

# Spire Junior School

Jawbones Hill, Derby Road, Chesterfield S40 2EN  
Telephone: (01246) 234546

**Headteacher: Mrs C Vernon**

E-mail [headteacher@spire-jun.derbyshire.sch.uk](mailto:headteacher@spire-jun.derbyshire.sch.uk)  
Website [www.spirejunior.co.uk](http://www.spirejunior.co.uk)  
Twitter @Spirejunior  
Facebook <https://www.facebook.com/spirejuniors/>



8<sup>th</sup> September 2025

Dear Parents / Carers,

## Welcome Back

Welcome Back! We hope you have all had a wonderful summer holiday and been able to spend time with your family and friends. It has been a pleasure to welcome back into school our Year 4s, 5s and 6s and it brings us great joy to welcome our Year 3s into our Spire family. We look forward to working with you all in the year ahead.

## School Meals

Our school meals will continue to be £3.25 per day (£16.25 a week) for those children who choose to have them. This year, there will be the additional option of 'sandwiches' to choose from when the children place their orders. There will be the choice of cheese, tuna or ham sandwiches and this will need to be decided during the morning register and cannot be changed. All payments for school meals should be made weekly in cash at the School Office or via ParentMail.

Please note, if children are bringing packed lunches from home, then they should answer 'packed lunch' during their register to ensure that the kitchen do not make them additional lunches, as these will be chargeable. Please ensure that any food sent in from home does not include nuts as we are an allergy-aware school.

If you believe your child is entitled to Free School Meals but you have not yet had confirmation of this, please see the office staff, as they can check this with you.

## Snacks and Healthy Eating

As part of our school provision, all children have the option of a slice of toast or bagel during their morning register. If your child has any allergies which may affect this, please let us know so that we can cater for them accordingly.

We ask that any snacks or meals provided for your children are carefully considered. We strongly encourage children to bring healthy snacks such as fruit, vegetable sticks and yoghurts rather than sugary and salty foods. Please ensure that there are no nuts bought into school as we are an allergy aware school. This includes products containing nuts, such as cakes with nuts, cereal bars or nut flavourings. It is important that children do not share their snacks and lunches with others due to possible allergies also.

We are aware that children sometimes choose to bring in sweet treats to share with their classes



# Spire Junior School

Jawbones Hill, Derby Road, Chesterfield S40 2EN  
Telephone: (01246) 234546

**Headteacher: Mrs C Vernon**

E-mail [headteacher@spire-jun.derbyshire.sch.uk](mailto:headteacher@spire-jun.derbyshire.sch.uk)  
Website [www.spirejunior.co.uk](http://www.spirejunior.co.uk)  
Twitter @Spirejunior  
Facebook <https://www.facebook.com/spirejuniors/>



on their birthdays. Please note that we can only allow children to distribute these if they are in individual packets with the allergy information available.

## Water Bottles

We encourage all children to bring a named water bottle into school. Please may we ask that this is filled with water or sugar-free squash which can be refilled throughout the day. Please note there are to be no fizzy drinks, energy drinks or liquids to be in water bottles.

## Social Media and the School Website

Please see the links below to access our school website and our school Facebook page. Information will be shared here as and when needed, including information about any school closures and events.



School Website



School Facebook Page

## ParentMail

For those children joining us in Year 3, you will shortly be receiving a link to join ParentMail, which is the app we currently use in school to share our letters, make payments and make contact with home. If you have not been set up by the end of the week, please speak to a member of staff in the School Office.

If you are already on Parentmail but need to update your details or are having problems receiving communications from us, please speak to the School Office.

## Update Details

If you (or another named emergency contact for your child) have moved house, changed your contact number or had any other changes to your contact details over the summer, please visit the School Office to complete a pupil update form as soon as possible. We require two emergency contacts per child, so please ensure these are up to date.

## Newsletters

Newsletters will continue to be shared each Friday via



# Spire Junior School

Jawbones Hill, Derby Road, Chesterfield S40 2EN  
Telephone: (01246) 234546

**Headteacher: Mrs C Vernon**

E-mail [headteacher@spire-jun.derbyshire.sch.uk](mailto:headteacher@spire-jun.derbyshire.sch.uk)  
Website [www.spirejunior.co.uk](http://www.spirejunior.co.uk)  
Twitter @Spirejunior  
Facebook <https://www.facebook.com/spirejuniors/>



Parentmail. This will include important information for all of our families, including the upcoming menu, achievements and activities from the week and upcoming diary dates. Please check this each week for this information, as it will include dates for the upcoming term including Parents' Evenings, trips, residentials and school events.

## Uniform

We expect children to be smart for school and to wear our school uniform. Children should wear:

- Plain jumpers, cardigans or sweatshirts in navy blue
- Polo shirts / blouses / shirts in white
- Trousers, skirts or pinafores in black or dark grey.
- Suitable, sensible black shoes, trainers or boots (for Health and Safety reasons)
- Black or grey tailored shorts or blue checked dresses

Children are not allowed to wear tops with thin straps or crop tops due to the danger of sunburn. Parents may purchase school sweatshirts, fleeces or polo shirts from the School Office.

## PE and Games

Children should wear plain T-shirts and shorts. Children do P.E. in the hall in bare feet. They will need pumps or trainers for outside activities. For hygiene reasons we expect all children to change for P.E. No aerosols or spray deodorants are allowed in school.

Please find out when your child will have P.E. so that their kit can be in school on the days required. If your child frequently forgets their PE kit we will contact you – please let us know if you are having difficulty providing a PE kit as we may have some spare kit in school which fits.

## Jewellery and other uniform considerations

Children who have pierced ears may wear one pair of studs or sleepers to school. These must be removed for P.E. and swimming. No other jewellery should be worn to school other than a watch.

For Health and Safety reasons, children are not allowed to wear earrings at the top of their ears or have any facial piercings or tattoos. Any child wearing jewellery that is not allowed will be asked to remove it, and parents / carers may be asked to collect these from the School Office.

False or painted nails are also not appropriate in school for health and safety reasons. In line with our uniform expectations, children are also not allowed to wear make-up in school.



# Spire Junior School

Jawbones Hill, Derby Road, Chesterfield S40 2EN  
Telephone: (01246) 234546

**Headteacher: Mrs C Vernon**

E-mail [headteacher@spire-jun.derbyshire.sch.uk](mailto:headteacher@spire-jun.derbyshire.sch.uk)  
Website [www.spirejunior.co.uk](http://www.spirejunior.co.uk)  
Twitter @Spirejunior  
Facebook <https://www.facebook.com/spirejuniors/>



## OPAL

At Spire, we have adopted the Outdoor Play and Learning (OPAL) philosophy of play at lunchtimes. This means that the children have access to a range of activities, games, equipment and play spaces at lunch. This includes a mud-kitchen, and although children are reminded to wear wellies and an apron to enter this area, their uniforms may get dirty if this is where they choose to play.

Because we are an OPAL school, we do accept trainers as part of our school uniform. However, these must be plain black trainers. We also ask that children bring in their own wellies if possible which can be left outside – we do however have plenty of spares that your children can borrow should they need.

## Swimming Letters

This year, we have a new provider for our swimming lessons. Year 5 will be starting their first session tomorrow (Tuesday 9<sup>th</sup> September 2025) for those who have returned the forms to school. Year 4 will also be taking part in swimming this year and will begin their lessons in February (date to be confirmed).

Please could we ask that all paperwork for Year 5 swimming is returned as soon as possible.

## Mobile Phones

As a reminder, children are not to use mobile phones, smart watches or any other internet-enabled devices brought in from home in school or on school grounds. This also includes any devices with a camera.

Although we strongly discourage phones being brought into school at all, we appreciate some children may be carrying them to and from school on parental request due to walking home alone. If this is the case, phones must be switched off and handed in to their class teacher or the office. Any child found using a device such as those listed above will have the device confiscated.

Equally, we ask parents, carers and wider families to follow our 'look up' advice when on school grounds and avoid collecting and dropping children off on the school site whilst looking at screens, calling or texting. This sets a good example for our children around healthy screen time habits.

As always, we will continue to keep you updated with any further information and look forward to working with you going forward.

Kind regards,

Mrs Charlotte Vernon  
Headteacher



# Spire Junior School

Jawbones Hill, Derby Road, Chesterfield S40 2EN  
Telephone: (01246) 234546

**Headteacher: Mrs C Vernon**

E-mail [headteacher@spire-jun.derbyshire.sch.uk](mailto:headteacher@spire-jun.derbyshire.sch.uk)  
Website [www.spirejunior.co.uk](http://www.spirejunior.co.uk)  
Twitter @Spirejunior  
Facebook <https://www.facebook.com/spirejuniors/>



## Term Dates

Term	2025/2026	Pupil Start Date	Pupil Finish Date	Holiday
<b>2025</b>				
1	Autumn *	Monday 8 <sup>th</sup> September	Thursday 23 <sup>rd</sup> October	Half Term
2	Autumn *	Monday 3 <sup>rd</sup> November	Friday 19 <sup>th</sup> December	Christmas
<b>2026</b>				
3	Spring	Monday 5 <sup>th</sup> January	Friday 13 <sup>th</sup> February	Half Term
4	Spring	Monday 23 <sup>rd</sup> February	Friday 27 <sup>th</sup> March	Easter
5	Summer	Monday 13 <sup>th</sup> April	Thursday 21 <sup>st</sup> May	Spring Bank
6	Summer *	Monday 1 <sup>st</sup> June	Wednesday 22 <sup>nd</sup> July	End of School Year

## School Closed for Public Holiday

May Day      Monday 4<sup>th</sup> May 2026

## \* Teacher Training Days (Closed to Pupils)

Term 1      Thursday 4<sup>th</sup> September 2025

Term 1      Friday 5<sup>th</sup> September 2025

Term 1      Friday 24<sup>th</sup> October 2025

Term 5      Friday 22<sup>nd</sup> May 2026

Term 6      Thursday 23<sup>rd</sup> July 2026

