



A note from the Headteacher....

At the end of a term it is always great to have a moment to reflect and walk around the school one last time to watch all the great things which are happening. The end of term reward assemblies have seen so many pupils recognised for their great achievements, whilst just being in classes with pupils who want to show me their great pieces of work is always a delight. There is such a buzz around school this time of year and when pupils are returning from carol concerts at residential homes, talking about their performance at the Christmas concert or looking weary after 3 days in Malvern, I reflect on the great opportunities available to the pupils. Let's hope for an equally special term next year as we start 2026 with a bang. You should also have received a message about an INSET day on Friday 23rd January which has been added to the school calendar.

Have a very enjoyable festive break and an extra special #OneWoodfield

Mr N Straw
Headteacher



Happy Holidays

Reporting Pupil Absence

Parents/carers please ensure you report pupil absence before 8:10am by either:

- Send an email to attendance@woodfield.bmat.co.uk
- 'Report an Absence' on MCAS
- Phone the school office on 01527 527081 and press option 1

Please note we no longer use StudyBugs

Important Dates:

Jan 2026

- 5th – Inset Day
- 6th – Pupils return to school
- 19th – KS2 Careers Assembly
- 20th – KS3 Careers Assembly
- 23rd – Inset Day

Feb 2026

- 12th – KS2 Author Visit
- 16th to 20th – Half Term
- 25th – Creative Arts Trip to Birmingham Hippodrome

Mar 2026

- 2nd – Tutor Evening (Subject)
- 5th – World Book Day
- 5th – Tutor Evening (Subject)
- 17th – Woodfield's Got Talent 6pm
- 27th – Last day of term

Breakfast Club

Our Breakfast Club runs from 8:00am – 8:30am every morning and is an opportunity for your child to have a hot drink and cereal or a bagel in a warm, safe environment with a member of staff always present. There are games and activities available; your child can receive help or advice with homework or simply spend the time with friends before lessons begin.

Our Breakfast Club is FREE of charge to all pupils. Your child does not have to attend every day and you are welcome to select the days that suit you best.

If you are interested in your child joining our Breakfast Club, please contact the office.



Communication Policy

Due to commitments on their time, staff are not always available to see you in person, take your call or respond to your email immediately.

With the exception of safeguarding concerns*, we aim to respond to calls and emails within 2 school days.

Any safeguarding concerns will be dealt with as a priority

Please note that our office hours are 8.00am-4.30pm so please do not expect to get a response outside of these times. Calls/emails marked urgent will be prioritised.

A reminder of our communication routes is on the last page. Messages can also be sent to the office/teachers via MCAS.

Please support us by
following our Social
Media accounts:



Facebook: [/OneWoodfield](https://www.facebook.com/OneWoodfield)

Twitter: [@OneWoodfield](https://twitter.com/OneWoodfield)

Instagram: [OneWoodfield](https://www.instagram.com/OneWoodfield)

SCHOOL NEWSLETTER

NEWSLETTER ISSUE NO 3 | Friday 19th December 2025



Parent/ Carer coffee drop in mornings

Does your child have SEND needs?
Do you want to support us to improve
inclusive practice across our trust?
Please come along!

Joanne Mawby, Strategic Lead for SEND and Inclusion for the Trust, would like to meet regularly with parents and carers of pupils with SEND this academic year.

Your experiences and feedback are important to us. We want to work more closely with you to ensure that every pupil in our Trust feels that they belong, that they can achieve and reach their potential.

Coffee mornings are being planned across the year at our four school venues. Based on what you would like, guest speakers and specific sessions on SEND needs will also be arranged following the first meeting. We are also hoping to work more closely with Worcestershire's Parent Carer Forum.

Please come along to any session that suits you, regardless of which school your child attends.

Sign up using the QR code or email send@gbmat.co.uk to book a place



All sessions will be held 9:30-10:30am
Wednesday 22nd October: Birchesdale Middle School
Wednesday 10th December: Trinity High School
Tuesday 10th February: Woodfield Academy
Tuesday 24th March: Holycroft Field First School
Wednesday 20th May: Birchesdale Middle School
Wednesday 1st July: Trinity High School

School Driveway

Parents/Carers are reminded that the school driveway is not to be used for drop-off or collection unless there is a medical reason, or it is an emergency.



Pupil Premium @ Woodfield

The Pupil Premium is extra government funding which is paid to support children in reaching their full potential

Am I eligible for Pupil Premium?

Qualifying benefits are as follows:

- ⇒ Universal Credit, and your annual household income is £7,400 per annum (£616 per month) or less after tax, and not including any benefits
- ⇒ Income Support
- ⇒ Income-based Jobseekers Allowance
- ⇒ Support under part 6 of the Immigration and Asylum Act, 1999
- ⇒ Child Tax Credit, provided you are not also entitled to Working Tax Credit and your annual income is less than £16,190, as assessed by HMRC
- ⇒ Guaranteed Pension Credit
- ⇒ Income-based Employment and Support Allowance
- ⇒ Working Tax Credit run-on paid for 4 weeks after you stop qualifying for Working Tax Credit

If your child is eligible for Pupil Premium, the school receives additional funding to enable us to enhance our support.

We can support you with:

- Uniform costs
- Up to 50% subsidised costs towards school trips and residential
- Targeted support for early readers, pupils in their SATs year and SEMH needs
- Musical instrument lessons
- A place at our Forest School
- A place at Breakfast Club

To apply, either complete a form available from Reception, or submit an online application via the WCC Citizen Portal:

https://emsi.worcestershire.gov.uk/CitizenPortal_LIVE/en





Children's Mental Health

We would like to remind parents and carers of a couple of resources available to support your child:

Lumi Nova App – Designed for **7–12-year-olds**, this app allows your child to create and complete missions that help them practice real-world skills, overcome fears, and build resilience.

Melo Onside – Designed for **11–16-year-olds**, Melo is a **free, early support service** provided by Onside Advocacy. It aims to improve the **emotional wellbeing and mental health** of children and young people across Worcestershire and Herefordshire.

Referrals can be made via:

- **Telephone:** 01905 673549
- **WhatsApp:** 07377 154731
- **Online:** [Melo :: Onside, Worcestershire & Herefordshire](https://melo.onside.org.uk)

Digital therapy enabling children to self manage their worries



Recommended by **NICE**

LUMI NOVA
TALES OF COURAGE

In partnership with **NHS**

BFB 

luminova.app

Science behind Lumi Nova



Research shows that **exposure therapy** is the most effective component of Cognitive Behavioural Therapy (CBT), and highly effective for treating fears, worries or anxiety.

You start by setting goals, and then your child works their way through gradual steps which break their worry down – learning that they can do it and build confidence.

Lumi Nova's development was funded by the NHS, and co-created with clinicians, academics, teachers, parents and young people as well as award winning game experts.

Who is Lumi Nova for?

Lumi Nova is for **7–12 year olds** facing difficulties with anxiety*, including:

- **Phobias** e.g. Being afraid of spiders or insects, heights, being near dogs, or the dark.
- **Social anxiety** e.g. Feeling worried about making new friends, going to social events.
- **Separation anxiety** e.g. Unable to sleep alone, worried about being away from parents, going to school.



*Lumi Nova is for children aged 7–12 experiencing mild to moderate anxiety. It is not recommended for use with children who have severe anxiety, are in crisis, have suicidal thoughts or are at risk of self-harm without clinical supervision. See instructions for use: bit.ly/luminova-fu

Benefits of using Lumi Nova

Use Lumi Nova to help your child:

- Learn **life long skills** to self manage their worries
- Learn how to **break down big worries** into smaller, manageable challenges
- Increase **resilience & confidence**
- Better **understand and talk about** worries through a playful experience
- Get **instant access** to highly effective evidence based therapy

Lumi Nova meets high standards of safety & security as a CE marked medical device registered with the UK's Medicines and Healthcare products Regulatory Agency.

Scan QR code for access or visit: [NHS luminova.app/ELFT](https://nhs.luminova.app/ELFT)

East London NHS Foundation Trust



Melo 

Be well being you.

Children and Young People's Early Support Mental Health and Wellbeing Service

Being a parent can be hard as well as amazing.

Supporting your child/young person through the changes and milestones of adolescence and secondary school years can be challenging at times. It's often a time when children and young people may face mental health or wellbeing challenges and life can feel pretty hard for them and also for you as parents. They may be facing all kinds of issues including:

- Feeling anxious or depressed
- Having low self esteem or lack of confidence
- Friendship and Relationship problems
- Difficulties at school
- Struggling with anger and other emotions
- Panic attacks



melo_onside.onside-advocacy.org.uk/melo

11–16 years parents

ONSIDE Charity no. 116202

Forest School

This term in Forest school we have been preparing for Christmas. The pupils have all been decorating wood cookies to put on our Christmas tree. Pupils have also been making s'mores over an open fire, which pupils have lit using flint and steel. Pupils have been helping saw up wood using a bow saw, this wood will be dried out and used in our fire later on in the term.

As the weather has been very wet we have been able to use the sledges to slide down our hill, this is helping to improve pupils skills in team work, resilience, confidence in trying new skills.





Year 5 & 6 Girls' Football Team – Tournament Success!

Our Year 5 and 6 girls' football team put on a fantastic display at their recent tournament, braving freezing cold conditions with bravery, teamwork, and brilliant football throughout. The girls won or drew all but one of their matches, earning a well-deserved silver medal. A special mention goes to Lily, who was chosen as Player of the Match. Her determination and growing confidence shone through in every game, and she capped off a superb performance by scoring our first goal of the day.

Well done to every player—your effort, resilience, and team spirit made us all proud!



Year 6 District Tag Rugby Competition

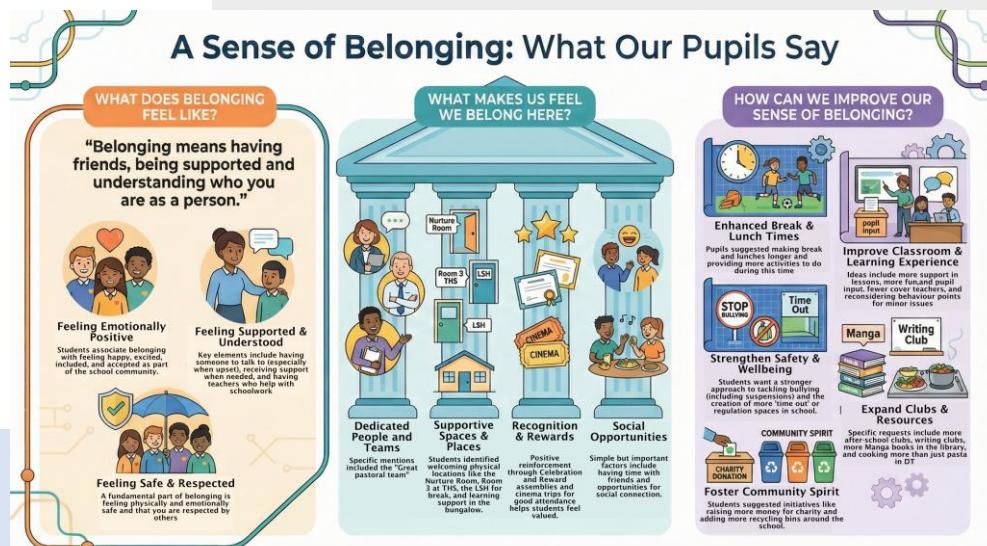
On Friday 21st November, these Year 6 students took part in a KS2 tag rugby tournament. Throughout the event these students shown great resilience and teamwork, enabling them to win all their games apart from one, in which it was a draw. They took home gold medals and should be very proud of themselves for this massive achievement.



Belonging Ambassadors

Belonging Ambassadors are a group of 11 pupils from across the MAT schools who are leading on pupil voice about what inclusion should look like in our schools.

A Sense of Belonging: What Our Pupils Say





District Cross Country 2025/26

Earlier this term we took a group of selected athletes to represent Woodfield Academy in the District Cross Country Finals competition held at Tudor Grange. Pupils competed against all other Redditch Middle Schools. Pupils from each year group worked incredibly hard to complete the tough course, which took great effort and resilience. We are very proud of all of our Athletes and they are all a credit to our school.

Cross Country Roll of Honour:

Year 5 Boys – George F, Oakley B, Kamaari K, Evan B, Alexander G, Tomas K, Hackeem D, Barney L, Kaelon L

Year 5 Girls – Sienna H, Violet C, Millie S, Josie B, Amelia B, Violet R, Bareeha A, Jasmine F, Millie R

Year 6 Boys – Luqman R, Oscar G, Jack T, Mataj T, Ismael H, Carter L, Ben H, Hassan M, Logan C, Jake S

Year 6 Girls – Anisia K, Maisie B, Daisy-Mai BC, Precious A, Nicola S, Hannah CH, Alba B

Year 7 Boys – Anthony S, Andrei N, Nikodem B, Harvey D, Harry B, Felix Z, Ethan C, Mark Junior T, Milo T

Year 7 Girls – Klementyna B, Emilia S, Willow F, Summer R, Betsie S, Emily H, Ellie CR, Emily R

Year 8 Boys – Edel S, Kwaku AP, Max H, Stefan U, Darko R, Bentley P, Faizan Q

Year 8 Girls – Mia H, Chloe E, Estela B, Paige A, Alesha CR, Maria S, Ashleigh K, Tanaka S, Lilly-Rose W, Millie-Rose T

We would like to express a special congratulations to Sienna H who ran an excellent race placing 3rd in the Year 5 Girl's Race and George F who placed 2nd in the Year 5 Boy's race. (see pictures below). Both will now progress to the County level competition to be held in January. Josie B in Year 5 has also been named as a reserve for the county team.

In Year 6 we would also like to congratulate Anisia K (6th), Maisie B (8th), Oscar G (6th) and Luqman R (8th) who all qualify for the next level County Cross Country also. We look forward to seeing how they perform in this competition.



Year 6

Year group attendance (91.4%) and targets (95%)

Tutor groups positive events

6LB-3989 6NP-1890 6NT-1143 6RM-2581 6VP-2557

Top positive students for each tutor group

6LB-Iqra I, 6NP-Ruby B, 6NT-Leo H, 6RM-Evelyn C, 6VP-Matilda P

Wonders of the Week from this half term

Mohammad K, Ollie P, Larna C, Ava C, Aiden F, Ellie H, Year 6 girls football team, Year 6 Forest school team, Jake S

Rewards

Cinema trip, Hot chocolate



Go The Extra Mile

This year Woodfield Academy has launched a new reward programme called 'Go The Extra Mile'. This is where pupils can be nominated across all year groups to be awarded for going above and beyond either in school or outside of school.

There are three main categories that pupils can be nominated for:

- Acts of Kindness
- Acts of Service
- Accomplishments

Pupils can be nominated by their peers or by any staff member in school. Where there are multiple nominations received in a week, sometimes a vote will take place from our Senior Leadership to establish who wins that weekly award.

The programme is taking place over the course of 26 weeks and there will be 26 Extra Mile recipients over this school year. The winners are announced in Key Stage assemblies each week and each winner receives a paper shoe to design which is then displayed on the 'Go The Extra Mile' notice board.

All 26 winners automatically gain a place on an end of year trip.

Our Winners so far:

Indigo-Rose S 5EC

For being an amazing friend to her classmates. For striving to include ALL pupils, without exception and helping all pupils achieve their best showing exceptional levels of kindness in doing so.

Nominated by – Miss Brettle & Mrs Adams

Felicity J 8LD

For representing the school at the memorial service, selling poppies, taking part in extra curricular activities across the whole school. For consistently displaying the four core values at all times. For having zero negatives and excellent attendance.

Nominated by – Miss Dawes

Evan B 5FH

For going out of his way to help others in several different ways in school. This included checking on a pupil who was alone on the playground, for assisting peers with handwriting and championing the progress made, and for being kind and patient with peers in reading.

Nominated by – Mrs Hennessey





CHRIS BLOORE MP

CHRISTMAS CARD

COMPETITION WINNER

We are incredibly proud and excited to announce that the winner of the annual Christmas card competition, launched by Redditch MP Chris Bloore was selected as Maggie in Year 8.

The card (pictured here), is the winning entry and will be used as Chris's Christmas card sent out to a whole host of important people!! The competition was open to all school children in Redditch, so Maggie has done incredibly well and her work received an overwhelmingly positive response from the judging panel.

"It is honestly one of the most beautiful entries I have seen in my many years working for MPs. A wonderful depiction of Redditch. She should be really chuffed".

Teresa Deakin PA to Chris Bloore.

Congratulations to all of the pupils who took part and designed beautiful cards with a "Redditch community theme". We entered a range of fantastic responses and all pupils will receive certificates from the Westminster Office in the coming weeks.

Ms Lawlor



Carol Singing

On Monday 15th December some of our Creative Arts Ambassadors visited two local care homes in Redditch to sing Christmas carols and do some art for the residents.

We visited Field View residential in Studley and Haywood Lodge in Mappleborough Green.

Pupils were a shining example of our #OneWoodfield community and everyone had a lovely time sharing some festive spirit.





A Woodfield Christmas Story

Tuesday 9th December 2025

On Tuesday 9th December Woodfield Academy held their annual Christmas show where pupils across all year groups showcased their talents in music, dance, drama, comedy and gymnastics!

Parents were treated to a fun filled festive feast of entertainment.

Merry Christmas!



A Woodfield Christmas



Story!





Poem by pupils in 5FH

⭐ When you wish upon a star, ⭐

Your dreams know who you are.

At Woodfield, lights are shining bright,
This Christmas time feels full of light.

In their first term at Middle School, 🎄

They've learned new rules, new ways, new tools.

With brave hearts stepping something new,

They've shown what Woodfield children can do.

⭐ With **compassion** warm as festive cheer,

And **respect** for everyone here,

They listen, care, and help each day,

Spreading kindness on their way.

⭐ Through **resilience**, strong and true,

They try again when work feels new.

With **responsibility** shining bright,

They rise to challenges, reaching new heights.

⭐ Led by teachers who believe and guide,

Mrs Hennessey by their side,

With Mr Straw leading all with care,

And Mrs Grimsley always there.

🎄 **So this Christmas, wishing on a star, ⭐**

They wish to keep being who they are:

Kind and brave, aiming high,

Believing they can reach the sky.

⭐ One school, one team, stars shining bright,

#onewoodfield glowing in the night.

What an amazing first term it's been —

A sparkling start to all their dreams. ⭐ ⭐

Inter-Form Competition

Well done to the form group winners ⚽

5FH

6LB

7JB

8SL

The house team winners will be announced to the children after half term in assemblies.





Home/School Family Support

Justine and Mrs Ginns (EWO) hold weekly drop-in sessions 8.30am - 10.30am every Thursday. Parents will need to book by emailing or texting Justine directly.

This is for any worries or concerns around attendance, mental wellbeing or issues at home.



Who is your Home/School Family Support Worker?

My name is Justine Fitzer



I have worked in the area for over eighteen years.

I know the journey of being a parent can take its twists and turns, and sometimes, we all need a little help along the way, that's what I am here for. If I can't help you, I know somebody who can.

I can be contacted through my Schools or alternatively you can contact me directly on:

Mobile:
07809330825

Email:
jfitzer@batchley.worcs.sch.uk

If I am unavailable, please leave a message and I will get back to you as soon as possible.

School Contact Details

Batchley First School
01527 62926

Woodfield Academy
01527 527081

Birchensale middle
01527 68430

Mobile:
07809330825

Email:
jfitzer@batchley.worcs.sch.uk



JUSTINE FITZER



What does a Home/School Family Support Worker do?

My role is to work closely with children and families who may be experiencing difficulties.

I listen and appreciate parents/carers issues and offer suggestions and advice for individuals and families

I can work with and support families during key school transitions including newcomers and moving to middle school.

I work with families who are going through difficult times including relationship breakdown, bereavement and mental health issues.

In consultation with parents/carers I can support children on a 1:1 basis (in school or in their home) or in a group, listening and working with them in different ways on managing their emotions, developing social skills and building their confidence

What does a Home/School Family Support Worker do?

- Bereavement, grief and loss
- Transition to new school
- Change in family circumstance
- Attendance
- Friendships
- Behavior
- Parenting
- Self-esteem
- Confidence
- Mental health
- Relationship breakdown
- Anxiety
- Trauma

This list is not exhaustive and there may be other reasons that a family might need support.

Sometimes you just might want someone to talk to outside of the family.



Family Support

We understand that life can be hard and sometimes we all need a little extra help and support. We are working with local agencies to improve our 'Family Support' offer. As a school we recognise that a problem shared can be a problem solved - or at least we can point you in the right direction to get help! By working together to help you, your child(ren) we can hopefully make a difference - especially for our pupils.



Whether it is an issue with finance or housing, health or SEND, Mental Health or relationships we are here for you.

You can reach out to the Family Support Team for advice and guidance - Mrs Freeman and Miss Chapman - by:

Telephone: 01527527081

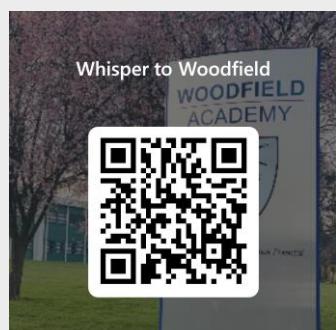
Email: familysupport@woodfield.bmat.co.uk

For more information following the links from our webpage: [Family Support | Woodfield Academy](#)



Report @ Whisper to Woodfield

If you are worried about a child or a family member and would like to alert school to your concerns, please use the QR code or [link](#) to our anonymous reporting tool. Your report will be logged with the Safeguarding Team.





Attendance Matters



Every Day Counts....

Whilst we all know that it is inevitable that children will have periods of illness during their time at school, it is essential that we look at ways to minimise this and the impact it has on achievement.

Regular and punctual school attendance is essential – only pupils who attend school regularly can take full advantage of the educational opportunities available to them.

If your child is suffering from a minor ailment such as a cold or a cough, please consider sending them to school. We will always send them home if we feel they are too unwell to be here.

[NHS Live-well - Is my child too ill for school?](#)

If your child is worried or anxious and not wanting to attend, please contact school via attendance@woodfield.bmat.co.uk so that Mr Hanks can assist and support.

A **Request for Leave During Term Time** application form must be completed **PRIOR** to any holiday. Forms are available from Reception.

what does your child's attendance % mean?

Yearly Attendance %	Total of days missed in a school year	Number of lessons missed in 1 school year	Number of lessons missed in 4 school years
100%	0	0	0
97%	6	30	120
95%	10	50	200
90%	20	100	400
80%	40	200	800
50%	100	500	2000

Good punctuality at school is just as essential for pupils to achieve their full potential as attendance. Being on time for school every day is an important step in forming good habits for later life. The impact of lateness soon adds up over a school year...





TERM DATES: ACADEMIC YEAR 2025/26

Autumn Term 2025

TERM STARTS	Monday 1 st September 2025
	TED Monday 1st September 2025
	TED Tuesday 2nd September 2025
BACK TO SCHOOL	Wednesday 3 rd September 2025
	TED Friday 10th October 2025
HALF TERM	Monday 27 th October 2025 – Friday 31 st October 2025
BACK TO SCHOOL	Monday 3 rd November 2025
TERM ENDS	Friday 19 th December 2025

Spring Term 2026

TERM STARTS	Monday 5 th January 2026
	TED Monday 5th January 2026
BACK TO SCHOOL	Tuesday 6 th January 2026
HALF TERM	Monday 16 th February 2026 – Friday 20 th February 2026
BACK TO SCHOOL	Monday 23 rd February 2026
TERM ENDS	Friday 27 th March 2026

Summer Term 2026

TERM STARTS / BACK TO SCHOOL	Monday 13 th April 2026
HALF TERM	Monday 25 th May 2026 – Friday 29 th May 2026
BACK TO SCHOOL	Monday 1 st June 2026
TERM ENDS FOR PUPILS	Friday 17 th July 2026
TERM ENDS	TED Monday 20th July 2026

Other Dates

GOOD FRIDAY	Friday 3 rd April 2026
EASTER MONDAY	Monday 6 th April 2026
MAY DAY	Monday 4 th May 2026
WHITSUN BANK HOLIDAY	Monday 25 th May 2026



SCHOOL NEWSLETTER

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Communication & Apps

Telephone: 01527 527081

Website: www.woodfield.worcs.sch.uk

Main School Email: office@woodfield.bmat.co.uk

Attendance: attendance@woodfield.bmat.co.uk

Behaviour Issues: behaviour@woodfield.bmat.co.uk

Anti-Bullying: bullying@woodfield.bmat.co.uk

Teaching & Learning: teachingandlearning@woodfield.bmat.co.uk

SEND: send@woodfield.bmat.co.uk

Book A Tour: tour@woodfield.bmat.co.uk

Mental Health: iamworried@woodfield.bmat.co.uk

Safeguarding: safeguarding@woodfield.bmat.co.uk

Head of Year 5 2025-26	Mrs P Grimsley
Head of Year 6 2025-26	Mrs N Philpott
Head of Year 7 2025-26	Mr M Hale
Head of Year 8 2025-26	Mr T Brook

Essential Equipment

All pupils should have the basic essential equipment with them every day. This includes:

Academy Planner

Reading book

Blue handwriting pen

Pencil

Coloured pencils

Eraser

Ruler

Sharpener

Refillable water bottle



All parents/carers are encouraged to download the MCAS app. With this app parents/carers can access all our communications, report pupil absence, make payments and consent to school trips, update contact details and book onto clubs; as well as view pupil behavior, timetable, school reports etc.

If you aren't yet a MCAS user, please send an email to office@woodfield.bmat.co.uk with the name of your child/ren, and an email with registration information will be sent to you.