



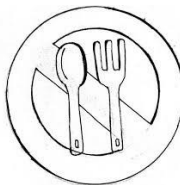
Personal Development – Developing mind, body and spirit and educating for a life in its fullness.

What are the features of a strong school?

Woodgate Primary is a strong and continually improving school. The following characteristics are present and embedded:

- A stable staff team led by leaders with a strong, cohesive vision
- Strong values understood by all
- Increasing pupil numbers
- Good reputation in the local community
- Low pupil mobility
- Strong relationships that exist between staff, parents and the community
- Exceptional relationships that exist between staff and children
- Excellent pastoral and emotional well-being support
- Positive learning behaviours

The realities of children living in 2024

Poverty 	Housing Crisis 	Poor Diet 	Decline in Public Services 
Poor Mental Health 	Experience of Trauma/ACES 	Online Pitfalls 	Inactivity 

Considering that many of our children will be impacted by 1 or more of these factors, we must have a strategic aim to reduce or remove these barriers to both learning and personal development. Investment in the personal development of our children is a school priority. We need to prepare them for a life in modern Britain, developing citizens that can make positive contributions to society. Only by developing mind, body and spirit can we prepare children to live a life in all its fullness.



Woodgate Primary School



We can ensure the personal development of our pupils and school community by focusing on six key areas:

1. Strengthening Community
2. Keeping Families Safe
3. Equity and Justice
4. Curriculum Design
5. Enrichment
6. Active Citizens

Strengthening Community

It is important to create a culture of shared ownership, finding ways to open the school to families as much as possible and to seek and develop community partnerships and prioritise family support.

At Woodgate we:

- Employ staff in key roles to provide early help and family support
- Have an open-door policy for parents to contact staff, including access to staff email addresses
- Meet and greet all children and families every day at the gate or on the doors
- Hold drop-ins/open lessons – engaging parents in their child's learning journey
- Hold workshops – SEND themed
- Set Headteacher Holiday Homework Projects
- Hold expectation Meetings – EYFS, Phonics, Year 6, SATs
- Hold Inspire Afternoons – DT, Science, Art -engaging parents in the wider curriculum
- Have an annual Sponsored Walk
- Hold Sports Days for parents to attend
- Invite parents to attend Performances/concerts throughout the year
- Hold a Talent Show
- Belong to a House and collect points for a collective reward
- Offer outreach services such as Citizens Advice, Pathfinders
- Make visits to the local elderly care home
- Use parent volunteers to support the staff team and children
- Have Coffee mornings – both themed and informal
- Offer and support early help processes
- Actively seek Partnerships with EHS and other local schools
- Invest in our Partnership with the local church
- Hold a Careers Fair for Year Six
- Maintain a parent bookshelf and book sheds available for parents and children
- Offer arts therapies for EYFS families before they start school
- Have developed our school Remembrance Garden – a place for quiet reflection and respect
- Woodgate Voices performances in the community



Keeping Families Safe

Safeguarding our children and keeping their wider families as safe as possible is a key priority and focus of the school's work. We have heavily invested in building staff capacity and expertise to do this work.

At Woodgate we:

- Provide psychotherapy and counselling support
- Have developed a bespoke emotional well-being provision (W.R.A.P.)
- Deliver 'Drawing and Talking' therapy
- Deliver 'Brick Therapy' for therapeutic support
- Have developed our structured lunchtime Nurture Group support for children who struggle to keep themselves or others safe on the playground
- Conduct home visits on admission to gauge pastoral needs on day one
- Have a trauma informed approach to our practice
- Have a strong P.S.H.E. and S.E.M.H. curriculum (including online safety)
- Use MyHappyMind to strength children's mental health and wellbeing and to support parents understanding and the role they can play
- Have a strong and experienced pastoral team
- Have robust safeguarding arrangements and procedures
- Hold Safeguarding assemblies for children – themed and led by the lead DSL (including online safety)
- Have Safeguarding notice boards in school – children know how to access support
- Have a strong culture of professional curiosity
- Have a coherent staff training package for safeguarding which encompasses a broad range of local and national priorities
- Have Strategic and Operational Attendance Leads – who monitor attendance closely, particularly those at risk of becoming PA, offering early help support to improve attendance and make 'safe and well' home-visits where appropriate
- Actively seek to make new partnerships with organisations that can support our families

Equity and Justice

We believe that every child that attends our school, irrespective of economic, cultural or religious background, should have access to the curriculum, the enrichment that we offer and the chance to be successful. We look for ways to reduce and remove barriers to learning and personal development in order for children to thrive.

At Woodgate we:

- Have 2 trained Poverty Proof auditors
- Provide significant support to our families in crisis/temporary accommodation
- Have 'The Woodgate Pantry' - a food bank accessible to all
- Have 'The Woodgate Wardrobe' – preloved clothes and shoes accessible to all
- Hold open afternoons to collect preloved clothing and food
- Have a successful partnership with Magic Breakfast club to provide food for all children on entry to school



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- Have a successful partnership with 'Sal's Shoes' to provide new school shoes for families in need
- Have a successful partnership with 'Rubery Swap Shop' to provide new and preloved uniform for families in need
- Have a successful partnership with 'Sewa Day' to provide food for families in need
- Have a successful partnership with MCKS charity to support our food bank
- Provide toys and games to families at Christmas
- Provide a new book to every child at Christmas
- Hold a Cultural Celebration Day -encouraging traditional dress and a themed arts workshop.
- Enable connections to be made between families/children in school
- Find creative ways to enrich the curriculum that enable all take part, keeping financial contributions from parents to a minimum (including the opportunity to sleep away from home)
- Provide books for children who require them – from our Book Sheds
- Work tirelessly with multi-agency professionals and the local authority to ensure that those children with SEND receive the appropriate level of support and provision in order that they can thrive

Curriculum Design

Our curriculum is designed to enable our children to develop a strong sense of moral purpose in addition to a respect and understanding of people who have different characteristics to themselves, whether that be age, disability, gender, race or sexuality. A rigorous, well planned curriculum, delivered by excellent staff in an ethos of care, love and support allows our pupils to be well rounded, empathetic young people who have a thirst for learning and respect for all around them.

At Woodgate we:

- Have an ambitious and challenging curriculum that meets the needs of all children including those with SEND
- Have identified 'The ARTS' development as a school development priority -Arts Focus group to develop a strategic plan for arts experiences.
- Celebrate community and culture through enrichment
- Promote language rich learning and oracy development
- Plan the English curriculum through diverse texts that reflect the school community
- Provide high quality CPD and professional development opportunities for staff
- Provide safe nurturing spaces for all, with a more specialised approach for individuals who require it
- Find opportunities to take children to different places of worship
- Use the local area and community to support our curriculum offer

Enrichment

School life is more than just delivering a robust and broad curriculum. It is more than children making academic progress. Children need opportunities to experience new things, to embrace new



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opportunities, to persevere through challenges, to develop as individuals, to form strong relationships and to find their own strengths and talents. We are fortunate enough to have extensive school grounds with lots of green spaces which supports our enrichment offer. We aim to build children's cultural capital during their life at Woodgate.

At Woodgate we:

- Organise Book Fairs that offer themed cultural experiences
- Celebrate World Book Day
- Hold a Cultural Celebration day where children and staff wear traditional dress of their heritage
- Fun Afternoon – Whole School – multi mini games approach and the opportunity to interact with siblings and peers from other classes
- Hold an annual summer sports day
- Hold School Grounds week – projects that support Arts development, take learning outside and enhance our school grounds
- Plan opportunities for children to go out of school to visit places which support their academic, social, emotional and spiritual development
- Plan opportunities for 'experts' to visit children in school to expand their experiences – e.g. roman soldier, Sublime Science, mountain explorer, Bhangra drumming workshop
- Hold an annual school disco – Halloween
- Provide Swimming Lessons to Year 5 children at University Pool.
- Provide Ukulele lessons to Year 3 children - Birmingham Music Service
- Invest in Gold Level Partnership with Birmingham REP Theatre – Drama Partnership to develop oracy, language of story, self- confidence and drama techniques – (EYFS/Yr1/Yr2)
- Have a partnership with the Royal Ballet Primary Steps on Demand dance program
- Have a developing partnership with Edgbaston High School – Choral Day, Planetarium visit, Textiles, Theatre Productions, Swimming for G & T
- Offer Your Sports Morning Clubs – Girls and Boys Football, Dodgeball, Multi-sports
- Use Warwickshire Library Loans Service - books and artefacts to support our blocked learning curriculum
- Offer a wide range of after school clubs – chess, gardening, drama, jigsaw, art, cookery, board games, animated film, reading, choir, science
- Hold an annual Talent Show

Active citizens

Every child has something to offer the wider school community and we seek ways that they can be leaders and role models, having a positive impact on the life of others.

At Woodgate we offer many opportunities student leadership and personal development, ensuring that our children serve the community. This includes:

- Head Boy/Girl
- Librarians
- Assembly monitors
- Litter Pickers



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- Play Makers
- Counting C.A.R.R.O.T. scores and House Point totals
- Register monitors
- School Council
- Dining Room Monitors
- Book Shed Monitors
- Student Leaders
- Aspirational careers fair
- Charity work
- Year 6 partnership project with EYFS
- Making Christmas cards for residents of local care homes
- Making Shoe Box parcels for children and the elderly
- Harvest Festival – collecting food for the Church Food Bank
- Macmillan Coffee Morning – children as servers
- Supporting a range of local and national charities – Shelter, Crisis, Poppy Appeal, Hello Yellow

Through our strategic approach and vision, and by focusing on these six key areas, the personal development of the children and families in the Woodgate school community is prioritised and planned for in a connected and cohesive way. This ensure that every child is developed in mind, body and spirit and is resilient and adaptable to the challenges of life in modern Britain. They are enabled to secure their individual personal development through the outstanding work of the school and its partners.