



Swindon Village Primary School

'Learning From Each Other, Achieving Together'

Frequently Asked Questions

Do we have a catchment?

No. However, over the past 4 or 5 years we have noticed that the families who live about 1 mile (as the crow flies) have managed to secure a place. **Our advice has been if you like what you see and hear about us then put us down as your first choice.** Under the current COVID restrictions there is no way of knowing how our intake for September 2021 will look.

Do we know how many siblings of current pupils will be applying this year?

At present we do not know our exact siblings numbers. As above our, advice would be if you really want Swindon Village for your child in September 2021 then the best opportunity you have is to put Swindon Village Primary School down as your 1st preference when the forms come out in November.

How many children are in an average class?

Each of our 14 classes has approximately 30 children in.

What are your school lunches like?

Hot lunches are provided by ABM, who cook for our school on site. All children in Reception, Year 1 and Year 2 have lunches paid for by the Universal Infant Free School Meal (UIFSM) budget. Once children reach KS2 parents pay for any hot dinner. The price is currently £2.25. They are nutritiously balanced and the salad bar offers a great addition as well. Children normally come into the hall a class at a time and have food served. In Reception we take a little longer for our lunchtime so we can teach the children how to carry trays and hold knives and forks.

How do we allocate children into our two Reception Classes?

The children are grouped using the following criteria:

- We talk to their nurseries prior to deciding the class lists.
- Where possible they are with friends or with at least one person they know.
- The children or parents know the teaching staff because they have an older brother or sister in school.
- Age - Autumn, Spring, Summer
- Gender

How is the induction period organised?

We meet with all parents on a one to one basis in September.

The children then attend for a mixture of mornings and afternoons before staying for their lunch.

They attend full time by the end of September.

Do children need other clothing besides their uniform?

A PE kit – this will be in their 'SVPS House' colour

Warm old clothes, a coat or waterproof suit and a pair of wellies for Welly Boot

Do children do P.E. and other outdoor activities?

The children do PE, play on bikes and trikes and visit welly boot land. This is on top of our lovely outdoor area which is an extension of the classrooms.

What would we hope children will be able to do before they start school?

Recognise their name

Form some letters in their name (but don't worry if they can't)

Know basic colours

Ideally recognise numbers to 5

Share toys with other children

To put their coat on by themselves and manage their own toileting needs.

What Phonics Scheme do we follow?

We follow Letters and Sounds and supplement the scheme with the Jolly Phonics actions and songs.

How do children learn in Reception?

We follow Letters and Sounds and supplement the scheme with the Jolly Phonics actions and songs.

What is the school's views of homework?

The single, most important to children's development is their ability to read and understand what they read.

We have placed a huge emphasis on reading and have invested heavily in good quality reading material for all the children.

We currently run the 'Rule of 3'

- 3 lots of reading a week
- 3 lots of maths work a week [a lot of number work]
- 3 lots of phonics/English a week.

We feel this strikes a good balance between busy home lives and also keeps children 'ticking-over' on the key fundamentals of learning.

How do you cope with difficult, or unwanted, behaviour from children?

Often 'Poor' behaviour is always a sign of something else and we aim to provide support to children who may find it difficult to behave in a way that is acceptable at school.

We have a clear Positive Behaviour & Anti-Bullying Policy. A newly introduced Class Charts APP has enabled parents to see when their child is rewarded or sanctioned at school.

What is your SEND and Pastoral Provision like?

Swindon Village Primary School is totally inclusive and we welcome all children. Where a child has a recognised special need or disability, we will make reasonable adjustments to meet those needs to ensure your child thrives in our mainstream setting. Our school is fully accessible and whilst supporting our children we will also encourage independence skills. This team is headed up by our Assistant Head & Inclusion Manager, Mrs. O'Leary and is supported by Mrs. Brown.

What opportunities are there for pupils to demonstrate leadership/have responsibility?

We have Head/Deputy Girls and Boys, House Captains - selected by the children, Prefects, Pupil Leadership Team. They play an active role on charity days and other special days.

How do we keep in touch with parents?

- Tapestry [this app will be explained when your child starts with us.
- Weekly Headlines,
- Regular texting and emailing to parents,
- SVPS Facebook Page
- Phone Calls
- Class Charts – Behaviour

All the above are things we pride ourselves on and we strongly believe our communications is very good.

Do you have a Before and Afterschool Provision?

Yes. Terrapins is run from 7:30 – 8:35 [Breakfast] and 3:30 – 6:00 [After School Care]

Children are provided with a healthy breakfast and are also given a range of food after school to keep them going.

What sport and physical activities do the children do?

We are able to provide for a wide range of sports, including hockey, tennis, football, netball, cricket, cross country, rugby, athletics and multi-skills. We participate in a range of local competitive competitions in Bishops Cleeve and in Cheltenham.

Does your school have a active PTA/Friends Committee?

We have always had an active FOSVPS who have helped run a variety of events such as Easter Eggstravaganza, Sponsored events, great dress-up days, films nights and the very popular 'Christmas and Summer Fayres'. They have helped the school purchase school iPads/laptops, climbing equipment, sound systems, PE equipment, Reading Books, as well as subsidising trips for children...and much, much, more.