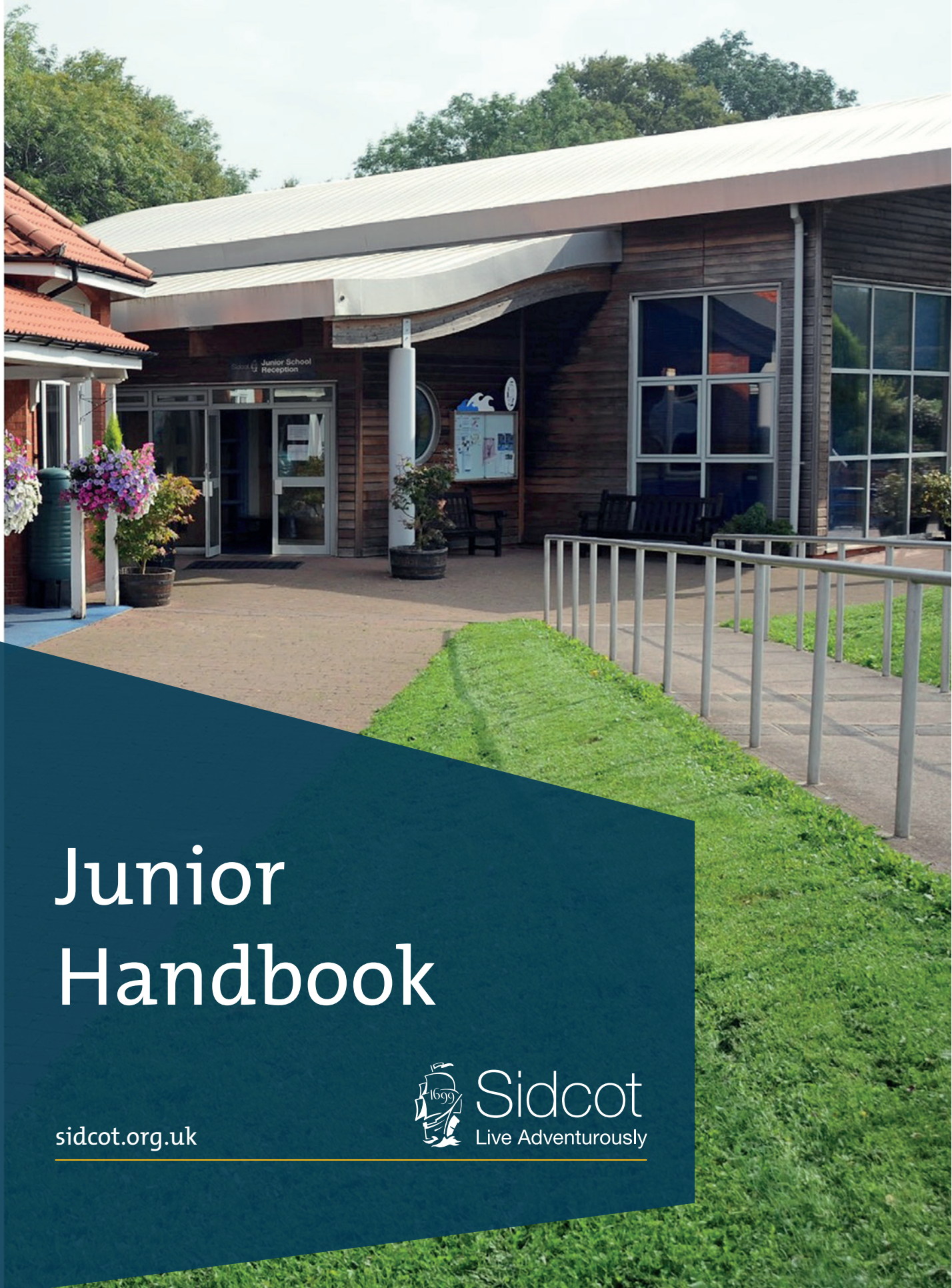


2024/25



Junior Handbook

sidcot.org.uk



Sidcot
Live Adventurously

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Introduction

Whether you are new or returning to Sidcot, we are very much looking forward to giving you a warm welcome when you join us.

Happiness and wellbeing are two key ingredients which underpin an effective educational experience; this is woven into all aspects of life at Sidcot Junior School. We believe if children's emotional needs are met they will be in the best place to thrive both academically and pastorally.

Sidcot Junior School is a special place where our Quaker principles encourage us to 'Live Adventurously.' That is how we approach school life at Sidcot, in a way that develops curiosity and confidence and a life-long love of learning. Our Sidcot Learning Wheel brings together the school ethos and Quaker values with the classroom pedagogy to bring our curriculum to life.

We create an enthusiasm for learning through our inspiring curriculum, caring ethos and individual approach. Throughout the school creative talents are fostered and academic skills nurtured, which encourages the development of every child. Sidcot Junior School is a place where children thrive and, most importantly, are happy.

Thank you for choosing us to support your child through the next steps of their development. Whether you are a new or returning parent this academic year, please take some time to look through this booklet which will ensure you have all the information you require. If you have any questions whatsoever, please don't hesitate to get in touch with us at juniors@sidcot.org.uk.



With kind regards

Cath Dykes
Head of the Junior School

Contacts

Junior School Office	01934 845200	juniors@sidcot.org.uk
Head of Junior School	Cath Dykes	cath.dykes@sidcot.org.uk
Sports Centre	01934 845255	sportscentre@sidcot.org.uk
Health Centre	01934 845263	health@sidcot.org.uk
Out of School Care	07849 644236	outofschoolcare@sidcot.org.uk
Postal Address	Sidcot School Oakridge Lane Winscombe North Somerset BS25 1PD	
Website	www.sidcot.org.uk	

Contacting members of staff directly

Your class teacher is the main point of contact for all pastoral and academic matters concerning your child. The easiest way to contact them is by email as they can respond to you once they have a pause away from teaching the children. We aim for staff to reply within 48 hours.

Class	Teacher/Room leader	Email address
Early Years		
Pre-School (Caterpillars & Butterflies)	Mel Teagle Dawn Drake-Brockman	melanie.teagle@sidcot.org.uk dawn.drake-brockman@sidcot.org.uk
Reception (Ladybirds)	Lucy Beardsley (Head of EYFS)	lucy.beardsley@sidcot.org.uk
Key Stage One		
Year 1 (J1 Bumblebees)	Kerry Petrie Serena Weston	kerry.petrie@sidcot.org.uk serena.weston@sidcot.org.uk
Year 2 (J2 Dragonflies)	Emma King (Assistant Head Pastoral)	emma.king@sidcot.org.uk
Key Stage Two		
Year 3 (J3)	Vikki Hallett	vikki.hallett@sidcot.org.uk
Year 4 (J4)	Leesa Baker	leesa.baker@sidcot.org.uk
Year 5 (J5S)	Katy Schools	katy.schools@sidcot.org.uk
Year 5 (J5CH)	Polly Collin Sina Hudson	polly.collin@sidcot.org.uk sina.hudson@sidcot.org.uk
Year 6 (J6B)	Melissa Brown (Assistant Head Academic)	melissa.brown@sidcot.org.uk
Year 6 (J6W)	Kate Wakefield Sadie Wickers	kate.wakefield@sidcot.org.uk sadie.wickers@sidcot.org.uk
Junior School Staff		
Junior School Secretaries	Carolyn Parker/Roxi Wiles	juniors@sidcot.org.uk
Junior School PE Lead	Lee Molland	lee.molland@sidcot.org.uk
Junior School Sports Teaching Assistant	Ryan Pietersen	ryan.pietersen@sidcot.org.uk
Lead Learning Support Teacher	Kate Young	kate.young@sidcot.org.uk
Librarian	Andrea Grist	
Teaching Assistants:	Nikki Havercroft (Quaker Co-Ordinator and Forest School Leader), Pippa Hughes, Gemma Proctor, Sharon Parkman (Forest School), Tracey Keight, Chelsie Webster and Anna Hollingworth	

Acclimatisation Day and first day of term

Friday 30 August is Acclimatisation Day. This helps to ensure all pupils who are new to the School can begin the familiarisation process prior to term starting on Monday 2 September.

Pupils should arrive at 10:00 at the Junior School where they will be met by the Junior School team. They should wear school uniform and bring a waterproof coat and sun hat if appropriate. Parents can then collect their children at 12:00.

The first day of term is Monday 2 September. Junior School teachers will be in their classrooms ready to welcome your child into their class. Drop off and pick up times are the same as a normal school day.

For children joining the Early Years please refer to the information letter which was sent out confirming your child's start date, arrival and collection procedure. At the end of the day you will be able to collect your child from outside their classroom.

Drop-off and pick up

The top playground at the Junior School is open at drop-off and pick-up times for additional parking. When parking in the top playground please refrain from parking over the yellow lines as these signify a pavement area for the pupils to walk safely past cars and off the grass.

Morning drop-off each day is at 08:30.

Children in the Pre-School have a flexible drop-off time from 08:30 until 09:00.

The Junior School car park gets very busy at drop-off time but you are able to park in either the main car park or top playground.

In order to ensure traffic flows as freely as possible we operate an unofficial one-way system for both Junior and Senior School drop off. This requires parents to approach the School from Fountain Lane and up Oakridge Lane rather than directly from the A38, see map opposite.

We also have a 'drop-off service' for Key Stage 2 where you can pull up at the School gates in the drop off area and a member of staff will see your child into

the playground safely. This reduces the demand for parking spaces so parents of our younger children can park and accompany their children into School.

Pick-up times at the end of the School day are:

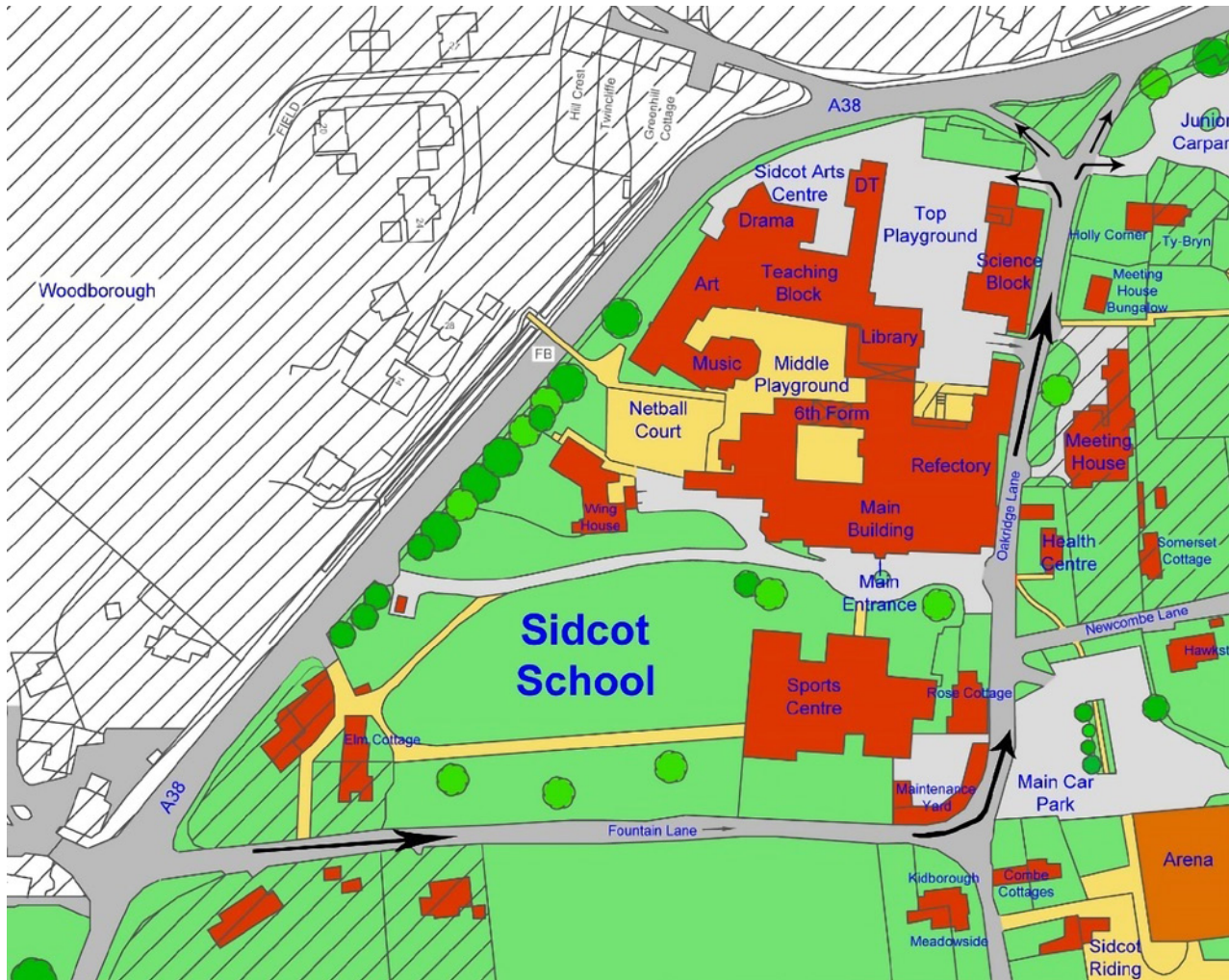
15:30 for Pre-School, Reception, J1, J2

15:40 for J3, J4, J5, J6

Please drop off and collect Pre-School and Reception children from the Early Years Department which is the outside door at the far end of the Junior School building.

All other children are dropped off and collected from the external door of their own classroom, or Key Stage 2 can walk to their classrooms if dropped off at the gate. Teachers need to hand over directly to the nominated adult upon collection so please make yourself visible!

For the safety of all pupils, when dropping off early for Swimming, **J5** and **J6** parents, please ensure you park in the main car park and walk the children over to the pool. Please do not deliver your children to the front of the Main School building or on Oakridge Lane.



Our disabled parking spaces are used by those who require wheelchair access and therefore it is essential they are kept free. Please can we ask that the disabled parking spaces are only used by disabled visitors to the Junior School displaying a valid badge. We do request that you only park in designated spaces and do not park in the area of the Junior School car park marked 'Drop-Off Point' to allow effective traffic flow.

We thank you all for your cooperation with the drop-off and collection process at both the Junior and Senior Schools. To ensure safety, please do not use the vehicle entrance of the Junior School and the main car park as pedestrian access routes; this is strictly prohibited. Instead, please use the footpath access in the top playground.

- The correct pedestrian route to the Junior School from the Senior School is to cross Oakridge Lane by the Meeting House and enter the Junior School via the back path.
- The correct route to/from the main car park is either along the back path to the Junior School or to the Senior School, clearly marked by the finger sign, crossing Newcombe Lane via the Health Centre.

Please follow this procedure in order to keep everyone safe. Thank you.

Wrap-around Care

To make life as easy as possible for parents and carers, we offer various wrap-around care options for Junior School children allowing them to stay from 07:45 to 18:00 (17:25 on Friday).

Breakfast Club and After School Care operate from the first day of term.

If you wish to utilise any of these options all bookings are to be made using our online booking system SchoolsBuddy:

www.sidcot.org.uk/parent-information/wraparound-care

Breakfast Club

Breakfast Club runs from 07:45 to 08:30 and is open to children from all year groups from Pre-School to J6. Booking will need to be made in advance using the SchoolsBuddy website.

Please drop your child off at the After School Care entrance of the Junior School where they will be met and supervised by our Junior School staff.

After School Care

After School Care is for younger children from Pre-School, Reception, J1 and J2 and runs from 15:30 until 18:00 (17:25 on Friday).

From 16:30 children from J3 and J4 can also attend if not partaking in a club. After School Care runs from 15:30 until 17:25. It is free from 15:30 until 16:25.

Collection prior to 17:25 is from the After School Care entrance at the Junior School (accessed via the Junior School car park, to the left-hand side of the Junior School building).

All bookings are to be made 24 hours in advance using the SchoolsBuddy booking system.

Supper Club

Children from any year group can stay for supper at School (Monday - Thursday). At 17:25 any children still at the Junior School from After School Care or after school activities are taken over to the Refectory for supper.

This includes a meal. Collection is at 18:00 from the Refectory (accessed via the Senior School

drop-off and pick-up point in the top playground). All bookings are to be made 24 hours in advance using the SchoolsBuddy booking system.

For any questions or queries regarding Breakfast Club, After School Care or Supper Club please contact Out of School Care Manager, Emma Rance on outofschoolcare@sidcot.org.uk or **07849 644236**.

After School activities

There is a wide variety of After School activities that we offer and these can vary from term to term. They cover a host of options including sport, creativity, mindfulness and acquiring new skills.

We encourage children to take advantage of the opportunities on offer to try new things as well as developing existing interests.

Just prior to the start of the Autumn term, pupils and parents will be able to see the list of activities to choose from on the SchoolsBuddy website. New parents will be emailed their login details in the first week of term. For Spring and Summer terms this information will be sent out at the end of the previous term.

Activities generally run from 15:45 to 16:25, 15:45 to 17:00 or from 16:30 to 17:25. The majority are free but some are subject to a fee – all details will be available on the website when the club list is released.

Pupils and parents will select their activities at the end of term for the forthcoming term. All details for the activities and registration for them is through the SchoolsBuddy website.

For this Autumn term we plan for these activities to start on Monday 9 September.

Prep/homework

Homework is set for each year group from Reception upwards appropriate to the children's age and ability. These usually include some Maths and reading tasks and are specifically designed to be beneficial to your child's learning.

Please do communicate with your child's class teacher regarding how they are finding the prep that is set. Older years may have consolidation work set from the work they have covered in class or have to complete some preparation or research for upcoming lessons.

There are daily early and late prep sessions for children in J3 to J6, and late prep sessions for pupils in J5 and J6 only should you wish your child to stay at School to complete their prep.

J3 to J6 early prep: Monday to Friday 15:40 to 16:25

Early prep is not obligatory, but is an opportunity for those who wish their child to complete homework in School. There are a limited number of spaces available for early prep.

J5/J6 late prep: Monday to Thursday 16:30 to 17:25

Late prep is not obligatory but is available for those who wish their child to complete homework in School. If pupils in J5 and J6 stay for prep, they have the option of leaving School when prep ends or staying on for tea until 18:00. This is the latest Junior pick-up time. If children choose to stay to late prep they must attend an activity beforehand which is not early prep.

We ask that if your child is attending prep you avoid collecting them part way through the session, as this disturbs other pupils who are working. Ideally we ask pupils in J3 -J6 to either choose an after School activity or attend early prep, rather than attending After School Care. Pupils are expected to work silently during prep.

Children are expected to behave well in prep sessions enabling all to work well. Parents may be asked to take their child home early if poor behaviour is a problem and may have this session restricted if not appropriate for them.

SchoolsBuddy

SchoolsBuddy allows our parents to view the range of activities available to our pupils. The system allows you to easily book your child onto our after School activities, prep sessions, breakfast and supper. It's important that parents use this system to let the school know what your child will be doing after School.

All new parents will receive a SchoolsBuddy activation email, so please look out for it in your mailbox. This system will be activated during the first week of term. As this is a new software system, you will be required to click on the link in the email to activate your SchoolsBuddy account.

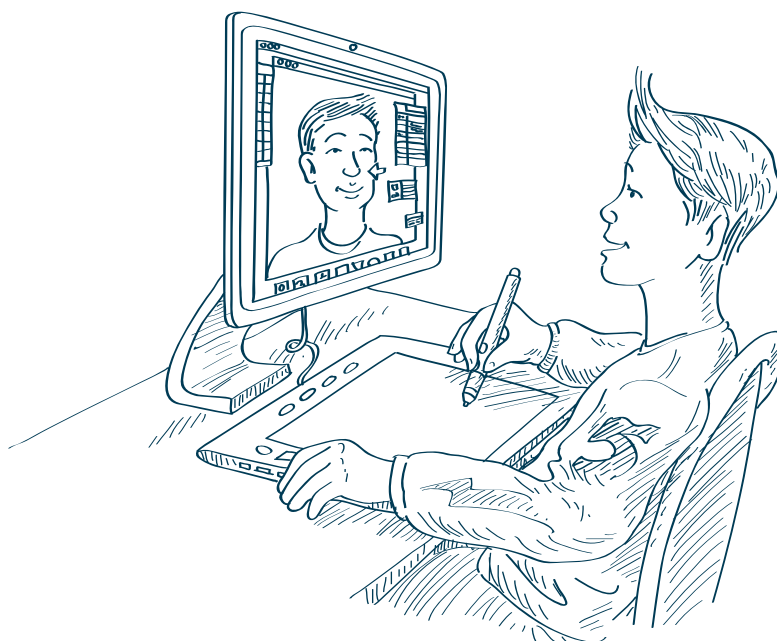
Once you have registered you will be able to view the co-curricular activities and prep sessions available.

Please activate using the Google Chrome Web Browser. Once your account is activated, you can then download the 'SchoolsBuddy' app on iOS or Android.

SchoolsBuddy is very simple to use, but please find below a link to a user guide:

<https://online.fliphtml5.com/uqyo/ktbv>

Should you have any questions please contact:
ITSupport.Parents@sidcot.org.uk



Curriculum information evenings

Curriculum information meetings for parents will take place during the first week of term.

Parents are invited to meet their child's teacher for the academic year. Parents are given information on the curriculum structure and year group expectations.

If you have children in different year groups and the meetings clash, or you are unable to attend, then please let the teacher know and they will be able to provide you with the information discussed.

The meetings start at 15:45 and usually run for half an hour. The days for each class is detailed below:

EYFS	Lucy Beardsley & Mel Teagle	Monday
J1	Kerry Petrie & Serena Weston	Wednesday
J2	Emma King	Tuesday
J3	Vikki Hallett	Tuesday
J4	Leesa Baker	Wednesday
J5	Katy Schools, Polly Collin & Sina Hudson	Wednesday
J6	Melissa Brown, Kate Wakefield & Sadie Wickers	Tuesday

Reports and parents' evening

The effort and achievement of each pupil is closely monitored through the year and we have developed a system whereby parents receive updates. Children in J1-J6 receive written reports at the end of the Autumn and Summer terms, a settling Parents'

Evening in the Autumn term and a second Parents' Evening in the Spring term. EYFS parents are invited to come in each term to meet with the teacher when their child has a focus week and are provided with a full report at the end of the academic year.

Junior School timetable

Registration	08:30
Lesson 1	08:40 – 09:30
Lesson 2	09:30 – 10:30
Break	10:30-10:50
Assemblies/Meeting for Worship	10:50 – 11:10
Lesson 3	11:10 – 12:05
Lunch	
Pre-School & Reception	from 11:50
J1 to J6	12:05 – 13:15

Afternoon registration:	13:15
Lesson 4:	13:20 – 14:00
Lesson 5:	14:00 – 14:50
Lesson 6 – Pre-School to J2:	14:50 – 15:30
Lesson 6 – J3 to J6:	14:50 – 15:40
Activities/Early Prep:	15:40 – 16:25
After School Care:	15:30 – 18:00
Late Prep for J5 and J6:	16:30 – 17:25
Evening Meal	17:30
Last collection time:	18:00

Assemblies and Meeting for Worship

Pupils in J1 to J6 meet once a week for a Quaker Meeting. This is a time when all staff and pupils, of any faith or none, share a period of quiet reflection, a rare opportunity in today's world.

There are three further assemblies during the week, a celebration assembly, singing assembly and a class-led assembly.

Additional charges for individual and group music lessons

Children can take part in group or individual instrumental lessons in a range of instruments. All additional lessons will be charged in arrears at the end of each term.

If you are interested in music classes please email paul.woolley@sidcot.org.uk in the first instance.

Lessons missed through School trips will, wherever possible, be rescheduled. However, lessons that are missed without notification to the relevant member of staff or due to pupil sickness will not be rescheduled.

PE kit and Forest School kit

PE/Games lessons	Children wear PE or games kit depending on what their activity is that day
After School clubs	Children need to ensure they bring PE kit into School where appropriate
Forest School	All kit, including wellies and waterproofs, to be sent into School on the first day and remain in School. It will be sent home if it requires washing, please return the kit ASAP

Please see www.sidcot.org.uk/uniform for details of what items are required.

PE & Games

Junior School students from Pre-School to Year 6 have a comprehensive PE and Games program delivered by specialist PE and Sport teachers. See the curriculum outline below:

EYFS and KS1 curriculum map for PE

	TERM 1&2 (13 WEEKS)		TERM 3&4 (11 WEEKS)		TERM 5&6 (11 WEEKS)
EYFS	Fundamental Movements	Multi Skills	Gymnastics	Ball Skills	Health Related Fitness and Athletics
J1 – Real PE	Personal Skills	Health and Fitness	Creative Skills	Social Skills	Cognitive Skills and Applying Skills
J1 – PE	Personal Best	Ball Skills	Gymnastics	Health Related Fitness	Athletics and Striking/Fielding
J2 – Real PE	Personal Skills	Health and Fitness	Creative Skills	Social Skills	Cognitive Skills and Applying Skills
J2 – PE	Personal Best	Ball Skills	Gymnastics	Health Related Fitness	Athletics and Striking/Fielding

KS2 curriculum map for PE

	TERM 1&2 (13 WEEKS)		TERM 3&4 (11 WEEKS)		TERM 5&6 (11 WEEKS)	
J3 – PE	Personal Best/ Cross-Country (XC)	Social Skills/ Tactics	Gym/ Dance	Creative Skills/ Health and Fitness	Tennis	Cognitive and Physical Skills
J4 – PE	Personal Best/ XC	Social Skills/ Tactics	Gym/ Dance	Creative Skills/ Health and Fitness	Tennis	Cognitive and Physical Skills
J5 – PE	Personal Best/ XC	Social Skills/ Tactics	Gym/ Dance	Creative Skills/ Health and Fitness	Tennis	Cognitive and Physical Skills
J6 – PE	Personal Best/ XC	Social Skills/ Tactics	Gym/ Dance	Creative Skills/ Health and Fitness	Tennis	Cognitive and Physical Skills

KS2 curriculum map for Games

	TERM 1&2 (13 WEEKS)		TERM 3&4 (11 WEEKS)		TERM 5&6 (11 WEEKS)
J3&4 Boys Children – Staff –	Tag Rugby 9 weeks	Football 9 weeks		Hockey 6 weeks	Striking and Fielding Athletics
J3&4 Girls Children – Staff –	Hockey	Football	Netball	Rugby	Striking and Fielding Athletics
J5&6 Boys Children – Staff –	Rugby 9 weeks	Football 9 weeks		Hockey 6 weeks	Striking and Fielding Athletics
J5&6 Girls Children – Staff –	Hockey	Football	Netball	Rugby	Striking and Fielding Athletics

Bring Your Own Device (BYOD)

In Year 6 all students are expected to have their own IT device that they bring into School for use in lessons. Many will already have a device, however, if students or parents are unsure whether it meets the required specification, please email byod@sidcot.org.uk where the team will be happy to advise and help.

To maintain a safe and secure learning environment, a filtered Internet connection will be provided for all students. They will not be permitted to use a personal broadband connection such as a 3G/4G/5G phone network.

Students must bring their device fully charged to School. As with other personally owned items, the School is not liable for loss, damage, misuse, or theft. Please arrange your own insurance cover for your child's personal belongings either through the Personal Effects Insurance (offered by the School), or by your own arrangements.

Required Device Specification:

- 10" screen or larger - 10" is the minimum to ensure students can see the work they need to complete easily.

- Can use a stylus - This is so notes can be taken in the lessons and any work requiring to be handwritten could be done on the device.
- Can use a keyboard - A keyboard is needed to assist with tasks that require more typing e.g. essays or project write-ups.
- Be able to run Microsoft Word, PowerPoint, Excel and Teams/OneNote - These are the core apps needed in School. The mobile version and online version are suitable for most tasks. If more is required, remote access can be used.
- Be a Microsoft, Mac (including MAC OS and iOS), or Android OS based device - These are the operating systems we know work well with the School systems.
- Battery life - 5 hours or more to ensure that only minimal or no charging is needed during the day.

IMPORTANT: Does not have mobile data e.g. 4G/5G etc.

Free access to Microsoft Office for all Sidcot BYOD users - This can be downloaded and used for free from the School whilst your child is a student at Sidcot.

Sidcot offers the ability to purchase a device on your behalf

This is charged to your next bill. We will configure this device, install the Microsoft Office Suite and printers and include shortcuts to relevant software and web links so that it works perfectly at Sidcot, at no additional charge. We normally do this in June/ July each year to allow for delivery and configuration ready for a September start, but we can purchase at any time if your child starts during the school year. If you are interested in this for your child, please email byod@sidcot.org.uk so that we can contact you with any of our offerings. Although we generally

recommend a Microsoft Surface GO for younger years and a Surface PRO for older years, we are able to source devices from a variety of vendors and can also offer refurbished devices at very competitive prices.

If you wish to purchase your own device and just need it set up in advance of your child starting here, we can also offer this as a free of charge process - again, just email byod@sidcot.org.uk to arrange this.

More able learners

At Sidcot School we recognise children are all at different stages in their learning and development. Whilst some pupils may need additional support, others are more able and need to be stretched and challenged. As a team, we carefully monitor the academic progress and attainment of our pupils throughout the year and adapt our provision accordingly. Some students are identified as gifted

and talented in a particular subject area, and some pupils in J5 and J6 may be encouraged to be a Lead Learner in a particular area. Those who are Lead Learners are supported by the subject lead teacher and given extra opportunities to further develop their understanding, knowledge and broaden their experiences in their area of skill.

Learning support

Children sometimes have learning difficulties. If this is the case then the parent will be advised as to the number of additional lessons that would be required in order to fulfil their child's potential. Specific support is offered in English and Maths. Before any lesson commences an email will be sent to parents asking them to confirm they are happy for their child to have lessons.

If a teacher has concerns about a child who does not have a pre-diagnosed difficulty, then the teacher raises the concern with the Junior School Head in the first instance.

The teacher or Junior School Head will then contact the parents and agree for the Learning Support Department to undertake appropriate testing and offer advice as to the next steps.

The next steps might involve suggesting some additional booster lessons or an assessment from an external professional such as an Educational Psychologist or Speech and Language Therapist, if a specific difficulty is suspected.

The cost of the learning support sessions are detailed on the email sent to parents.

The House system

All pupils and staff at Sidcot School are assigned to a House when they join our School community. Siblings are in the same House.

The House system helps students to build friendships across the year groups and provides a focus for School events and activities throughout the year.

There are four Houses:

- North House (yellow)
- East House (blue)
- South House (green)
- West House (red)

House points

The system operates in all years and is designed to encourage pupils' effort, to give some immediate reward.

House points are displayed in a visual way with the use of tokens. Tokens are counted every Monday during Celebration Assembly.

House points can be awarded for:

- Excellent effort
- Academic achievement
- Club/activity (commitment, effort etc.)
- Upholding Quaker Values/personal qualities

School grounds

The play equipment is out of bounds before and after the normal school day, 08:30 – 15:40, unless children are attending After School Care with a supervising member of staff.

The area of the Meeting House is a quiet zone. We respect the religious significance of this area.

The Small Meeting House, the rear of the Meeting House and the burial ground are out of bounds unless special permission is given by the teacher on duty.

Dogs are not permitted on the School grounds at any time, without prior agreement.

Moving around the campus

All children from Pre-School – J5 are accompanied around the campus by a member of staff. J6 are permitted to move around the campus in pairs, once the teachers are satisfied they can do this safely.

Uniform

Details of items your child will require are available on our website www.sidcot.org.uk/uniform and are based on their year group. If you have any queries, please email uniform@sidcot.org.uk.

All items of uniform and property must be clearly marked with your child's name.

All Sidcot School uniform can be bought online via our website at www.sidcot.org.uk/uniform. Alternatively, you can purchase uniform through our uniform stockist Deanes of Cheddar.

Deanes of Cheddar, Bath Street
Cheddar, Somerset BS27 3AA

01934 742530 | info@deanesofcheddar.co.uk

Opening hours: 09:00 – 17:00 Monday to Thursday
(closed 13:00 to 14:00)
09:00 – 13:00 Saturday

The PTA holds pre-loved uniform sales regularly throughout the year. The dates for these are published in our weekly newsletter.

Lost property

Junior School lost property is held on the shelves in the lower corridor of the Junior School. EYFS items may also be displayed on the shelf outside the Reception classroom.

All lost property will be displayed outside in the last week of term and after then it will be disposed of. If you have any queries regarding lost property please contact your child's teacher.

School transport

We currently operate a number of minibus services covering Bristol, Burnham, Uphill, Wedmore, Worle, Portishead and Clevedon and the Chew Valley. On arrival at School, Junior School age children are escorted into the building by our fully trained bus drivers. Children need to be in J3 or above to travel on our buses.

Full details of our bus routes are available on our website, www.sidcot.org.uk/transport. It is vital that you check there are places available on your desired School bus route. To enquire, please contact:

schoolbus@sidcot.org.uk

Lunch, break and drinks

All our pupils have snacks and lunch provided for them in School and the cost is included in the fees. For break, children will have a drink and a snack in their classrooms. Lunch is provided in the Refectory and there is a wide variety of hot and cold food to choose from. Children sit on tables by year group

with their teacher. If your child has any allergies or dietary requirements, please let their teacher know on the first day of term. Children are encouraged to drink plenty of water during the day so please bring in a bottle of water, with their name on, every day.

Mobile phones

Mobile phones are not permitted in the Junior School. In exceptional circumstances a phone may be allowed but would remain with the class teacher throughout the school day.

Should you need to contact your child please do so via the Junior School Office on **01934 845200**.

Health Centre

The Health Centre is open Monday to Friday from 08:00 until 18:00. If your child feels unwell during the school day, they will be able to see a nurse at the Health Centre.

How we communicate with parents

We make every effort to keep you up to date with useful dates and information as well as news of what is happening at School. It is very important that you provide us with your email address. The email address we have for you is the one given during the enrolment process.

If you are unsure what email address we hold for you please call Reception on 01934 843102 or email:

parentportal@sidcot.org.uk

Weekly news

There are Junior School and Senior School newsletters which are weekly summaries of some of the things going on at Sidcot. Each issue includes a message from the Head, as well as news about trips, visiting speakers, performances and achievements from different departments. It is important you read these as this is our main form of communication and vital information is contained within them.

SIMS InTouch – email

From time to time you will receive emails from us which have an '@capita' address. This is a system which allows us to contact certain groups of parents with electronic communications. This includes permission letters, reports and alerts. Please note responses to this email address are not monitored, so any response should be sent directly to the member of staff indicated in the email.

School calendar

Parents can access the School calendar via the homepage of the website or www.sidcot.org.uk/calendar. This provides an up-to-date live feed of school events.

Parent Teacher Association and Class Reps

The PTA holds regular meetings and helps to organise a variety of social events during the School year. They are a very supportive group who work hard to raise money which is used to enhance the children's experiences.

Parents also often meet on a Friday after morning drop off in the Hub which is a café at the Senior School. This is a good way to meet other parents. Details of the above are listed in the weekly newsletter which you will receive via email.

Every class has a Class Rep who will also contact you to arrange social events for your child's year group.

The PTA is always looking to welcome new members. If you are interested in finding out more, please speak to your child's class teacher.

Each year a voluntary £10 donation to the PTA fund will be added to your Spring term extras invoice to support the initiatives of this highly important organisation in School.

Sickness /absence

Please contact the Junior School Secretary via telephone 01934 845200 or email juniors@sidcot.org.uk if your child is unable to come in to School by 08:40 each day.

Holiday absence requests

Please advise us of any forthcoming holiday requests in term time. Holiday request forms are available from the School Office. We will always venture to accommodate these requests, but prolonged

absences are disruptive both to the children taking the holiday and the rest of the class and we do ask for your cooperation in trying to keep holiday requests to a minimum during the term times.

Parents' social events

Throughout the School year, parents will be invited to a variety of school events such as the Boundary Walk, a fireworks display, skittles evenings, the Garden Party and others.

Dates for your diary at the start of term:

Thursday 5 September

- **14:20 Boundary Walk** – meet at the Junior School Top Playground at 14.20 for a 14.30 start
The Boundary Walk is a long standing tradition where pupils walk around our beautiful campus together. Parents are invited to enjoy the walk with us and refreshments are served afterwards.

Friday 6 September

- **17:30 – 18:30 Drinks for new parents** with our Heads and other members of staff in the Old Library at the Senior School.
- **18:30 – 20:30 Junior School and Senior School staff and parents' Hog Roast** in the Junior School Amphitheatre.

Please be aware that these are adult only events. An invitation with further details will be sent nearer the time.

Term dates

Autumn Term 2024

Acclimatisation Day	Friday 30 August
Term begins	Monday 2 September
Half term begins	Friday 18 October
Term resumes	Monday 4 November
Term ends	Friday 13 December

Spring Term 2025

Term begins	Tuesday 7 January
Half term begins	Friday 14 February
Term resumes	Monday 24 February
Term ends	Friday 4 April

Summer Term 2025

Term begins	Wednesday 23 April
Half term begins	Friday 23 May
Term resumes	Monday 2 June
Term ends	Thursday 3 July

Policies

Full details of our school policies may be found at sidcot.org.uk/policies



Sidcot

Live Adventurously

- 1 Senior School Reception
- 2 Junior School Reception
- 3 Sports Centre
- 4 Equestrian Centre
- 5 Arts Centre
- 6 Trevelyan Library
- 7 Teaching Block
- 8 Science Block
- 9 Meeting House
- 10 Health Centre
- 11 School House Girls
- 12 School House Boys
- 13 Wing House
- 14 Newcombe House
- 15 Combe House
- 16 Meadowside
- 17 Main Car Park
- 18 Junior Car Park
- 19 Senior Drop-Off & Pick Up
- 20 School Garden
- 21 James O'Connell Peace Field
- 22 Junior Sports Field

To
Bristol



To
Cheddar

For safeguarding reasons

Please report to our Junior (2) or Senior (1) School Receptions as appropriate if you are visiting our campuses.

Sidcot School
Oakridge Lane
Winscombe
North Somerset
BS25 1PD



+44 (0)1934 843102 | info@sidcot.org.uk | www.sidcot.org.uk

    [sidcotschool](#)

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