

After-School Clubs Policy

Policy Updated: September 2019

Future Review: September 2021



National Support School
designated by
National College for
Teaching & Leadership

National Teaching School
designated by
National College for
Teaching & Leadership



Nurture ~ Believe ~ Discover ~ Achieve

OUR CHRISTIAN VISION

Our vision for Woodstock CE Primary School reflects a passionate commitment to learning and recognition of the uniqueness of individual learners. Guided by our Christian values, it is driven by our desire to offer the best possible education for our pupils in partnership with parents, the Church and the local community.

Woodstock CE Primary School will be a centre for learning where adults and children:

- ✓ **Nurture** and prioritise wellbeing and development.
- ✓ **Believe** in themselves and in each other.
- ✓ **Discover** their own strengths and become successful lifelong learners.
- ✓ **Achieve** more than they ever thought possible.

OUR CHRISTIAN ETHOS

Recognising our historic foundation, we will preserve and develop our religious character in accordance with the principles of the Church of England and in partnership with the Churches at parish and diocesan level.

Woodstock CE Primary School strives to be an inclusive community where children grow, learn and achieve together. Within a nurturing, supportive and safe environment, mental health and wellbeing is at the heart of everything we do and recognised as the responsibility of all. Children's natural curiosity is fostered through a creative curriculum that excites and challenges, and enables them to be successful learners. Supported by a culture of equality and aspiration we aim to remove disadvantage so that every child can thrive.

We are committed to providing an education of the highest quality within the context of Christian belief and practice. We encourage an understanding of the meaning and significance of faith, and promote Christian values through the experience we offer to all our pupils.

"For I know the plans I have for you", declares the Lord, "plans to prosper you and not to harm you, plans to give you hope and a future." Jeremiah 29, v11



RATIONALE

At the heart of our ambition for Woodstock Primary School is our commitment to providing the very best for all children to enjoy and achieve. This includes having the widest possible range of opportunities both within and beyond the curriculum. We offer extra-curricular opportunities through various types of provision delivered by school staff, external providers and independent clubs – all with a view to increasing the range of experiences that children have, enabling them to make informed choices for adult life. Activities are designed to be fun and cater for a wide variety of interests.

We want to offer the scope for each and every child to find a passion, develop a talent, spark an interest or simply find pleasure in doing an activity with others. After-school clubs are a fantastic way of achieving this and we are excited to offer a wide range of clubs from singing and drama, to hockey and sailing, computing and Forest Schools.

AIMS AND OBJECTIVES

Participation in clubs:

- Enables children to sample and enjoy a range of activities and pursuits that will help them choose leisure activities for adult life.
- Enables children to experience activities that they may not otherwise encounter, and acquire and develop new and existing skills.
- Helps build confidence, well-being and creativity.
- Encourages children to develop friendships between age groups and work together co-operatively.

WHO DELIVERS OUR CLUBS?

Some clubs are delivered by members of staff who have a passion for, and expertise in, specific subjects. They are very generously offering their time, after school or during their lunch hour.

Other clubs are delivered by volunteers from our local community (also generously free of charge), and some are provided by expert and specialist third parties.

CLUBS OFFERED

We offer a varied and challenging programme of clubs and extra-curricular activities for children across the school, including Art, Musical Theatre, Dance and Ballet, Singing, Cookery, Chess, Computing, Drama, Chatter Books, French and Spanish, Ji Jitsu, Archery, Football, Tag Rugby, Tennis, Table Tennis, Sailing and Sculling.

An After-school Clubs Booklet which includes a full listing of clubs available together with procedures to follow and permission slips is published on the school website at the beginning of the school year and is up-dated each term.

Any new clubs are announced during whole school assembly and detailed in the school newsletter.

Not all clubs run each term - the operating dates of clubs are included within the termly After-school Club Offer Booklet sent out by ParentMail.

GENERAL PROCEDURES

Our Administrator is responsible for managing the After-school Club service and works closely with our Business Manager, Headteacher, curriculum leads; dedicated teaching staff and our carefully selected third party club providers. This allows us to run an efficient, sustainable, relevant, fun and high quality After-school Club service.

Organisation of Clubs

- After-school activities usually run from 3.15 to 4.15 (4.30 pm in the case of Year 6 Booster Clubs).
- Each club runs for one term.
- A new programme of clubs is offered in the Autumn, Spring and Summer Terms of each school year.

Start Dates

- All clubs start during the third full week of the Autumn Term and the second full week of the Spring and Summer Terms; and during the first week back after half-term breaks.
- Clubs do not run during the final week of Terms, and Parent Evening weeks.

Requesting a Club Place

Requests for a place at a club are made online following a ParentMail to indicate the booking system is open. Once the booking system is closed, you will be informed of the club/s your child has been allocated for the term ahead.

All clubs provided externally should be organised directly with the club provider; this includes direct payment to the provider to secure the place e.g. ballet

Allocation of Clubs

All places are offered on a term by term basis. If a chosen club runs 'year round', children will need to request a place each term. When booking forms are available to request places for the term ahead, a date is given by which the forms need to be returned. At this point, clubs will be allocated to children paying due regard to equality of opportunity, prioritising places for whom children for whom the school receives Pupil Premium; where spaces for a club are limited and demand is high, names will be selected randomly. If a club is oversubscribed, a waiting list will be started and children, starting from the top of the list, will be offered a place should one become available; they will be prioritised for a place in the following term.

Registration

A register is taken by the staff member in charge of a club at the start of each session. If a child is absent but the club organiser has not been reliably informed, the club organiser will send a child to the School Office with the register and office staff will attempt to contact a parent by phone.

Absences

Parents are requested to inform the club leader in advance if their child is unable to attend one of the sessions. This can be done either by sending a note via the child to the teacher running the club, or in the case of clubs run by outside professionals, by phoning the School Office who will then pass on the message.

Attendance

It is expected that a child will commit to a term's membership of a chosen club (eg Autumn, Spring, Summer). Parents are requested to inform the School Office if their child wishes to leave the club before the end of term.

Cancellation

A club should only be cancelled after discussion with the Headteacher or Business Manager. Clubs will only be cancelled as a last resort if no staff member is able to cover the absence of a club leader. On very rare occasions where it is necessary to cancel a club:

- Parents will be notified, in advance, of any session that needs to be cancelled.
- If a session needs to be cancelled on the day itself for example due to the unexpected illness of the club leader, the school will notify parents and the children will follow the arrangements agreed with parents on their permission slips. Parents must ensure the school is provided with an up-to-date telephone number.
- Should a session be cancelled at the last-minute, for example due to adverse weather conditions, the club organiser will supervise the children until all children have been collected, or follow the arrangements agreed with parents if different.

Supervision and Safety

- The club leader will ensure that all children leave the building safely as per the arrangements agreed with parents.
- Siblings of children attending clubs are to be collected as usual at the end of the normal school day. Neither the school nor the club leader is responsible for the supervision of siblings during the club session.
- A 'first-aider' will always be on school premises for the duration of the club session.
- In case of fire, the children will be led on to the school field where the club leader will check the club register.

Collection of Children from Clubs

- Activities are planned for the full duration of a Club; sessions will often end with some 'tidy-up' time, therefore parents are asked not to collect their child early unless by pre-arrangement or in exceptional circumstances.
- Parents should ensure they collect their children promptly at the end of an after-school club from the assigned front entrance of the school.
- Collection points for each club is published each term in the Woodstock Weekly Newsletter which you can access on the school website.
- Children who are not collected on time will be taken to the school office.
- If children are routinely collected late from a club, parents will be contacted to discuss the situation. Continued late pick-up may result in a parent being informed that their child is unable to attend a club.

- **Children attending WUFA:** All children will be escorted to WUFA by Club Leaders where they will be signed in.

Charges for Clubs

- The cost of clubs is kept to a minimum to ensure access for all children.
- Clubs run by school staff are free of charge – the only exception to this would be to cover the cost of any consumable items; children are expected to bring the ingredients they need for cooking sessions into school.
- The school can help with the cost of a club for children for whom Pupil Premium funding is received. Parents should speak with the Headteacher or a member of the office staff.
- Any parent who would like their child to attend a club but is unable to meet the financial cost can approach the school who will consider their request sympathetically and may be able to offer support.
- Outside providers of clubs operate their own charging policies. On allowing a club to use the premises, the school will consider the cost to pupils and its financial accessibility. In some cases a subsidy might be made available at the discretion of the Governing Body.
- Where outside providers are charging parents, the costs to be incurred will be made clear before parents agree to children attending the club.

Payment

- **Externally run clubs:** Where a charge is made for a club run by a private organisation, payments should be paid directly to the organisation running the club; charges and all payment details are given within the termly club offer.
- **School run clubs:** Any charges made for school run clubs should be paid termly, prior to the commencement of the club, by ParentMail.

Behaviour

We expect all children to behave in an appropriate manner and any unacceptable behaviour will not be tolerated. All providers are made aware of our behaviour expectations; if they deem any behaviour to be unacceptable this will be reported to the Business Manager.

Health and Safety Considerations

Prior to starting a club all external Club Leaders are given an Induction Pack which includes policies relating to after-school clubs, health and safety, first aid procedures in school, and child protection. This is explained and talked through by the Business Manager.

All club leaders are asked to ensure that every half-term there is a reminder about:

- Procedures in case of a fire
- Rules for moving round the school building — particularly arrangements for going to the toilet
- Expectations of behaviour

All clubs leaders should ensure that:

- They have all medical details and contact numbers for children attending the club
- They are familiar with the school's Policies for Safeguarding, and Health and Safety.
- They have up-to-date permission slips from parents, including any medical or other special needs, and agreed arrangements for travelling home.
- They have completed, and submitted to the Business Manager, the appropriate risk assessment for their club.
- A full register of all children attending a club is maintained for each session (Club Leaders to pass their Register back to the Business Manager after each session.).
- Appropriate clothing is worn for all clubs plus any other kit that is required.
- All resources and any necessary preparations have been organised ready for the club to start promptly at the specified time.
- Parents are informed of any change in arrangements.
- Their club finishes promptly at the specified time. The Club Leader has the same duty of care as at the end of the school day; s/he should inform the Business Manager of any child who is regularly collected late. This could result in a child being prevented from remaining in, or joining a club.

School leadership should ensure that:

- Enhanced DBS Checks are completed on all Club Leaders and details are recorded on the school's Single Central Register.
- External providers for coaching sports activities provide copies of their qualifications.
- Club leaders are clear about the expectations of the school regarding their role.
- A minimum level of adequate supervision is agreed and followed for each activity.
- Procedures (Safeguarding and Health & Safety) and expectations (Behaviour) are followed.
- Risk assessments are in place for each club.
- There is always a member of school staff and a trained First Aider on the premises whilst clubs are taking place.

Inclusion

Our clubs are fully inclusive and all children are encouraged to participate in extra-curricular activities. If a child has special or medical needs information will be shared with the Club Leader and any necessary arrangements agreed.

Feedback

To ensure we continue to offer a high quality and relevant range of after-school clubs we encourage parents to complete a short questionnaire with their child following their attendance at a club. Completed questionnaires should be returned to the School Office. All feedback is carefully considered and taken into account when decisions are taken about clubs provision for the next term.

Complaints

If parents are concerned about any aspect of an after-school club, they should talk to the Headteacher or Business Manager in the first instance.

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