

Welcome to Whitestone Infant School

Dear Parents

Welcome to Whitestone Infant School and thank you so much for your interest in our school.

Whitestone is a warm, caring, family-orientated community housed in a well-resourced learning environment, which incorporates purposeful indoor and outdoor areas. The latest innovations in information technology are embraced as we seek to enrich learning, provide opportunities for challenge and promote inclusion.

As a team we constantly strive to achieve the very best for you and your child to create successful and happy children, with well-being at the heart of everything we do. Education is a partnership between home and school and we place a great deal of emphasis on our relationship with parents. We believe that children learn best when we work together for their benefit.

We hope that this brochure gives you a flavour of what our wonderful school has to offer, and that we will see you at one of our open sessions where you will see the school in action and understand what we are all about, but if you have any questions in the meantime please contact the school office.

Best regards

Nicola Green (Headteacher & Designated Safeguarding Lead)

Governors

LA Governor Mr P Johnson (Safeguarding Governor)	Co-opted Governors Mr D Robinson (Chair & SEND Governor) Mrs R Warwick (Co-opted & English Governor) Mr M Hartopp (Prevent Governor) Mr Shaw (Pupil Premium, Co-opted Governor) Mr P Stokes (H&S Co-opted Governor) Dr Simon Hill (Online Safety & Co-opted Governor) Mrs Emma Johnson (Co-opted Governor) Mrs Sally Farmer (SEND & Co-opted Governor)	Staff Governor Mrs K Ford-Lings Clerk Ms G Matt Observer Mrs J Webster (Deputy) Headteacher Mrs N Green
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Board of Governors

The Board of Governors at Whitestone play an important role and have considerable responsibility in setting the strategic direction of the school along with the Head Teacher and schools senior leadership team. Governors do not manage schools, this is the role of the Head Teacher and senior leadership team, but we do oversee the development of the school, the main aim of which is always to provide a high standard of education for all pupils of all abilities.

The governing body has three main roles:

- provide a strategic view of where the school is heading. This is done by reviewing and agreeing policies, targets and priorities and monitoring and reviewing aims and objectives.
- act as a critical friend to the school. The governing body works with the Head Teacher to create a clear understanding of the challenges faced in managing the school. The governing body should feel able to question and challenge and this is achieved through trust and mutual respect.
- hold the school to account for the educational standards it achieves and the quality of education it provides. The governing body uses its collective skills to benefit the children, by gathering views and asking questions to determine what is best for the school.

The Governing board boasts a variety of skills and backgrounds that provide the school with a wide range of expertise and support. What unifies us is our strong commitment to the schools' vision and ethos of "hand in hand we learn". The governors are a mixture of parent governors, school staff, co-opted governors and local council representatives. Parent Governors have a child in school, and join the governing body after going through an interview process. We meet every half-term to discuss the work of the school and look at where we are going and how we can make improvements.

The governors visit the school throughout the year and most have a link to specific subjects such as Special Educational Needs, Finance, ICT and Safeguarding. This is an important opportunity to see the school in action and governors enjoy the chance to meet staff and children and learn about what makes our school special.

As Chairman of the Governing Board, I know that our amazing school is achieving the highest standards for all our children. It is also clearly evident that all the Governors, staff and children feel proud to be part of our school and this is represented in everything that they do.

If you are interested in becoming a Governor, the Head teacher will be pleased to provide further details.

D Robinson

Our School

Whitestone is a three-form entry Infant School for 4-7 year olds. Our published admission number each year is 90 and children work in single aged classes of 30 pupils. There are nine classes within the school with a maximum of 270 children on roll.

The school building is of semi-open plan design in the Foundation Stage, with more traditional classrooms in Key Stage 1. All teaching and learning environments are positioned around the school hall and large central courtyard.

In addition we offer:

- * A safe and secure site
- * A warm and welcoming lobby with a digital display screen
- * A large sports field to the rear of the school & two playgrounds for the Foundation Stage and Key Stage 1
- * Spacious classrooms all with direct access to outdoor learning areas (two with private courtyards)
- * A vibrant school library & inspirational Woodlands Library Bus
- * Wireless internet access across the whole school with teaching laptops in all classrooms and two sets of mini iPads for pupil use, along with a set of chrome books
- * Interactive Whiteboards in all classrooms/FS units
- * * Two accessible toilets and a shower
- * Two large outdoor classrooms in Reception & Year 1
- * An environmental area - Eco-garden & spinney
- * Owl's Nest nurture room & Owllet's Sanctuary sensory learning space

- * The Snowy Owl Room used by our Parent Support Advisor
- * The Wings Well-Being Room used by our SENDCo
- * The Barn Owl Group Room for additional support groups
- * 3 further rooms in additional mobile buildings to the rear of the school for focused group teaching and learning activities
- * Adventure equipment: Castle, Tyre Parks & Trim Trail
- * Various outdoor seating areas, as well as a story telling area
- * Cycle shelters on each playground

Please note for the safety of our children, our school premises are a non-smoking campus. We also request that no dogs other than assistance dogs are brought onto the school site except with the permission of the Headteacher.

Safeguarding

This school is committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children and young people and expects all staff, volunteers and parents to share this commitment. Refer to WIS Child Protection & Safeguarding Policy on the website. Whitestone is an Operation Encompass School.

Medicines in School

If your child needs to take medicine during the school day, you will need to call into the school office to complete a Medication Consent form. Please note that we are only able to administer medication prescribed by your family doctor (to be taken **more than** 3 times per day).

Admissions

Children with a Statement of Special Educational Needs or an Educational Health Care (EHC) Plan that names a school will be admitted first.

The current Standard Number for admissions is 90 per Year group. If there are more applications than places for the school we offer places following this order of invitation:

- 1 children in the care of, or provided with accommodation by a Local Authority and children who were looked after, but ceased to be so because they were adopted (or became subject to a residence order or special guardianship order).
- 2 children living in the school's priority area with a sibling at the school at the time of admission.
- 3 children living in the priority area with a sibling at the partner junior school at the time of admission
- 4 other children living in the priority area.
- 5 children outside the priority area with a sibling at school at the time of admission.
- 6 children outside the priority area with a sibling at the partner junior school at the time of admission.
- 7 other children living outside the priority area.

The priority area for entrance to the school is area to south of Eastboro Way and east of the railway line along the railway line to the Ashby Canal, Lutterworth Road, and estates north of Lutterworth Road (including Crowhill area). For county admissions apply online at:

www.warwickshire.gov.uk/admissions

Admissions Procedure Parents are welcome to look round school and express interest at any time before admission. Applications for the next school year need to be made centrally with County and they will send out offers of places in April each year. This date has been stated by Warwickshire Ed. Dept.

- ☺ We will admit children to the Reception class in the Autumn Term after their fourth birthday. (A child is of compulsory school age from the term following their fifth birthday.)
- ☺ Parents can request that the date their child is admitted to school is deferred until later in the year or until the term in which the child reaches compulsory school age.
- ☺ Parents can request that their child takes up the place part-time until the child reaches compulsory school age.
- ☺ We will invite all parents of children to be admitted to school in September to a meeting with the Headteacher and staff during the Summer term. The children will be introduced to their new class teacher during our Summer term induction activities prior to joining the school. The children start school in small groups during the first few weeks of the autumn term so that they have time to get to know their teacher and one another in a relaxed and secure way.

In-year Admissions Where places are available children are admitted into the appropriate age group after a pre-arranged visit. Parents and children meet the Headteacher and tour the school. The child is introduced to the children in their new class and relevant teacher. Please note all applications for in-year admission must be made via the Local Authority.

Equal Opportunities All children are welcome to apply for admission to Whitestone Infant School, irrespective of race or gender. Any special arrangements necessary because of physical disability should be discussed with the Headteacher, and will not affect admission to the school.

Staff 2025/26

The leadership team:

Mrs N Green (Designated Safeguarding Lead & Designated Teacher for Children who are Looked After) Headteacher

Mrs J Webster (Safeguarding Officer & SENDCo)

Deputy Headteacher

The senior leadership team:

This consists of the Headteacher, the deputy Headteacher (& Year 2 Senior Teacher), Mrs Hill (Reading Leader & Year 1 Senior Teacher) & Mrs Kilburn (SENDCo)

<p>The teaching team:</p> <p>Reception: Class 1 Mrs K Ford-Lings Class 2 Miss B Sweet Class 3 Miss H Pemberton</p> <p>KeyStage 1: Mrs S Kilburn (SENDCo & Safeguarding Officer) Mrs A Mistry Miss H Yeomans Mrs P Hill Mrs K Gamblin Mrs K St-Denis Mrs J Webster (SENDCo) Mrs C Stubbs</p>	<p>Our teaching assistants:</p> <p>Reception: Mrs S Groom Mrs L Shepherd Mrs V Rampton</p> <p>Key Stage 1: Mrs S Murray Mrs Bennett Mrs E King Miss K Holmes Mrs L Anstey Mrs J Fendell Mrs Y Proudlock</p> <p>Pastoral Support: Mrs C Mathieson</p> <p>Support Teaching Assistants: Mrs A Hurst, Mrs R Wechter, Mrs T Stock, Mrs P Jones Miss K Booth, Mrs M Pratt & Mrs L Dixon</p>
<p>Parent Support Advisor: Miss S Johnson</p> <p>The administrative team: Mrs L Knox (School Business Manager) Mrs S Hewitt (Senior Administrator)</p> <p>The premises team:</p> <p>Caretaker: Mr C Towers</p> <p>Cleaners: Mrs T Owens Miss J Farndon Mrs S Turner</p>	<p>The midday supervision team: Mrs P Jones Mrs J Fendell Mrs T Owens Miss J Farndon Miss K Booth Mrs L Shepherd Mrs S Turner Mrs K Jacobs Miss K Holmes Mrs A Norman Mrs E King Mrs A Hurst Mrs R Wechter</p>

We also have a large number of dedicated volunteers who make a valued contribution to the school and provide fantastic continued support.

Everyday life at Whitestone

All classes start and finish school at the same time.

Start of day 8.40am – line at Class number (KS1)

End of day 3.10pm – collect from classroom

The children are collected from the playground and welcomed into the classroom using a greeting of their choice. There is time for parents to speak informally to the teacher. Parents are still welcome to make an appointment to visit the classroom and speak to the teacher when necessary. Children have the chance to settle quietly for registration and to organise themselves for the learning of the day.

Playground gates will open at 8.30am. The outdoor play equipment is not to be used before or after school, rather only during school times under the supervision of school staff. The school cannot be held liable in the event of an accident.

School Uniform

Uniform is worn at Whitestone to develop a sense of pride in being a member of the Whitestone Infant School community. Please ensure ALL ITEMS ARE CLEARLY NAMED.

- A white polo shirt bearing the school logo if preferred, worn with a grey skirt or grey/black trousers.
- A red jumper, cardigan or sweatshirt bearing the school logo if preferred.
- In summer, many children choose to wear red and white striped or checked dresses with a red cardigan or short black or grey trousers.
- Grey or black sensible school shoes.

Hairstyling

All shoulder length/long hair must be tied back using a hair band or bobble. We request that patterns are not shaved into the head as this is inappropriate for school.

Jewellery

For safety reasons jewellery must not be worn to school. If your child has pierced ears, small studs are permitted, however these must be removed by the child for PE in line with the County Council regulations. If the children cannot remove earrings themselves, the studs will be covered with tape during PE lessons. Children who wear watches must take full responsibility for them. SMART watches are NOT permitted.

P.E. Clothing

Black/navy shorts and white t-shirts are fine for indoor PE but when the children go outdoors they will definitely need a black/navy jogging suit for colder weather. Some indoor lessons are done in bare feet but children will need a pair of black slip on pumps for other lessons. Pumps or trainers will always be needed for outdoors. **PLEASE NAME ALL FOOTWEAR AND CLOTHING.** Children should arrive at school wearing their kit on their designated PE days.

Personal belongings

Children may not bring valuable personal items to school, as staff cannot be held responsible for them. Children are expected to take responsibility for their own school equipment, which must be named.

School Meals

The school has a full cooking kitchen, serving nutritionally balanced school meals which are prepared and cooked on site. All children can benefit from the Universal Infant Free School Meal entitlement saving parents over £380 per child, per year. Whilst the vast majority of the children take up the free school meal option, pupils can also choose to have homemade cold packed lunches if they so wish, however these do need to be healthy and must not include sweets or any drinks in cans or glass bottles as we are a Healthy School. The children all eat together in the main hall.

Money

Parents may pay monies electronically via the payments/shop facility on Parent Mail.

Charging for School Activities

The school governors agree that, as far as possible, education provided during normal school hours should be free of charge to parents. They believe that no pupil should be excluded from an activity provided by the school because of an inability or unwillingness to pay on the part of the parent or carer. The governors also realise, however, that many activities, in and out of school, which are intended to extend and enhance learning opportunities, will only take place if parents willingly contribute towards the cost. The governors will, therefore, support reasonable requests from the school for voluntary contributions, providing the requests comply with the requirements of the Education Reform Act and the guidance in DCSF circular 2/89.

The type of request for which parents may be asked to make voluntary contributions are:

- Transport and other incidental costs associated with activities in school time.
- Costs of visits to venues which can enhance the work associated with the curriculum, or improve pupils' opportunities.
- The cost of materials or ingredients when necessary for use in cooking, Design Technology etc.
- The cost of purchasing additional pieces of equipment for use by the pupils.

Where activities are organised outside normal school hours, charges will be made.

Water Bottles

Children are encouraged to bring a NAMED bottle of plain water only from home on a daily basis. Bottles can be refilled during the school day. Please note flavoured waters and other drinks are not allowed in classrooms.

We recommend that all water bottles are taken home to be cleaned on a daily basis.

Fruit

The County Council provide every infant child with a piece of fruit each day. Children may bring a piece of fruit from home if preferred. Please note: grapes must be cut into small pieces.

Learning through the ages

Foundation Stage Reception Classes (4-5 year olds)

The Foundation Stage makes a crucial contribution to children's early development and learning. We provide children with a rich variety of teaching and learning experiences that are appropriate to their needs. The Foundation Stage is about developing key learning skills; as listening, speaking, concentrating, persistence and learning to work and co-operate with others.

The Early Years Foundation Stage incorporates 3 prime areas and 4 specific areas of learning and development.

The prime areas are:

- * Communication and language
- * Physical development
- * Personal, social and emotional development

The specific areas are:

- * Literacy
- * Mathematics
- * Understanding the world
- * Expressive arts and design

The outdoor environment is also a special part of the Foundation Stage curriculum. As such it is carefully planned for and available each day. The reception class have their own specially equipped outdoor area which is planned for and is in continuous use.

Key Stage 1 (ages 5-7) which is Years 1 and 2

Whitestone offers a well-balanced curriculum which promotes the spiritual, moral, cultural, mental and physical development of all pupils.

The core curriculum at Key Stage 1 comprises:

- * English
- * Mathematics
- * Science

Children also study the subjects below as part of the National Curriculum. These are called Foundation Subjects:

- * Art and Design
- * Computing
- * Design and Technology (DT)
- * Geography
- * History
- * Music
- * Physical Education (PE)

Personal, Social, Health and Economic Education (PSHE), Relationships & Health Education (RHE), the promotion of British Values and Spiritual, Moral, Social and Cultural Education (SMSC) also play important parts in the curriculum offering to pupils.

Religious Education

Non-denominational Religious Education is provided for all children as part of the curriculum and is in accordance with the Locally Agreed County Religious Education syllabus. Assembly is an important part of the school timetable when we meet together as a community. It is a time when we place emphasis on the development of values and attitudes towards each other and the world around us. Assemblies are non-denominational and although they are of a broadly Christian nature due consideration is given to the multicultural society in which we live. Parents have the right to withdraw their child from collective worship if they wish to do so.

Partnerships with Parents

At Whitestone Infant School we value and appreciate the important role you have to play in supporting your child and developing a positive attitude to school and learning. At Whitestone we offer a wide range of opportunities for parents to actively participate in supporting their children in school. These include:

- * Reception Book Looks
- * Showcases of learning in Reception
- * Parent/teacher consultations – this is an opportunity to find out how your child is doing in school. These take place in the autumn and spring terms.
- * Annual School Report- these are sent home at the end of the summer term and they include details of your child's progress to date together with targets for further progression.
- * School Newsletter – regular school newsletters are sent out to all parents including notices for upcoming events and a summary of events that have recently taken place. Copies are also posted on the school's website www.whitestone-infantschool.co.uk .
- * Curriculum Workshops – These are organised on an ad-hoc basis linked to areas that we are focusing on in the school's Learning Improvement Plan.
- * Curriculum Overviews – are emailed to all parents (via Parent Mail) and posted termly on the school website.
- * Annual parent questionnaire
- * In class voluntary support (a DBS check is required)

- * Home-learning suggestions – are provided weekly by each year group to ensure the parents are kept fully informed.
- * Twitter – keep up to date with our latest tweets @WhitestoneInfs

Security & Safety

The safety of our children is of paramount concern, as such the following procedures are in place:

- Parents are NOT allowed to bring cars into the car park at the beginning or end of the school day unless they are accessing the disabled parking bay.
- School car park gates are closed when possible during the day and locked between 8.30-8.50am and 3-3.20pm.
- Playground gates are locked between 8.50am and 3pm
- All visitors are required to report to the school office, sign in at the Visitor Management System and wear a badge of identification at all times
- Parents are asked NOT to park near the school gates or on the zig zag markings at the front of the school

Complaints

Should there be cause for complaint, the matter should be discussed with the Headteacher in the first instance. You can then be advised of further steps to take, if necessary, in accordance with the Complaints Procedure (a copy of which can be requested from the school office or viewed on the website).

Learning at Whitestone

Curriculum

At Whitestone Infant School we are anxious that all children are successful, secure, confident and happy. We provide an outstanding curriculum. It is a balanced and broadly-based curriculum which enables children to develop mentally, physically, emotionally and spiritually. This enables them to fit into society and be able to grasp opportunities, responsibilities and experiences of life.

We place particular emphasis on the core subjects of English, Mathematics, Science, as well as PSHE, RHE and RE with relevance and real-life examples coming to these and all other foundation subjects through cross-curricular themes. Literacy and numeracy developments are central and crucial to the high standards expected at Whitestone in all school work.

All work is cross matched with the Foundation Stage and National Curriculum thus ensuring continuity and progression for the next phase of education. The work is planned, assessed and recorded in a consistent and progressive way through the school.

We welcome parental involvement in home-learning throughout the school, especially in the development of reading. Parents are welcome in school at any time to discuss their children's work, and we will invite parents individually if we have any particular concern or joy to share.

Inclusive Provision

We are fully committed to the integration of all children regardless of identity, culture, race, heritage, class, gender or ability. We do not discriminate against the admission of any child who has special educational needs or disabilities (SEND). To meet the needs of all individuals we must ensure:

- We can provide for the individual's needs
- We can continue to offer high-quality education for all pupils
- The use of our resources is efficient and not detrimental to other pupils

Within each class, work is adapted to suit the needs of the individual child. Inclusive provision includes learning difficulties, sensory impairment, physical difficulties, neuro-divergence, behavioural and emotional difficulties as well as meeting the needs of the especially gifted and talented. Once we notice a pupil needs extra help, over and above normal class adaptation, provision is made to meet that need and progress is carefully monitored through a plan of supported education specific to that child. Mrs Kilburn / Mrs Webster are the named SEND coordinators for the school. At later stages the class teacher and SENDCo may receive support from outside agencies. Parents are fully consulted and encouraged to actively participate at all stages. The building has excellent access for the disabled, as well as a toilet and shower for the use of disabled people.

Mrs Green is the named leader with responsibility for More Able children. We acknowledge the needs and encourage the development of identified pupils by providing regular, appropriate stimulating enrichment and extension activities.

Health & Relationships Education

Issues are explored as part of the Science curriculum, our Equality curriculum and the PSHE programmes, a) Protective Behaviours Programme & b) Relationships Education.

Questions are sensitively handled as they arise, taking into account the child's age and knowledge. We encourage the exploration of values and moral issues, the consideration of feelings and personal relationships and the development of communication and decision-making skills. It fosters self-esteem, self-awareness and a sense of moral responsibility.

Home learning

Your involvement and support is essential to make sure home-learning is a valuable activity to support learning in school.

Home-learning allows children to practise what they are learning and make good progress. Children will:

- Bring home Read Write Inc reading books, independent reading books or word cards on a daily basis to practise phonics and reading at home with an adult to support current learning in school
- Receive regular home-learning to follow up or consolidate class topic

Parents can help and support their child by:

- Ensuring home-learning work is complete
- Providing a quiet place to learn
- Having a clear routine for home-learning
- Providing some basic equipment e.g. Pencil and paper
- Encourage children to read books, practise their number bonds & times tables and by taking an interest in the world around them.

Educational Visits

Visits play an essential role in our work and take place on a regular basis. These vary from places in the locality for instance the local shops, Pauls Land and Holy Trinity Church to visits to Twycross Zoo, Mount Pleasant Farm & Warwick Castle.

Extra-Curricular Clubs

At Whitestone we are able to offer a wide range of activities during before and after school. There is a cost for some of the clubs and some are run on a voluntary basis, however children are expected to make a commitment and attend regularly.

During recent academic years activities have included:

FUNdamentals, Indoor Golf, Cookery, Rugby, Musical Theatre, Street Dance, Whitestone Singing Owls, Sign Language, Art, Archery, Sewing, Gymnastics, Gardening, Science & Athletics & Football Club.

Pupils also have the opportunity to have music tuition lessons in violin, guitar, ukulele & keyboard.

Kids Club – Wrap Around Provision

This facility is run by Stepping Stones, the independent pre-school situated on the school site at the far side of the Key Stage 1 playground. For details about this term time before and after school service please contact Stepping Stones directly (02476 387637)

School Council

Two representatives from each class regularly attend meetings held to discuss items on the agenda drawn up from suggestions made by the children themselves about key school issues.

Behaviour

We take great pride in the behaviour of our pupils.

The emphasis in the school is to praise positive behaviour, attitude and effort and to increase children's awareness of the need to make a positive contribution to their community.

We have a Positive Behaviour Management Policy which is consistently applied by all adults who work in our school. It is available on our website. Our Positive Behaviour Management Policy is linked to our simple school rules which are:

* **Be safe** * **Be kind**

* **Try your best**

* **Listen carefully**

Success and encouragement are essential. No child will develop if continuously discouraged or made to feel a failure. Children are encouraged to celebrate achievement whether in school or at home. As we get to know our children and develop their talents we find there is much to celebrate. We hold a weekly Celebration Assembly where children can share their out of school achievements and are rewarded efforts within school. Throughout the year certificates and stickers are awarded for exemplary effort and excellence. At all levels, children are encouraged to develop an orderly, disciplined attitude to school work. Self-discipline and a genuine interest in school work are more important than a discipline imposed from without. We ask children to consider the following 3 key questions:

Is it kind? Is it safe? Is it my best?

Our Positive Behaviour Programme clearly details expected behaviour and the rewards that can be earned for 'Golden Behaviour'. Restorative conversations take place and

consequences for poor behaviour choices are applied following consideration of the individual and of the deed.

When poor behaviour is displayed suitable sanctions are used such as working alone, missing a favourite activity or a playtime. If your child is continually disruptive you will be invited to come to school to discuss the problem with the class teacher and the Head, so that we might approach the matter together.

Our main aim is for children to succeed and be happy and to achieve their individual level of excellence, while appreciating and caring for the needs of others.

Emergency Closure

In the event of bad weather or an emergency forcing the school to close, text messages will be sent to parents via Parent Mail.

Notifications will also be placed on the school website www.whitestone-infantschool.co.uk.

Attendance

Regular school attendance is an essential part of good education and we place a high priority on encouraging this good practice at Whitestone. Attendance records are analysed at the end of each term and all parents are informed about current attendance rates for their child. Where there is a concern, parents may be invited into school to discuss ways in which we can work together to improve attendance rates. Good attendance is deemed as above 95%. Children with 95% or above attendance are congratulated with certificates during a special assembly, along with celebration of improved attendance.

Absence

If your child is absent please notify the school either in person, via ParentMail or by telephone (02476 347813) on the first day of absence, stating why your child is absent. Any unexplained absences will be recorded as unauthorised.

By failing to attend school regularly, pupils diminish the value of the education provided for them and this ultimately impacts on their progress. The school is regularly in contact with the Warwickshire Attendance Service (WAS) seeking advice and support in order to ensure the school is abiding by the regulations for authorising absences and holidays. If the school has any concerns with regards to attendance (especially where it falls below 90%) or repeated lateness parents will be alerted by letter. Any children arriving 10 minutes after their designated start time will be marked as late. Lateness will be marked an unauthorised absence for that session 30 minutes after the register closes. Repeated lateness must be marked as unauthorised absence. Our Parent Support Advisor is available to support parents in any way she can. If there is no improvement, the school is required to make a statutory referral to the LA.

Requests for leave

*Please note: **Parents do not have any entitlement to take their child on holiday during term time.***

The Education (Pupil Registration) (England) Regulations 2006 as amended by Education (Pupil Registration) (England) Regulations 2013 no longer permit Head Teachers to authorise leave for holidays.

The Regulations state:

Head Teachers **shall not grant any** leave of absence during term time **unless** they consider there to be exceptional circumstances

The Head Teacher must be satisfied that exceptional circumstances warrant the granting of a leave of absence.

The Head Teacher will determine how long the absence should be and any additional absence will not be authorised.

Parents whose children have unauthorised absence may be subject to a Fixed Penalty Notice and/or prosecution.

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- Parents have a legal duty to ensure that their children of compulsory school age receive a suitable full-time education through regular attendance at a school or otherwise (ie home education) (Section 7 Education Act 1996)
 - If a child who is of compulsory school age, who is registered at school and fails to attend regularly, it is the parent that will be guilty of an offence (Section 444 (1) Education Act 1996)

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- *Children need to attend school regularly to benefit from their education*
 - *Missing out on lessons leaves children vulnerable to falling behind*

Academic Standards and Achievement

We are very proud of the children's achievements and truly believe that this is a result of the hard work and partnership between all members of our school community.

Whitestone Infant School's data position 2024

PRIMARY SCHOOL PERFORMANCE DATA										
2024 <i>(Nat.69%)</i>	2022	2023	2024	<i>(2024 National 81%)</i>			2022	2023	2024	
EYFS (GLD)	73%	71%	66%	YEAR 1 PHONICS			84%	80%	88%	
SEND	-	0%	0%	SEND			-	20%	25%	
PP	-	40%	69%	PP			54%	72%	64%	
				Year 2 cumulative			100%	99%	96%	
Subject (% Nat.)	READING (68%)			WRITING (60%)			MATHS (70/16%)			
KS1	2022	2023	2024	2022	2023	2024	2022	2023	2024	
Expected	80%	81%	78%	72%	79%	71%	84%	92%	87%	
GDS	35%	28%	28%	13%	12%	12%	31%	25%	28%	
SEND	11%	58%	18%	11%	58%	0%	22%	67%	18%	
PP	57%	62%	68%	50%	54%	64%	64%	69%	77%	

And finally

We would be delighted to welcome you on a visit to our fantastic school. We hold guided tours for parents/carers who are seeking a place in our reception class. These take place in the autumn term and provide an opportunity to meet some of our staff. Please consult our website for more detailed information of life at Whitestone Infant School: www.whitestone-infantschool.co.uk

If you are looking for a school place for an older child please telephone Warwickshire Admissions to establish if we have any vacancies in the appropriate year group.

All schools are very different and choosing the right one for your child is not an easy task. We wish you every success in finding the school that best suits your child's unique personality, interests and learning needs.

All the information in this brochure was correct at the time of printing – May 2025.

We would like to thank all the children and members of staff who appear within this brochure.

Term Dates for 2025/26

Under the 1986 Education Act children are required to be in school for 190 days each academic year. These are divided up into three terms:

Autumn Term 2025

(8 weeks & 7 weeks)

INSET days **Monday 1st September 2025 (STAFF ONLY)**

KS1 children begin Tuesday 2nd September 2025

Rec induction Sessions between Tuesday 2nd – Friday 5th September 2025

Rec part time Part time provision Monday 8th - Friday 12th September 2025 (Details to follow)

Rec full time Monday 15th September 2025

INSET day **Friday 24th October 2025 (STAFF ONLY)**

Half Term 27th – 31st October 2025

INSET day **Monday 3rd November 2025 (STAFF ONLY)**

Last day Friday 19th December 2025

Spring Term 2026

(6 weeks & 5 weeks)

Begins Monday 5th January 2026

Half Term 16th – 20th February 2026

Last day Friday 27th March 2026

Summer Term 2026

(6 weeks & 7 weeks)

Begins Monday 13th April 2026

May Day Holiday Monday 4th May 2026

Half Term 25th May – 29th May 2026

INSET day **Monday 1st June 2026 (STAFF ONLY)**

Last day Friday 17th July 2026

INSET day **Monday 20th July 2026 (STAFF ONLY)**

Summer holidays 21st July – 31st August 2026 (INSET Day Tuesday 1st September 2026)

Please note: Term dates for all maintained Warwickshire schools can be found at www.warwickshire.gov.uk/schoolholidaydates . Currently dates are available for 2025/2026 and 2026/2027.