

# Moorlands Junior School

Temple Road, Sale,  
Cheshire, M33 2LP



Head Teacher: Miss Alison Kelly

13<sup>th</sup> May 2020,

Dear Parents,

I am writing to extend you a warm welcome to Moorlands. Each year we work closely with Templemoor to ensure that the transition between the two schools is as smooth and as happy as possible for your child. This year certainly has its difficulties and obviously we are not able to provide what we usually offer but we are determined to make the process as informative and supportive as possible for you and your child.

We are delighted to tell you that the year 3 teachers for 2020-21 will be Mr Clark and Mr Phillips. Both teachers are established in year 3 and have experience of helping you and your child settle into our school.

Please find an overview of the arrangements below.

Activity
Teacher fact files sent to all families to introduce your new teachers
Parent welcome packs to be available from Moorlands (collection only from <b>Moorlands Junior School –dates and availability to be advised</b> )
Introduction video including a tour of the school.
Story time with Mr Clark and Mr Phillips
Question and answer session with our current year children and the year 3 staff.

Behind the scenes our staff are working hard to virtually meet the year 2 teachers alongside the SENDCOs for each school. For parents whose children are already on the SEND register our lower school SENDCO, Mrs Wood will be in touch to introduce herself. In addition, Mr Hodgson and myself are in regular contact to discuss transition issues.

If there are any changes to government guidelines before September that would mean we can extend the provision we will let you know.

If you have any questions or queries, please do not hesitate to contact school either by email [moorlands.admin@trafford.gov.uk](mailto:moorlands.admin@trafford.gov.uk) or telephone.

Yours sincerely,

Miss A M Kelly  
Head Teacher

Telephone: 0161 962 5452 Fax: 0161 912 3669



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## Q & A

Some parents have been asking questions about Moorlands and the transition program for their child. We have tried our best to answer the questions as honestly as possible below:

**If they don't go back until September, will they start on day 1 at Moorlands (or will there be a transition period)?**

Unfortunately we are still very unclear of what schools will look like in September. Please be assured that we will take into consideration the age and needs of your children and wherever possible work closely with parents and Templemoor to ensure transition is as smooth as possible.

**If they do go back before summer holidays will there be any inductions.**

In short, yes, if we can.

If year 2 children return to Templemoor before September we will endeavour to implement some induction in the final term (social distancing and government guidelines permitting).

**Reassurance about how they will help the kids catch up for the missed learning and that there will be allowances made in expectations.**

As teachers we always assess gaps in children's knowledge and teach to their level while being guided by the curriculum. This will be no different. We do realise that the home schooling experience will have been different for each family and will work hard to settle children back into a school routine as quickly as possible.

We will work with Templemoor staff to gain a true picture for each child and will adapt teaching as necessary, re-covering aspects of the year 2 curriculum if and when appropriate.

In terms of the longer term expectations of the curriculum, we are still awaiting guidance from the government.

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**The Moorlands open day was really useful for us in terms of knowing a bit about the school before hand, but I am worried if they have to go straight to the big school day 1.**

We're glad you liked it! As mentioned above, we realise the importance of transition and this is a priority for us. If at all possible we would love to welcome your children before the start of the school year in September and if we can, we absolutely will!

**Will anything be done jointly with Templemoor and will any of the TM staff be around to facilitate the transition in those first few days?**

Our staff are already working behind the scenes with Templemoor staff to ensure transition works well. In terms of the availability of Templemoor staff, this is impossible to make a clear plan for as things are still so unclear for schools at the moment. Please be assured that Miss Kelly and Mr Hodgson have been in constant contact throughout the whole period of lockdown to discuss implications for the two schools and the best ways forward.

**Can Moorlands do an introduction video similar to what Mr Hodgson has been doing to familiarise the kids with their teachers/head/environment before hand, if lock down runs until Sept, it could even include a handover type feel from Templemoor, so YR1 teachers and Mr Hodgson feature too**

We are already working on a 'Welcome to Moorlands' video which will be sent to you as soon as it is ready.

**What about SATs will they have to sit them at a later date? If this is at Moorlands how will they prepare the children for this?**

Year 2 SATs have been cancelled for 2020. There have been no indications at all that this decision will change.

**Interested in range of clubs, timings and costs.**

We have a wide variety of afterschool clubs at Moorlands, a lot of which are run by our fabulous staff and we are very proud of our provision. As you can imagine, the clubs are very popular and are over-subscribed. A letter will go out to parents asking you to indicate preferences-in the past we have been successful in allocating every child (who requests a place) in at least one club per week.

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The current cost per session for most clubs is £2, clubs run by external providers have their own pricing system.

The majority of clubs finish at 4.30pm.

As the majority of clubs are run by staff volunteers, the clubs on offer can vary. This year we have offered: football, chess, art, netball, photography, pottery, mad science, judo fencing and multi sports to name a few! We also run homework and library clubs at lunchtimes for all pupils as well as orchestra, choir and school recorder groups which are by invitation only.

## Will the classes stay the same?

It is generally our policy to keep the classes the same. Exceptions to this are a class change at the parent's request.

## Homework... How much?!

Currently, one piece of English and maths per week is set. Alongside this children will be asked to work on multiplication tables, reading and spelling.

## My child has asthma. How would that be handled?

We work closely with the parents of children with any health conditions to ensure the correct medication is in school at all times and that all relevant staff are made aware of any health plans. **(please note it is the responsibility of the parents to ensure medication is in school and is in date).**

In addition we will put into place any social distancing guidelines issued by the government to protect the health and safety of all children including those with underlying health issues.

If you are concerned about the health of your child during these uncertain times please contact the school directly to discuss their needs in more detail.

We hope that we have allayed some of your concerns surrounding your child's transition to Moorlands. These are uncertain and unprecedented times and require a great degree of flexibility.

As always we will work with you to provide as positive experience as possible.

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