

Welcome to John Hampden Primary School

Parent Handbook 2025/26



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1. Useful Information for John Hampden Primary School

Name and address	John Hampden Primary School Park Street Thame Oxfordshire OX9 3HU
Telephone Number	01844 212291
Head teacher	Mr. Paul Hankey
Deputy Head teacher	Mrs. Laura Craig
Senior Leadership Team	Mrs. Amy Begley and Mrs. Kate Cathcart (Co-Early Years Coordinators), Mrs. Luci Watson (SEND & Inclusion Lead), Mrs. Ruth Arnett (Phase Leader Yr 1-3), Sarah Bradford (SBM)
Chair of Governors	Mr. Dan Hayes
School administrator	Mrs. Christine Smith
Headteacher PA	Mrs. Corrina Hutchings
School Business Manager	Mrs. Sarah Bradford
School Receptionist	Miss. Alice Diamond
School times	8.40am-3.10pm (Reception-year 6)
The Elms Nursery	Morning Session 8:45am-12pm Afternoon Session 12pm-3pm Full Day 8:45am-3pm
Office hours	8am-4pm
Local Authority	Oxfordshire County Council County Hall, Oxford OX1 1NA

2. Useful Information for Tetsworth Primary School

Name and address	Tetsworth Primary School, 15 High Street, Tetsworth, Oxfordshire, OX9 7AB
Telephone Number	01844 281328
Executive Head teacher	Mr. Paul Hankey
Head of Teaching and Learning	Mrs. Sarah Spencer
Chair of Governors	Mr. Dan Hayes
School administrator	Mrs. Emily Holmes and Mrs. Alison Andrews
School times	8.45am-3.10pm (Reception-year 6) 8.30am-11.30am (Morning nursery session) 11.30am-12.30pm (Nursery lunch club) 12.30pm-3.30pm (Afternoon nursery session)
Office hours	8.30am-4pm
Local Authority	Oxfordshire County Council County Hall Oxford OX1 1NA

3. Introduction

Welcome to John Hampden Primary School, proudly maintained by the Oxfordshire Education Authority and governed by a federated Governing Body.

John Hampden is a friendly and caring school dedicated to excellence in learning. We strive to support children with empathy, fostering positive attitudes towards learning, school, and life. Through aspiration and opportunity, we believe that high expectations lead to greater achievements.

Our goal is to work closely with parents to help every child reach their full potential, acquiring knowledge, understanding, and skills across a wide range of subjects and activities.

As part of the Thame Partnership Networked Learning Community, we are developing new opportunities for collaborative learning and professional development among our schools.

This handbook is designed for families with children at John Hampden Primary, as well as parents considering enrolment. It provides details about daily life at our school, along with information about our policies and procedures.

We hope this document answers your questions about life at our school. If you need further information, please don't hesitate to get in touch.

Mr. Paul Hankey
Head teacher

4. The Federation

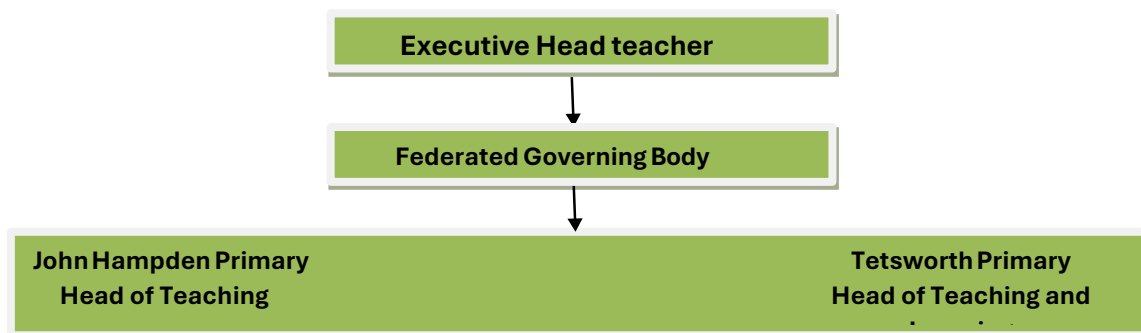
In September 2009, after a period of consultation, a Federation was formed between John Hampden Primary School & Tetsworth Primary School.

Federations are groups of two or more schools with a joint governing body. Each of the schools retains their separate individual identity but their individual governing bodies are dissolved and a new joint instrument of governance establishes a single federated governing body in their place. All maintained schools may establish joint governing bodies. This arrangement is termed a 'hard' governance federation by the DfE because of the formal commitments that are established.

Aspiration and Opportunity

Our federated schools remain separate in funding terms and each have their own Head of Teaching and Learning. Mr Paul Hankey acts as the Executive Head across both schools as well as the Head of Teaching and Learning for John Hampden Primary School – utilising his huge wealth of experience to promote the highest levels of education across the board. Mrs Sarah Spencer is Head of Teaching and Learning for Tetsworth. The governing body has become one instrument of governance, allowing parents and staff from two schools to become governors and make strategic decisions that influence and help all the schools.

Our Federated Structure



5. John Hampden and Tetsworth Federated School Governors

Name	Type of Governor	Contact via
Mrs. Natalie Henderson	Co-opted	John Hampden office
Mr. Paul Hankey	Head teacher	John Hampden office
Mr. Dan Hayes - Chair	Local Authority	John Hampden office
Mrs. Laura Craig	Staff	John Hampden office
Mrs. Fiona Morris	Parent	John Hampden office
Mr. Luke Hanratty	Parent	Tetsworth office
		John Hampden office
Other Co-opted governors		
Mrs. Rosy Bowling	Co-opted	John Hampden office
Mrs. Jenny Grant	Co-opted	John Hampden Office
Mrs. Sarah Spencer	Head of Teaching and Learning	Tetsworth office
Mrs. Sarah Bradford	Co-opted	John Hampden Office
Mr. Andrew Holmes	Co-opted	Tetsworth office
Mr. Martin Pounce	Clerk	John Hampden Office

Governors have a wide range of roles to play in within the school including:

- Setting the overall school budget
- Setting priorities for the School Improvement Plan
- Ensuring the National Curriculum is taught to all children
- Setting targets for pupil achievement
- Publishing national test results
- Ensure Health and Safety issues are addressed

Governors welcome ideas and comments from parents, guardians and children. We hold meetings during the year to keep parents up to date with developments in school.

If you would like to contact the Governing body you can do so via the school office. Or you can talk to one of the parent Governors directly.

6. School Staff and Organisation

YEAR	Teacher's names	Class Name	Teaching Assistants
Nursery	Miss. Butler Mrs. Gillies	THE ELMS	Mrs. Eason Mrs. Hawthorne Mrs. Whorton Mrs. Midwinter
Reception	Mrs. Gillies/Mrs. Begley Mrs. Cathcart/Mrs Chaplin-Stephens	PERIWINKLE AQUA	Mrs. Phillips Miss. Flynn Mrs. Hancock Ms Riley (Trainee Teacher)
1	Mrs. Newbrook Mrs. Arnett	AMBER CORAL	Ms. Bevis Mrs. Laws
2	Miss. Jamison Ms. Nichols	FUCHSIA ROSE	Miss Randall Miss Hendy Mrs. Edwards Mrs. Meier Miss Bell
3	Mrs. Andrews Mrs. Perring/Mrs. Pope	AMETHYST MULBERRY	Mrs. Charlton Mrs. Strawbridge
4	Mrs. Parry Mr. Eaton/Mrs. Brookes	SAPPHIRE INDIGO	Mrs. Avery Mrs. Holopainen Mrs. Bowler
5	Mrs. Schleising/Mrs. Field Miss. Grigg	EMERALD FERN	Mrs. Smith Miss. Hendy Mrs. Baker
6	Mr. Nutt Mrs. Parker/Mrs. Wormald	CRIMSON RUBY	Mrs. Aspinall Mrs. Papworth Miss Downs
Headteacher		Mr. Paul Hankey	
Deputy Head/Phase Lead Y4-6		Mrs. Laura Craig	
SEND and Inclusion Leader		Mrs. Luci Watson	
Family Link Worker		Mrs. Sarah Roberts	
School Business Manager		Mrs. Sarah Bradford	
Safeguarding Leads and Deputies		Mrs. Luci Watson, Mr. Paul Hankey, Mrs. Laura Craig, Mrs. Sarah Roberts, Mrs. Corrina Hutchings	
ELSA		Mrs. Laura Braybrook	
Music Provider		XYZ Music	
Peripatetic Teachers		Cara Scoble (Strings), Lorna Waters (Woodwind), Phil Heard (Drum), Caroline McMaster (Piano), Ed Cusick (Guitar)	
Lunchtime Supervisors		Mrs. Sarinya Arthurs, Miss Alison Bowdrey, Mrs. Joanne Ensol, Mrs. Becky Midwinter, Mrs. Inesa Tsyhanok, Mrs. Teresa Higgins	
Premises Team		Mr. Kevin Sayers (Site Manager), Mrs. Sarinya Arthurs, Mrs. Joanne Ensol, Mrs Rowan Hawthorne, Mrs Teresa Higgins, Mrs Jeanette Portnall	
Head of Catering Team		Mrs. Avril Herreros	

We do our best | We are kind | We are a team

7. The School Year

John Hampden enjoys an eventful school calendar. Each term there will be a special event that your child – and often the whole family – can be involved in.

The School PTFA organises many other social and fundraising events in addition to those listed above. You can find information about upcoming events by visiting the website.

8. The School Day

The Daily Routine – The Elms Nursery

The Elms Nursery Class at John Hampden Primary School has the following sessions available, Monday to Friday during term time:

Morning Session 9:00am-12pm (3-hour session)

Afternoon Session 12pm-3pm (3-hour session)

Full Day 9:00am-3pm (6-hour session)

Children gather with their parent's outside the Nursery classroom before the Nursery opens and will be welcomed by staff. This is where parents and carers also pick up their children at the end of a session.

The Daily Routine – Reception to Year 6

Before School

Gates open at 8.30am. Children should go straight to their classrooms and arrive no later than 8.40am. Parents are asked to ensure that children are brought to school on time. You should notify the office by phone or e mail (absence@john-hampden.oxon.sch.uk) by 9am if your child will be late or absent from school. At 9am the registers close and any child arriving after this time will need to sign in at the school office. Persistent lateness (arriving after 9am) could result in a penalty notice.

During the day

All school classes start at 8.40am. Lessons continue until the morning break. For children in Key Stage 1, morning break is from 10.45 to 11.00am and for Key Stage 2, 11.00 to 11.15am. Fruit is supplied free of charge to children in Foundation Stage and KS1. Children in KS2 are welcome to bring their own healthy snacks and children in KS1 can also do this if they prefer.

The morning session continues from 11:00-12:00 (Key Stage 1) 11.20am until 12.20pm (Key Stage 2), when the children break for lunch. Lunch lasts for one hour and afternoon lessons continue from the end of the lunch period until 3.10pm.



Children in Reception have a continuous provision in their curriculum and therefore they can access learning opportunities taking place both indoors and outdoors for the whole day. Lunch for Reception children starts at 11.45am.

Reception and KS1 (aged 4-7 years) children are entitled to free school meals. This includes the option of being provided with a packed lunch when their class is out of school on an educational visit. Our school meal provider is Dolce and you will need to order your child's meals via their website (<https://www.dolce.co.uk/parents/>). New starters will be set up on this system by our admin team. For children in Key Stage 2, School dinners are available to all children at a cost of £3.08 per day.

Some children in Key Stage 2 will also be eligible for free school meals through Pupil Premium Funding. If you think you are eligible for Free School Meals, please contact the school office who will provide an application form.

John Hampden School actively promotes healthy eating, and your children will have plenty of opportunities during the school year to learn about healthy diets. This is reflected in the meals that we provide. Menus are planned to provide children with healthy meal options, including plenty of fresh fruit, salads and vegetables.

School dinners are served in the Vernon Hall, where children sit at shared tables. Children bringing packed lunch will also eat it in the Vernon Hall.

We ask that parents not send sweets, chocolate bars (such as Mars, Dairy Milk etc.) or fizzy drinks as part of a packed lunch. We are a nut aware school. Pupils must not bring nuts to school (including peanut butter and Nutella) as we have children with nut allergies on our school roll.

Assemblies

At John Hampden we encourage our students to feel part of a community. School assemblies are an important part of school life. They provide an opportunity for individual and group achievements to be recognised and celebrated. They are also an opportunity for social and civic development subjects to be discussed in a shared environment. Sometimes speakers will be invited to assembly to address the school on specific topics or celebrations.

Parents may be asked to participate at special assemblies by invitation. Unfortunately, space and numbers prevent us from involving parents on a more routine basis. Typical weekly assemblies are as follows:

Monday:	Singing Assembly
Wednesday:	Whole School Assembly (JIGSAW – PSHE-based)
Friday:	Achievement Assembly



Collecting your child from school – Reception –Year 6

Parents or guardians should collect their children from the door of their classroom at 3.10pm. Parents should notify the school office if they expect to be delayed. Teaching staff stay in their classroom for a short period to look after children who have not been met. Staff will make appropriate phone calls if there is an unusual or unreasonable delay in the children being collected. If you are delayed by more than 15 minutes, the teacher will take your child to the school office to wait for you.

Mobile Phones

We understand that, once children walk home independently, many parent wish for their child to carry their mobile phone to and from school so that they are contactable. We do not allow mobile phones during the school day. If your child brings a phone to school, it must be switched off and given to the class teacher on arrival. The devices will be held securely by the school and your child may collect them at the end of the day. You can permit your child to bring their phone via the Arbor app permissions. By signing this, you will agree to our mobile phone code of conduct, which is outlined in our school ICT policy.

Wrap-around Care (Breakfast and After School Club)

JAG (Junior Adventure Group) are a company providing a breakfast club and an after-school club on our school premises. Both clubs are in the Vernon Hall (see map). The hours are 7.30-8.45am (breakfast club) and 3.15–6:00pm (after school club), Mondays to Fridays during term time. Staff are appropriately trained and qualified. Please see the JAG website for more details and to book sessions for your child (<https://www.junioradventuresgroup.co.uk>).

9. The Curriculum

Early Years Foundation Stage

Learning at Foundation Stage – ages 3 – 5, is governed by the Early Years Foundation Stage Curriculum. More information and copies to download can be found here:

<https://www.gov.uk/early-years-foundation-stage>

Key Stages 1 and 2

Teaching at John Hampden is governed by the National Curriculum. More information and copies to download can be found here:

<https://www.gov.uk/national-curriculum> The National Curriculum sets out:

- the subjects taught
- the knowledge, skills and understanding required in each subject
- standards in each subject - teachers can use these to measure your child's progress and plan the next steps in their learning
- how your child's progress is assessed and reported.

The National Curriculum is made up of blocks of years, known as key stages: Year 1 and Year 2 of primary school are known as Key Stage 1
Years 3 to 6 of primary school are known as Key Stage 2.

Compulsory National Curriculum subjects are the same for Key Stages 1 and 2:

- English
- Maths
- Science
- Computing
- Design and technology
- Modern foreign languages
- History
- Geography
- Art and design
- Music
- PSHE and RSE
- Physical education

Schools are also required to teach religious education. You have the right to withdraw your child from all or part of the religious education curriculum. If you have any concerns about the religious component of the school's teaching, please discuss your concerns with the Head Teacher. In addition, the school teaches personal, social and health education (PSHE) and citizenship through Jigsaw and we are delighted to hold the title of a Flagship School.

The Department for Education announced changes to relationships and sex education following nationwide consultation. These changes came into effect from September 2020 and all schools are required to comply with the updated requirements. Our RSHE curriculum and policy is available to view on the school website.

Assessment

Assessment takes place on an informal basis all the time. Your child's teacher will be constantly observing your child's progress and using this understanding to inform future teaching.

The children need to be aware of assessment and marking processes so that they know what they are achieving and what to do to move their learning on. Learning is seen as on-going and assessment can take the form of self, peer and teacher judgements.

Teacher's professional judgements will centre on knowledge of the learner and there will be emphasis placed on challenge and breadth of knowledge. Assessments will be based on a range of work and quality feedback will be fundamental to moving learning on.

Our assessment system also includes summative assessments where we assign a mark to children's learning at a particular point in time. SATS (Standard Assessment Tests) are given towards the end of 6. They assess your child's reading, writing and maths attainment.



In Year 1, children are required to take a Phonics Screening Test in June. The tests are set externally and conducted by a class teacher. You will be given your child's result before the end of the school year. If they do not pass the screening test, they will need to sit it in June the following year.

In Year 4, children are required to take a Multiplication Check in June. The tests are set externally and conducted by a class teacher.

Teacher assessment also takes place for Key Stage 2, but in year 6, children also have to sit SATs that are the same for children all over the country. SATs for Year 6 take place in May. The papers are sent away to be marked, and you will have the results before your child leaves school in July.

At the end of Foundation Stage, teachers are required to submit an EYFS profile to county. The children are assessed using Early Learning Goals assessment criteria. For more information on the Early Years Foundation Stage Profile please visit: <https://www.gov.uk/early-years-foundation-stage>

Special Educational Needs

John Hampden School recognises that all pupils have individual needs, and that some pupils will require additional support.

The school aims to identify those who find learning more difficult for whatever reason. We aim to work with parents to develop a supportive partnership to enable children to achieve their potential.

The School's SEND and Inclusions Lead, Mrs. Luci Watson, is available to discuss concerns and provision by telephone and appointments through the school office.

The school policy on special educational needs and the JHS SEND Information Report to parents and governors is available from the office and on the school website.

Homework

At John Hampden, we feel strongly that your child's learning experience is greatly enhanced if school and family work together. Homework is an important part of creating a partnership between you and school.

Homework is also an important way of developing your child's learning skills.

Homework can:

- develop good working habits and self-discipline
- encourage skills and attitudes that help children improve their educational performance
- allow your child to express their individual approach to a subject
- give you a chance to take part in your child's learning.



A full copy of the school's homework policy is available from the office or on our website.

Sport and Leisure

Sport is a traditionally strong element of school life at John Hampden School, and is an important part of a child's education. It encourages sportsmanship, self-discipline, resilience and dedication, and helps children to view sport and fitness as an integral part of a happy and healthy life.

Sports clubs and external coaches come to the school to encourage the children to extend their interest further. The school offers a variety of after-school activities. These include football, rugby, hockey, cricket, multisports and more!

Swimming Lessons

Swimming lessons are timetabled for Year 4-6. Swimming lessons are held at Thame Leisure Centre. The children travel to the Leisure Centre by coach.

Your child will be asked to bring their swimming kit on swimming days. Details will be sent to you prior to your child attending these sessions.

Music

Music is taught as part of the National Curriculum with our dedicated music provider XYZ Music (<https://xyzmusicacademy.com/>).

The school has a choir that participates in a variety of events throughout the school year.

In addition to the class activities, children can also learn an instrument. Instrumental tuition is provided by teachers who are not part of the staff, but who visit on a sessional basis. Some of these teachers are employed by

Oxfordshire County Council. Others are self-employed. Lessons take place at lunchtimes or during class time.

Lessons currently on offer at the school include piano, strings, woodwind, guitar and drums.

For information about music lessons, ask at the school office. Office staff will give you information about who to contact. You can also contact the Oxfordshire County Music Service direct on 01865 740000 or visit the council website at www.oxfordshire.gov.uk.

10. House System, Buddies and Pupil Leadership

John Hampden School actively encourages its pupils to become responsible and caring members of the school community and the community at large.

At John Hampden, we use a house system to promote teamwork, friendly competition, and a sense of belonging among students.



Pupils are divided into four houses, and each house represents a key value in our school:

Bedivere – Perseverance

Lancelot – Friendship

Galahad – Endeavour

Gawain – Truthfulness

Pupils earn points for their house through exemplary behaviour, academic and extra-curricular achievements. The house system encourages collaboration across year groups and helps build a strong school community, with regular assemblies, and competitions fostering school spirit and pride.

The school operates a Buddy system (from year 1 to year 6) to further enhance friendships across the school years. Each September, your child will be given a ‘buddy’ from another year group (within their house). This might be someone older or younger; someone your child might not have a chance to know otherwise. Every other Friday is designated ‘buddy afternoon’ when your child will spend time reading with their buddy. The scheme has been hugely popular and has helped to foster a feeling that all children are part of the one school community.

The school also has Pupil Lead groups, which include representatives from each class. They discuss a variety of issues about school life and activities, and in some cases the councils will have a budget to transform ideas into reality. They include:

- House Captains
- Sports Ambassadors
- Wellbeing Ambassadors
- Newspaper Team
- Librarians
- School Council
- Eco Council
- Signing Ambassadors (Makaton)

11. School Uniform

Children are asked to wear a school uniform. The school uniform is:

- Top: White shirt, blouse or polo shirt
- Sweater/Cardigan: Bottle green sweatshirt, sweater, or cardigan (with or without school logo)
- Bottoms: Grey or black school trousers, shorts, pinafores, or skirts
- Summer Option: Green striped or checked dresses for girls
- Footwear: Plain black school shoes (not trainers or boots). Plain tights or socks in white, grey or black

No jewellery other than a wrist watch and stud earrings should be worn to school. Long hair should be tied back with a plain hair band.

You can buy John Hampden sweatshirts, fleeces, shower-proof jackets, polo shirts and PE tops with the school on-line via Bucks Schoolwear Plus (Aylesbury) PMG Schoolwear (High Wycombe) or Earth Uniform (Thame).

Other items of uniform are available in supermarkets and other regional shops.

PE Kit

You will be asked to provide your child with a PE kit. Children are expected to wear their PE kit to school on PE days.

Your child will need:

- Top: White t-shirt or school PE training top
- Bottoms: Shorts (dark green, black, or navy) these should be an appropriate length, for example Nike pro shorts are not acceptable
- Footwear: Trainers (black or white) for outdoor use
- Cold Weather: Dark, plain tracksuit or jogging bottoms and a school fleece or sweatshirt

Earrings should be removed for all PE lessons or the ears taped up. Long hair must be tied back.

For full details please see our School Uniform Policy

12. Administration and Communication

Arbor

Letters and class communications are sent home at regular intervals during the year. Parents may receive school communications electronically via e mail through a system called Arbor. Details of how to set up the Arbor app will be sent during enrolment.

Money

We are now a cashless school. Payments will be set up through Arbor and will also be used to gain permission for trips/activities.

Transport

John Hampden School promotes the Better Ways to School Campaign. We support and promote cycling and walking as the best ways to get to and from school. Bicycle and scooter storage is provided on site for bikes and scooters to be left during the day. Children are not permitted to cycle or scoot on school premises.



Parents are not permitted to bring cars onto the school premises for dropping off or collecting their children from school. Cars on the school premises at these busy times of day are dangerous because the area becomes congested. We hope that you will understand and respect our wishes in order to be sure that the children are safe.

Permission to park in the school for reasons of disability or other special circumstances can be arranged after self-declaration and approval by the Head teacher. Please note that permits are only issued in exceptional circumstances and for the child you are collecting.

Attendance

Attendance is something the school takes seriously. The school is obliged by law to follow up any child who is absent from school without explanation, or if the explanation for an absence is not adequate.

If your child is unwell or has an appointment you must inform the office by telephone or e mail by 9am so that teachers can be informed and our records can be kept up to date. If we have not heard from you, we may need to conduct a welfare check (visit to your home) as per our attendance policy which is available on the website or through our school office.

The e mail address for reporting absence is absence@john-hampden.oxon.sch.uk

Holidays

The school holiday dates and end of Key Stage Assessment dates are published a year in advance and leave of absence will not be authorised during these assessment periods. INSET days are published as soon as the school have agreed these but may be subject to change.

In line with the Government's amendments to the 2006 regulations, holidays during term time will NOT be authorised unless there are exceptional circumstances in line with the examples given below:

- a parent, grandparent or other close relative is seriously ill.
- there may have been a significant family trauma recently and the Head teacher may consider that an immediate holiday might enable the child to cope with the situation.

Absences during the school day

If you need to take your child out of school for a period during the school day then you will need to sign them out and sign them back in again. This is done electronically in the school office. These procedures are important in case of fire or emergency. The school needs to know exactly how many children are on site at any one time so that we can ensure that all children are present and safe.

Contact Numbers

Before your child joins school, you will be asked to provide basic details about your child's health and who to contact in an emergency. This will include nominating adults other than parents. The information is stored on Arbor and parents will be able to update contact details on the app. It is vital that you let the school office know if any of these contact numbers change and you cannot change details yourself.

The law requires that the school is notified in writing if anyone else will be collecting your children from school. The school understands that your arrangements might change from day to day. You can write a letter or e mail stating your usual weekly arrangements and name individuals who might collect your children if arrangements have to change at short notice. Younger year groups will ask you to provide a safe password that other people collecting your child will need to provide before your child is handed over.

Parent/Teacher Meetings

Twice during the school year, the staff at John Hampden conduct parents evenings where you will have the opportunity to meet your child's teacher to talk about his or her progress. These meetings are also a chance for you to ask questions, and to tell your child's teacher about his or her life outside school. The teacher will talk about your child's achievements in the key learning areas.

At the end of the school year you will be sent a written report that gives details about your child's progress.

Of course, you can always see your child's teacher if you have any concerns about their life at school. Please make appointments to do this by e mailing or visiting the school office.

13. Health & Safety and Illness at School

Security

The school has procedures in place to safeguard security as far as possible. All visitors to school are required to visit the office when they arrive to sign in electronically. Visitors will be given a visitors badge that is to be worn around the neck and clearly visible. The badge should be worn for the duration of their visit.

Should a person be seen on the premises without a badge, staff can operate a lockdown security alert system if necessary - meaning that children are kept in their classrooms until the situation is resolved. This procedure is practiced during the school year to ensure that children and staff are confident with the procedure.



Visitor information leaflets detail safety and safeguarding procedures that all visitors need to know. Regular visitors and volunteers will receive a more comprehensive induction from the school and will be required to complete a DBS check.

Please see our Volunteer Handbook for more details (available on the website or from the school office)

Fire drill

The fire alarm is a continuous ringing of an electric bell. On hearing the alarm, classrooms are evacuated, and the children are assembled at a specified place where numbers will be counted.

Teachers and other school staff are expected to act like any reasonably responsible parent to ensure that children are safe, and to act when necessary in the event of accident or illness. In exceptional circumstances this might mean seeking medical advice or contacting emergency services. Children have regular fire drill practice, usually every half term.

Lockdown Alarm

A continuous alarm will be sounded for 2 minutes (this will sound like longer beeps and a lot different from the fire alarm). This indicates a security alert, and the children should then remain in class with staff. Staff and children will remain out of sight, with windows shut, blinds down and doors locked, all devices will be switched to silent. At the end of the alarm they will remain classroom until a member of the office staff informs the teachers and TAs that it is safe.

In the event of a lockdown procedure, parents will be directed to the nearest school hall (see site map) and will follow the above procedure.

First aid

Anyone caring for your child, including teachers and other school staff, is expected to act like any reasonably responsible parent to ensure that children are safe. In exceptional circumstances this might mean giving strictly prescribed medicines or contacting emergency services.

First aid materials are kept in boxes in each classroom. Several members of staff are qualified first aiders and will be on hand to offer advice when dealing with an injury. Staff will contact you if necessary, but usually only if your child needs to go home before the end of the day. Minor incidents can usually be handled without the need to contact you, but they will be recorded on an accident slip and sent home with the child. If your child has a bump on the head, staff are instructed to alert parents and monitor them carefully.



Illness at school

Children taken ill during the day will be accompanied to the school office and parents are contacted. Someone will stay with your child and care for them until they are collected. Your child may be taken to the Health Centre in Thame if staff decide that medical advice is needed without delay.

Asthmatic children

A child with asthma may have a prescribed inhaler at school. Information regarding its use should be given to the school using our medical form (available via e mail or from the school office).

For children in Foundation and Key Stage 1, inhalers are kept by staff in an easily accessible place. Older children can carry their inhaler with them. You should supervise your child using their inhaler to make sure they will be confident using it on their own if they need to.

The school requires that any prescribed medication i.e. inhalers and epipens must be in a box with the prescription label attached. The school keeps an inhaler in the school office to be used in emergencies. This will only be administered with permission from parents/carers.

Medicines at school

The school is not permitted to give non-prescription drugs such as paracetamol, ibuprofen or anti-allergy medicines (following OCC guidelines). These may be given on residential trips if necessary following consultation and relevant form submissions from parents before the visit takes place.

Medicines should only be taken to school if they are needed more than three times during the day. If your child is having a course of antibiotics, it is usually possible to fit in the required number of tablets each day without the need to take them at school.

Parents are welcome to visit school to administer during the day should it be necessary.

Children needing medicines for long term medical conditions will need to have a healthcare plan drawn up between their health professionals, the family and the school. All medicines must be in a named box with a prescription label.

A full copy of the school policy about medicines at school is available from the office.



Lost Property

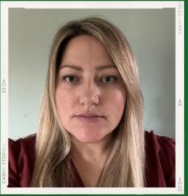
Lost property is located in a box in the Jackson building. If your child has lost an item, please encourage them to look in their classroom, cloakroom and lost property box. You can also search the lost property box yourself after school.

Please make sure that your child's uniform and possessions are clearly labelled with their name and class. This will make it easier for people to return something they find, and for you to find things that go astray.

14. Safeguarding and Child Protection

The safeguarding of all of our children is of the utmost importance. All staff have day-to-day contact with children and therefore are particularly well placed to observe outward signs of abuse or neglect. School staff are obliged, where they deem necessary, to inform the child protection agencies of any concerns which may arise. The following staff are the Designated Leads for the school and have received specific training to deal with Child Protection issues:

Designated Safeguarding Leads at John Hampden Primary School

				
Luci Watson SEND and Inclusions Lead (Mon-Thur)	Paul Hankey, Executive Headteacher	Laura Craig, Deputy Headteacher (Mon-Thur)	Sarah Roberts, Family Link Worker	Corrina Hutchings PA to Headteacher

In addition, all staff are required to undertake generalist safeguarding training on a two-year cycle.

Please see the school's Child Protection Policy & Safeguarding Policy for further information (available on the school website or from the school office).

15. School Trips

At regular intervals during the year, your child will have the chance to leave the school premises for a school trip. Outings are planned to complement curriculum subjects and are a great way of engaging the children's imaginations and bringing a subject to life.

Some of these trips will be short visits to venues in Thame. Children will walk to these places if possible. For school trips further afield, the children will travel by bus. All buses used by the school are reputable companies, equipped with seat belts and compliant with all health and safety requirements.

A letter will be sent home in advance of the trip with details of the cost, destination, transport arrangements, time of departure and time of return. Most outings take place during normal school hours. Your child will not be able to attend the school trip if you do not provide consent. You may be asked for a financial contribution towards the cost of a school outing. The contribution will go towards entrance fees and the cost of transport. If you are unable to contribute, please make an appointment to see the Headteacher so that we can come up with an arrangement.

The school encourages all children to take part in outings if possible. If you have any concerns about your child taking part in an outing please talk to the class teacher or Headteacher.

Field trips

In Years 5 & 6, children at John Hampden have the opportunity to go on a residential field trip for 3 days or more with members of their class. The field trips are an enormous success and very enjoyable for all those involved. In addition to the educational activities, children also gain added independence, confidence and social skills that come from spending a few nights away from home. Students on field trips are accompanied by staff. Any children not participating will be included in another class group for the duration of the trip.

A full copy of our charging and remissions policy is available on the school website or from the school office.

16. School Trips

The school welcomes the involvement of parents. Getting involved with school life will help you to feel more a part of your child's education and is a great chance to make new friends. The children also get a real thrill when parents and loved ones can be a part of what's going on – they are not old enough for you to be embarrassing yet! There are many ways in which you can contribute.

Regular volunteers are required, by law, to provide details for a full DBS check. This is conducted by our School Business Manager. If you wish to volunteer, please speak to your child's class teacher in the first instance and we can then begin background checks.

For more details on volunteering, please refer to our Volunteers Handbook (available on the website or from the school office)



Classroom and school curriculum activities

There will be many opportunities to get involved with school activities. It is a great way to get an inside perspective on school life, and to get to know some of the children in your child's year group.

You might want to get involved in reading with your child's classmates. Special events such as Arts Week, Science Week or the annual Year 6 Play need contributions from parents. School outings are also a way for you to share special days out with your child.

We frequently rely on the expertise of the parents to help with school developments and projects. Let us know if you have a particular skill, profession or interest that might be of use to the school. Tradesmen, marketing professionals, health professionals, artists, musicians – all walks of life will have something to contribute at some point and we would welcome your input.

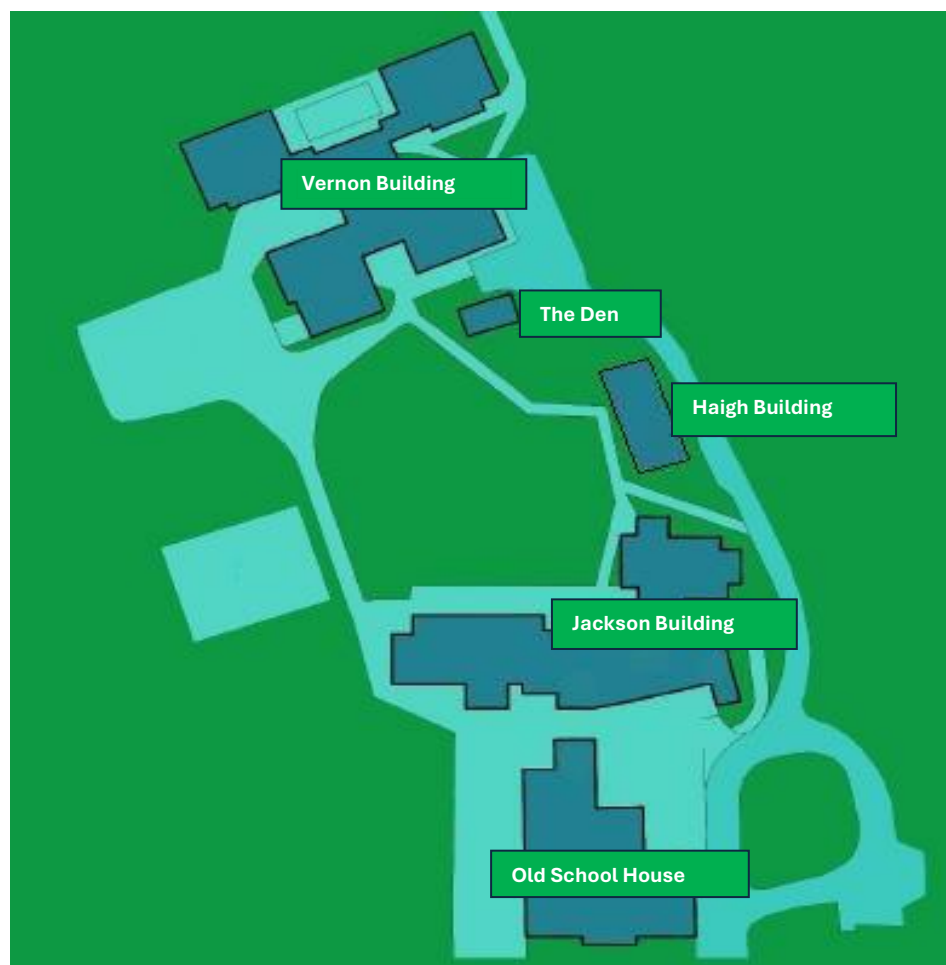
PTFA

You may wish to become involved with the PTFA. Our PTFA raises vital funds for facilities and equipment to complement life at school, raising thousands of pounds each year. The PTFA has been able to fund many projects such as resourcing classroom resources, outdoor equipment, ICT equipment, the school library and stage and lighting for our productions.

The PTFA also takes responsibility for many of the most enjoyable and memorable occasions in the school calendar – the Fete, the Christmas Cracker, children's entertainment events, firework displays, quizzes and school discos. You can become a member of the committee or volunteer to be a PTFA 'helper', without whom none of these events would be possible. The

PTFA runs a Facebook page, linked to our website, with up-to-date information about the school and fundraisers.

17. The School Site



Vernon Building

Nursery
Reception
Year 1
SENCO Office
Family Links Office
Vernon Hall School
kitchen

The Haigh Building

Year 2

Jackson

Year 3
Year 4
Headteacher's
Office Library
Staff Room
Jackson Hall

Old School House

School Office
Admin Office
Year 5
Year 6
School kitchen

We have entrances to the school at the front and back of the school site

18. Conclusion

We hope this document provides you with all you need to know about daily life at John Hampden Primary School.

If there is something we have overlooked, please let us know by sending an email to the school office. The address is on the front page of this handbook.

Remember that there are other sources of information on the school website, in particular news about forthcoming events, and pages for the individual classes.

We look forward to getting to know you and your children, and hope that you find school life enjoyable and rewarding.