

West Sussex County Council
SOUTHBOURNE INFANT SCHOOL
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Headteacher: Mrs. L. Whiffin, BEd (Hons)

Dear parents and carers,

Welcome back to the new school year. It was great to see the children back in school today, looking ready for the new term.

School Timings

A reminder about our new school timings. Children need to be in school for register at 8.45am, classroom doors open at 8.40am. If you arrive after 8.45 you will need to bring your child round to the school office as the school gates will then be locked. Finish time is now 3.15pm. This is a government initiative to ensure all children are getting 32.5 hours of education.

School Logo and Values

Thank you to all parents who returned the questionnaire last term. I really value your comments about your experience of our school. I will continue to gather your views throughout this year. As part of this questionnaire I asked you about our school values and what attributes you felt were most important for children to develop during their time with us. Your comments have been used along with the views of the rest of the school community - staff, children and Governors to create our new school values.

I am now able to share with you our new school logo along with our values logo. The school logo with the school name will eventually be on school uniform and school signs, and our values logo includes our vision statement – Growing happy hearts and minds, and our five new values.



As an infant school we feel we play a huge part in starting children on their educational journey. Our new logo, represented by a tree, is based around the theme of growth and developing strong 'roots' to create lifelong learners. The values are:

Kindness
Independence
Responsibility
Curiosity
Creativity

Growing happy hearts and minds

The top value chosen by the whole school community was **Kindness**. The values **responsibility** and **independence** will enable children to know how to be successful learners. **Curiosity** and **creativity** will be used to further develop an exciting and stimulating curriculum, and ensure children develop a love of learning.

We will begin to embed these new values in school through assemblies and class discussions. Our logo on uniform will not change yet. I am keen to not add any extra financial pressure on families without notice. I will send you further information about the logo changes during this term.

Changes to our behaviour policy

It is good practice to regularly review behaviour policies and procedures within school to keep up to date with current educational research. Following recent training we are adapting our policy to follow an approach created by Paul Dix who is a behaviour specialist. His approach focuses on positive reinforcement, teaching expected behaviours to children and simplifying behaviour management for children and staff. This approach is all about consistency, and it will be developed and used across the whole school.

In the next few weeks I will be able to share with you our new behaviour policy and further detail about this approach.

I want to take this opportunity to welcome Mrs Hannah de Jong as our new assistant head, and early year's leader. Our senior leadership team now consist of Mrs Linda Sherlock, Mrs Hannah de Jong and myself.

Kind regards,

Mrs Lucy Whiffin
Headteacher