



## **Frequently asked questions**

**1. Where are the two sites for WHIS?**

*One is located on School Road, just off the Portland Road, the other newer site, which opened in 2011, is located on Connaught Road, just next to the Tesco superstore on New Church Road.*

*School Road has four classes in every year group whereas Connaught Road has two. If you prefer a larger school, then School Road is the school for you. If you prefer a smaller school, then Connaught Road would be perfect.*

**2. Can you put both sites down for admissions purposes?**

*Yes*

**3. Which junior school will my child attend?**

*School Road: The children will move to Hove Junior School also located on school Road, just 30 meters away.*

*Connaught Road: The children will move to Hove Junior School, located on Holland Road in Hove. As this site is a 15 minute walk away, we stagger our drop off and collection times so that parent/carers can get siblings to both schools at the beginning and end of the school day.*

*You will need to complete another application form when your child is in Year 2 but this is a formality as your child is guaranteed a place at the attached junior school.*

**4. When do applications need to be in by and to whom?**

*Applications forms need to be completed on line, on the Brighton & Hove web-site. Forms should be completed by mid-January. Late applications are dealt with last and as such, you are unlikely to get your 1<sup>st</sup> choice or even your 2<sup>nd</sup>.*

**5. How do you induct the children?**

*Our induction process takes 2-3 weeks. During this time children attend school in small groups of around 6-8 children. When these children are at school, the rest of the children in the class are at home. Then a new group of children start. Then the two groups are put together.....building up to the whole class attending together at the end of the 2-3 week period. During this time, children attend school until 11.45am. Then they will have a couple of days to stay for lunch and go home at 1pm. After which, all children attend full time; until 3.15pm.*

**6. When do children legally have to attend school?**

*Children legally have to start school the term after their 5<sup>th</sup> birthday. However, if your child is born in between April and August (summer born), this will mean that they start school in Y1, missing the whole of the Reception curriculum.*

**7. Can we defer entry?**

*Yes. If you feel that your child would benefit from a part time timetable, you are able to request this; e.g. a summer born child may come for mornings only during the Autumn and Spring terms, then attend full time in the Summer term. We would not recommend this as we find that children do not like going home and leaving their friends/or being seen to be different.*

*If your child is Summer born, then you may also request that your child starts school in the Reception year, for the following academic year. This would mean that your child is out of step with their chronological age group. If you wish to request this, then you still need to let B&H know your intentions now but in addition, you also need permission from the school to do this. As a school within the Hove Partnership, the Head Teachers have all agreed not to accept this request unless the child is performing significantly below age related expectations. For full information re this, please refer to the admissions policy on our web-site.*

**8. What would you like the children to be able to do when they start school?**

*Please refer to our web-site where we have listed top tips for you as parents in addition to the above.....written by current parents!*

**9. What else can we find on your web-site?**

*We have an extensive amount of information for parent/cares on our web-site. Please take a moment to look at our school prospectus where you will find everything you need to know. In addition, please look at our wonderful curriculum e-portfolios which showcase what we do in all subject areas.*

**10. What time do the children start and finish each day?**

*School starts at 9am (doors open at 8.50am) and finishes at 3.15pm. (We are operating a staggered system for drop off and collection at the moment due to COVID-19)*

**11. Do you have breakfast club and clubs at the end of the school day?**

*Yes. Breakfast club starts at 8am. (Due to low numbers at the Connaught Site, Breakfast club is currently not offered.)*

*At the end of the school day there are two options. First we have a range of extra-curricular activities from 3.15pm-4.15pm. Clubs vary from year to year but typically include for example, Karate, Art & Crafts, Lego, French, Spanish, Gardening and Football. Most of these clubs are not offered to Reception aged children. (Due to COVID-19 and the need to keep children in small bubbles, we are currently not offering after school curricular activities.)*

*Secondly there is a private child care provider that operates on both sites from 3.15pm-6pm each evening. The provider is called Class of Their Own. There is a link on our web-site. They also operate during the school holiday periods.*

*We do not recommend that reception aged children attend school from 8am -6pm as this has proven too much for most children of this age.*

**12. What is the ratio of adults in the Reception class?**

*Reception classes all have a teacher and a full time teaching assistant. You may also see other adults helping in the classrooms such as students or parent volunteers.*

**13. Do you offer free snacks and meals?**

*Yes. Children are all offered a snack mid-morning and can choose a lunchtime meal. We offer a hot meal service or a pack lunch option. Special dietary requests can be catered for; e.g. vegetarian, vegan. We can also cater for children who have allergies. All the food is cooked on the premises. This is not a school run facility. We subscribe to the Brighton & Hove approved contractors.*

**14. Do you have a school uniform?**

*Yes. You do not have to buy the uniform with our school logo on but we do request that you stick to our school colours of red, grey and white. Plus children need to wear flat, dark coloured shoes with toes covered.*

**15. How do you deal with challenging behaviour?**

*In each of the classrooms there is a behaviour ladder. Children hopefully move up the ladder to reinforce positive behaviour for all. If this is not the case then children move down the ladder to a step called 'Think about it.' If that doesn't work then the next step is 'Time out' for a few minutes. This works for 99% of the school population. When it doesn't, we liaise with the child's parent/carer and implement a behaviour plan.*

**16. How do you deal with bullying?**

*We have very little bullying at this age but unfortunately it does happen from time to time. The children are taught what bullying is and what it isn't. They are taught what to do if they feel that they are being bullied. We enforce that they must tell an adult and when they do, the situation is dealt with following our anti-bullying policy. We have zero tolerance for bullying. Please refer to our web-site.*

**17. Why should we choose WHIS?**

*We are not in competition with other local schools across B&H. We are members of the Hove Partnership which includes all the other schools in the Hove area including the two Secondary schools. All the Head Teachers work together throughout the academic year to ensure that all schools within the Partnership offer a very good level of education to all pupils.*

*At West Hove we strive to ensure that children leave us with a love for learning, have lively and enquiring minds, so that they go on to their next stage of education with an open mind and a thirst for doing the best that they possibly can.*

**18. Why are you doing in relation to keeping children safe during the COVID-19 pandemic?**

We have implemented all the recommendations given to schools by the government. Please refer to our very comprehensive COVID-19 risk assessment, which is located on our website.

