



Executive Headteachers' Bulletin

Spring A 2025



The CARE Federation

Happy New Year and welcome to the Spring Term, 2025! I hope you all had a wonderful break and are looking forward to all the New Year will bring.

We are thrilled that Year 1 at Sparhawk are starting the new year with a new and secure teaching team. Miss Marshall joins Emerald class full-time and Mr Ainley will be working with Mr Seddon in Jade class. I look forward to seeing the children settle and thrive in the coming weeks. Please read below to find out more about how our leaders will be working across schools for the rest of this year.

Coming up this half term we have swimming, life coaching, cross-country and karate at Woodland View, dodgeball and karate at Spixworth Infants and Karate, Police visit and a dentist visit at Sparhawk. Look out for more school specific information on all this and more in the class teacher's newsletters, due in two weeks!

Wishing you all a great half term and just a reminder that, in snowy weather, our schools will be open as long as it is safe for them to be. Should we have heavy snowfall, please listen to updates on local radio or check the Norfolk School closure website: [Emergency Schools Closures - Norfolk County Council](#)

Governing Board

Meet the Governors

Jo Thompson – Co-Chair of Governors



Jo has been a governor for our schools since 2019. She has a firm commitment to our values and worked with passion and professionalism in support of the recent Federation growth. Jo has extensive experience in education and finance and uses these skills through her CARE Federation Governor responsibilities for safeguarding, including attendance and recruitment, and finance.

Individual Schools, Together

Working together is a real strength of our Federation. As a leadership team, we are committed to supporting all three schools to be the best they can be through sharing our expertise and creating opportunities to grow together.

For the remainder of this academic year, Mr Ainley, having returned from his parental leave, will be working across the Federation in his SENDCo role and also teaching two days per week at Sparhawk. Miss Owen will be a familiar face at Sparhawk on Thursdays and Fridays as she supports Mrs Munday with a particular focus on Nursery and Reception. Mrs Jackson will be putting her senior leader qualification to good use as she supports Miss Owen and Mrs Payne in ensuring there is always a senior leader available for the Spixworth schools.

To speak to any of our senior leaders, please just contact the school office and ask for a telephone or face-to-face appointment.

Parent Forum Feedback



It was a pleasure for myself and governor representatives to dedicate some time last half term to meeting and talking to parents from all three schools. We discussed how accessible our schools are, thoughts and plans on improving how we share learning between home and school and a number of other individual suggestions including lunches, Tapestry and timings of meetings. Thank you to those who contributed. All feedback will be reflected on fully and used to support our decision making. Another Parent Forum will be held before Easter. An agenda and ways in which you can contribute will be shared nearer the time.

Attendance



I am thrilled that a total of 256 children received a certificate for achieving over 96% attendance for the Autumn Term! Congratulations to all!

Following National guidance, families whose children did not meet this target were also informed and offered support, if this was needed. We understand that some absence cannot be avoided, but we must ensure you are kept fully informed of your child's attendance information.

For anyone looking to book a holiday this year, please use the following Norfolk School Calendar to ensure you book outside of term time. Thank you.

[Term dates and school holidays 2024-2025 - Norfolk County Council](#)

Safeguarding



Reminder: Our schools are part of Operation Encompass. This means, if the police attend an incident of domestic abuse in a home and a child is present, the school will be informed. This ensures support for the child, and family as appropriate, can be given. During part of our January training day, our teachers and many of our support staff received domestic abuse awareness training. If you ever need a safe place, safe person or simply advice or guidance, please do not hesitate to ask.

You can also call free and in confidence, 24 hours a day: 0808 2000 247

Policies



Where appropriate, our policies are for all schools. Key points from key policies:

Separated Parent policy

We have a Federation Separated Parent Policy that clarifies what is expected from separated parents and what can be expected from our schools. The policy aims for contact with both parents in the best interests of their child/children and covers areas such as court orders and disputes, as well as consent for trips, the release of children and information sharing.

Smoke Free policy

All of our schools, the buildings and grounds are designated no smoking areas. This includes cigarettes and e-cigarettes/vapes. The principles outlined in this policy apply to all staff, pupils, visitors, contractors and parents. Smoking cannabis is also prohibited on school property, although this is covered in the drug and alcohol policy.

Our policies are available on our website or via request from the school office.

Projects



The Reception classes at Sparhawk have had their carpets replaced over Christmas bringing a much needed upgrade to these spaces.

Fencing at Sparhawk will also be upgraded this half term, with new taller fencing between the carpark and Nursery area and new screening along the park fence.

CCTV has been installed at Woodland View and Spixworth Infant.

After an almost 2-year legal battle, the outdoor learning pods at Spixworth and Woodland View will finally begin the process of being made watertight and useable!