Junior transition brochure

Wellington Primary

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Welcome to Year 3!

We are so excited to welcome you and your child to the Junior School. Moving from Year 2 to Year 3 is an exciting step — a time to grow, learn new things, and take on new adventures together.

In Year 3, your child will become part of a vibrant and supportive learning community. We understand that this transition can feel like a big change, and we are here to help every step of the way. Our experienced and caring team will ensure your child feels safe, happy, and confident as they settle into their new environment.

Children will explore a wide range of subjects, enjoy new responsibilities, and continue to develop important skills in reading, writing, maths, and beyond. We value curiosity, creativity, and kindness, and we work together to make sure every child thrives. Together, we'll make sure their journey into Key Stage 2 is a smooth and joyful one.

Welcome to Year 3 – let's make it a fantastic year!

A tour of your new school

Look out for:

The junior library

A junior library is a magical place where stories come alive and imaginations soar. It's filled with colourful books, cosy corners, and exciting adventures waiting on every shelf. Children can explore new worlds, discover favourite authors, and enjoy quiet time or fun activities that make reading truly exciting and enjoyable.

The junior school hall is a vibrant and versatile space at the heart of school life. It serves many purposes throughout the day, offering children a dynamic environment for learning, playing, and gathering as a community.

The hall also plays a central role in assemblies and special events. Whether it's a whole-school assembly, a celebration of achievements, a performance, or a visitor's presentation, the space brings everyone together. It's a place for shared stories, singing, reflection, and school spirit.

The KS2 hall and Studio

The larger playground with sports zones

Year 3 classrooms

Art room

Dining hall

ICT suite

What will change?

The Year 3 team is committed to making every child feel welcome, safe, and excited about their start at the junior school. We understand that moving to a new part of the school can feel like a big change, so we take gentle, supportive steps to ensure a smooth transition.

Before the term begins, children are invited to visit their new classroom, meet their teacher, and explore key areas of the school, helping them feel familiar and confident. On arrival in September, we focus on building strong routines, creating a calm and friendly classroom environment, and encouraging positive relationships through team-building activities.

Teachers take time to get to know each child as an individual, offering reassurance and praise to boost their confidence. We work closely with parents and Year 2 staff to share important information and celebrate achievements. Our goal is for every child to feel happy, valued, and ready to learn.

Infant school

- One main playground
- Shorter learning sessions
- Learning through play
- Class-based teachers

Junior school

- Two separate playgrounds
- Longer, more focused lessons
- More independent learning
- Some lessons with specialists

Don't worry – your teachers will help you settle in every step of the way.

What will my day look like?

Access and Drop-off/ Collection Information

Sapphire and Topaz classrooms can be accessed via the main playground, while Turquoise classroom is reached through the back playground.

Please drop your child off directly at their classroom door in the morning and collect them from the same location at the end of the day.

8:45am	**Arrive at School**
8:55am	**Registration and Morning Work**
9:00am	**Literacy and Maths lessons**
10:15am	**Break Time**
12:15pm	**Lunchtime**
1:15pm	**Afternoon Subjects** (Science, History, PE etc.)
3:30pm	**Home Time!**

Lunchtimes and snacks

- Free School lunches or bring a packed lunch in from home – it's your choice! Wilson Jones school meals are tasty, nutritious, and freshly prepared each day. With a variety of balanced options, including vegetarian choices, there's something for everyone. Meals support healthy growth and energy for learning, all in a friendly dining environment that encourages good eating habits and a positive lunchtime experience.
- Fruit snack allowed at break – please bring from home.
- Water bottles are encouraged.

What will I learn in Year 3?

You'll explore fun and exciting topics like:

- Through the Ages - the Stone Age, Bronze Age and Iron Age
- Forces and Magnets
- Plants and Rocks
- Local Geography of Hounslow
- Poetry, Stories and Plays
- Y3 we learn recorders from a specialised music teacher
- Y3 in DT week we make sandwiches, electrical posters and Roman castles.

There will be fun trips and themed days too!

- In Y3 we are lucky to go on a variety of trips - we begin our year by visiting Stonehenge (this learning links to our history topic).
- We visit the local library and learn how to navigate our way through it with the help of the librarians.
- We have an external visitor come and conduct a 'Rocks and Relics workshop' where the children have an interactive experience learning and investigating different rocks and relics (linking to Science topic).
- Then, we have our Roman VR workshop linking to our final history topic of Emperors and Empires.
- Lastly, for our religious trip we go to a local Mandir.

What should I wear and bring?

- Full school uniform (with black shoes)
- PE kit on PE days (you'll be told which day)
- Reading book and Purple homework book
- Water bottle
- Book bag or small rucksack
- Children are able to bring in their own stationary, this is encouraged for greater independence.

Frequently asked questions

1. **What is the biggest difference between infant and junior school?** Junior school offers a more structured day with longer lessons, a wider curriculum, and increased independence. Children also begin to take on more responsibility and in upper juniors will move around the school for different subjects or activities.

2. **Will my child be in a new classroom with a new teacher?** Yes. Your child will have a new Year 3 teacher and classroom. There are opportunities to meet the teacher beforehand to help children feel confident and familiar with their new setting. Your child will stay with their familiar class on transition. Some of our Year 3 teachers have previously taught within the infant school. So your child will know them.

3. **How will you help my child settle in?** We provide transition visits, fun activities, and a gentle start to the school year. Teachers offer lots of reassurance, praise, and support during the first few weeks.

4. **Can my child play with their friends at break and lunch?** Absolutely. Playtimes and lunchtimes give children the chance to see friends from other classes and year groups, and we encourage positive social time.

5. **Will the work be much harder in Year 3?** There is a step up in expectations, but lessons are carefully planned to build on what children already know. Teachers provide support to make learning enjoyable and manageable.

6. **What should my child bring on the first day?** Just a named water bottle, lunch (if not having school meals), and a book bag. We'll let you know if any other items are needed.

7. **Are school meals available and what are they like?** Yes! Wilson Jones provides healthy, freshly prepared meals each day, with a range of hot options, including vegetarian and halal choices. Packed lunches from home are also welcome.

8. **How do you communicate with parents?** We use newsletters, parent mail text and email updates, and the school website to keep parents informed. Teachers are also available for quick chats at drop-off or pick-up.

9. **What if my child is worried or upset?** All staff are trained to support children's emotional wellbeing. We encourage children to talk to their teacher or another trusted adult if they feel worried.

10. **How can I support my child at home?** Read regularly, talk positively about school, help with routines, and encourage independence with things like packing their bag or remembering PE days.

How can parents help?

Transitioning into a new junior school is an exciting milestone, but it can also bring nerves or uncertainty for both children and their families. Parents and carers play a vital role in helping their child adjust smoothly and positively to this change.

Start by talking openly with your child about the move, reassuring them that it's normal to feel a mix of emotions. Encourage them to share any worries and listen carefully, offering comfort and practical solutions where possible. Visiting the new school beforehand, exploring key areas, and meeting staff can help build familiarity and confidence.

Establishing a clear routine from the start – including regular bedtimes, calm mornings, and organised school bags – helps children feel secure and ready for the day ahead. Support their independence by encouraging responsibility for belongings, homework, and time management. Children need approximately 10 hours of sleep at this age each night.

Wellbeing is just as important as academics. Celebrate achievements, no matter how small, and make time to talk about their day. Encourage healthy friendships and help them understand the importance of kindness, resilience, and effort.

Expectations may be higher in junior school, but with steady support, children can thrive. Help them stay organised with reading, homework, and any upcoming activities, and maintain positive communication with teachers to stay informed and involved.

Above all, a calm, supportive home environment and a shared enthusiasm for school life will give your child the best possible foundation for success and happiness in their new junior school. Together, we can make this an exciting and confident new beginning.

Parents can email:
office@wellington.hounslow.sch.uk
for questions or support.

Starting Junior School

Pupil Checklist

- ☐ I know my new teacher's name and where my classroom is.
- ☐ I have visited my new school or seen pictures of it.
- ☐ I have a named school uniform and PE kit ready.
- ☐ I can pack my own school bag with what I need each day.
- ☐ I can bring a named water bottle and lunchbox or know how to order school lunch.
- ☐ I know where to go in the morning and who is collecting me after school.
- ☐ I can find the toilets and ask for help if I need it.
- ☐ I know how to be kind and make new friends.
- ☐ I'm practising reading, writing, and mathematics over the summer.
- ☐ I feel excited and ready to try my best every day!

You've got this – and we can't wait to welcome you!

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Wellington Primary School
Sutton Lane, Hounslow, Middlesex TW3 4LB

Telephone: 020 8570 6130 • www.wellington.hounslow.sch.uk • Email: office@wellington.hounslow.sch.uk