



# Gentleshaw Primary Academy

5th September 2023

## Welcome to 2023 - 2024

Dear Parents/Carers,

Welcome back after the summer break and to the 2023 – 2024 academic year. The children have entered school with enthusiasm today – the sunshine has definitely added to the excitement! Our reception and nursery pupils have settled into their first sessions quickly and we are delighted to have these new members of Team Gentleshaw. I would like to welcome all of the new families to our Gentleshaw Primary community.

We have planned an exciting start to the academic year and this week the work in years 1 – 6 has a focus upon all things Spanish. This seems particularly fitting with the World Cup win over the summer! This Friday children in years 1 - 6 are invited to wear clothing with a Spanish link. It may be a colour from the flag, a sports kit from a Spanish team or something they have decorated.

Next week we will be sharing a list of key dates for the term. We always work to ensure that information regarding dates and events is given at the earliest possible opportunity, however some dates and events cannot be planned as far in advance as others. If you have any questions or queries do not hesitate to contact the school office or ask a member of staff.

In addition to the key dates, a letter regarding free school meals will be shared with you by email this week. It is very important to the academy that if you are in receipt of ANY of the benefits or tax credits listed, you apply through the methods outlined. By registering in this way, the school will receive additional funding to further impact school life and your child will also receive additional financial support during their time in school. This funding has a positive impact upon your child's provision. The application process is very quick and simple but if you require any further assistance, or for us to do this on your behalf, then please do not hesitate to contact our academy office.

Below is some key information which we kindly ask you to read carefully.

Thank you for your continued support, we look forward to working in partnership with you over the next academic year.

Yours sincerely

***Genevieve Saunders***

Headteacher

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# Key Information

## End of Day

YEAR GROUPS	COLLECTION TIME	COLLECTION POINT
1 & 2	3.10pm	Children will be released from the playground.
3	3.15pm	Children will be released from the classroom door.
4	3.15pm	Children will be released from the quad (the area before the steps onto the playground). Parents can wait in this area.
5	3.20pm	Children will still be released from the classroom door. Parents can wait on the school grounds to collect.
6	3.20pm	Children will be released from the quad (the area before the steps onto the playground). Parents can wait in this area.

**Collection Tuck & Lunches** Tuck should be ordered by pupils on a Monday ready for the whole week. Tuck items remain 25p for: toast, fruit toast, juice, milk and fruit and 50p for pancakes (only on a Tuesday) and croissants/pain au chocolat (only on a Friday). School dinners are free for children in reception, year 1 and year 2. For children in nursery, year 3, 4, 5 and 6 the charge is £2.60. Payment is made via School Money for lunch and tuck and dinner menus can be found on the academy website.

**Walking Home** The safety of our children is always paramount. If you would like your child to walk home from school alone, please ensure that you have called or emailed the academy office in order to give permission. We will not be able to allow children to walk home without the office receiving permission. In addition, if another adult is collecting your child from school, please ensure that the class teacher or office have been informed.

**Photographs** If you do not wish for your child's photograph to be shared on our Twitter account, school website or in the local press, please ensure that class teachers and the school office have been informed. Although permission is requested upon starting school, we are aware that situations can change.

**Uniform** Our pupils all arrived at school looking incredibly smart this week. In order to ensure that all children go home with exactly what they came to school with, please clearly label **all** items and belongings. We ask that long hair is tied back and that other than stud earrings, jewellery should not be worn to school. Each term our lost property is full and this could be prevented if names were on belongings. Please be reminded that children should not bring pencil cases to school.

**Punctuality** Teachers work hard in order to ensure that valuable learning takes place from the start of the day. Children in years 1 - 6 can enter school between 8.40am and 8.55am. We encourage all pupils to be as close to 8.40am as possible. Please remember that children in years 1 - 6 arriving after 8.55am will need to enter school using the main entrance. In addition, children will not be able to enter the academy before 8.40am unless attending Squirrels.

Please be aware of your child's collection time and we ask that you are mindful that often staff have meetings and staff training to attend straight after school. Children that are not collected on time may be placed in Squirrels and incur a cost. We fully appreciate that unforeseen circumstances occur, therefore if you are running unexpectedly late, please contact the school office in order for arrangements to be made.

**Parking** The safety and wellbeing of our pupils, parents and visitors is paramount. Please be aware of this when dropping off or collecting children from school by car. Unfortunately, parking space is scarce around school, however the Village Hall kindly allow parents to use their carpark during the start and end of the school day.

**Medicines** At no time should children carry any medicine on their person or in school bags. If your child requires medication such as an inhaler or antibiotics, please contact the academy office immediately so that we can collate an appropriate plan. If you have any additional medical needs or questions about administering medicines, please contact the academy office.