



# SUNNYSIDE PRIMARY ACADEMY

**Principal:** Mrs C Ley

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@SunnysideAcad

Friday 2<sup>nd</sup> September 2022

Dear Parents, Carers and Pupils,

I am delighted to offer a very warm welcome to you all as I join the team as Principal at Sunnyside Primary Academy. I hope that you have all enjoyed some rest and family time this summer and that everyone is as excited as I am to welcome in the new term. The start of the academic year is a time of new beginnings, for pupils and for staff and we are particularly excited to welcome our new reception children to Sunnyside alongside some returning and new staff faces. I too am very much looking forward to getting to know your children and working together with you as parents, carers and as members of the community as I know that a successful and happy school depends on all of us working together to achieve the very best for your children.

As an experienced leader, I have worked with a range of schools and most recently for another school in the Trust and I have had the pleasure of visiting the school and meeting you and your children prior to September and I look forward to greeting more of you on the gates over the coming weeks.

I will be holding several events over the next term, including coffee and meet and greets, and I look forward to meeting many of you there. These will take place at a number of different times in the day and week in the hope that as many families as possible will have the opportunity to attend.

We will be in touch with the details shortly.

I am also looking forward to learning more about the school so that the changes we make in this new chapter are supported by the whole school community, so I will be sending out a questionnaire in the first couple of weeks to get your feedback on things that we do well at Sunnyside and things that we need to develop further.

In the meantime, please see some essential information and updates on our return to school next week.

## Gates

The timings for September opening of the academy gates are below.

Mornings: Gates open at 8:40am. Classroom doors open at 8:45am. Gates close at 8:55am. Afternoons: Gates open at 3:20pm. Classroom doors open at 3:30pm.

Please ensure that children are punctual. Children arriving after 8:55am will have to sign in through the office.

## Uniform

At Sunnyside Primary Academy we place an emphasis on pride in our community. A visible indication of this is in the standard of our pupils' uniform.

Having a school uniform is important because it:

- Builds a sense of identity and belonging
- Instils a sense of pride in the Academy
- Protects children from social pressures
- Encourages positive behaviour
- Is practical and smart and prepares children for the future world of work.

Full information on uniform expectations and ordering, can be found on the academy website, uniform information.

**Part of the Greenwood Dale Foundation Trust Group of Academies**



## PE

Children should come to school in their PE kit on PE days. Our academy PE kit is part of our school uniform and is set out in our academy uniform policy. Academy PE kit should be plain and items with branded sports logos are not acceptable – most supermarkets sell plain PE kit items.

<b>Reception and Year 1</b>	Details to follow from the EYFS team in the next week or so
<b>Year 2</b>	Tuesday and Thursday
<b>Year 3</b>	Wednesday and Friday
<b>Year 4</b>	Monday and Friday
<b>Year 5</b>	Monday and Wednesday
<b>Year 6</b>	Tuesday and Thursday

## Attendance

Our whole school attendance target for 2022-23 is 98%, in line with national expectations. Attendance continues to be a key focus for us at Sunnyside, especially after the disruption to education caused by the Covid-19 pandemic over the last two years. Department for Education research has shown a clear link between poor attendance at school and lower academic achievement. There are only 190 days where children MUST, by law, be in school. This means that if a child misses just 8 school days - they are out of school for more days of the year than they are in school. There are 175 days of breaks and weekends every year.

## Regular Communication

Our weekly newsletter, Inside Sunnyside, is sent by email every Friday – with the first issue being sent on Friday 9th September. Please make sure that we have up to date contact information, including email addresses, for you throughout the school year. You can also follow us on Twitter - @SunnysideAcad and access our website to find out what is happening at school.

Best wishes,



Mrs C Ley  
Principal

