



Thursday Green 'Un

Autumn 1 September 2026

Welcome Back

Well, here we are at the beginning of our 19th year at WCM. We welcome everyone back to Watercliffe Meadow after the long summer holidays. We would also like to welcome any new families to the school, if there is anything you need to know, just ask, staff will always be happy to help.

It has been so lovely in school over the last few days. Having all the children back and listening to the fantastic times they have shared with families and friends has been a delight. We have had quite a number of the Summer Reading challenges back...well done! If you have not yet completed it you have until Friday 11th September; 30 reads will earn you a Reading Robot badge!

This year we have several new faces who have joined us at WCM;

Caroline Williams-Nursery Lead Teacher

Ellie Jaques – Nursery Teacher

Dawn Shipston – F2 Teaching Assistant

Olivia Cruise – Y1 Teacher

Alyssa Riddiford – Y5 Teacher

Deborah Quinton - Cleaner

If you see them around, say hello!

We want to make WCM the best place possible for your children to attend but we can only do that with your help and support. If you think we are doing something wrong, come and see us with a better idea. Together we can sort anything!

Communication

Communication is very important to us. We need you to feel confident in us as your child's school and listened to, if you have any worries.

If you need to talk to anyone in school, please choose 1 of the following routes:

- email office@watercliffe.sheffield.sch.uk
- phone 0114 2326603
- in person via a member of the office team
- a pre-arranged meeting with your child's class teacher
- for a quick question/chat see a member of staff from your child's class every morning or evening on the door.

Don't forget to check out our website for any information. www.watercliffemeadow.com

The website is in its third year now and is full of up to date information for you that you may need on a daily basis.

Schoolcomms and School Gateway App

Please remember that we are using Schoolcomms, an online payment system which will allow you to download the FREE School Gateway app; thank you if you have already done it.

The School Gateway app is the one place you can pay and sign up for visits, after school clubs, school meals, breakfast club and milk, in addition to receiving all school texts and emails.

By downloading the School Gateway app, you will be helping us to save money as it will reduce the amount of text messages we have to pay for.

What do I do next?

The set-up process is simple and will take no more than a couple of minutes:

1. Search for "School Gateway" in the Apple App Store/Google Play or on your phone. Go to www.schoolgateway.com/apple (Apple) or www.schoolgateway.com/android (Android)
2. Install the app and if you are asked, then say yes to 'Allow Push Notifications'
3. When you launch School Gateway for the first time, enter your email address and scroll to the bottom of the page and click 'Don't have an account?' You then need to enter your mobile number, agree to the privacy notice and terms and conditions and click on send PIN.
4. The system will send a PIN code to your phone; please enter this PIN code and the app will be activated for you.

As soon as you've got the system set-up, all of the text messages we send you will appear in the app; you'll receive notifications/alerts as normal.

If you experience problems, it could be that the mobile phone number or email address isn't the same as what is recorded in school.

If you are having any issues, please email office@watercliffe.sheffield.sch.uk or call in and see us. We will be more than happy to help.

School Meals

School meal prices are £3.15 for children in Y3-6, and for Nursery to £2.85. Please see our separate letter for more information.

The Universal Infant Free School Meals (UIFSM) project is still in place, and this means that all children in Reception, Y1 and Y2 can be provided with a school meal free of charge. As well as hot meals, our school meal provision also includes a sandwich option (pick and mix) and is a great solution for those who would normally bring a packed lunch. The UIFSM is not means tested and is for every child in Reception, Y1 and Y2.

If your child is in Y3 to Y6 they can also have a free school meal if you are in receipt of certain allowances. Please contact the school office for more information.

Applying for a Secondary School Place

If your child was born between 1 September 2015 and 31 August 2016, they will transfer to secondary school in September 2027.

If your child lives in Sheffield, a personalised letter will have been sent to you inviting you to apply and providing information to support you through the process.

The deadline for submitting your application online is midday Friday 16 October 2026. You'll still be able to complete a paper form until 31 October.

For more information follow this link:

<https://www.sheffield.gov.uk/schools-childcare/apply-school-place>

For your application you will need your child's unique reference number, which is on the letter you should have received from Sheffield City Council back in July. For an online application, you will also need a current email address. You will be informed of your child's allocated place at the beginning of **March 2027**. If you have any questions about this or would like help with making an application then speak to one of the Y6 team.

Reception (F2) 2027/28

If your child was born between 1st September 2022 and 31st August 2023, you need to apply for their school place.

Save Time - Apply Online at www.sheffield.gov.uk/schools-childcare
Closing date for applying 15th January 2027
Pupil Admissions can be contacted on 0114 273 5766

It is your responsibility to apply for a school place. Missing the closing date will mean less chance of obtaining a place at your preferred school(s). Please note that even if your child attends our nursery, you will still need to apply for a school place for your child. Places are allocated based on where you live, not which nursery setting your child attends. **Attending WCM Nursery does not guarantee you a place at our school.**

Please refer to the letter sent out by admissions for more information or ask a member of the Nursery Team.

Nursery Places

We currently have spaces in our nursery for children to start straight away. If you know someone who has a child who is 3, please get them to contact us for an application form. Email office@watercliffe.sheffield.sch.uk if you would like an application form sending out.

Holidays

Please do not book term time holidays. Check out the holiday dates to see when you can go away without affecting your child's education.

SATs for Y6 children are the week beginning 10th May. Please ensure this week is kept free to ensure your child gets the results they deserve to take onto Secondary School with them.

The Y1 Phonics Screening Check is within the week 14th – 18th June 2027

The Y4 multiplication check will take place in the 2 week period starting Monday 7th June 2027.

Breakfast Clubs

Breakfast Club will continue using a pre booking system at a fixed cost of £2.00 a day. To book a place and for information on payments please email office@watercliffe.sheffield.sch.uk

Dates for your Diary

Wednesday 23rd September – Individual Photos

Friday 21st October - Flu Vaccinations

Tuesday 6th & Wednesday 7th October - Parents Evenings

Friday 23rd October - Spooky Dress Up Day & Cosy Read

Friday 23rd October - Break up for half-term

Monday 2nd November - Children back at school

Wednesday 25th November - Training
Day 2 School closed to children

Tuesday 1st December - Step into Christmas family craft event

Wednesday 2nd December - Christmas Fayre

Week Beginning 7th December - Nativity Play F1, F2 & Y1

Wednesday 16th December – Christmas: Dinner, Cosy Read, Singing Outside, and party.

Friday 18th December - Break Up

Monday 4th January - Spring Term starts

<https://watercliffemeadow.ovw5.devwebsite.co.uk/page/?title=Term+Dates&pid=19>