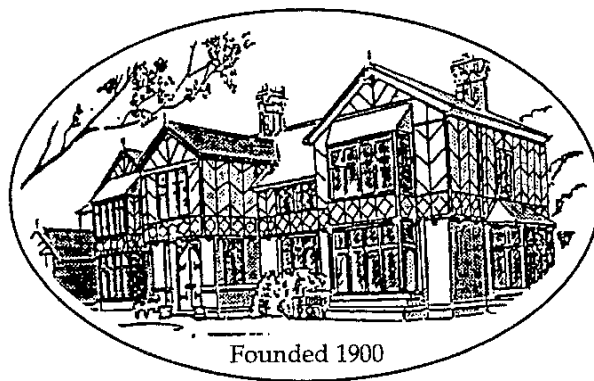


# FAIRHOLME

## PREPARATORY SCHOOL

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4 September 2024

### WELCOME BACK

Dear Parents,

I hope everyone enjoyed their summer break and is ready to start the new school year. We certainly enjoyed having the early starters on the Drama Workshop, acting, making props, painting scenery etc., helped by the good weather. Thank you all for your kind contributions to the questionnaire sent out recently. All your thoughts and ideas are much appreciated and we will endeavour to take them into account as the year progresses.

**After-School Activities and Lunchtime Enrichment Clubs:** After-school clubs will continue to run from **4pm to 5pm**, free of charge for Fairholme pupils. This term we have Music Theory, Badminton, Chess & Boardgames, Drama and Hockey. Sign-up forms will be sent out separately for these. In breaktime enrichment clubs, we have gymnastics, yoga, netball, Cyber-ling, craft, badminton, tag-rugby, hockey and football. These clubs are taken in rotation in School Houses so that everyone gets a turn. Also in the pipeline, we have plans for Lego Club and First Aid Club, so watch this space!

**Website:** As usual, I am letting you know that all our latest information is available on our website – [www.fairholmeschool.com](http://www.fairholmeschool.com) - Upcoming events on the Events page and all our latest news on the New Page. The Parent and Child Login Area provides access to admissions information, school policies including our child protection and safeguarding policy and our complaints policy, back-issues of newsletters, spelling lists etc. For access to this, the username “parent” and password “learn3211” are required. If you require assistance finding anything on the website, please do not hesitate to ask.

**Emergency Planning:** Please note that we have extended our Emergency Planning Policy to include Critical Incident Planning which would involve routine for going into a ‘lockdown’ situation within school. The revised policy is included in ‘All Policies’ on the website (see above). Obviously, I would not want any child to be at all concerned about the likelihood of needing this kind of plan, however, we will need to run through procedures for this once a year, in a similar way to practising the fire drill. If anyone has any concerns, please let me know.

**Satchel One:** We continue to use Satchel One as our School Learning Platform – children can access all their school work, homework and spellings on Satchel One and the Noticeboard is also used for events and announcements. Parents can join ‘Satchel One’ if they would like, however, messages to the teacher cannot be made from parent accounts but can still be made using the pupil account – look for the assignment called ‘Messages for Form Teacher’.

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**‘EdShed Spelling’, ‘Mathletics’ and ‘Reading Eggs’** – We are continuing use of these software tools for spelling, maths and reading/comprehension practice. Children are set assignments on these programs each weekend and younger pupils use the software extensively in school for phonics and reading work. Usernames and passwords are being sent out this week for new users, and older children have their password cards stuck into their homework books. If you have any problem accessing any of the software, please do not hesitate to ask.

**Open Days** – Our next Open Days are set for Friday, 18<sup>th</sup> and Saturday, 19<sup>th</sup> Oct. If you have any friends, relatives or colleagues who might be interested in Fairholme for their children and would like to see Fairholme in action, please let them know these dates!

**VAT and fee structure from January** – following the Government announcement that VAT will be charged from January 2025, rather earlier than we hoped, I will be reducing fees by 10% for the remainder of the school year prior to VAT being applied, to assist with this transition. I have once again taken part in advice and training sessions with ISA and ISBA over the summer and am assured that KG and lunch will not attract VAT in the incoming system. After-school care supplied by The Mount Day Nursery will also be exempt, and after-school clubs, despite being educational in nature, since they are free, cannot attract VAT! Proposed fee structure will therefore be as follows (**excluding VAT**):

	1 <sup>st</sup> child	2 <sup>nd</sup> child	3 <sup>rd</sup> child	
KG part-time	2550	2340	1275	(unchanged)
KG	3060	2810	1530	(unchanged)
Form I	2760	2530	1660	
Form II/III	2860	2620	1720	
Form IV/V	2950	2700	1770	
Form VI/VII	3040	2790	1825	

If anyone is struggling or has any concerns, please do not hesitate to contact me further.

On a lighter note, we have a number of forthcoming events; dates and information will be available both on the website and on ‘Satchel One’. We look forward to working with you all this term.

Yours sincerely,



E Perkins, Principal