



WOODLANDS

SCHOOL

ASPIRATION, RESILIENCE, OPPORTUNITY, EXCELLENCE

Woodlands Welcomes You!

Taster Day Information

Monday 28th June

and

Tuesday 29th June 2021



Dear New Starter,

May I take this opportunity to warmly welcome you to Woodlands School, we are very pleased to have you with us.

Throughout the Taster Days I ask that you embrace what we stand for:



Aspiration, Resilience, Opportunity, Excellence

You can achieve anything with this in mind. Start as you mean to go on and have a wonderful two days with us.

Listen, try your best and never give up.

Mr D Wright
Head Teacher

Dear Year 6,

Welcome to Woodlands Taster Days,
I really hope you enjoy them.

Our aims for the 2 days are that you
enjoy your lessons and start to feel a
part of the Woodlands community.



Please do ask if you have any questions.

There are lots of extra-curricular clubs for you to get
involved with, so take up as many opportunities as you can.

Myself and all the staff here are looking forward to meeting
you.

Mrs N Wykes
Head of Year 7

Dear Year 6,

It has been really interesting to catch up with all of your primary school teachers recently, they have all spoken so highly of you all and I am excited for you to join us here at Woodlands School.



I hope the Taster Days bring an insight to life at Woodlands and get you enthusiastic to start in September. Embrace all the opportunities available over the next few weeks, enjoy your last few weeks at Primary School and be ready to start a new chapter here with us.

Please do not hesitate to ask me any questions about joining Woodlands, I am here to help.

Best wishes

Mrs L Atkinson
Head of Primary Transition



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My Name is _____

Over the two days you will have different lessons, generally to get a taste of life at Woodlands School.

The lessons will be an introduction to the types of lessons and the contents you will receive when you join us in September.

Our new Woodlands' Prefects will take you to and from all lessons on your first day so don't worry, you won't get lost.

ENJOY YOUR DAYS!



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Monday 28th June

The programme for your Taster Day is as follows:-

| Timings | Activity |
|---------|--|
| 8:40am | Welcome Assembly – DWT/ NWY / LAT |
| 9.00am | Lesson 1-Groups 1- 6 – PE Groups 7 – 12 - Maths |
| 10.00am | Lesson 2 – Groups 1- 6 – AROE Groups 7 – 12 - Humanities |
| 11.00am | Break Time @ All Weather Pitch |
| 11:20am | Lesson 3- Groups 1- 6 – Science Groups 7 – 12 - English |
| 12:20pm | Lesson 4 – Groups 1- 6 – English Groups 7 – 12 - Science |
| 1:10pm | Lunch time @ All Weather Pitch |
| 2:00pm | Lesson 5 – Groups 1- 6 – Humanities Groups 7 – 12 - MFL |
| 3:00pm | Leaving Assembly |
| 6:00pm | Parents/Carers New Intake Evening Group 1-6 presentation followed by meet your tutor |

NEW INTAKE EVENING: Monday 28th June 2021 at 6:00pm.

Presentation by Mr Wright, Head Teacher and Mrs Wykes, Head of Year 7 and a chance to meet your form tutor for **Pupil Groups 1-6**

Tuesday 29th June

The programme for your Taster Day is as follows:-

| Timings | Activity |
|---------|---|
| 8:40am | Welcome Assembly – DWT/ NWY / LAT |
| 9.00am | Lesson 1-Groups 1- 6 – Science Groups 7 – 12 – AROE |
| 10.00am | Lesson 2 – Groups 1- 6 – English Groups 7 – 12 - Maths |
| 11.00am | Break Time @ All Weather Pitch |
| 11:20am | Lesson 3- Groups 1- 6 – Maths Groups 7 – 12 - Science |
| 12:20pm | Lesson 4 – Groups 1- 6 – Creative Arts & Technology Groups 7 – 12 – Creative Arts & Technology |
| 1:10pm | Lunch time @ All Weather Pitch |
| 2:00pm | Lesson 5 – Groups 1- 6 –MFL Groups 7 – 12 - Humanities |
| 3:00pm | Leaving Assembly |
| 6:00pm | Parents/Carers New Intake Evening Group 7-12 presentation followed by meet your tutor |

NEW INTAKE EVENING: Tuesday 29th June 2021 at 6:00pm.

Presentation by Mr Wright, Head Teacher and Mrs Wykes, Head of Year 7 and a chance to meet your form tutor for **Pupil Groups 7-12**



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Due to current restrictions, what we expect of you:

- You arrive at 8:40am and go straight into the performance Hall and sit in your group allocated places.
(You can find this on your letter, you must either bring in your letter or remember your group number for both days)
- You will be escorted throughout the day via our one way system by our Year 11 Prefects in your group bubble.
- You will be asked to sanitize and wipe down your desk and chair that you worked at, and also your hands on arrival and exit from each classroom.
- When you use the toilet, please wash your hands before and after, using hot water and soap for a minimum of 20 seconds.
- Once you have your lunch you will be asked to eat this on the All Weather Pitch area. If you have a school lunch, collect your food and walk directly to the All Weather Pitch, if packed lunch then please walk directly to the All Weather Pitch (Year 11 Prefects and staff will guide you).
- You cannot socialise with any other year group so we keep all Year bubbles secure.
- We will ask your parents/carers to drop you off and collect you from the gates so we do not mix any bubbles.

Teachers will be taking seating plans for each of your lessons and wearing a face mask if they come to help or talk to you.

Subjects:

On the next few pages you will find information about some of the lessons you will take at Woodlands - some you will know and others will be an adventure into the unknown!

English: Enjoy your English work through reading, writing, acting, poems, plays and stories. Discover your own and new worlds through books, cultures and experiences.

Mathematics: Ever wanted to work with money, be a games designer, work in construction, be a pilot, work in the fashion industry, be a beautician, become a teacher shall we go on? If so then you will learn the skills you need in Maths at Woodlands! Remember Maths is not just about numbers and that your teachers are here to help you every step of the way.

Computer Science: You will almost certainly have used computers in your present school to support you with your learning. At Woodlands School you will use computers in lots of subjects, but you will also have one lesson of Computer Science every week. In these lessons you will develop your Computer Science 'capability' through learning HTML, Light bot, Scratch, Computer Systems and taking part in practical computing tasks using Raspberry Pi's/ Micro bit's and Robotics.

PE: Get into sports like Football, Netball, Rugby, Cricket, Basketball, Athletics and Rounders. There are lots of clubs and activities before school, at lunchtimes and after school. Woodlands has school teams for all sports, they play matches against other Basildon, Wickford and Billericay Schools, we also enter county and national competitions. Information is on the notice boards outside the PE Office.

Designing the Built Environment: Everything around you has been designed by someone, in your Product Design lessons you will learn how designers work through the design process. We will look at developing your research and design skills, and look at why designers choose certain materials and manufacturing processes based on their environmental impact. You will have one hour a week of Product Design, the lessons will be a combination of research, designing and manufacturing.

Geography: Geography is an investigation of the world around you. In Year 7 you will learn new Geographical skills such as map reading and investigation skills. You will get the opportunity to explore both local and global places. You will also get to explore, weather and climate, coasts, and hurricanes, as well as learning about human topics such as the world's growing population

History: In Year 7 pupils will study medieval England and Europe from 1066-1500, working on topics such as the Norman Conquest and life under William the Conqueror, the Tudors and the Stuarts. Pupils will also study Elizabethan England to prepare them for the skills and knowledge necessary to excel in GCSE History.

Modern Languages: All pupils will learn 2 Modern Languages in Year 7 by listening to and speaking French, German or Spanish in everyday situations, based on: the family, things you like doing, pets, numbers, finding your way, dates, mealtimes and leisure activities

... Bonne Chance! Viel Glück! Buena Suerte!

Music: For Music in Year 7 pupils will be covering a wide range of topics, learning a selection of skills / techniques through a varied array of genres and cultures. You'll get the opportunity to experience Piano Performance, Rock Band, Music Technology, Composition and African Drumming!

Drama: Drama will teach you the skills to be able to communicate effectively to an audience and to your peers. Drama offers a fun and exciting series of lessons looking at Silent movies and comedy throughout year 7 as well as creating a theatre in education performance that will look at a social issue. We look forward to teaching you very soon in an engaging and interactive way.

Art: You will have the chance to look at many artists and cultures in order to develop your ideas and creative skills, exploring many art disciplines such as drawing, painting, sculpture, ICT, printmaking and photography.

Science: In Science we study about the world around us. Here at Woodlands School, you will have Science lessons 3 times in a week and it comprises of Biology, Chemistry and Physics. Science is a practical subject so you will learn as a team and independently. You will learn about safely use of science equipment's in the laboratory in the first few weeks by making good use of your observational skills, describing and carrying out scientific investigation. We have a lot of extra-curricular clubs in Science such as STEM and Science club. Come and have fun with US!



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AROE: (PSHRE) Lessons will take place on a weekly basis to learn about our core values of Aspiration, Resilience, Opportunity and Excellence. Pupils will have the opportunity to develop their knowledge and understanding of a broad range of topics which include Religious Education, Relationships, Well-being, Physical and Mental Health and Employability. Each lesson will be different and offer you many opportunities to debate and share your views, you will learn skills that will help you to be successful in life.

~ Group Tutor ~

Your tutor is eager to meet you all before September, you can meet your tutor during the New Intake evenings. When you come to Woodlands you will meet Woodlands teachers and the other people in your year group.

My Group is.....

In September you will be given a personal timetable and tutor group. You may have the same tutor for your whole time at Woodlands. They will get to know you very well and will help you to be happy and successful at school.

There will be children from lots of different schools coming to Woodlands, so you will make lots of new friends as well as having plenty of opportunities to see your old friends.

Frequently Asked Questions:

What do you get for lunch? Is it true you get pizza?

Yes we do serve pizza EVERYDAY, alongside hotdogs, pasta sandwiches and roast dinners.

Is it true if you get to the back of the line you won't eat?

No this is not true, there is always plenty for food for all and it takes about 6mins from back of the line to checkout.

Is it true you have a thumb lazor?

We have contactless system that scans your thumbprint. Pay by Thumb. Please keep account topped up!

Do you sell fizzy drinks like coke?

No and the school rules do not permit fizzy or energy drinks on site.

Can we play football at lunchtime?

Yes and Year 7 have the netball court area to themselves to socialise with friends.

Will I get to see my friends from Primary school?

Yes at break times, lessons you work with others at similar academic level. You have a personalised timetable. This is a great chance to make new friends.

How many children are coming to Woodlands?

You will have 300 in Year 7 and there is just under 1600 in the whole school.

How many adults work at Woodlands?

There is roughly 300 members of staff whom work in all areas of the school, there is always someone happy to help.

Will I be able to find the toilets ok?

Yes there are toilets on every floor and in every corridor. These are for use between lessons and at break and lunchtime, not lesson time (unless you have a medical condition).

Is it true we get a lot of homework?

You will get homework from each subject every week.

What happens if you don't complete homework?

If you do not have a valid reason for non-completion of homework then detentions will be set and parent/carers informed.

How long is a detention?

Detentions can vary from 10 minutes to 2 hours depending on the issues.

What can you get a detention for?

Lack of homework, poor behaviour, late to school.

Can I wear Black trainers?

NO.

Can I take my blazer off?

Not without asking your teacher first and place back on when moving around the school.

Can I bike to school?

Yes, once you have completed the Bikeability training.

Can I bring/use my mobile phone or IPAD?

You can bring your mobile but it is only to be used outside of the building and not visible in the building. Woodlands do not accept responsibility if items are lost, stolen or broken. We do not recommend Ipads to be in school.

Can I ring my mum from school?

Pupil Services or Head of Year will support you if you need to contact home.

Will I get lost in such a big building?

No lots of people to help show you around.

What time does school open and close?

Breakfast club starts at 7:20am , you can buy breakfast from our counter from 7:30am. Tutor time starts at 8:40am and school finishes at 3.00pm. The building is closed at 3:20pm unless you are attending extra-curricular clubs.

Who can I talk to about my problems?

Head of Year/tutor in the first instance, there are lots of other teams to support you, depending on the issues/ problem.

Hints & Tips

Woodlands is MUCH BIGGER than your Junior School, you will need to be organised and have ALL the correct books and equipment for each day.

1. Pack your bag the night before.
2. Lay out your uniform ready for the next day.
3. Is YOUR NAME on everything?
4. Bring:- PEN, PENCIL, RUBBER, RULER, COLOURED PENCILS.
5. You also need a pocket dictionary, thesaurus and simple calculator.
6. Know that you can achieve anything you put your mind to!

...AND A WATERPROOF BAG
TO PUT EVERYTHING IN

Read what Woodlands' pupils have to say about discipline and standards at Woodlands

*The standards are
very
high, just do your
best
and you'll get along
fine
at
Woodlands*

Aspiration
RESILIENCE
Opportunities
EXCELLENCE

*I think the
discipline is good
at Woodlands*

*The staff
make
all the
lessons
really
interesting*

*The teachers
make
you work hard,
but
they are pretty
fair*



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Homework

You will have homework set every night via RAW Knowledge which is a computer quizzing programme designed specifically to help you with the subjects and topics in which you struggle (don't worry, we will show you how to use the programme when you start with us). All of your subjects will be divided in to three groups and you will have to complete three quizzing targets per day. Try to work in a quiet place and if you have any problems with your homework.....ASK for help. Don't just get in a muddle or worry yourself into a little heap! ICT facilities will be made available before school, at lunchtime and afterschool if you would prefer to complete your home learning on school site. There is also Breakfast Club.

Presentation of Work

All work needs to have a date, a title that is underlined and C/W(classwork) or H/W (homework) at the top. At Woodlands, the presentation of work is important, it shows that you are proud of your work... do YOUR best at all times, whatever your ability.

We have a Code of Conduct and an Anti-Bullying Policy at Woodlands to make things pleasant for everyone.

We believe that everyone should have **RESPECT** for themselves, others and the school environment.

BULLYING IS NOT TOLERATED AT WOODLANDS

If you are made to feel ashamed/unhappy/afraid you should speak to your group tutor, Head of Year or one of our trained Anti-Bullying Ambassadors. You can also use the Anti-Bullying textline: 07519 361717.

Our Anti-Bullying Lead is Mr Druce.



You can complete this Checklist before starting in September:

Have you got your full uniform? _____

Have you got the correct PE kit? _____

Have you got your writing and drawing equipment? _____

Have you got a suitable school bag? _____

Who is the Head of Year 7? _____

Who is your form tutor? _____

Who is the Anti-Bullying Lead? _____

What is the Head Teacher's name? _____

What are the names of the Deputy Head Teachers? _____

What is the School moto? _____

NEW INTAKE EVENING: Monday 28th and Tuesday 29th June 2021 at 6:00pm.

Presentation from Mr Wright, Head Teacher and Mrs Wykes, Head of Year 7 and meet your form tutor (Groups 1-6 on 28th June and Groups 7-12 on 29th June)

When you and your parents/carers will be given information and any questions answered by Mr Wright or Mrs Wykes or form tutor.

THE FIRST DAY: Thursday 2nd September* 2021 - Year 7 pupils and Year 11 Prefects only at 8.40am in the Performance Hall.

Friday 3rd September 2021* - Whole school return for Autumn Term.

Further details of all these events will be sent to you.

(* dates may be subject to change due to the current circumstances)

Aspiration
Resilience
Opportunities
Excellence