



# St John's Gosport C of E (VA) Primary School

Grove Road, Gosport, Hampshire PO12 4JH  
[www.st-johns-gosport.hants.sch.uk](http://www.st-johns-gosport.hants.sch.uk)  
adminoffice@st-johns-gosport.hants.sch.uk

Headteacher: Mrs Carolyn Wilkinson  
Deputy Headteacher: Mrs Gemma Havey  
School Business Manager: Mrs Hannah Bonwick

Telephone: 02392 582404

Dear Parents and Carers

## Information for the start of term

We hope that you are all well and have enjoyed the summer break. We are looking forward to seeing you all and welcoming the children in Years 1 - 6 back tomorrow on Tuesday 3<sup>rd</sup> September at the usual starting times as below:

	Arrive	Place of arrival/ departure	Depart
Year R	0830	Side door near Year. Staff will be outside to guide you.	1500
Year 1	0830	Felix Road gate, nearest to the gazebo.	1500
Year 2	0830	Felix Road gate, nearest to the hut (line up to the left of the football pitch)	1500
Year 3	0840	Felix Road gate nearest to the hut, wait on the football pitch.	1510
Year 4	0840	Felix Road gate nearest the hut, children only line up by classrooms..	1510
Year 5	0840	Felix Road gate nearest the gazebo, children only line up by classrooms.	1510
Year 6	0840	6LJ: Felix Road gate nearest the gazebo, children only line up by their classroom. 6CC: Felix Road gate, nearest to the hut. Children only line up by the KS2 steps	1510

Teachers will come outside 5 minutes before the start of the school day to greet children and to take them into class. We would appreciate it if you do not try to engage teachers in lengthy conversations about particular issues or concerns before school (other than medical issues) as they have a responsibility to attend to the whole class. If you have a particular matter that you feel requires urgent attention please go to or ring the school office and ask to speak to a member of the inclusion team or a senior leader, who will be happy to help you. Alternatively you can leave a message for the teacher to ring you and they will contact you as soon as possible. Senior leaders are also on the playground in the mornings and can speak to you. If it is matter that can wait until the end of the day, teachers are always available then and have more time to talk to you. Thank you for your support with this.

At the end of the school day, the teachers will bring the children outside and once they have seen you, they will send your child over.

We know that in Years 5 and 6 some children want to be more independent and start to come to school by themselves. If you wish your child to walk to school unaccompanied, please complete the consent form attached with this letter and return it to the school office. When children arrive they can come straight on to the school playground and wait in the designated areas. We discourage children from going to Grove Road Park before school unless they are accompanied by an adult.



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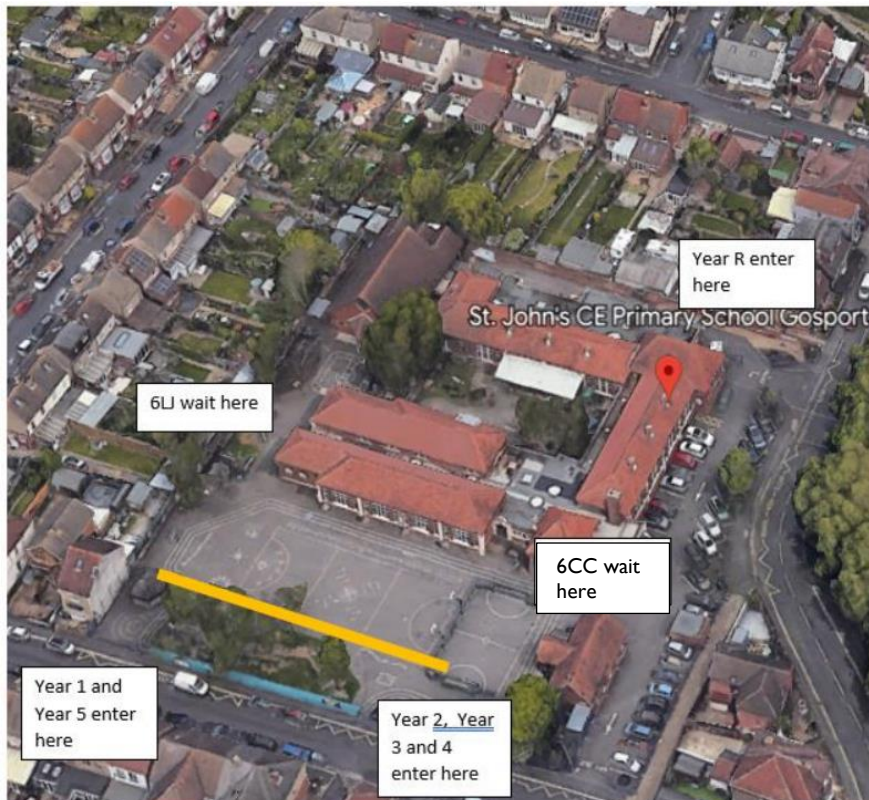
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When you bring your child to school and collect them, please could we ask that you:

- Wait behind the lines marked yellow on the map below (Mr Bates will put out the barriers so that it is clear where to wait) so that children can line up safely and that the playground does not become too busy.
- Keep your child/ren with you until the staff come out. Please do not allow them to run or scoot/cycle round the playground or use the adventure trail equipment or football pitch. This includes younger pre-school siblings. Ball games are not allowed before school. Thank you
- Do not bring dogs on to the school premises;
- Leave the playground as quickly as possible, especially if you are in the 0830/1500 group, so that the next group of parents can arrive and then at 0900 the gates can be locked quickly to safeguard the children;
- Do not arrive on the playground before 1450 at the end of the day as it may be being used for P.E. lessons
- Park respectfully and safely in Felix Road and Grove Road, adhering to zig-zag lines. If you are able to park further from the school and walk in the last 5 minutes this would reduce congestion around the school



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## Helpful information:

- New school uniform will be on sale from outside the school office from 12.30 p.m. today, Monday 2nd September. The school uniform list and prices are on the next pages. The PTA will be providing some used uniform as well. Please look out for their page on Facebook with more information about this.
- Children remain in the same colour group throughout their time in school and wear a P.E. t-shirt of this colour– if a sibling is starting in Year R this year they will be in the same colour team. T-shirts with the logo on are available from 'Print and Sew' in Stoke Road. Otherwise a plain t-shirt in the team colour is fine.
- We will continue with children wearing their P.E. kit to school on P.E. days. Class teachers will inform you of your child's P.E. days.
- Parent Meetings – 'Meet the Teacher' meetings will be on Wednesday 11th September after school. Staff will be able to tell you about your child's learning during the academic year, including information about school trips, P.E. days and homework. This information will go on to the school website after the meetings. There will be more information about this in the first newsletter on Friday 13th September.
- Newsletters will continue to be emailed to you on a Friday. Please make sure that we have up to date email details for you so that you receive these. The newsletters are also available on the school website.
- Breakfast and After-School Club will begin on Tuesday 3rd September at 0715 and until 1745.
- The academic dates for the year, including INSET days, are at the end of this letter.

We look forward to seeing you all on Tuesday 3rd September at the above times.

Kind regards

Carolyn Wilkinson (Headteacher) Gemma Havey (Acting Deputy Headteacher)

## School Uniform

School Uniform is available from the hut (accessed by gate in the car park) from 1 p.m. on Monday 2nd September

### Uniform Prices:

Sweatshirt with embroidered crest	– 24"	26"	28"	30"	32"	£10.55	34"	£12.05	36"	£14.46
Cardigan with embroidered crest	– 24"	26"	28"	30"	32"	£11.95	34"	£12.45	36"	£14.94
Cardigan – Medium to Large	£12.45									

Please see more details below. (Also available on the school website)



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## School Uniform



At St John's Primary School we believe that wearing school colours gives children a sense of identity with the school, which helps to encourage a community spirit. We expect all children to wear the school uniform and thank parents for supporting this.

The school colour is blue and we encourage children to wear it as much as possible. Jumpers and cardigans with our school logo on are on sold in the school office. P.E. t-shirts with the school logo can be ordered from Print and Sew in Stoke Road, Gosport. Many supermarkets and other clothing stores sell unbranded school uniform such as trousers, skirts, plain white polo shirts and dresses. If you are unsure of which size to order, or have any questions about school uniform, please contact the school office.

Please remember that all items must be marked with your child's name.

Our uniform consists of the following:

### Boys

- White or blue polo shirt
- Blue school jumper
- Grey or black trousers (no jeans or jogging bottoms)
- Grey or black shorts
- White, grey or black socks

### Girls

- White or blue polo shirt
- Knee length grey skirt, pinafore dress or trousers/culottes
- Blue check dress for summer
- Blue school jumper or cardigan
- Black, white, grey or black tights/socks



### Shoes/Boots

- All shoes/boots need to be flat and suitable for use on the field or playground, enabling your child to run, turn and jump with ease
- Shoes/boots should be black
- In the summer, sandals are permitted but **must not** be open toe shoes.
- Trainers, Crocs, flip flops and high heels **are not** permitted

### Jewellery/accessories

- Sensible hairclips/hairbands may be worn
- Nail varnish is not permitted
- Stud earrings only please

### Sports Wear

- Team colour t-shirt
- Shorts, preferably black
- Jogging bottoms for outdoor winter PE
- Trainers



### Hair

- Hairstyles to be neat and tidy, with natural colouring. Long hair must be tied back for PE and swimming.







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## Attendance Matters

You will have read in recent news that there have been important changes to the law regarding attendance, which came into effect on 19 August 2024. There is now a new National Framework for school absence, including unauthorised holiday absence.

*What are the changes?*

1. There will be a new national threshold of 10 unauthorised sessions for any reason (equivalent to 5 school days) within a rolling 10 school week period for when a penalty notice must be considered.
2. The new rules mean that you will not be able to take your child out of school for one week's holiday without a penalty notice being issued.
3. There will be an increase in the penalty fine from £60 to £80 if paid in 21 days. If the fine is not paid in the first 21 days, it will rise to £160 if paid within 28 days of being issued. This is per parent.
4. If a second penalty fine is issued to the same parent for the same child within a 3 year rolling period, the fine will automatically rise to £160 with no option to pay the lower rate of £80.
5. If a parent then commits a third offence in a 3 year rolling period, the local authority will need to consider other enforcement options available to them

### FAQs

*If I have already booked a holiday for next year could I receive a penalty fine at the new higher rate?*

Yes, if the absence has not been authorised by the Head Teacher. Remember only the Head Teacher can agree an absence can be authorised in exceptional circumstances.

*Who can be issued with a penalty notice?*

Each parent can receive a fine for each child who has had unauthorised absence from school, In education law, anyone who lives with the child and who has day to day care of the child is also considered to be a parent whether they are the biological parent or not.

*Do the new rules only apply to holidays during term time?*

No, it applies to all unauthorised absence from school – unauthorised absence includes other absence that has not been approved including arriving late after the register has closed and failing to provide reasons for absence.

*How do I request for my child to have leave granted during term time?*

The headteacher will decide whether there are exceptional circumstances that will allow them to grant time off. Do not assume that the absence will be granted until you have received confirmation. Any request must be submitted on the Leave of Absence form at least 20 days before the proposed absence,

*Do the 10 sessions of unauthorised absence have to be taken all at the same time before a penalty fine is issued to the parent?*

No, a penalty fine can be issued for any combination of absences over a 10 week rolling period. They can be consecutive or non-consecutive and can span over two terms.

*What happens if I am issued with a penalty fine and I don't pay it?*

Unauthorised absence from school is an offence under s444 of the Education Act 1996. A penalty fine is an opportunity for you to settle out of court. If you don't take this opportunity, you can be prosecuted for the offence of failing to ensure your child's regular attendance.

*What should I do if I am worried about my child's attendance?*

In the first instance, you should contact the school Attendance Officer or the Family Support Worker at St John's Primary School and ask for advice on how they can support you to improve the situation.



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## Hampshire School Terms and Holidays 2024 – 2025

Determined programme of school term and holiday dates for county and controlled schools for the academic year 2024/25

Bank and Public Holidays 2024/25			
Christmas Day	25 December 2024	Easter Monday	21 April 2025
Boxing Day	26 December 2024	May Day Holiday	5 May 2025
New Year's Day	1 January 2025	Spring Bank Holiday	26 May 2025
Good Friday	18 April 2025	Summer Bank Holiday	25 August 2025

\* First day after break       School Holidays       Bank Holidays and National Holidays  
 # Last day before break

**Autumn Term 2024** starts on Monday 2 September 2024 and ends on Friday 20 December 2024  
 (Half term from Monday 28 October to Friday 1 November 2024)

**Spring Term 2025** starts on Monday 6 January 2025 and ends on Friday 4 April 2025  
 (Half term from Monday 17 February to Friday 21 February 2025)

**Summer Term 2025** starts on Tuesday 22 April 2025 and ends on Tuesday 22 July 2025  
 (Half term from Monday 26 May to Friday 30 May 2025)

Term	Start date	End Date
Autumn 2024	2 September 2024	20 December 2024
	Half term 28 October – 1 November 2024	
Spring 2025	6 January 2025	4 April 2025
	Half term 17 February - 21 February 2025	
Summer 2025	22 April 2025	22 July 2025
	Half term 26 May – 30 May 2025	

Please note that the dates as published are correct.

It has now been agreed and confirmed that 2 September 2024 is the start date for the Autumn Term 2024/25.

Please also note that the first day of the Autumn Term in September 2025 will not be determined until the 2025/26 timetable has been consulted upon and approved in February 2024.





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## SCHOOL INSET DATES 2024 – 2025

1. 2/9/2024
2. 25/10/2024
3. 14/2/2025
4. 21/7/2025
5. 22/7/2025

The information contained in this letter can also be found on the school website in the Parent Pages.



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