

Whitley Lodge First School

New Term Notices – September 2026



School Contact Information

To contact the office, please use:

Phone: 0191 607 6575

Email: office@whitleylodgefirst.org

For the SENDCo, please use:

SEND@whitleylodgefirst.org

Website: www.whitleylodgefirst.org

Whatever the Weather

We always try to get the children outside for fresh air at playtime and lunchtime. As the weather is changeable and unpredictable, please make sure your child has a waterproof coat with them everyday.

Please also clearly name coats, cardigans, jumpers and water bottles.

Hair styles & Jewellery

Please note the guidelines below for hair styles and jewellery which form part of our Uniform Policy:

- Wrist watches can be worn but no Smart watches.
- Small stud earrings only.
- No dyed hair. Natural hair colour only.
- No tramlines, skin fades, shaved patterns or shaved heads.
- Plain, preferably blue, hair accessories.
- No large bows or hairbands please.

Bikes & Scooters

We actively encourage children to ride bikes and scooters to and from school.

Please do not allow children to ride bikes or scooters across the yard at any time. There are often much younger children on the yard at drop off and pick up who could be seriously hurt if hit by a bike or scooter.

Thank you for your kind consideration.

Sorry No Dogs

We love dogs at Whitley Lodge but know that not everyone does. Some children can be afraid of dogs they don't know. For this reason, please note that no dogs are allowed on the school yard or carpark. Thank you.

Home Learning Review

In response to feedback from several parents /carers we are currently reviewing our home learning policy. Further details to follow.

Attendance & Punctuality

Thank you to the overwhelming majority of parents / carers who ensure that their children have high attendance and are always on time for school. We are incredibly proud that our school's overall attendance and punctuality rates are well above the national averages.

With regards to term-time holidays, Government guidelines are that this is always **unauthorised**.

From September 2024, our school's approach has been if a family chooses to take term-time holiday that adds up to missing 5 or more school days, we will review their previous 12-month attendance record for term time holiday taken. If this is then below 95%, a fine may be issued.

As detailed in the [Government guidelines](#), this is £80 per parent, per child if paid within 21 days. This then doubles to £160 per parent, per child if paid within 28 days. If the parent receives a second fine for the same child within any three-year period, it will be charged at the higher rate of £160. These fines apply to term-time holidays only and not absence due to illness. In the event that a fine is administered, fines are paid directly to the Local Authority and do not come to school at all.

Nut/Seed Allergy Alert

No nuts/seeds or any products with nuts are allowed in school

We have children in school with severe nut and seed allergies and we want to keep everyone safe. No nuts or seeds in or on food. This includes sesame seeds, peanut butter and Nutella as they can cause serious harm to children with nut allergies.

Healthy Packed Lunch

We are proud to have been awarded the North Tyneside Healthy Schools Award. The award recognises our commitment to health and wellbeing in school. This includes our standards for eating a healthy lunch as it is an important part of the school day and enables children to be active learners. Please ensure that all packed lunches provide children with healthy and nutritious food. They should include as balanced a range of healthy food types, as possible. Please do not include sweets, chocolate or fruit strings.

Parent Helpers Wanted Please

It is so wonderful that we can fully engage in opportunities to learn outside the classroom.

We have a full programme of trips and events planned for the coming academic year.

In order for these to go ahead we are looking for more parent/carers helpers who have been approved with a Whitley Lodge First School DBS.

If you hope to help with school trips at any time, please contact the school office for details of how to register for your DBS at Whitley Lodge. This is a free service.