

Contacting the Teacher

If you would like to see your child's form teacher, subject teachers or Head of Key Stage, please write a note in your child's Homework diary or contact the school office via email, MCAS or telephone. Mrs Jewitt, our office manager will be happy to make an appointment for you either before or after school. If you have an urgent query, please do not approach the teacher before or after school until he/she has made sure all children are safely collected. This ensures the safety of all of our children. We hold two parent's evenings each year and send home termly reports.

Swimming Tuition

Each Year 5 class receive nine weeks of swimming tuition across the year. This is on a carousel for each form class. Swimming tuition is paid for by school. Pupils swim on a Tuesday afternoon and are dismissed from Waterworld at 3.35pm – normal home time. A separate letter will be issued to explain this process.

Homework Policy

Your child will bring home a book to read, weekly spellings, 2 pieces of English and 2 pieces of Maths homework per week. Other subjects in school will set homework periodically. We ask for your support in helping your child at home with their tasks.

Educational Visits

At different times throughout the year classes go out of school for local visits. We also offer a variety of day trips, as well as a residential visit for Year 5 in the summer term.

Parental Consent

Once signed up to the MCAS app, parents will be prompted to share consent for a variety of things in school, such as photographs, local visits in school time and fingerprint recognition for our school meal service.

Updating your contact details

It is very important for us to be able to contact you, either in an emergency or for other reasons. Please ensure that we hold up to date information for your child. Please contact the main office to update any contact details.

On the First Day...

On their first day at Highfield, pupils should arrive at school with:

- Stocked pencil case.
- PE Kit including trainers.
- Dinner money.
- Water bottle.

Contact us:

Telephone: 01661 833922
Email: info@hms.cheviotlt.co.uk
Website: hms.cheviotlt.co.uk
Facebook: HighfieldMiddle

Starting our School

A Handy Guide for Year 5 Parents

The School Day

8.55am	School Begins
8.55-9.05	Morning Registration
9.05-10.00	Lesson 1
10.00-10.55	Lesson 2
10.55-11.15	Morning Break
11.15-12.10	Lesson 3
12.10-1.15	Lunchtime
1.15-1.45	Pastoral/Assembly Time
1.45-2.40	Lesson 4
2.40-3.35	Lesson 5
3.35pm	Home time

Key staff

Headteacher	Mr R Oades
Deputy Head	Miss C Gibbs
SENDCO	Mrs L Hook
Head of Key Stage 2	Mrs E McFadden

Punctuality and Morning Arrangements

In the mornings, Year 5 pupils meet on the Year 5 yard outside of The Annexe. Please make sure your child gets to school on time. Punctuality is important as arriving late disrupts your child's education. Support staff are available to supervise pupils from 8.40am. Pupils should not arrive at school before this time.

Attendance and Absence

Attendance levels are high at HMS. We closely monitor attendance in collaboration with our Educational Welfare Officer and if your child's attendance falls below the Government recommendation of 92% further action may be taken by our EWO. Please make sure that you inform the school office as soon as possible, and before 9:15am, if your child will not be in school.

What if you are going to be late?

Please call the school office as soon as possible if your child will be late into school. When your

child arrives in school, they must come to the main office to be signed in.

What if my child is ill?

Please contact the school office as soon as possible to let us know why your child is absent. If your child experiences vomiting and diarrhoea, they must not return to school for 48 hours after the last occurrence of illness.

Holidays

The school year includes 13 weeks when children are on holiday. Under Government guidelines, headteachers are no longer permitted to authorise absence for holidays during term time unless there are exceptional circumstances. Unauthorised term time holidays may result in a fine. If you wish to take your child out of school, a formal request must be made to the Headteacher before the holidays are booked, using our holiday form. You will receive a written response from the Headteacher.

Car Park

There is very limited parking near the school. The safety of our children is our priority, therefore the use of the school car park or the zig-zagged areas at the school entrance for drop-off and pick-up are strictly prohibited. We recommend parking at Highfield Park or Fair View. We encourage our pupils to walk, scoot or cycle to school. Any pupils who choose to scoot or cycle MUST wear a helmet.

Security

We have a safe and secure building. During the day, pupils move around the school grounds behind closed fences and gates. All visitors must enter school via the main entrance and sign in at the school office. Visitors will not be permitted direct access to The Annexe (Year 5 Building) without having signed in first.

Administering Medicine in School

We must have written permission to administer prescribed medicine. Please complete a medication record sheet and hand in to the main office. All medicines will be locked away but inhalers can be stored in the First Aid Room OR carried by the pupils. Medicine does not need to be prescribed by a doctor, and we ask that it is in its original box and labelled for the pupil. A medication form needs to be completed.

Water Bottles

Pupils may carry a transparent water bottle around school. They also have access to water fountains throughout the building. Juice, cordial or fizzy drinks are not permitted in water bottles.

School Lunches

Our on-site kitchen provides fresh, healthy cooked meals every day. Alternatively, children may bring a packed lunch in a labelled lunch box. We ask that packed lunches are healthy and do not contain sweets, nuts or fizzy drinks.

Lunch payments can be made via the MCAS app (see info later in this guide). A school meal currently costs £2.80.

Pencil Cases

Pupils are required to supply a pencil case with the basic minimum of a pencil, a blue or black pen, a ruler, a rubber and a pencil sharpener. Extra equipment such as colouring pencils and pens, a compass, a protractor and a calculator would be useful. Pupils are required to arrive at lessons with equipment- a pencil case, a reading book and a jotter (supplied by school). Failure to do so will result in sanction.

Lockers

Your child will be provided with a locker in which to store their personal belongings and equipment. The lockers include a passcode for security. Lockers are a successful way of ensuring that belongings are securely stored so that property does not go missing.

School Uniform and Lost Property

Uniform is available to order at Salto UK. It is essential that ALL of your child's uniform is labelled clearly, including PE kits and shoes. Any named lost property will be returned to your child. Any un-named lost property will be put in lost property. Jewellery is not permitted in school at all, including earrings.

Home-school communication

Your child will be provided with a Homework Diary. The pupils use this to organise their homework and lesson notes. Teachers will record notes in diaries relating to behaviour and general queries. Please use this as a means of communication between home and school. Parents MUST sign diaries on the current week's page in time for diary signing during pastoral time every Friday.

We also use the 'My Child at School' (MCAS) app to share information. Payments and correspondence can be done electronically through the app. This can be downloaded from your app store on Apple and Android devices.

Correspondence can also be directly with the main office. Any correspondence and/or money should be given to your child in a sealed envelope addressed accordingly (or paid online via the MCAS app).