



Dear Parents/Carers,

# Welcome!

Good morning and welcome back to all our families across the Federation of Spixworth Schools, especially those new families joining us for the first time.

I am delighted to be working as Executive Headteacher of our schools and look forward to bringing the schools even closer together over the coming months and years for the benefit of our children.

I will be writing a bulletin each month to keep you up to date with school news, progress and key information. Please read on this month to find out more about school safety, staffing and changes planned.

Happy New Academic Year Everyone!

Ms Jordan

### Re-Opening - Safely



We begin this year as our country continues to respond to the coronavirus pandemic.

We want nothing more than our children to be learning in school but will not hold back on safety. We have all worked hard over Summer to ensure our schools are as safe as possible. We will support your children to learn and understand our safety rules and provide as much information to you as we can, to help you to support us. We hope that by working together we can keep our whole community safe and have as few disruptions to our children's learning as we can. If you have any questions, please find out more from our websites or contact either office directly.

### Staffing



I am delighted to be working with our two new Heads of Schools: Mrs Payne at the Junior school, with responsibility for SEND across both schools and Miss Mattock at the Infants with responsibility for Curriculum across both schools.

I am also very pleased to welcome three new teachers to our schools: Mr Woolley in Year 1/2; Mrs Desborough in Year 3/4 and Miss Gilham in Year 5/6.

Miss McLeod joins the Infant school as an apprentice Teaching Assistant as well as Mr Puddifoot and Miss Barton as qualified assistants. It is with great sadness that Mrs Moon has had to leave the Infant support staff due to personal reasons. Mrs Moon will be missed greatly and we wish her every happiness.

Mrs Meakin has joined the Junior team as a clerical assistant and Mrs London and Mrs Andrews have both joined the team as midday supervisors.

I am sure you will join us in welcoming all our new staff to Spixworth.

An email or call to either school is the best way to contact us right now. The admin team or your child's class teacher should be able to respond to most concerns. They will direct you to one of our Heads of School or myself if necessary.

### Improvements



Our schools are already great in so many ways, but we are always looking to improve. There are a few planned changes for the term ahead.

Firstly, the Junior website will be upgraded, making it easier to navigate and use from a phone.

Our House system will be aligned across the schools with the children taking the lead in House decisions. Children will be allocated a House from Reception and remain in that House to Year 6. Siblings across the schools will be in the same Houses. As soon as it is safe to do so, we hope to have more House events and activities across the schools.

Parents' evenings will focus on children's targets and how school and home can work together to support the child to achieve these. Meetings – by video/phone – will take place 4 times per year. Our Behaviour Policies will also be reviewed, please see below for more information as we would like your input with this.

Later in the year, the governors and I will be asking your views and opinions on our schools and the direction you would like to see us take.

Look out for more information to come on each of the above!



## **Behaviour Policy Review**

We believe that the behaviour policies at both schools work for most children, most of the time. We understand that a few children need behavioural support in addition to the standard policy. We also know that a policy suitable for a Reception child will be slightly different to that for a Year 6 child, but we also feel that where the policies can be the same, they should be. As we review our policies, we are looking to bring them together. We aim to focus on positive behaviour, to address inappropriate behaviours quickly yet discretely and use restorative approaches to support understanding and respect. I will be working with the children and staff as well as yourselves to ensure this is a genuine and thorough review. A date for a virtual Parent Forum meeting will be set soon and if you can't attend, key questions will be sent to all via email.

## **DSLs**



The Designated Safeguarding Leads (DSLs) are.

Ms Jordan, Miss Mattock, Mrs Payne  
(Across the Federation)  
Mrs Jackson and Mrs Betts (Infants)  
Mrs Clarke (Juniors)

All safeguarding policies have been updated for this year and are available on request or via our websites.

## **Attendance**



The attendance target for both schools is 96%. We are following government guidelines on recording attendance, including in relation to COVID-19. If your child is ill, including if they have a temperature, cough or change in sense of taste or smell they should not be in school. Please phone the office on the first day of any absence so we know the reason for absence and that all children are safe. Thank you.

## **General Reminders**



Please park considerately to our neighbours.  
Please name all your child's items.  
Please let us know if your details or circumstances have changed over the holiday.  
Our schools are nut-free zones. Please do not include any items containing nuts in packed lunches.  
Special diets can be catered for by either kitchen.  
Please follow all COVID safety advice.

## **Key Dates**



Parent/Teacher Progress Meetings: w/c 28<sup>th</sup> Sept  
Half term: 22<sup>nd</sup> – 30<sup>th</sup> Oct  
Parent/Teacher Progress Meetings: w/c 30<sup>th</sup> Nov  
Last day of term: Friday 18<sup>th</sup> Dec



## **Communication**



At the Federation of Spixworth Schools we try to make sure we offer as many ways to communicate with our families as possible. Most letters are sent via email, unless there is a tear off reply slip which we will send as paper copies. We also share all letters and lots of other information via our websites. We have both Facebook pages and Twitter accounts. Please join us if this is your preferred way to receive communication from us. Please be careful to only use our official communication channels as we cannot guarantee the accuracy of information from elsewhere.



We take e-safety very seriously and have clear policies on how we will use the internet safely and teach the children to stay safe online. Please be aware that some policies also relate to parents/carers. Your own use of technology including social media is a model to your children. You should not publish images or video of your child at school on social media and any negative comments or abuse online could be classed as harassment.

We are proud of our schools and know that a good reputation is hard to build yet easy to break. If you do have an issue or concern, please contact us directly either by telephone or email.

Our policies are available on our website or you can request paper copies from the offices.

Facebook: search for Spixworth Infant School

Twitter: @spixworthinfant

Website: [www.spixworth.norfolk.sch.uk](http://www.spixworth.norfolk.sch.uk)

Facebook: Coming soon

Twitter: @woodlandjs

Website:

<https://www.woodlandview.norfolk.sch.uk/>