

Damson Wood
Nursery and
Infant School

EYFS
Information
Evening

Monday 24th
June 2024



Introductions



**Headteacher:
Mrs E Hume**

Introductions

**Incoming
Headteacher:
Ms S Stevens**



SEND Support at Damson Wood

Miss Hull - Assistant Headteacher and SENCo

- Damson Wood is passionate about being a fully inclusive school where everyone has the opportunity to succeed.
- If you are already aware of any additional needs or medical needs, please share these with us so that we can support your child in their new setting/classroom from September.
- If you have any concerns about your child throughout their time at Damson Wood, please do not hesitate to contact me via the school office so that we can discuss it further.



Mrs White - ASD and Mental Health Lead

Supports children across the school, working in smaller groups or on an individual basis. This may be for planned interventions or 'ad hoc' as required.



Agenda

- Personalised Induction Packs
- The EYFS Team
- The EYFS Curriculum
- School Readiness
- Parent View & Partnership
- Woodies Childcare
- Nursery – Sessions & 30 Hours
- School Meals & Lunchtimes
- Volunteering in School
- Questions



Personalised Induction Packs

- Please return your completed forms to our school office by Monday 1st July.
- If your child is new to Damson Wood, it is a legal requirement for us to see your child's birth certificate or passport.



Welcome Letter

Induction Timetable

Damson Wood Infant School Information

School Aims

Dates for the Academic Year

Useful Information

School Uniform

Woodies

School Attendance

Starting Small

ParentPay

All About Me

Parental Permission Forms

Pupil Data Collection Form

English as an Additional Language

Arrangements for Collection of your Child

Early Years Pupil Premium

Privacy Notice

Home-School Agreement

Information about 30 hours and tax-free childcare

Birth Certificate or Passport Needed



The EYFS Team



The EYFS Team

**Woodies
Wrap Around Care**

Nicola Dredger
Manager

Stella Ward
Deputy Manager

Ash – Nursery

Mrs Morris
Teacher

Mrs Gallehdar
Teaching Assistant

Mrs White
ASD & Mental Health
Lead

Willow – Reception

Mrs Stoneman
Teacher (EYFS Lead)

Mrs Garbett
Teaching Assistant

Mrs Stoneman Reception

I am Willow's class
teacher and EYFS Lead.

I went to Damson Wood
School myself along
time ago and so did my
own two boys. This is
me on my first day aged
4 years old

Here are my two dogs:
Bear and River.
Sometimes, Bear likes to
come to school with me.





Starting at Damson Wood

During the first few days, we have a carefully structured transition timetable.

Parents will not be expected to stay with children. Parents are asked to say goodbye to their children at the door.

Although parting may be hard, the children recover much quicker than you and move on to enjoy the school day! Should children remain distressed for a long period of time, we will phone you. Remember, all children settle differently.

The Early Years Foundation Stage (EYFS) is based on four themes and seven areas of learning.

The four themes are The Unique Child, Positive Relationships, Enabling Environments and Learning and Development.

The three prime areas:

- **Personal, Social and Emotional Development**
- **Communication and Language**
- **Physical Development**

The four specific areas:

- **Mathematics**
- **Literacy**
- **Understanding the World**
- **Expressive Arts and Design**

EYFS Curriculum

A common misconception is that the children are 'only playing' whilst in the Foundation Stage. However, the best Early Years Education is based on the understanding that whilst children are playing, they are learning.

During the day there will be a mixture of adult initiated, child initiated and adult led activities as well as whole class, small group and individual activities. Formal Phonics (Reading), Literacy and Maths sessions take place throughout the week.



Time for Exploration and Play

Children in the EYFS need opportunities to play, explore, experiment and learn in both an indoor and outdoor environment.

At Damson Wood, we, whenever possible, operate a free flow environment of Continuous Provision where children can choose whether to be indoors or outdoors and can move independently between both environments.



A photograph of an outdoor learning area. In the foreground, several large, cut logs are arranged on a bed of mulch. To the left, a red play structure with a white door is visible. In the background, there are green trees, a blue sky, and a building. The text is overlaid on the right side of the image.

Outdoor Learning and Forest School

Both Nursery and Reception have regular Forest School sessions.

They also have their own outdoor areas linked to their classrooms.



Our School Values

Learning and Growing Together

- At Damson Wood we are all...
- **S** – Safe
- **P** – Proud
- **A** – Ambitious
- **R** – Ready
- **K** – Kind
- **S** - Successful

How to be ready for school

Getting into a routine

It can be hard for you and your child to suddenly follow a new routine, especially if you haven't had to before. To make things easier for you both, it can help to start getting into the routine a few weeks ahead. Start with your child having a regular bedtime, so they get used to it. Your child will be more willing to get up and dressed in the morning if they have a good night's sleep.



Independent dressing

It may be faster and less messy to do things for your child, but they learn so much more from being able to do things for themselves.

You can help by:

- Choosing clothes that are easy to get on and off, such as elasticated waist trousers and skirts.
- Buying shoes with Velcro fastenings.
- Ensuring all items of clothing are clearly labelled with their name and that your child can recognise their own name.



The journey to school

- Practicing the journey at the time you will be going helps you plan what time to leave home to get to school on time.
- Arriving in plenty of time helps your child to meet friends and go in together, rather than arriving after everyone is already settled which can be difficult.





Eating

- All children from Reception to Year 2 are offered free school meals, so it is important that you encourage your child to practise feeding themselves as soon as they are ready and to be confident using cutlery.
- If you have a fussy eater at home, don't panic. It has been shown that children who refuse to eat certain foods at home are more likely to try them when at the school dinner table with their friends.

Sharing and turn taking

It is through play that children learn best. By having a wide variety of play activities, children will be able to develop their language, thinking and understanding of the world.

You can support your child by having play dates before they start school in order for them to build their skills and to experience sharing and turn taking.



Toileting and self care

Encouraging children to take care of everyday hygiene routines and to use the toilet, independently helps them to become more independent and self-sufficient.

The expectation is that all children are toilet trained by the time they start school.

Encourage your child to always wash their hands after using the toilet.

If you feel that your child is having difficulties in a specific area, please contact your child's new teacher and we will be happy to advise you and work together with you on any matters.





Singing and looking at books together

Before children begin to read and write, they need lots of experience of talking and looking at the print around them.

Enjoying books is a good start for learning to read.

At school, children listen to stories being read to a group, or to the whole class. They also look at books quietly on their own or with a friend.

At home, you can encourage them to look at books on their own or share books together.

Sing along to favourite songs and number rhymes so that your child can use finger actions.

Most of all praise, your child's mark making (writing or drawing) and listening skills.

Making goodbyes easier

Here are some tips to try and make the experience easier for both of you.

- Arrive early and factor in time to comfort and reassure them before you leave.
- Make the actual 'goodbye' quick, firm and reassuring with no long drawn out returns for "just one more kiss or cuddle". Once you have said goodbye, you really need to leave.
- Children need the reassurance of a familiar, consistent goodbye routine whether that is a kiss or a wave through the window. This signal will help them to cope with the transition of being in your care to being in school care





What should my child bring to school?

- Please send your child in with a book bag and water bottle every day. No other bag is needed.
- P.E. Bags will stay in school and will be sent home each half term holiday to be washed. Only Reception children need a PE Kit
- Boots and waterproof trousers will be needed in Reception for outdoor play and forest school.
- Any medication must be left at the school office where there is a form to complete



Class Dojo

We use Class Dojo to communicate with families and share children's learning and achievements.

Parents will be invited to connect to Dojo so that we can start sharing information and building our relationship with you via messages and 'Class Story'.



School Nursing Team

- If your child is in Nursery, they will still be under the Health Visitor Team.
- From Reception, children are under the School Nursing Team.
- School nurses help children and young people (from school entry to 19 years old) to take responsibility for their own health and to adopt a healthy lifestyle.
- All reception children will receive a comprehensive information pack from the nursing service which includes their service offer and contact details.



School Dinners



All children from Reception to Year 2 are entitled to a free school meal.

Children in Nursery may order a hot school meal for a charge of £2.55.

For the Nursery lunch break, there is an additional charge for childcare. This applies if your child is eating a school dinner or bringing their own packed lunch. This lunchtime session costs £3.30, in addition to the cost of the school meal if required.

There are at least 2 choices each day. Menus are available online and at the school office – they are on a 3-week rotation.

Medical requirements and dietary requirements are taken very seriously – just speak to us!

Woodies Childcare



“All the staff are professional and caring. Woodies is an asset to Damson Wood School” – Parent



“We are more than happy to leave our children at Woodies. Thank you for providing an excellent service.” – Parent

“We choose our own topics and learn new things at Woodies.”



“Children benefit from being able to move from the wraparound care provided as there are close links between the school and Woodies.” – Ofsted

“Woodies provide the children with a wide range of activities to engage in.” – Parent

Nursery - Sessions

- The Nursery day is from 8.45am – 3.15pm
- Nursery lunchtime is from 11.45am – 12.15pm
- All children in Nursery are entitled to 15 hours universal free provision.
- These core hours will be allocated as:
 - Mornings only (8.45am – 11.45am)
- Some children may do more than 15 hours.
- Some children are eligible for up to 30 hours free childcare (see the following slide) or you may choose for your child to be in Nursery for additional hours above their core 15. An afternoon session; costs £18.70 (plus lunch cover = £22.00)
- If your child is staying for any full days, they will be cared for by specialist childcare staff for the 30 minute lunch break. Like many other Nursery settings, there is a charge for this time; £3.30.



Nursery - 30 Hours

- We offer up to 30 hours childcare provision within our school Nursery, and with the support of Woodies Childcare.
- Some working families are eligible for this childcare to be funded, otherwise, any additional hours can be paid for.
- Most families opt to claim these hours within the school day but Woodies Childcare can be flexible in the way these hours are used, e.g. including before and after school.
- Visit www.childcarechoices.gov.uk to check eligibility for 30 hours childcare or tax free childcare.
- Please contact Nicola Dredger or the school office to discuss your 30 hour childcare requirements.



Attendance

- Every day at school is important for your child's social and educational development.
- Research shows that children who attend school more regularly achieve greater success.
- We expect children to arrive promptly at 8.45am ready to learn.
- We understand that family time, including holidays are very special.
- There are at least 175 days per year when your child is not expected to be in school!
- Holidays in term time cannot be authorised.
- Please check our school's term dates carefully before booking any trips or visits. Do not book any trips or visits during term time.
- For children aged 5 and over, 10 sessions (equivalent to 5 days) of unauthorised absence within a 10 week period can lead to a £160 fine per parent per child.





Volunteering in School

- We are pleased to welcome volunteers into school to help with reading, Forest School, or other activities.
- There may be occasions where we need volunteers for a special event or school trip.
- We also welcome volunteers to support our fundraising events such as the Summer and Christmas Fairs, discos and other events.
- All volunteers at Damson Wood require an Enhanced DBS check for safeguarding reasons.
- Please contact our school office if you are interested in volunteering at Damson Wood.
- Thank you in advance for your support!

The image shows three young girls with blonde hair, wearing red and white checkered dresses, sitting outdoors. They are smiling and waving. The background features a green fence and trees. The word "Questions" is written in a cursive font in the upper right corner.

Questions

- Please send any questions to

office@damson-wood.solihull.sch.uk