



Storyybrook Newsletter

September 2026 Edition: Welcome to Storyybrook



Getting our school ready

We are very excited to share our first Storyybrook update for parents, carers and families.

There has been lots happening behind the scenes as we prepare Storyybrook to welcome our first children. From developing our curriculum and therapeutic offer to preparing our classrooms and outdoor spaces, everything we are doing is centred around one question:

What will help our children feel safe, understood, valued and ready to learn?

Storyybrook is being created as a specialist primary school for children with social, emotional and mental health (SEMH) needs. We know that, for some children, previous experiences of education may have been difficult. We want Storyybrook to feel different: a small, nurturing school where relationships matter, individual needs are understood and every child has the opportunity to experience success.

Meet our Leadership Team!

Mrs Rachel Burbridge - Headteacher

Mrs Burbridge is Storyybrook's Headteacher. She has a background in SEND, inclusion, safeguarding and school leadership and is passionate about creating a school where children feel that they truly belong.

She believes that children learn best when they feel safe, understood and connected to the adults around them, and has been busy developing Storyybrook's curriculum, provision and approach ready for our first pupils.

Mrs Rachel Tetchner - Deputy Headteacher

Mrs Tetchner is Storyybrook's Deputy Headteacher and SENDCo, and shares our commitment to creating a calm, nurturing and inclusive school.

She will work closely with Mrs Burbridge and the wider Storyybrook team to make sure that children are known as individuals and receive the support they need to settle, build relationships and thrive.



Together, Mrs Burbridge and Mrs Tetchner cannot wait to welcome Storyybrook's first children and families.

storyybrook



Getting the school ready

There has been lots happening at Storyybrook over the last few weeks!

We want our environment to feel safe, calm, welcoming and child-friendly, and work is well underway to prepare the school for opening.

We have already installed a new six-foot perimeter fence around the back field, replaced and levelled paving at the front of the school and added artificial grass to the outdoor areas directly connected to our classrooms. Storyybrook Newsletter 21.09.26

We are also sourcing new flooring for the school, and our programme of redecoration will begin from the October half-term period. Storyybrook Newsletter 21.09.26

Every decision we make about our environment has our future pupils in mind.

We know that busy, noisy or unpredictable environments can sometimes feel overwhelming. We are therefore thinking carefully about how our classrooms and wider spaces can support children to feel settled, regulated and ready to learn.



What will Storyybrook be like?

Storyybrook will be a small specialist primary school, where children are known well and relationships are at the heart of school life.

Our approach will recognise that behaviour is a form of communication and that children sometimes need support to regulate before they are ready to learn, talk or problem-solve.

Children will experience a broad and ambitious curriculum alongside individualised support for their social, emotional and mental health needs.

Most importantly, we want children to know:



- ★ You belong here.
- ★ The adults will listen to you.
- ★ We will help you when things feel difficult.
- ★ We will notice what you are good at.
- ★ You can be successful here.





What is happening now?

We are currently working with Local Authority SEND teams as they consider whether Storyybrook may be an appropriate placement for individual children.

Every child referred to Storyybrook is considered individually. We look carefully at their EHCP, their strengths and needs, their previous experiences of education and the support they would need to thrive at our school.

Interested in Storyybrook for your child?

If you feel Storyybrook may be an appropriate setting for your child, you can speak to your child's SEND case officer or Local Authority SEND team and let them know that you would like Storyybrook to be considered as a potential placement.

Local Authorities are responsible for consulting with schools as part of the EHCP placement process. If we receive a consultation for your child, we will carefully consider their EHCP, individual needs and the provision they require to determine whether Storyybrook could be an appropriate placement.

You are also very welcome to contact Storyybrook if you would like to learn more about our school and the provision we are developing.



A final word from us

There is so much happening behind the scenes at Storyybrook, and it is incredibly exciting to see the school beginning to take shape.

At the heart of everything we are creating are the children and families who will become part of our Storyybrook community. We want to build a school where children feel safe, understood and valued; where families feel listened to and supported; and where every child has the opportunity to belong, thrive and experience success.

Thank you for following along as we prepare to welcome our first pupils and families.

We can't wait to share more of our journey with you. ★

Mrs Rachel Burbridge
Headteacher

Mrs Rachel Tetchner
Deputy Headteacher

Storyybrook School
Malt Hill, Warfield, Berkshire, RG42 6JQ