

GREENFYLDE CHURCH OF ENGLAND FIRST SCHOOL

SILVER STREET, ILMINSTER, SOMERSET TA19 0DS

Telephone: Ilminster (01460) 52686

Fax: Ilminster (01460) 55780

Email: office@greenfylde.somerset.sch.uk

Website Address: www.greenfylde.somerset.sch.uk

Headteacher: Miss C. Oaten



Newsletter No: 1 Friday 10th September 2021

Welcome Back!

Welcome back to all our families and especially those of the 91 new children who have joined the Greenfylde family, we wish all a warm welcome and it has been lovely this week to see all the smiles and hear the chatter and laughter that has filled the school. As always, thanks to everyone in our school community for helping us make such a successful return to school and we know we can all work together to help this continue through the term. We are very aware of Covid and will have mitigations in place but equally we want school to be as 'normal' and fun experience as we can for the children. Attached to this newsletter you will find our Government directed contingency plan.

As usual, our first newsletter is a reminder to families of lots of key messages that will be important throughout the school year so please take the time to look through this information.

What are your best memories of your schools? Everyone has these and range from those familiar routines, to those special events and/or trips that inspired the awe and wonder we want for our pupils in their childhood.

It seems strange, but almost familiar, to be starting another school year where we are still thinking about Covid. If nothing else, it has proved we can be creative and have the skills to still make learning fun whilst keeping our children and community as safe as we can. Planning a new school year is always quite an adventure as you will always have those firm favourites that are annual (think of a few things that happen in December although way too early for the C word yet!) but equally we look for new things that inspire and help children develop that sense of wonder and inquisitiveness in their learning.

This year we are embarking on two projects that we hope will develop citizenship and help our children embrace social responsibility so they have a firm foundation for their future lives. In keeping with many in Ilminster, we are supporting our pupils to think about how they care for their world, starting with how this works in school, to their local community of Ilminster and then extending to how their role impacts on the whole wider world. This year we are aiming to achieve our Eco Schools Green Flag award and pupils standing for our school council will do so on the premise of how they can support their peers in making us all more active in preserving our world.

Our second project, the Archbishop of York's Young Leaders' Award for all pupils from Y1 to Y4, this encourages social action and helping children learn and reflect on 'being the change they want to be'. We're looking forward to this new project as we see it supporting the children and equally our community. As a school it is important we are at the heart of our community and helping our pupils be active members who shape and support Ilminster both now and into the future.

Whatever else this year brings, we know we have lots to look forward to and if we can help make those smiles and memories, then we'll have done a good job.

Please remember we always try to make ourselves available to talk to families and during these ongoing Covid 19 times are happy to talk to families via email, telephone or using Class Dojo/Tapestry.

I hope everyone in our school community has a successful year and I look forward to working with you all.



Starting School September 2022

Do you know families with children ready to start school in September 2021? If so please encourage them to contact us to find out more about coming to school in Ilminster as we are very happy to talk to prospective families about the school.

Work in school

This Summer has seen work take place to renovate the toilets for the Reception classrooms and these are now much brighter and more welcoming for the children. We've also had a new shelter added to the playground which completes the work on the playground which was started last year.

Staffing

This academic year we welcome Miss Katie Bullen to our EYFS teaching team and Miss Phoebe Swinson to the Y4 teaching team. We also welcome Catherine Switzer who is joining our administrative team in the role of Receptionist. I'm sure you will join with me in wishing them a happy and successful time at Greenfylde.



Newsletters

Newsletters will continue to go out weekly this year by email and will continue to be **every Friday**. A lot of key information comes out only through the newsletter so please ensure you read this weekly. We realise everyone is very busy but having this system ensures we have one key place to send dates etc. to parents.

Child Protection

Everyone at Greenfylde takes their roles of educating and looking after your children very seriously. With regard to Child Protection, please read the following extract from our school prospectus carefully:-

Greenfylde Church of England First School strives to educate all its pupils within an environment where the Christian traditions of learning, truth, justice, respect and community are promoted. Consequently the overall aim of the Child Protection Policy is to safeguard and promote the welfare of the children in our care. In situations where child abuse is suspected, our paramount responsibility is to the child.

The school is committed to promoting the health and welfare of all pupils and if staff see signs that suggest that one of the pupils may have been the victim of abuse (or is at risk of abuse) they will follow the procedures laid down by the Somerset Safeguarding Children's Board. NB: Such action in no way infers that any parent/carer or other individual is being accused of wrongdoing.

The school's designated Child Protection Officer is Kerry Lewis and in her absence Claire Oaten.

A full version of the School's Child Protection Policy is available on request or on the website.

School Website

Please remember that the school has a very full website: www.greenfylde.somerset.sch.uk

You will find newsletters, lists of dates, recent photographs, notices and much more. Please refer to the website regularly for information you may need.

Letters home / information to families

We continue to share letters to families via email so please check your emails regularly including in junk/clutter folders. Due to this, please ensure we have the up to date email addresses for your family and any changes should be notified to the school office.



Extended Provision

We continue to offer wrap around care from 7.45am at Breakfast Club to 5.30pm with After School Club. Please contact the office for further details as these are available on both a regular booking and as ad hoc bookings where space is available. Bookings and payments are made via the School Gateway app.

Packed lunches

Please help us to promote healthy eating by encouraging your children to bring healthy lunches and snacks to school. Children are welcome to have choice but please can you avoid nuts, nut based products and sesame/sesame based products as we have children with allergies on the premises and want to ensure their safety.

Water Bottle

Your child must bring a named water bottle to school to keep in their classroom. This should be taken home each night to be refilled however children will have the opportunity to refill these during the day. **Please note these should only contain water and not juice.**



FrOGS

Our FrOGS (Friends of Greenfylde School) association do a wonderful job of providing a range of enjoyable social events throughout the year as well as providing valuable additional funds that are spent on resources for your children. Please continue to support the FrOGS this year and it would be lovely to have a large turnout at our AGM which will be held virtually on Zoom, date to be announced. If you have never been to a meeting please consider coming along this term.

Head lice

Unfortunately head lice are always unwanted visitors in school and as they are easily passed by head to head contact children's hair should be checked at least three times a week. The sooner they are spotted the easier they are to deal with and this prevents a wide scale spread to other children in school. There is no shame in getting head lice and if you require any information in the prevention and removal of head lice I would suggest contacting your local pharmacist.

Naming Uniform

At the start of the year our pupils look very smart in their school uniforms and I know many parents will have bought new uniforms to fit growing children! Given the expense of these items I'm sure parents do not want them lost so please can you help us by naming all of your children's clothing including shoes. If an item is named and found we always ensure it comes back to the pupil. Unfortunately every year we have lots of lost property so it would be good to try and reduce this by helping the children identify their belongings. If required, lost property is located in the covered way by the School Hall and our lost property trolley will be wheeled out when we have items, on to the playground after school near the Hall doors.

Star of the Week

Star of the week will start again w/c 20th September where we are going to continue a virtual assembly via Zoom as this has allowed more family members to join and see the children receive their awards. Children are welcome to bring recent awards from home to share at these assemblies as they can do this from their classrooms.

Safeguarding

Somerset places a high emphasis on Safeguarding in School including all pupils from Reception upwards being able to explain how they 'safeguard' themselves. As in previous years you will see a lot of the word safeguarding and with school I hope you will also encourage your child to use this word. Safeguarding can involve site safety for example the gates being locked during the school day; playground safety with children told to walk bikes and scooters in school; PE safety of knowing how to follow adult instructions in using equipment; cyber safety where we teach them specifically about safety online and safeguarding themselves in the community e.g. knowing how to stay safe by roads. Safeguarding sections will continue to appear regularly on newsletters and the following are all key safeguarding messages for the year.

Safeguarding - Parking

Unfortunately parking around Greenfylde is very difficult, especially at the beginning and end of the school day. We appreciate parking is very limited and we have no car park/drop off area so if you can walk/cycle to school this would help.

If you are parking around school please park considerately for our neighbours, children walking along the pavement and the local community and remember we have an agreement with Orchard Vale Car Park, where there is a 30 minute period (15 minutes before, 15 after) around 9.00am and 3.30pm, when you are allowed to park without purchasing a ticket. Please be aware that going beyond this may lead you to incur a fine. We are still providing free passes to display in your car so that the parking attendants are aware of your visit and these must be displayed. Permits are available from the School Office Reception Desk. South Somerset District Council have also asked us to remind you that anyone not parking in marked spaces or using disabled spaces without permission may be fined by them.

Safeguarding –Dropping off and picking up

With the need to still manage Covid within the community, we ask for families' support with the new pick up and drop off arrangements. Children have been coming in very well each morning and have benefitted from the fact that walking to their classrooms mirrors the practice they follow at the end of each breaktime and lunchtime. Once children are dropped off, please can we ask if the adult dropping off can step away from the gate just to give other children the space to come in. We appreciate some adults are worried about their child getting to class, but we have lots of adults around and as stated this is something the children regularly do throughout the day.

Can we also request that when waiting in a morning before the gates open, adults/children wait a little way from the gates so that staff can still access the school as they come to work. We are still not having dogs on the site as we are aware a number of children are not comfortable being around dogs.

Safeguarding - Attendance

Please remember to inform us as soon as possible if your child is going to be absent. When children are absent please contact the school office by telephone (answer machine available) or by email by 9.30am, if we do not have contact then the office will contact you to ensure your child is safe.

To bring us in line with the Crewkerne and Ilminster cluster of schools and Local Authority expectations we will continue implementing penalty fines and warning penalty notices for unauthorised attendance which includes unauthorised holidays. Expected attendance at Greenfylde is 96%.

Within the local cluster of schools we have agreed the following:

The Local Authority will issue families with a penalty fine of £60 per pupil, per parent where any child is absent from school for 10 consecutive unauthorised sessions (5 days). This means that in the future, families can expect a fine of £60 per pupil, per parent for taking a holiday of a week or more. Please note these fines go to the Local Authority and not to the school. Children who are absent from school with illness for a week or more will not be fined and whilst in the majority of cases we will take a parent's word re illness, where there are concerns regarding the length of absence, legitimacy or frequency is questioned then medical evidence will be sought to support the need for absence e.g. prescription, medicine label, appointment card, screen print from the surgery – please note we are not asking for a Doctor's certificate.

Children who have 10 or more unauthorised absences in any 12 week period may receive a warning penalty notice from the Local Authority. Children who receive a notice will be expected to attend school for a given number of weeks without any further absences – otherwise a penalty fine will be incurred. Where a penalty warning notice is issued any illness absence must be accompanied by some form of medical proof.

There may be exceptional circumstances where leave is granted and these can be put in writing to the school. Where a family's children attend more than one school then these circumstances will be discussed with the other school and if required, advice sought from the Local Authority. Where leave is requested please try to request this at least four weeks prior to the dates requested to allow for advice to be taken or any additional evidence found.

Please note:- a copy of the full attendance policy for the school is available at the school office or on the website.

From September 2015 the Department for Education is now classing persistent absenteeism as missing 10% of school sessions. This includes authorised and unauthorised absence and is reported to the Local Authority. Expected attendance is 96% or above and all children are monitored for attendance by the Local Authority half termly and you will also receive your child's attendance information every term. If you feel school can help at any point with your child's attendance please do not hesitate to contact the school office to arrange an appointment.

Safeguarding - Medicines in School

If your child has got prescribed medicine please can you consider if your child is well enough to be in school and if they are, can the medicine be taken outside of school hours. If in extreme cases this is not possible then nominated staff can administer medicines in school. To do this parents must complete a form available via email from the office before any medicine can be administered and please leave the smallest practical dose with the staff there. If the above procedure is not followed, the medicine will not be able to be given in the interest of the child.

Please note we can only give prescribed medicines with a pharmacy sticker on with the child's name. **Over the counter Nurofen or Calpol cannot be given nor any over the counter cold/cough products.**

If your child requires an inhaler in school then this should be discussed directly with your child's class teacher and the appropriate form completed.

Safeguarding - Pupil contact information

Please can parents ensure that they keep us up to date with contact details sending any new addresses, telephone numbers etc to the school office as soon as possible. Thank you.



Holiday Dates 2021/22

Our term dates for the academic year 2022/23 will be released to parents as soon as they are agreed with Governors later this term. The dates for all schools, excluding the specific INSET days are available from the Somerset County Council website www.somerset.gov.uk.

School Gateway App

To order school lunches and book places on breakfast and after school club please use the School Gateway App. Uniform can also be ordered on the app.
Please contact the school office if you need any help downloading the app.

Somerset School Terms and Holidays 2021/2022 Academic Year (Revised)

WWW.SOMERSET.GOV.UK



September 2021					October 2021					November 2021							
M		6	13	20	27	M	4	11	18	25	M	1	8	15	22	29	
Tu		7	14	21	28	Tu	5	12	19	26	Tu	2	9	16	23	30	
W	1	8	15	22	29	W	6	13	20	27	W	3	10	17	24		
Th	2	9	16	23	30	Th	7	14	21	28	Th	4	11	18	25		
F	3	10	17	24	F	1	8	15	22	29	F	5	12	19	26		
Sa	4	11	18	25	Sa	2	9	16	23	30	Sa	6	13	20	27		
Su	5	12	19	26	Su	3	10	17	24	31	Su	7	14	21	28		
December 2021					January 2022					February 2022							
M		6	13	20	27	M	3	10	17	24	31	M		7	14	21	28
Tu		7	14	21	28	Tu	4	11	18	25	Tu	1	8	15	22		
W	1	8	15	22	29	W	5	12	19	26	W	2	9	16	23		
Th	2	9	16	23	30	Th	6	13	20	27	Th	3	10	17	24		
F	3	10	17	24	31	F	7	14	21	28	F	4	11	18	25		
Sa	4	11	18	25	Sa	1	8	15	22	29	Sa	5	12	19	26		
Su	5	12	19	26	Su	2	9	16	23	30	Su	6	13	20	27		
March 2022					April 2022					May 2022							
M		7	14	21	28	M	4	11	18	25	M	2	9	16	23	30	
Tu	1	8	15	22	29	Tu	5	12	19	26	Tu	3	10	17	24	31	
W	2	9	16	23	30	W	6	13	20	27	W	4	11	18	25		
Th	3	10	17	24	31	Th	7	14	21	28	Th	5	12	19	26		
F	4	11	18	25	F	1	8	15	22	29	F	6	13	20	27		
Sa	5	12	19	26	Sa	2	9	16	23	30	Sa	7	14	21	28		
Su	6	13	20	27	Su	3	10	17	24	31	Su	1	8	15	22	29	
June 2022					July 2022					August 2022							
M		6	13	20	27	M	4	11	18	25	M	1	8	15	22	29	
Tu		7	14	21	28	Tu	5	12	19	26	Tu	2	9	16	23	30	
W	1	8	15	22	29	W	6	13	20	27	W	3	10	17	24	31	
Th	2	9	16	23	30	Th	7	14	21	28	Th	4	11	18	25		
F	3	10	17	24	F	1	8	15	22	29	F	5	12	19	26		
Sa	4	11	18	25	Sa	2	9	16	23	30	Sa	6	13	20	27		
Su	5	12	19	26	Su	3	10	17	24	31	Su	7	14	21	28		

Key:

	School Holiday
	Bank Holiday
	Term Time
	Inset Day

Term dates summary:

Term 1: 06 September – 22 October 2021 (35 days)
 Term 2: 02 November – 17 December 2021 (34 days)
 Term 3: 04 January – 18 February 2022 (34 days)
 Term 4: 28 February – 08 April 2022 (30 days)
 Term 5: 25 April – 27 May 2022 (24 days)
 Term 6: 06 June – 26 July 2022 (37 days)

TOTAL = 194

Bank and public holidays 2021/22 – Revised to include the Queen's Platinum Jubilee

Christmas Day Holiday	27 December 2021*	Easter Monday	18 April 2022
Boxing Day Holiday	28 December 2021*	Early May Day Holiday	02 May 2022
New Year's Day Holiday	03 January 2022*	Spring Bank Holiday	02 June 2022
Good Friday	15 April 2022	Platinum Jubilee	03 June 2022
		Summer Bank Holiday	29 August 2022

* Replacement Bank Holiday day when the bank holiday falls on a weekend.

The academic year 2021/22 has been reduced from 195 to 194 days to enable everyone to celebrate the Platinum Jubilee.

Greenfylde C of E First School

Covid 19 (Coronavirus) Contingency Plan – September 2021

As you will be aware, the situation regarding the Covid 19 and subsequent Government plans are rapidly changing. We continue to follow the Government guidance and advice from Public Health England regarding our response. Currently, the guidance is clear that schools are open as usual but that we should still take extra precautions such as ventilation through open windows/doors (not significantly impacting thermal comfort), encouraging regular and thorough hand washing throughout the day etc. Alongside hand washing we are also using alcohol based hand sanitiser but are aware of children who may need to use specific brands/alternatives.

We access current guidance and contact details for PHE (Public Health England) via the SSE website and from the Government sites:

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/what-parents-and-carers-need-to-know-about-early-years-providers-schools-and-colleges-during-the-coronavirus-covid-19-outbreak>

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/actions-for-schools-during-the-coronavirus-outbreak>

https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/1011704/20210817_Contingency_Framework_FINAL.pdf

This includes the current guidance re self isolation:

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/covid-19-stay-at-home-guidance/stay-at-home-guidance-for-households-with-possible-coronavirus-covid-19-infection>

Anyone with COVID-19 [symptoms](#) or a positive test result should stay at home and self-isolate immediately. If you have symptoms of COVID-19, you should arrange to have a PCR test as soon as possible. This still applies even if you have received one or more doses of COVID-19 vaccine. If you live in the same household as someone with COVID-19, you should stay at home and self-isolate. From 16 August, if you are fully vaccinated or aged under 18 years and 6 months [you will not be required to self-isolate if you are a contact of someone who has tested positive for COVID-19](#)

Communication

Information will be shared with families via the weekly school/pre-schools' newsletter (emailed every Friday); School Comms app; emailed via our Email@School system and through the Class DoJo platform in Years 1 to Year 4 and Tapestry in Reception and Pre-Schools. Families should ensure contact information is kept up to date and that settings on email ensure this information does not get classified as 'junk'.

Staff will be informed of any changes via their official school issued email address.

Impact on provision

In the event of a school closure you would be informed as families via the communication methods listed above, please ensure you have access to these and your details are up to date. If school were to close it is important that children are given opportunities to work at home. Online learning will be available via Google Classroom or Tapestry (year group dependent) and if required, paper packs of learning will also be made available. Online learning will also be available for those children off with symptoms/positive test if they feel well enough for this.

As per guidance, the aim will always be to keep school open to offer face to face learning. In line with current guidance, additional measures will be considered if the school meets one of these thresholds:

- 5 children, pupils, students or staff, who are likely to have mixed closely, test positive for COVID-19 within a 10-day period; or

- 10% of children, pupils, students or staff who are likely to have mixed closely test positive for COVID-19 within a 10-day period

The Government definition of close mixing in primary age schools includes:

- a form group or subject class
- a friendship group mixing at breaktimes
- a sports team
- a group in an after-school activity

If one of these thresholds were to be triggered we would look to implement some/all of the following additional mitigations:

- Look for any activities that could take place outside (weather permitting)
- Additional cleaning including one-off enhanced cleaning focussing on touch points and any shared equipment
- Reduce visitors on to site including families by arranging for end of day collection from the school gates.
- Reintroduce bubbles and specific play areas/staggered lunch if recommended by local Public Health England office.

Staff absence

Should staff be off, we will try to ensure continuity for the children by using existing Greenfyld staff to continue their teaching & learning and if possible, online teaching by staff from home.

Postponement of planned events

In line with guidance, we are currently not postponing any planned events or trips but this may change while we risk assess each event on a case by case basis. We will keep you up to date with decisions made. While making decisions our priority will always be the safety and welfare of the pupils, staff and families. If we have to limit attendance on site then we will again move to virtual events for open days, visits and events.

Face coverings

These will remain optional for staff and we ask families to respect individual staff decisions re wearing masks.

Shielding

Should shielding be reintroduced, staff and pupils who are CEV will be able to work/learn from home.

Remote education

We will continue to offer high quality remote education to support children's continuity of learning –information for this is available at:

<https://www.greenfyld.somerset.sch.uk/curriculum/blended-learning/>

Safeguarding

The safeguarding of all children remains a responsibility for all schools even when children are self isolating. This means that if we have any concerns based on a lack of contact or information received, we will attempt to contact you as part of our support for you and your children. This may be done by phone, email, Teams or face to face depending on the circumstances. We will be doing this out of concern for your children and will be seeking to support/work with you in order to overcome these concerns. Please be aware that where necessary we may involve external agencies.

The use of online provision, naturally makes children more vulnerable to online safety issues and we ask all families to be explicitly aware of the online screen time that children have, the content they are accessing and the contacts they have made.

We appreciate your patience as this remains an ever changing situation and we are doing what we can to be prepared for any future decisions including the new contingency thresholds explained above. We will keep you updated as soon as we know any future information.

We ask for your continued support as we take decisions in the best interest of our children and to safeguard and protect the health and welfare of our school community.



Wadham School

Open Evening
Monday 13th September
5.00PM TO 7.00PM



Our Vision

Our Values Wheel has 'hope' at its core. Drawing on our Christian foundations as a Church School, we want all our young people to feel that 'hope', and so experience 'life to the full'.



We welcome all prospective parents and pupils wanting to learn more about Wadham School to our up and coming Open Evening 2021. All departments will be open for you to see and all teaching staff will be available for informal discussion.

See our school website www.wadhamschool.co.uk

Yeovil Road / Crewkerne / Somerset / TA18 7NT



01460 270123



office@wadhamschool.co.uk





ROOTS & SHOOTS

3.00pm on the second Sunday of the month



A short time of outdoor fun for the young and young at heart. Join us as we explore God in the great outdoors.

We kindly ask that you:

- dress for the weather;
- supervise your children at all times;
- bring a small snack/drink to enjoy at the end of the session.



Please meet outside West Street Fish & Chips or opposite the Texaco garage (leaving at 2.40pm) ready to walk to our Parable Garden site.

Get Active! Just Be! Let's Create!



il  inster
and Whitelackington
Evangelists of Christ's Light - sharing our love for God and our neighbours





**THE GREAT
BIG GREEN
WEEK** 



FAIRTRADE COFFEE MORNING & BAKE-OFF

Saturday 18th September 2021

10am to 12 midday

Sweet Surprise, 23 Silver Street, Ilminster

Enjoy FREE Fairtrade refreshments

- ❖ Learn more about the benefits of buying Fairtrade
- ❖ Explore the range of Fairtrade products available in Ilminster

PRIZE FOR THE BEST CAKE OR BISCUITS!

*Entries, together with proof of at least two Fairtrade ingredients used¹, to arrive at **Sweet Surprise** between 8.45 and 9.00 am for judging.*

***Organised by Ilminster Quakers and Ilminster Fairtrade for
The Great Big Green Week 2021***

For more information - elspethwaldie@hotmail.com

¹ Bring along part of the packet, or a receipt, showing the Fairtrade ingredients used.

JUNIOR ORIENTEERING SAMPSONS WOOD



11TH SEPTEMBER
SAMPSONS WOOD, YEOVIL
ST 53822 15003 / BA20 2PZ

Our Junior Orienteering Group (JOG) runs weekly events through term time aimed at juniors, families and those looking to improve or train.

This is a great way to get out in the fresh air, get some exercise and experience some of our wonderful countryside and parks.

You do not need to be a member and volunteers will be on-hand to provide any help or guidance you may need. Courses are set across four levels to cater for those who have never tried orienteering through to those who consider themselves 'seasoned' participants.

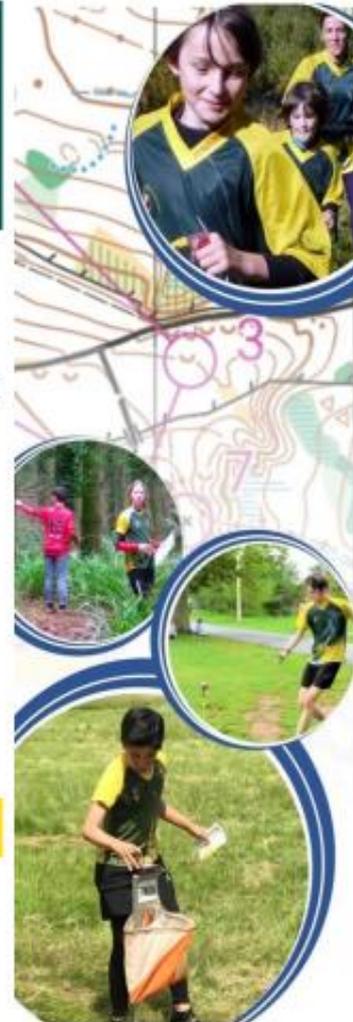
Whether you walk the course or run, you are guaranteed to have some fun.

DIRECTIONS

Parking for the event will be in Yew Tree Park, off Lysander Road (A3088) in Yeovil. The entrance to Sampsons Wood is a 3 minute walk from the carpark and will be clearly signposted.



Yew Tree Car Park
Sampsons Wood Entrance



QUANTOCK ORIENTEERS

COSTS

£1 per person

You will be provided with a map of the Wood and your chosen course together with a compass and SI 'dibber' (we will explain what this is if you do not know already....)

TIMES

Starts: 1400 - 1500
Course close: 1600

OTHER INFO

Visit the web page below to find out more details
and to register for the event.

[Sampson's Wood - Quantock Orienteers](http://www.quantockorienteers.co.uk)

For more information contact:

Name: Judy and Roger Craddock

Phone number: 01823 323850

Email address: jandr.craddock@gmail.com

or visit: www.quantockorienteers.co.uk

