.uk

Tel: 01495 756436
Fax 01495 767723

Dear Parents/Carers/Guardians

Firstly it is a great pleasure to welcome you to George Street Primary School. We are delighted that you selected this school for your child and are confident that their time here will be happy, memorable and fruitful.

George Street is a successful school and currently holds Green status in the National Categorisation of Schools. We continuously strive to improve and very much welcome feedback from families of our pupils to ensure that we make the best school that we can.

The Prospectus provides a range of information about the school organisation, the school curriculum, extra curricular activities and other details which we feel sure you will find useful. Please take time to read this. In addition the school staff will also be glad to help with any queries you may have.

One of the key words in our mission statement is 'together'. As the Headteacher of George Street School, I recognise the tremendous opportunity we have to work in partnership to ensure that your child reaches their full potential and develops a love of learning that continues as a lifelong skill. Family engagement is a key factor in the successful futures of all of our children. I would urge you to become part of our school community and visit us and interact with your child's learning at home and in school often.

Communicating with parents, carers or guardians will always be a priority for us. Newsletters, reports, open days, consultations, visits, special events and an 'open door' policy all contribute towards the development of a healthy home-school partnership.

We look forward to meeting with you on many occasions in the future and wish you and your child a very successful and happy time at our school.

Yours sincerely

MR A Brasington

HEADTEACHER

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GEORGE STREET PRIMARY SCHOOL MISSION STATEMENT

TOGETHER WE LIVE, LEARN AND VALUE

***Together** in our school, we aim to create a safe, nurturing, happy and challenging place to be.*

***Together** we aim to create a caring family where everyone feels confident, valued, respected and equal.*

***Together** we encourage each other to reach for the stars.*

***Together** we can build a brighter future.*



OUR AIMS

Aims of The School

In George Street Primary and Nursery School we aim to work together to:

- *Create a safe, happy and stimulating environment where relationships are positive and built on trust and mutual respect*
- *Ensure everyone is encouraged to feel confident, respected and valued*
- *Provide high quality, meaningful learning and teaching experiences to meet the needs of the entire school community*
- *Develop ambitious, capable learners who are able to build a body of skills and knowledge to apply in a range of contexts.*
- *Provide a stimulating and enriched curriculum to inspire and motivate all pupils, challenging and enabling them to reach their full potential*
- *Secure high standards and expectations of behaviour through promotion of positive values, nurturing confidence and respect*
- *Ensure all pupils are independent thinkers and decision makers, having a voice in theirs' and others' learning, their school plans and in their futures*
- *Support families to ensure that home and school work in partnership, allowing every child to achieve their full potential*
- *Promote Welsh values and culture with a readiness to be citizens of Wales and the World*
- *Promote equal opportunities by opposing all forms of prejudice, discrimination and racism, celebrating differences and similarities within our local and global community and fostering respect for all people.*
- *Ensure our school community has a voice in helping to improve our school*
- *Create opportunities for all to develop digital competence to enhance learning and teaching and prepare for the future*
- *Promote and encourage the school and local community to take care of the environment*
- *Develop healthy, confident individuals who take risks, have good physical and emotional health and well being and who are able to face and overcome challenge*

VALUES, PERSONAL AND SOCIAL EDUCATION

As well as continually striving to raise standards, we place a high priority on educating children to become thinking, confident, responsible and caring citizens.

It is our desire to make a positive difference to children's lives by valuing them as individuals as well as teaching them a set of core values that we hope will remain with them throughout their lives.

George Street Primary School prides itself on being a Values Based Education school. Values are those behavioural traits, attitudes and concepts that create the type of people we are. We strongly believe that all our children should be given the opportunity to recognise the importance of these values in order to achieve success in life. Values Education underpins our PSE programme and has a significant influence over the vision, aims and ethos of the school. In all, 22 Values are explicitly dealt with over a two year rolling programme. This is largely done through assemblies, but is promoted and demonstrated in as many different areas of the school day as possible.



GEORGE STREET PRIMARY AND NURSERY SCHOOL

STAFFING

TEACHING STAFF

Mr A Brasington*	-	Headteacher B.A. (HONS), PGCE, NPQH
Mrs K Manley*	-	B.A. (HONS) with QTA
Mrs S Ralph*	-	Teacher B.Ed. (HONS), Dip (SEN), M.A. (SEN) Additional Education Needs Coordinator
Miss G Jones*	-	B.A. (HONS) with QTS
Mr C Bowen*	-	B.Sc. (HONS)
Mrs M Fielding	-	Teacher B.Ed. (HONS), M.A. Education Leadership and Management
Mrs L Davies	-	B.A. Ed (HONS)
Mrs G Lloyd	-	B.A. (HONS)
Mrs C Williams	-	B.A. Ed (HONS) (60% contract)
Mrs N Davies	-	B.A. (HONS) with QTS
Miss T Bowden	-	B.A. (HONS) with QTS
Miss C Woods	-	BSC (HONS) with QTS
Mr J Keir	-	B.A. (HONS) with QTS
Miss S Bodger	-	B.A. (HONS) with PGCE
Miss H Thomas	-	PGCE Primary

*Senior Leadership Team

LEARNING SUPPORT STAFF

Mrs M Preston-Watkins	-	Higher Level Teaching Assistant
Mrs L Fisher	-	Higher Level Teaching Assistant, B.A.
Mrs K Morgan	-	Higher Level Teaching Assistant
Mr N Taylor	-	Higher Level Teaching Assistant
Mrs M Morgan	-	Cover Supervisor
Mrs A Jones	-	Cover Supervisor/ Forest School Leader
Mrs S Goss	-	Cover Supervisor
Mrs L Bradbury	-	Cover Supervisor
Mrs L Booth	-	Teaching Assistant
Mrs C James	-	Teaching Assistant
Mrs A Simons	-	Teaching Assistant
Miss T Evans	-	Teaching Assistant
Ms S Seward	-	Teaching Assistant
Miss R Blanchard	-	Teaching Assistant
Mrs J Fellows	-	Teaching Assistant
Ms J Treadgold	-	Teaching Assistant
Mrs C Evens	-	Teaching Assistant
Ms L Ridout	-	Teaching Assistant
Mrs T Jones	-	Teaching Assistant
Mrs D Pearce	-	Teaching Assistant
Mrs L Smith	-	Teaching Assistant
Mrs S Hemms	-	Teaching Assistant
Mrs K Nicholls	-	Teaching Assistant

Mrs M Cobley - Teaching Assistant
Miss J Beukers - Teaching Assistant

LOCAL AUTHORITY SUPPORT

Mrs K Jones - Teaching Assistant

ADMINISTRATIVE STAFF

Mrs C Matthews* - Senior Support Officer, Senior Leadership Team B.A.(Hons)
Mrs L Willis – Clerk, Office and Admin Support
Mrs A Roden - Clerk, Office and Admin Support

SITE MANAGER

Mrs S Donoghue

MIDDAY STAFF

Mrs A Hopkins
Mrs J Edwards
Mrs S Karaguille
Mrs S Parker
Mrs L Childs
Mrs C Harris

CANTEEN

Mrs D Bigham

CROSSING PATROL

Mrs A Hopkins
Ms S Morris

EDUCATION WELFARE OFFICER

Ms H Kethro

HOME SCHOOL LIAISON OFFICER

Mrs D Mollaney

SCHOOL GOVERNING BODY

The Governing Body has responsibility for the oversight of the running of the whole school.

The Governing Body meets regularly and has a number of sub-committees dealing with finance, premises, the curriculum, appointments and discipline. An Annual Report is sent to all parents, carers, or guardians in the Autumn Term. Governors serve for a term of 4 years.

Parent Governors are your representatives. They are elected by the parents, carers, or guardians through a ballot.

The following are members of the Governing Body:

Headteacher	-	Mr A Brasington
Appointed By Governing Body	-	Rev A Richards-Clarke
	-	Mrs J Baker
	-	Mrs A Joliffe
Chairperson	-	Mrs K Baverstock (Parent Governor)
Vice-Chair	-	Mr E Smith (Parent Governor)
Parent Governors	-	Mrs H Bevan-Jones
	-	Mrs E Bustin
Staff Governor	-	Mrs M Preston-Watkins
Teacher Governor	-	Mrs G Lloyd
LA Governors	-	Cllr M Jeremiah
	-	Mrs L Robinson
	-	
Community Governor	-	Cllr J Taylor

SCHOOL WEBSITE ADDRESS AND SOCIAL MEDIA USE

Parents are encouraged to sign up to the website to receive regular reminders about events, activities and unexpected notices. The school also has its own Twitter account. Many of the classes also have personal Twitter accounts keeping you up to date with daily class activities.

www.georgestreetprimary.co.uk

Twitter Account: @georgestreetpri

Please use the following email address for routine queries e.g. term dates, cost of trips etc. and we will endeavour to reply to you within two days: office.georgestreetprimary@torfaen.gov.uk

ABOUT THE SCHOOL: ENVIRONMENT, HISTORY AND CATCHMENT

George Street Primary School opened in September 1989, and is an amalgamation of George Street Infant School, George Street Junior School and Pontypool Nursery.

A school was first erected on the site in 1847 and was known as Pontypool British School.

In 1871 it became a local Board School and a Council School in 1904. It became known as George Street Junior School in 1906.

The school is surrounded with evidence from Pontypool's rich historical past, from the Hanbury family home in Pontypool Park to the terraced houses, typical of the Welsh valleys. It has fine views across the valley, looking towards such local landmarks as the Folly Tower.

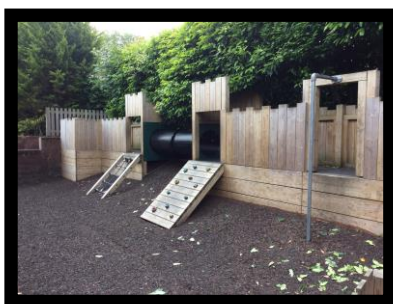
The main building consists of a separate Nursery and Reception Unit (3 -5 yrs), Years One and Two (5 - 7 yrs) wing and a Key Stage Two (7 - 11 yrs) wing with access to the main hall.



There are a number of additional teaching areas including independent learning areas, a library, resource rooms and a range of intervention rooms.



Foundation Phase pupils have secure outdoor play areas. All pupils have access to the playground and extensive playing fields.



Some internal remodelling of the building took place in 2014 to accommodate pupils from Pontymoile School who joined the school in September 2014. We also welcomed pupils from Pontnewynydd School in September 2015.



ADMISSION AND TRANSFER

The school offers part-time, (occasionally full-time), education for pupils of 3 - 4 years in its Early Years Integrated setting. If space is available Nursery places are offered in January and April also. Wraparound provision is offered to all Nursery aged pupils.

Full time education is offered from 4 to 11+ years, at which stage transfer is made to secondary education. George Street Primary and Nursery School is part of the West Mon Comprehensive School cluster.

All applications for school entry should be made to Torfaen County Borough Council.



THE SCHOOL DAY

The school is open for 190 days per year and teachers attend on five other occasions for staff development.

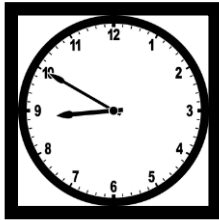
TIMES OF SESSIONS:

Nursery children will be offered a place in either morning or afternoon sessions, or in exceptional circumstances, full time sessions.

<u>Foundation Phase</u>	<u>Start and Finish Times</u>	<u>Lunchtime</u>
Nursery - Full Time	9.00 am - 3.15 pm	Full Time and Wraparound 11.30 am - 12.45 pm
Nursery – Morning	9.00 am - 11.30 am	
Nursery – Afternoon	12.45 pm - 3.15 pm	
Reception & Years 1 & 2	9.00 am - 3.15 pm	1 hour between 11.45am - 1.00 pm
<u>KS2 Juniors</u>	<u>Start and Finish Times</u>	<u>Lunchtimes - 3 sittings</u>
Years 3 – 6	9.00 am - 3.15 pm	45 minutes between 12.15 pm - 1.45 pm

Teachers are on duty 10 minutes before the start of the day and pupils should not arrive more than 10 minutes before the start of the school day unless attending Breakfast Club. They should proceed directly into school and to their classrooms, leaving parents, carers, or guardians at the door of the school.

Reception and Nursery children should enter school via their designated entrance to the Early Years setting.



Doors will be opened by staff on duty at 8.50 am. Any messages for teachers can be left with them or at the main office.

Pupils are supervised during breaks by staff and at lunchtime by midday supervisors.

ATTENDANCE



OTIS is our school mascot and the children love him! OTIS stands for 'On Time In School'. OTIS regularly appears around the school and in assembly. He has a magic number which is 95%. This is our goal for every child – over 95% attendance means that your child has the best chance of success in the future. OTIS's cousin SAM 'School Attendance Matters' has joined us and also spends time with the children in school.

Education Welfare Officer (EWO)

The school works very closely with the EWO and ensures that the welfare and attendance of pupils causing concern is discussed. All pupils who have attendance below 90% will be discussed with the EWO at regular intervals and action taken to support families in ensuring that children are in school.



Absence from school will only be granted in exceptional circumstances and where attendance is of an exceptionally high level (over 97%) Parents and carers are strongly encouraged not take children away from school for holidays during term time. Unless exceptional circumstances are evident and the absence agreed by the Headteacher, it will be deemed unauthorised.

Achieving our Magic Number:

100% Attendance	0 weeks of learning missed	Best chance of success -Well done.
95% Attendance	1 week 4 days of learning missed	Good chance of success -Well done.
90-94.9%	10 + days of learning missed	This is below the expected level – I'm starting to be concerned
90% Attendance	3 weeks 4 days of learning missed	Poor attendance - I'm worried
85% Attendance	5 weeks 3 days of learning missed	Poor attendance - I'm very worried
80% Attendance	7 weeks 3 days of learning missed	Very poor attendance - I'm seriously worried.
75% Attendance	9 weeks 1 day of learning missed	Very poor attendance - I'm seriously worried.

All appointments taken during school time must be accompanied by proof of appointment and short appointments should be for a limited period with pupils attending school before and after the appointment where possible.

ARRIVING/LEAVING SCHOOL

It is the parents, carers, or guardians responsibility to ensure that pupils arrive safely in school and are collected from school. In the mornings children maybe dropped with school staff at the pull in bay, who will ensure the children are escorted in to school.

To ensure school security, all doors, other than the main school door will be locked at 9.00 a.m. No admittance will be allowed through these doors after this time.

At the end of the day, pupils are dismissed from the infant classroom/designated junior doors respectively. Parents, carers, or guardians who deliver or collect their children from school by car should be reminded that to ensure the health and safety of all pupils it is essential that they **do not enter the car pack** to drop children off or collect at the end of the day. Gates will be closed both at the beginning and end of the school day. Parents, carers, or guardians are also asked to ensure that they park appropriately outside school and do not park on the restricted areas outside the grounds (yellow zig zag area) and do not double park.

Parents, carers, or guardians are encouraged to walk their children to school whenever possible. Torfaen County Borough Council have now finished work on the link path from the cycle way to school which provides safer access for children than the narrow pavement on Wainfelin Road.



Leaving school at the end of the day

If someone other than the main parent or carer is picking up a child at the end of the school day please inform the class teacher/member of staff on the door that morning. If arrangements change during the day please contact the school office who will inform the teacher. It is extremely important that your child's teacher knows exactly who will be collecting your child from school at all times. Also please ensure that it is someone over the age of 18. Thank you for your co-operation in ensuring the safety of our children

LUNCHTIME

School lunches are available each day at:

- £2.30 (Infant meal)
- £2.40 (Junior meal)

Money is collected **DAILY** in the dining hall, where a till system is in operation. Please send the correct money in an envelope with the child's name and class on the outside. **We regret there is no facility to receive cheques.** If you do not wish your child to purchase a school meal, he/she may bring a packed lunch. We would encourage parents, carers, or guardians to support Healthy Eating by ensuring lunch box contents are healthy containing a balanced meal with fruit and vegetables.

FREE SCHOOL MEALS

Parents, carers, or guardians in receipt of Income Support may apply for Free School Meals. Application should be made in advance of a child starting school. We would encourage all parents, carers, or guardians who are eligible to apply, even if they intend their child to bring in a packed lunch from home. Often schools receive additional funding based on numbers of Free School Meal Pupils. Please apply if you are eligible. Application forms may be obtained from the school office or any questions about an application should be addressed to:

Pupil Services
Education Department,
Torfaen County Borough Council
01495 762200



SCHOOL LUNCH

We actively encourage healthy eating in school and are part of the National Appetite for Life Campaign to ensure children have a well balanced and nutritious diet. We offer a range of hot food, jacket potatoes, salad bar and baguettes/wraps.

PACKED LUNCH FROM HOME

We would encourage you to allow your child to have school lunch, but if not and you wish to have a packed lunch from home, we would encourage you to send in healthy food. Fizzy drinks or energy drinks, sweets or chocolate bars are not permitted.

SNACK FUND

Children in Reception and Years One and Two need to bring in £1.50 per week for their fruit which is given at snack time each day. Please could you give this to your child on a Monday so that they can put it in the special box themselves. This can now be paid for using the 'Torfaen cashless system'.

Junior pupils can buy fruit tuck Monday to Friday at a cost of 30p per item. No sweets, chocolates, crisps etc. are permitted at break.



LABELLING CLOTHES

Clothes (coats, jumpers, skirt, trousers, t-shirts, etc.) **must** be labelled with your child's name. Some uniform suppliers do offer a facility for a small extra cost, the embroidery of a child's initials on the jumpers and cardigans underneath the school badge.



WATER IN SCHOOL

It is recommended that children drink at least two pints of still water a day. Research shows that dehydration is common amongst children and it impacts on their attention span, mood and health.

Children in all classes will be given access to drinking water as they need it. Fresh drinking water is available throughout the school. **ONLY STILL WATER** is permitted - nothing else. Children who do not like still water are not permitted to bring anything else. It is still water that medics recommend **NOT** flavoured water, pop, squash, coke or carbonated water.

There is easy access to water bottles or plastic cups at almost any time during the school day. They will be refilled if required.

DESIGNED TO SMILE PROGRAMME

All children in the Foundation Phase brush their teeth in school 1 x per day. This is part of the Designed to Smile Programme. Fluoride applications are also done periodically with parental consent.



MILK

The Welsh Government provides free milk for all pupils in The Foundation Phase. If any pupil has a milk allergy parents, carers, or guardians must inform the school.

LITTER

George Street Primary and Nursery endeavours to be a litter-free school. All pupils are taught to care for our school premises and use waste bins. This may, for example, form part of Personal and Social Education, Science or morning assemblies. Pupils have a collective responsibility to maintain an orderly site. Waste from fruit is composted in the school garden.



THE CURRICULUM

We were inspected by Estyn in February 2014. Full copies of the report are available from school or our website www.georgestreetprimary.co.uk or from the Estyn website www.estyn.org.uk.

Introduced in September 2008, 3 to 7 year olds at George Street are now educated under a framework for children's learning known as the Foundation Phase.



The Foundation Phase is about enhancing the learning experiences which enable children to be creative, imaginative and to have fun whilst learning. Children at George Street will continue to be given opportunities to work through engaging relevant practical activities which are fun and enjoyable and relevant to their developmental stages. The Foundation Phase places greater emphasis on experiential learning and active involvement and is designed to help all children flourish, whatever their stage of development or learning ability.

The Foundation Phase has seven Areas of Learning where stimulating structured play activities can be woven into the learning experiences. The curriculum is built around these seven areas to support and encourage your child's personal, social, emotional, physical and intellectual well-being and development.



Areas of Learning:

- Personal and social development, well-being and cultural diversity.
- Language, literacy and communication skills.
- Mathematical development.
- Welsh Language Development.
- Knowledge and understanding of the world.
- Physical development.
- Creative development.



KS2 - YEAR 3 - 6

Core Subjects:

- English
- Mathematics
- Science

Foundation Subjects:

- Information Technology
- Design Technology
- History
- Geography
- Music
- Art
- P.E.
- Welsh
- R.E.

Cross Curricular Responsibilities

Throughout the curriculum a range of key skills are taught including:

- Literacy
- Numeracy
- ICT

It is these skills that are used, applied and developed in as many lessons as possible. It is these skills that form the core of the curriculum.

In September 2013 a National Framework for the teaching of Literacy and Numeracy was introduced. All pupils from Reception to Year 6 follow this framework in all subjects across the curriculum. National tests for Year 2 to Year 6 are carried out in the Summer term in reading, mathematical reasoning and mathematical procedures.

PERSONAL, SOCIAL AND EMOTIONAL CURRICULUM (PSE)

In addition to the other subjects taught we place a significant emphasis on developing excellent personal and social skills. As a school we use the SEAL initiative (Social and Emotional Aspects of Learning) to underpin our teaching of PSE and supplement this curriculum with Values Education. Children are taught explicitly a range of 22 Values covering a two year period, taking one value per month. These values are a dynamic tool to promote a School Community that lives in harmony with respect and tolerance.



Library

All pupils throughout the school are able to borrow books and also utilise our library area when studying topics.

We have also introduced library sessions to promote the importance of reading at home. Pupils are invited into the school to choose books to take home to read together.

The library committee meets several times a week to undertake librarian duties which provide the children with a sense of ownership and responsibility within the school.



P.E.

In P.E. all pupils have at least 2 lessons per week.

In Foundation Phase this includes gymnastics, dance and games.

In KS2 swimming and athletics are added to the curriculum.

Opportunities to extend Physical Education are presented through extra curricular activities and we compete in football, cricket and netball within our area. This is an extremely important part of our school and we are proud to hold the Active Marc Cymru recognising excellence in the teaching of PE.

Daily Mile

George Street now participates in the Daily mile, encouraging health and fitness with dedicated time each day for every child to walk, jog or run at least a mile every day.



COASTAL SCHOOLS AND FOREST SCHOOLS

George Street is one of the first schools in Wales to be lucky enough to have a coastal schools practitioner. We use as many opportunities as we can to take children to the coast for educational visits to extend and enrich their curriculum as well as providing very positive experiences that promote pupils' mental health and well being.

We have a Forest Schools Facility on site and this is enjoyed by all classes in regular visits throughout the year to the Forest Schools area. Children engage in a wide range of learning experiences, learn about risk and challenge and get to experience nature first hand.



ARTS

Through Expressive Arts we encourage children to develop their creative appreciation, talent, artistic and performance skills. Expressive Arts provide opportunities for pupils to communicate their ideas, engage thinking, imagination and senses creatively. It also promotes exploration of personal and cultural identity.

Engagement with Expressive Arts requires application, perseverance and close attention to detail, capacities that have benefits across learning more widely. Expressive Arts provide many opportunities for experiences such as visits to theatres and galleries; it brings the specialist expertise of, for example, artists and musicians into the classroom.



WELSH

Welsh is taught as a second language, as part of the National Curriculum. It is taught through out the school by using incidental language and following progressive schemes of work. The school is moving towards bilingualism by encouraging pupils to use a range of Welsh phrases incidentally.

Staff attend in-service training to develop and improve their level of expertise.

The Cwricwlwm Cymraeg - promoting Welsh Heritage and Culture - underpins many curriculum areas and encourages pupils to identify strongly with their Welsh background.



RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

Religious Education is a compulsory subject under the 1988 Education Reform Act. Through these lessons we aim to equip the child with a set of moral values and attitudes gained from the study of Christianity, other world faiths and moral issues.

Daily assemblies are held which are Christian in emphasis. Pupils' efforts are frequently recognised on these occasions and these assemblies form an important part of the school day.

(If a parent has any kind of objection, they are entitled to request that their child is withdrawn from assemblies.)



**Education Reform Act
1988**

SEX EDUCATION

It is the policy of the school that Sex Education shall be offered and that it forms a natural part of both the Science and Health Education programme. Dealt with through these subjects, we are able to treat the subject sensitively. The maturity of the pupils is always taken into consideration. The physiological and psychological aspects of puberty will be addressed in Y6. Parents, carers, or guardians will be informed beforehand and retain the right to withdraw their child from these lessons. Often the school nurse will deliver these lessons.

ADDITIONAL LEARNING NEEDS

Pupils who have additional learning needs, (learning difficulties, physical needs, sensory impairment, or very able), are identified in a variety of ways i.e. through the parents, carers, guardians, class teacher, external agencies.

Our school policy adheres to the recommendations laid out in the special needs 'Code of Practice'. Pupils' needs are identified by the class teacher and the Special Needs Co-ordinator. Action Plans are developed for the pupil and reviewed termly. Parents, carers, or guardians are consulted and asked for their views at all stages. If necessary, the school may involve other outside agencies such as the Educational Psychological Service, Occupational Therapist, Speech Therapist, Audiometrician and Physiotherapist.

We endeavour to meet the special needs of some pupils through appropriate teaching support and a range of additional material resources. Pupils may also be withdrawn individually for 1 to 1 tuition. The Additional Needs Coordinators are Mrs S Ralph and Mrs M Fielding. They can hold regular surgeries for parents and carers to discuss areas of concern.

Pupil Parliament



Pupil views and opinions are sought through the use of a Pupil Parliament groups, such as School Council, Criw Cymraeg, Digital Leaders, Eco, Sports Ambassadors. Representatives from a range of classes across the school are able to attend meetings where they are able to contribute to the formulation of school policies and help support whole school decision making.

RECORDING AND REPORTING PROGRESS

In Nursery and Reception, Baseline Assessments are carried out within the first 6 weeks of entry and information is reported back to parents, carers, or guardians.

Y1 to Y6 children are assessed using Teacher Assessment. Teacher Assessment is supported by a variety of standardised tests in e.g. reading. This is an on-going process which helps set 'next step' targets for all pupils. These tests enable teachers to compare children's performance with others of the same age and to:

- to diagnose areas that need to be developed
- to set targets for improvement and performance

These tests support teachers in making final judgements about a pupil's level of attainment.

TARGET SETTING TO IMPROVE PERFORMANCE

Schools must publish targets relating to school improvement. These are decided by the staff and Governors and form part of our School Improvement Plan.

Target setting for pupils takes place during the period June to September. Teachers will use their knowledge of children and information from school and national tests to set appropriate targets for pupils. Teachers will discuss their expectations with parents, carers, or guardians. We will be aiming to introduce a level of challenge for all pupils.

What do the targets mean?

Children are assessed in a variety of other ways and at the end of the year. Using all relevant information teachers will indicate the level of performance a child has reached. This will be reported to parents, carers, or guardians at the end of each Key Stage:

- A typical 7 year old will reach Foundation Phase Outcome 5
- A typical 11 year old will reach Level 4 or higher (some children may achieve lower than this)

Many factors can influence how a child performs such as attendance, behaviour and level of parental support and it is important for you to support the school's policies in these areas in order to help us enable your child to fulfil their maximum potential.



HOME LEARNING

Home learning activities are set for children. Parents, carers, or guardians can help greatly by assisting in the learning of spellings and revising multiplication tables. In addition we would encourage parents, carers, or guardians to spend time each evening reading and sharing books with their children. Books are brought home for this purpose. There will also be times when teachers require work to be completed at home. If we are concerned about progress, work may also be sent home. Many home learning tasks reinforce and extend class activities and are important to your child's progress. The home learning policy gives precise details of tasks, times, marking, monitoring and how parents, carers, or guardians can support their children. For children who take holidays in school time, work will not be sent home.

Home learning is discussed at parent meetings throughout the year.

SCHOOL UNIFORM

The wearing of uniform:

- gives pupils a sense of identity
- gives status to the school
- encourages pupils to dress neatly and wear suitable clothing

It is regarded by most parents, carers, or guardians as sensible and practical.

Boys

Grey trousers long/short
White shirts/polo shirts
Red sweatshirts
Black shoes

Girls

Grey skirts/pinafore dresses/trousers
White shirts/polo shirts
Red sweatshirt/cardigan
Black shoes (no high heels or slip on shoes should be worn to school)

Uniform with the school logo can be purchased from Pretty Miss in Cwmbran Town Centre and Ruck um Maul in Pontypool. Details are available in school.

Pupils should not wear denim jeans to school.

Trainer style shoes are permitted as long as they are black and have no bright logos. Brightly coloured trainers are not permitted.

LABELLING CLOTHING IS ESSENTIAL AS CHILDREN FREQUENTLY MISLAY ITEMS WHICH CAN BE EASILY RETURNED IF THEY ARE LABELLED.



PHYSICAL EDUCATION

A PE uniform is available from Ruck um Maul or Pretty Miss made up of a blue T shirt and black shorts.

- All pupils:** Plimsolls or trainers for out door activities
- All pupils:** require a change of clothing for physical activities
- All pupils:** require a labelled cloth bag suitable for P.E. kit.
- All pupils:** Tracksuits may be worn in cold weather

Please ensure **all** your child's garments have his/her name clearly marked inside.

JEWELLERY

The wearing of jewellery is **not** permitted in school for safety reasons. Earrings in the form of small plain studs are allowed. Watches are also permitted. Please note **all** jewellery must be removed for P.E. lessons. Therefore we would ask that children **do not** wear earrings on P.E. days.

No other body piercing is permitted.

HAIR STYLES

Pupils are expected to have a sensible hairstyle which supports the wearing of school uniform. No makeup is to be worn in school. We would appreciate it if parents, carers, or guardians only allowed children to have creative haircuts during long holiday periods so that by school time, these designs have grown out.

TELEPHONES



When children are in school, the staff have full responsibility for them and therefore all communication should go through staff.

For this reason pupils are not allowed mobile telephones whilst at school.

NON SMOKING ZONE/E- Cigarettes

We would like to remind parents, carers, or guardians that the entire school grounds are a designated no smoking zone, in addition it is now illegal for any person to smoke inside the school building. We would welcome your support in ensuring that the entire site remains smoke free. We would also kindly remind you that the use of E Cigarettes is also not encouraged on school premises.



DOGS



We would like to remind parents, carers, or guardians that dogs are not permitted at all on the school grounds. It is now an offence to bring a dog onto school premises.

ORGANISATION OF SCHOOL

Children are normally placed in classes according to age, although a variety of other factors may affect this decision.

In September 2016 the school's admission number changed from 39 to 60 pupils per year group ie; two classes per year group, R – Y6. Nursery can accommodate a maximum of 43 pupils per session.

Parents, carers, or guardians are always kept informed about class provision and the individual needs of every pupil are taken into account. All teachers are able to arrange teaching groups within their class, so that they can develop the full potential of your child, whether it be in a whole class, group situation or as an individual.

EXTRA CURRICULAR ACTIVITIES A wide range of extra curricular activities are available including: Gardening, Singing and Drama, Multi Sports, Cookery, Art/Crafts, Film, Netball, Football, ECO Club, Web Club, Dance, Performing Arts, Apple Experts, Minecraft/lego and Choir. It is strongly encouraged that all pupils attend some form of after school provision. There is a great deal of research that suggests that pupils who access a range of cultural and sporting activities in addition to their normal school work, do very well at school and achieve well.



OUT OF HOURS PROVISION

School offers a **Free Breakfast Club** from 8.30 am each morning for Reception to year 6 pupils.

An out of hours **After School Club** is run independently and details can be obtained from Isobel Yacomen on 07889 346348. A charge for this facility is £8 per session - 3.15 pm to 5.30 pm.

WRAPAROUND FOR NURSERY

Nursery pupils can access either morning or afternoon wraparound provision until 3.15 pm at a cost of £12.50 per session and details can be obtained from Isobel Yacomen on 07889 346348.

ANNUAL EVENTS

All pupils have the opportunity to participate in Christmas events as well as Easter events.

During the Summer term, Sports Days are held.

St. David's Day is also celebrated during the school year.

We also invite theatre groups, visiting musicians and speakers throughout the year.

RACE EQUALITY

The school is committed to working towards race equality, promoting positive approaches to difference and fostering respect for people of all cultural backgrounds. The school is opposed to all forms of racial prejudice and discrimination. Language or behaviour that is racist or potentially damaging to any ethnic or racial group will not be tolerated and will be challenged. The school recognises that Wales and the UK have diverse societies made up of people from many different racial, cultural, religious and linguistic backgrounds. It is important that all pupils are adequately prepared to live in such a diverse society. (Equality Policy is available in school).



EQUALITY AND DIVERSITY

Our school policies are built on the need to ensure equal opportunities for all and to eliminate discrimination of all kinds. Every child in the school, regardless of race, language, gender or ability will be equally valued and have access to educational opportunities that are both diverse and of assured quality. All our children are encouraged to have a positive cultural identity. We explicitly celebrate our country's diverse culture and the school actively promotes positive attitudes to the linguistic and cultural nature of bilingual Wales. As a school we support and promote diversity and promote good relations between all people. The school has an active Equalities Plan which is updated annually and is available on the school website.

PUPILS WITH DISABILITIES

The school is aware of its obligations under the Disability Discrimination Act 1995 and the Disability and Equality Act 2012 to ensure that pupils with disabilities are treated no less favourably than other pupils. The purpose of the DDA 1995 is to eliminate the discrimination faced by disabled people and promote equality of opportunity. Disability is defined as a person with a physical or mental impairment which has a substantial and long term adverse effect on one's ability to carry out normal day to day activities.



Schools must take all reasonable steps to avoid discrimination occurring. Policies, practices and procedures must be reviewed yearly on a continuing basis to ensure that disabled children are not placed at a substantial disadvantage.

The Governing Body will ensure that employees:

- do not act in such a way as to render the Governing Body liable to claims for discrimination.
- do receive appropriate guidance and support the Governing Body in meeting their duties to pupils.

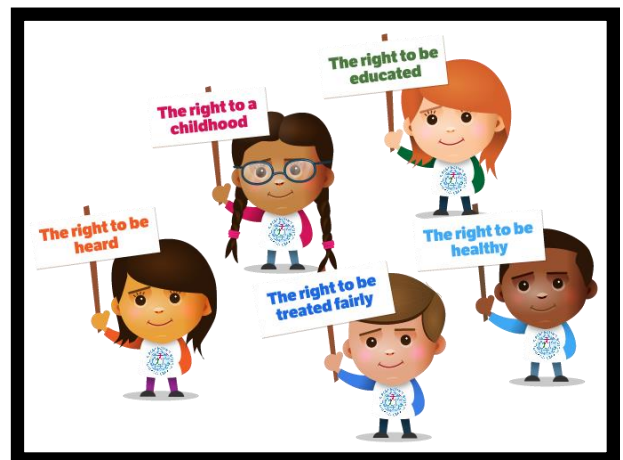
SCHOOL PROCEDURES

CHILD PROTECTION STATEMENT

All children deserve the opportunity to achieve their full potential. Somebody may abuse or neglect a child by inflicting harm, or by failing to act to prevent harm. Children may be abused in a family or in an institutional setting, by those known to them or, more rarely, by a stranger. Children may suffer physical, emotional, sexual abuse or neglect.

Schools are well placed to observe outward signs of abuse, changes in behaviour or failure to develop. These signs do no more than give rise to suspicion - they are not in themselves proof that abuse has occurred.

It is not the responsibility of any school staff member to investigate suspected abuse - we merely record information given to us. The Headteacher is the Child Protection Co-ordinator in school and is charged with the responsibility, if it is required, of referring on. There is a duty to act rather than a tragedy occur or abuse continue. **Consent is NOT required to make a child protection referral**, but school will always inform parents of this referral unless it is deemed that this would put a child at further risk of harm.



School must help parents, carers, or guardians understand our responsibility for the welfare of our pupils. This is part of our ongoing work of fostering good relationships with parents, carers, or guardians. Let there be no doubt that in the interest of children in our school, school will refer on to investigative agencies if we feel this is the right course of action. The investigative agencies - Children and Family Services at Social Services and the Police will also, if deemed necessary, conduct enquires. If things go this far then parents, carers, or guardians must liaise with the authorities and not with school. It is not our role to make judgments - school merely refers on.

It is unacceptable for a parent to confront or abuse the Headteacher or members of the school staff if it has become necessary to make a referral.

HEALTH AND WELFARE

Please keep us informed about any changes in your child's health. If your child is ill, please keep him/her at home until they are fully recovered. Check with your Doctor if they have had an infectious disease which could harm others. The school office holds comprehensive advice on health issues from the local health board and will advise you if absence from school is required and for how long.

ACCIDENTS OR ILLNESS AT SCHOOL

It is essential that we have correct and up to date details of where to contact parents, carers, or guardians, should their child be ill at school. Mobile phone numbers tend to change frequently and it is essential that we are kept informed of all changes.

MEDICAL/DENTAL APPOINTMENTS

It is very disruptive for parents, carers, or guardians to remove children during the day for routine appointments. We would therefore request that all routine appointments are made where possible out of school hours. Emergency appointments are permitted. Appointment cards/letters from health organisations are required if a child is to be removed from school.

MEDICINE

If your child returns to school and still requires medicine, it is your responsibility to make arrangements to dispense that medicine.

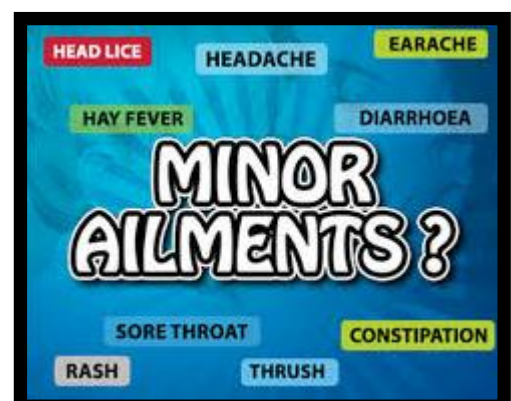
It is the school's policy **not to** dispense any medicines unless in exceptional circumstances* because of the on-going medical needs of a child.

Parents, carers, or guardians of children who require asthma inhalers should provide a labelled inhaler with written instructions of how to administer in an attack. Spare inhalers should be left in the school office.

**Where pupils require on-going medication, the school will engage with the relevant health professionals and a care plan for a pupil will be drafted and staff will be able to support your son or daughter with their needs.*

HEADLICE

Should your child catch headlice, you are asked to treat the case yourself, treatment may need to be repeated as per medical advice. Constant vigilance is the only answer and we ask parents and carers to inspect their child's hair weekly. It is important that you inform the school so that a letter can be sent home to other parents, carers, or guardians.



VISITS BY THE MEDICAL SERVICES

From time to time, the school Medical Health Service arranges routine inspections. Any cause for concern is referred to parents, carers, or guardians.

SCHOOL GROUNDS

The school grounds are the property of Torfaen C.B.C. and there is **NO** public right of way through the grounds and, in particular, dogs should not be exercised on the premises or brought onto school grounds in any circumstances and unless they are a Guide Dog, this is now an offence. Please do not allow your child to drop litter in the school grounds.

There are no parking facilities on the school grounds but the school is fortunate to have a 'drop off' lay-by. Parents, carers, or guardians **must not** drive into the school grounds, thereby at the end of the day to ensure pupils safety.

Please do not park on the double yellow lines, or zig zag lines, or where there is a crossing patrol. Offenders will receive parking fines from the police.

The children's safety is always paramount.

We would also request that parents, carers, or guardians do not cross the car park in front of school as this entrance is used continuously for deliveries. Parents, carers, or guardians are asked to use the front pedestrian entrances or the entrances on School Lane or off Conway Road.

VALUABLES

We do not encourage children to bring toys to school.

We cannot take any responsibility for valuables, including the wearing of jewellery and, therefore, would advise that such items are left at home.

CHARGING AND REMISSIONS POLICY

From time to time educational visits take place, which may require transport or an entrance fee to be paid for. The Governing Body has agreed that we should seek voluntary contributions from parents, carers, or guardians so that such activities may take place. If there is insufficient voluntary funding, activities may be cancelled.

EDUCATIONAL VISITS

Educational visits are designed to support National Curriculum subjects and are always organised to enhance curriculum provision. Whenever a visit takes place, you will be fully informed of the details and nature of the visit.



COMPLAINTS PROCEDURE

Occasionally misunderstandings between school and home can occur. Please bring your concerns to the Headteacher. Under the Education Act 1988, there is provision for parents, carers, or guardians to take complaints to the Governing Body if they cannot be resolved by the school. A copy of the Complaints Procedure is available on the school website or can be accessed by request.

PASTORAL CARE AND GUIDANCE

All staff have responsibility for caring for your child but the class teacher will be the person with whom your child will naturally develop a close relationship.

We encourage children:

- to become confident
- to act independently
- to care for others
- to be courteous
- to be honest
- to develop a responsible attitude to life



Older pupils have opportunities to take part in the running of the school and may become:

- Librarians
- Monitors
- House Captains
- School Councillors
- School Buddies
- Healthy Helpers
- Junior Road Safety Officers
- Members of the Green Ambassadors Group (ECO)



Thereby gaining reward and responsibility.

DISCIPLINE AND BEHAVIOUR/PASTORAL CARE

We are sure that all parents, carers, or guardians will share our expectation that children behave well at all times, including during the journeys they make to and from school. At all times and on all occasions we will encourage children to be courteous, to display good manners and to show respect for other people and their property. Our children will be encouraged to show tolerance, to exercise patience and understanding and to be caring. The development of self-discipline is seen as a partnership between home and school. We feel confident that we can look forward to the support of all parents, carers, or guardians in this matter. Children will be expected to co-operate with teachers and other children and to work diligently. Should the behaviour of a child cause concern, parents, carers, or guardians will be contacted in order that their support be enlisted in dealing with the matter. Our children follow the principles of Positive Behaviour Management.



Our rules are:-

- Follow Instructions First Time.
- Keep hands, feet, objects and unkind words to yourself.
- Use the appropriate voice - silent, partner, group, class.
- Stay in your seat, class, playground, school unless given permission to leave.
- Treat everybody in a polite way.

Parents, carers, or guardians will be informed if any of these rules are broken persistently in order to enlist your support in ensuring behaviour improves.

All staff stress rewards, rather than sanctions, for example class rewards, raffle tickets, positive notes and phone calls home.

Parents, carers, or guardians are expected to support the school in maintaining the highest standards of good order.



PARENTS, CARERS OR GUARDIANS INVOLVEMENT IN SCHOOL

COMMUNICATION

Monthly Newsletters are sent to parents, carers, or guardians outlining events for the term; reporting school news; informing about future plans. Reminders of specific events are sent to parents, carers, or guardians regularly.

School Website - www.georgestreetprimary.co.uk further information and updates can be found on the School website. Regular update messages are sent to parents and carers once you have registered on the site. You will receive an email telling you that there is an important message posted on the site.

Please use office.georgestreetprimary@torfaen.gov.uk for routine queries e.g. term dates, cost of trips etc.

Texts – we regularly use this as a means of keeping parents and carers informed. The messages you receive will be targeted towards your child eg: class trip for particular year group, after school club etc. These messages will go to the primary telephone number so it is vital that you keep the office informed of up to date contact details.

Twitter: Follow us on Twitter @georgestreetpri. Many classes also have their own Twitter Account

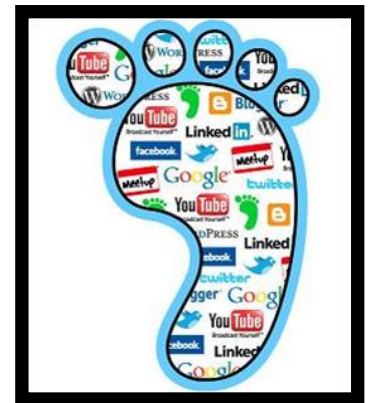


Safe and appropriate use of Social Networking Sites e.g. Facebook, Twitter

Like all parents, staff at George Street want the best for the children in their care and it is important that parents and teachers can work together constructively in the best interests of the children.

For this reason, we will not accept or condone derogatory, defamatory, threatening or abusive language/behaviour posted on social media. We will take appropriate action if this does occur and contact the site, the LA and/or Heddliu Gwent Police if it involves staff, parents, guardians and/or children.

Please help us to keep building a safer community.



PARENT/CARER PARTICIPATION

We are always pleased to welcome parent helpers in school, whether assisting with school visits, concerts or other events. Parents, carers, or guardians who would like to assist in the classroom are especially welcome. Please note that parent volunteers are now required to complete checks with the Disclosure and Barring Service.

Curriculum Workshops/Open Sessions are now a feature of our school and we are delighted to invite you to these and believe that they will help to inform you about the work of the school. Topic information sheets are sent out to all children at the beginning of each new topic.

Parent Consultations are held twice yearly and a written report is sent annually. This is a vital opportunity for teachers and parents, carers, or guardians to exchange information.

Class assemblies and events are held throughout the year which we welcome your attendance at.

PARENT/CARERS OPEN SESSIONS

Parent and carers Open Sessions for all parents and carers are held every Friday (from 2:30pm). Parents and carers are invited into classrooms to spend 30 minutes learning with their child. During the last week of every term, open sessions take place every day at 2:30pm.

Family Engagement is hugely important to us and we would encourage all parents and carers to get involved in school life. We would like to ask for your help in ensuring that your child reaches their full potential and has the opportunity to 'reach for the stars'

ACTIVE MARC CYMRU

The school has achieved the "Active Marc Cymru" for the range of sporting activities promote by the school.



Other awards include:

HEALTHY SCHOOLS AWARD 2009, 2010, 2011, 2014 and 2018

ECO SCHOOLS AWARDS 2010, 2012, 2014

MCC SPIRIT OF CRICKET AWARD 2013

SOUTH WALES FA SCHOOL OF THE YEAR 2013



FRIENDS OF GEORGE STREET SCHOOL (FOGSS)

All parents, carers, or guardians are invited to join FOGSS

We encourage parents, carers, or guardians to fund-raise, organise events for pupils and support school events. We are always looking for new members. Please come along to our meetings. Fund raising includes Discos and family events.

The chair of the FOGSS group is Mrs Joana Baker. Please get in touch if you would like to play a part in this active group.

TRANSFER TO SECONDARY SCHOOL

At the end of the Summer Term, Year 6 in the main request a transfer to West Monmouthshire Comprehensive School unless parents, carers, or guardians have applied for their children to receive Secondary School education in another school. Online applications for secondary school are made in the autumn term in the previous year.

West Mon School works very closely with us to ensure a smooth, happy transition from primary to secondary school life. From early on in KS2 the children spend numerous workshop days at the school and parents, carers, or guardians are also invited to the school to meet the Headteacher, to look around and to have questions and queries answered. School records and assessments are forwarded to Secondary School by us to ensure continuity.



CHILDREN'S THOUGHTS ABOUT GEORGE STREET FROM RECEPTION AND Y6

I enjoy coming to George Street because:

"Our learning is really good fun as we play games to help us understand maths".
Charleigh, aged 10

"After joining this school from the United States of America I found that everyone was so welcoming – I am proud to be part of George Street School". **Hollis, aged 11**

"My favourite part of the school is learning about the Power of yet!" **lestyn, aged 11**

"I like the library area. I enjoy reading lots of different stories"
Seren, aged 7

"I love playing with my friends."
Harrison, aged 7

"The PE is fun!"
Jake, aged 9

"I enjoy it when we get to play and be creative with our work"
Dafydd, aged 8

"I enjoy my literacy lessons and writing stories – I feel really proud of them."
Alisha, aged 8

"Every day I learn something new and when I'm stuck my teacher helps me to persevere!"
Wayne, aged 10

TORFAEN COUNTY BOROUGH COUNCIL

TERM DATES FOR 2018 - 2019 / 2019 -2020

Parents are reminded of the half term and end of term dates when taking holidays.

SCHOOL TERM DATE FOR:

2018/2019 Academic Year

Term	Term Begins	Half Term Begins	Half Term Ends	Term Ends
Autumn	Monday 03.09.18	Monday 29.10.18	Friday 02.11.18	Friday 21.12.18
Spring	Monday 07.01.19	Monday 25.02.19	Friday 01.03.19	Friday 12.04.19
Summer	Monday 29.04.19	Monday 27.05.19	Friday 31.05.19	Monday 22.07.19

2019/2020 Academic Year

Term	Term Begins	Half Term Begins	Half Term Ends	Term Ends
Autumn	Monday 02.09.19	Monday 28.10.19	Friday 01.11.19	Friday 20.12.19
Spring	Monday 06.01.20	Monday 17.02.20	Friday 21.02.20	Friday 03.04.20
Summer	Monday 20.04.20	Monday 25.05.20	Friday 29.05.20	Monday 20.07.20

MAY DAY - MONDAY, 6 MAY 2019

INSET DAYS TO BE CONFIRMED