

Safeguarding

Our prime responsibility as a school is to ensure that all children in it are safe.

Safeguarding can be defined as 'The process of protecting children from abuse or neglect, preventing impairment of their health and development, and ensuring that they are growing up in circumstances consistent with the provision of safe and effective care that enables children to have optimum life chances and enter adulthood successfully'. School obviously plays a very important role here.

Please see our website for our school's safeguarding policy.

Our designated safeguarding leads are Mrs Rachel Rice, Mrs Sarah Webb, Mrs Julie Hammond, Mrs Lynne Mildren and Mrs Emilie Stevenson (for Wrap Club-before and after school care).



Signing-in

All visitors to the school must sign-in on the screen located in Reception.

Communication

Open communication is very important to us. Parents/carers are encouraged to respectfully share any concerns/questions with the school, however big or small they may seem, directly rather than via social media sites. A phone call to the school office, an open exchange on the school gate or an email should provide the information that you require if indeed the information is not on this website. There is a 'post box' just outside the school office for other comments; these can be left anonymous if you prefer.

Parents/carers receive newsletters every two weeks via ParentMail; these are also posted on the website. Additionally, we send regular messages and updates via ParentMail. Our admin team supports the setting up of this information system. Families can request hard copies of any information.

The Home/School diary is another useful tool to support communication. A full list of staff emails is in the diary so that you can directly contact us in this manner if you would like.

PTA

We have an extremely active and supportive Parent and Teacher Association (PTA). They meet regularly to discuss and organise fun and exciting activities for the children and parents to enjoy at the school. They also raise funds to provide special events and extra resources for the school. Each year the PTA arrange numerous activities for the children such as colour runs, magic shows and discos, a quiz night for parents and in June 2018, we even had a circus!

If you would like to become actively involved with the PTA or volunteer your help at any of our events, please contact the school office, where your details will be passed to Emilie Stevenson - Chairperson of the PTA and Jennie Harris - Vice Chair of the PTA. New members and ideas are always gratefully received.

Governors

We work in partnership with our dedicated team of governors. They are visible in the school and have a strong understanding of our school improvement plans and hold us account to these.

Our Chair of Governors is Mrs Sue Forman.
chairofgovernors@deanshanger.northants.sch.uk

Calendar

Autumn Term 2018

Thursday 6th September - Friday 19th October

Tuesday 30th October - Wednesday 19th December

Spring Term 2019

Monday 7th January - Friday 15th February

Monday 25th February - Friday 5th April

Summer Term 2019

Tuesday 23rd April - Friday 24th May

Monday 3rd June - Wednesday 24th July



Information for New Families

September 2018 - July 2019

A very warm welcome to our school and the start of an exciting learning journey. Hopefully this leaflet will help answer some of the questions that you may have.

Mrs Rachel Rice, Head teacher
head@deanshanger.northants-ecl.gov.uk

The School Day

School starts at 8.50am.

Children in FS enter through the labelled wooden gate to the right of the main gate and Yr 1 via the door under the main entrance archway. For safeguarding reasons, we do not use the main school gates in the morning. At 3.15pm, parents in FS, Year 1 and 2 collect their children from the doors leading out onto the courtyard.

The majority of Year 2 and KS2 children enter each morning from the side gate, further along The Green by the FS outside play area. The gate opens and supervision begins at 8.40am. The Head teacher meets and greets each morning and is available for a quick informal exchange of information at this time. The whistle is blown at 8.50am to signify line up time and the start of the school day.

Alternatively, children (and parents/carers) can come in at 8.30am on Mondays, Wednesdays, and Fridays to run a mile before the regular school starts.

Regular school finishes at 3.15pm.

Children in KS2 exit via the gate by the FS play area. Parents collect FS and KS1 children from the courtyard.

In the first few days, of joining DPS, we can modify these plans to support your child wherever necessary.

The School Day



Lunches

Lunchtime is staggered, FS children go to the lunch hall first and settle before Year 1 and 2 arrive. KS2 children start lunch at 12.15pm. Whether taking the hot school lunch or bringing a healthy packed lunch from home, the children sit together at the tables. They are encouraged to be independent and carry their own lunch trays and clear them after eating.

Our midday supervising team gently encourage the children to eat as much of their meal as possible. Every effort is made to ensure that children with various dietary needs are accommodated.

Since September 2014 the government has funded schools in England to provide every child in FS, Year 1 and Year 2 with a hot, nutritious healthy meal at lunchtime. Since September 2016, our chosen lunchtime meal provider has been Fresh Start. Lunches are available for all children in the school and charged at a cost of £2.30 a day for those in years 3-6.

Parents of children eligible for free school meals should share their eligibility letter (from Northants County Council) with Mrs Robson in admin so that this can be shared with the Fresh Start team. If you are not sure if you are eligible, just ask Mrs Robson or Mrs Godwin.

Meal ordering is completed using Fresh Start's own online ordering system

<https://freshstartcatering.uk/>

Menus are on a 3 weekly basis and are rotated termly. We'll set you up on this and show you how it works.

Packed lunches are also provided for school trips for those that are entitled to a free lunch or have ordered a lunch on a trip day.

House Colours



The school has 4 houses:

Roaring Red Raiders, Green Ninjas
Invisible Flames and Scooby Blues

Children are allocated a house on entry to the school, siblings are always kept in the same house. We have several fun house events during the school year including Sports Day.

Uniform

Autumn/Winter

- * White polo shirt*, or other plain white blouse or shirt (not t-shirts)
- * Black 'formal' trousers (not skinny jeans or leggings) skirt, gym-slip knee-length culottes or shorts.
- * Red sweatshirt* or sweatshirt-cardigan*
- * Black, low-heeled shoes or boots
- * Grey or black socks for boys or girls; white socks or grey/black/red tights for girls
- * School tie for Year 6 only - to be worn with a white shirt or blouse

For outdoor wear only:

- * Red fleece* or reversible jacket*
- * Black winter boots can be worn on a daily basis. Wellies may be worn to and from school and in the playground but not inside the building

Spring/Summer

As above, and also:

- * Black 'formal' shorts
- * Low-heeled black or white sandals
- * Summer red and white dresses - striped or gingham

P. E

- * White or red T-shirt*
- * Black shorts
- * Black or white plimsolls for indoor games
- * Tracksuit and trainers for outdoor use in cold weather

Slogans, football club affiliations or 'designer labels' are not permitted

Forest School

- * Wellies or sturdy boots
- * Waterproof jacket and trousers

Items marked * are available embroidered with the school logo and may be ordered from [School Trends](https://www.schooltrends.co.uk/).

<https://www.schooltrends.co.uk/DeanshangerPrimarySchoolMK196HJ>