



George
Heriot's
School
Founded 1628

George Heriot's Wrap Around Care

Information for Parents
Session 2025–2026

At Wrap Around Care we provide a caring service for children who attend George Heriot's Junior School.

We are open throughout School holidays and after School in term time. This session we close for the entire **Christmas Holiday, Good Friday, Easter Monday** plus three staff In-Service days on **Thursday 25th, Friday 26th** and **Monday 29th June**.

Allocation of Places and Registration

Allocation of Places

Should you wish to use WAC please complete a registration pack and return it to Deirdre McGhie, WAC Manager.

Registration

An annual registration fee is payable prior to using WAC. This allows your child access to WAC between 1st July 2025 and 30th June 2026. *Registration is renewable annually by 1st July.*

The Registration Fee is £55.00. The Finance Office will add this to your WAC invoice, which is sent, monthly, for any sessions booked.

Regular Places

If you require the same sessions every week at WAC you should book a regular place. This will guarantee that you can keep the same sessions for the academic year without having to rebook.

Ad Hoc Places

Ad hoc places are available for occasional use of WAC. We ask for a minimum of 48hrs notice when booking these places, more notice is preferred, and 48 hrs notice to cancel.

Emergency bookings "on the day".

While we do ask for as much notice as possible to use WAC, we understand that last minute emergencies do occur, and we endeavour to provide last minute support where we can. Please see over for the charges for each of these types of bookings.

Cancellations

Should you wish to cancel a regular booking outright a notice period of two weeks is required. Occasional cancellations can be made with one week's notice. The equivalent of one week's usage can be cancelled in this manner per term.

Notice to cancel must be done in writing or by email.

Cancelling WAC sessions due to extracurricular activities in School

There is no notice period if the reason for cancelling is an extracurricular activity. This must be done in writing, and we don't automatically cancel sessions without a written request. Please give as much notice as you can.

What is in the Registration Pack?

Application Form

Please use this form to detail any regular sessions you require for your child(ren) at WAC.

Registration Form

Current users will receive a pre-filled form to make completion easier. For new users this form will be blank. We ask that you give as much information as possible, including details of allergies, dietary requirements or medical conditions WAC should be aware of, names of collecting adults and emergency contact details.

Homework Policy

This is for children in P3-7 and asks for your permission for your child to do their written homework at WAC. We do not offer a homework facility for P1 and P2.

Parental Agreement and Permission Slip

This details the safety measures we require parents/guardians to adhere to, as well as activities we need your permission for. It should be signed and returned with the registration forms.

Terrace Access Permit

On receipt of your completed registration pack the School Office will send you a WAC terrace access permit which allows car access to the terrace from **3:30pm**. *Please note* that Early Years terrace access permits do not allow cars onto the terrace early for WAC pick up.

Children with Additional Support Needs

If your child has any additional support needs, please let us know. We will be happy to help in any way we can to allow your child to take part in WAC activities.

If you would like to discuss your child's needs please contact Deirdre McGhie on wac@george-heriots.com or 0131 221 6721.

Please inform us via the registration form if your child has any dietary requirements or food allergies.

WAC Hours and Fees

Opening Hours

We aim to offer a service to cover the needs of our users, taking into consideration the varied finishing times of the school day and extra-curricular activities. We therefore offer a number of sessions **After School** to allow users to select the timings that suit.

Session 1	2:00 – 3:30
Session 2	3:00 – 4:30
Session 3	4:00 – 5:30
Session 4	5:30 – 6:00

We have two sessions during **School Holidays**:

Session 1	8:30 – 1:00
Session 2	1:00 – 5:30

We have a School minibus service to collect children from Goldenacre on Monday, Tuesday, and Wednesday. This will collect children at **3:00pm** on Monday and **3:30pm** on Tuesday and Wednesday and then return to WAC. There is a free coach on a Monday for P5, so no collection charge is made that day.

Fees

The following fee rates apply to session **2025 – 26**.

Those who have booked **regular** sessions at WAC pay the following, lower, rates:

Session 1	£10.50
Session 2	£10.50
Session 3	£10.50
Session 4	£6.00
Afternoon (Session 1, 2, 3 – excluding Session 4)	£26.50
Goldenacre Collection	£4.00

Those who use WAC on a flexible, **ad hoc** basis pay the following rates:

Session 1	£12.00
Session 2	£12.00
Session 3	£12.00
Session 4	£7.00
Afternoon (Session 1, 2, 3 – excluding Session 4)	£30.00

Anyone needing to use WAC at very short notice, booking with less than 24hrs notice (or after the close of WAC on a Friday for a Monday); will be charged the **on-the-day** rates:

First Session	£30.00
Additional Sessions	£20.00

Holiday Fees

Those using WAC during School holidays pay the following rates:

Morning (8:30 – 1:00)	£27.00
Afternoon (1:00 – 5:30)	£27.00
Full Day (8:30 – 5:30)	£54.00
Full Week	£225.00

Additional charges are made for part sessions when school closes prior to 1pm.

Late Pick Up

If a child stays beyond the session for which they have been booked an ad hoc charge will be made for the later session. If a child is picked up after the end of the day, a late pick up

charge applies. *Please could all parents contact WAC if they are running late as this saves any confusion or concern for WAC staff and your child.*

Holiday Time – late pick up to 5.40pm	£10.00
Late pick up from 5.41pm	£20.00
Term Time – late pick up to 6:10pm	£10.00
From 6:11pm	£20.00

Mornings

As well as out of school care, we offer a **Breakfast Club**, during term time, from 7.30am. Parents/Guardians can register permissions to attend by sending an email to the Junior School Administrator. Children will be supervised by Junior School Staff, from 7.30am and, if they wish, can purchase food from the refectory. Nursery, P1 and P2 children will then be escorted to their classrooms at 8.15am. There is a charge of £2.00 per day for this service.

Invoices are sent to you by the Finance Office each month. Our preferred method of payment is Direct Debit or Childcare Vouchers. Please contact the Finance and Business Office on 0131 221 6700 in order to set up your Direct Debit.

Location

WAC is based in the Refectory building. Nursery children have a dedicated room above the Refectory. This is also the pickup room for those using the final session of the day (6pm) for all ages. Those in P1 – P7 will be in the main refectory space, with partitions creating spaces for the different age groups. On the occasional days when the refectory is used for other functions, we will provide details of the alternative venue for older WAC children ahead of time. WAC will also make use of the Raeburn Gym and lawns for active play, the Junior School Cookery Room and offer a homework facility within Junior School classrooms.

In term time Nursery – P2 pupils are collected from their class teachers by WAC staff. Primary 3-7 pupils make their own way to WAC where they are registered on arrival.

During School Holiday times children should be brought directly to WAC where our team will sign them in from 8:30am.

Activities – Play at Wrap Around Care

We offer a safe, informal atmosphere, rather than an extension of the school day. Here at WAC we follow the Playwork Principles, and our team of Playwork Practitioners and Playworkers support the children in their play process, allowing for child led play as much as possible. We also offer “invitations to play” where our team set up activities for the children to take part in should they wish to. This could be art activities, cooking, group games, sensory play, and outdoor fun.

We will encourage the children to play outdoors when the lawns are open, and to take a full and active part in

the activities on offer. However, we do acknowledge the importance of children creating their own play and will support this. Please note that in term time we do not use the lawns before 3:30pm to allow the Senior School students to leave without overwhelming our smallest children.

The link below takes you to information on the Playwork Principles and their history.

[The Playwork Principles – The Playwork Foundation](#)

Wrap Around Care Staff

In line with Care Inspectorate requirements, all our regular staff are registered with the SSSC or GTCs.

Each of our Playwork team work with the same age group during term time, getting to know your children, their needs, likes and dislikes very well. You will meet them when you collect from Wrap Around Care, please feel free to ask them for feedback regarding your child's afternoon. In school holidays, our year-round staff work with all ages, allowing them to get to know children from across the Junior School.

Senior Staff – Manager

Deirdre McGhie has been manager of George Heriot's Wrap Around Care since it opened in 1995. She has a Business degree, a PGCE in Primary Education and NVQ 4 in Management. Deirdre previously worked as a Primary School Teacher but moved into childcare in 1994 and has remained in the sector ever since. Deirdre is registered with GTCs.

Assistant Manager

Arshad Bibi has worked at WAC since 1996. She holds an HNC in Childcare and Education and a Level 9 qualification in Childhood Practice. Arshad works year round at WAC and provides our Goldenacre pick up service on Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday afternoons. Arshad is registered with SSSC.

Playwork Practitioners & Playworkers

Year-Round Staff

Our managers work year-round. We also have certain playwork staff who work year-round covering both term time and holiday care facilities.

Senior Playwork Practitioners

Kevin Thomson (P3-7) has worked at WAC since 2013. First as a student, then a relief playworker, before becoming a permanent, year-round playwork practitioner and finally Senior Playwork Practitioner. Kevin oversees the P3-7 space at WAC and holds his Modern Apprenticeship Social Services Children and Young People SVQ Level 3. Kevin is registered with SSSC.

Scott Taylor (P1-2) joined our team in 2015 and has previous experience in both out of school care and nursery care. He holds an HNC in Early Education and Childcare. Scott is registered with SSSC. He became Senior Playwork Practitioner, overseeing the P1 and P2 area, in August 2025.

Playwork Practitioners/Playworkers

Tracy Blues began working at George Heriot's in 1999. She holds SVQ Levels 2 & 3 in Childcare and Education. Tracy is registered with SSSC.

Natalia Carlisle has worked at WAC since 2011 and holds her SVQ Level 2 & 3 in Children's Care, Learning and Development. Natalia is registered with SSSC and is currently on maternity leave.

Joe Brotchie joined us in March 2023 and holds his SVQ3 in Children & Young People. He is registered with SSSC.

Nareen Haidar began working at WAC in 1999 and holds an HNC in Childcare and Education. She is registered with SSSC.

Logan Harvey joined us in 2023 and holds his SVQ3 in Children & Young People. He is registered with SSSC. Logan also provides administrative support in the mornings in term time.

Vanessa Tregoning holds her SVQ 3 in Children's Care Learning and Development and has worked in a variety of childcare settings before joining our team in 2016. Vanessa is registered with SSSC and works with the Nursery children.

Term Time Staff

Marie Hallam completed her Nursery Nurse qualification in Canada. She worked in childcare for many years, before joining WAC in 2008. Marie is registered with SSSC.

Charlotte Maconachie joined us in 2025 following a successful university football scholarship in the US. Charlotte is a keen sportswoman and is registered with SSSC.

Melodie McPhie joined us in January 2025, with a musical background. She is registered with SSSC.

Pete Mitchell joined our team in 2011 and holds an SVQ3 in Children's Care, Learning and Development. He is registered with SSSC.

Lisa Robertson joined our team in 2022 and holds her Modern Apprenticeship Social Services. Lisa is registered with SSSC and works with the Nursery children.

Ravana Shikhali joined us in 2023. She recently graduated from Edinburgh University's Moray House and has lots of teaching experience in Azerbaijan.

Elaine Yang joined us in 2025 and has recently completed her Certificate of Education (Early Childhood and Froebel) at the University of Edinburgh. She also has a lot of teaching experience in China and is registered with SSSC.

Homework Supervision

Iris MacLachlan is our homework supervisor. She is very well qualified, including a Modern Languages degree, a CELTA certificate and has a lot of classroom experience.

Relief Playworkers

As well as our regular team we have a bank of relief staff available to cover staff absences due to illness or holidays. These staff members work regularly at WAC and so get to know the children and the WAC routine. This helps WAC run smoothly if someone from our regular team is unavailable. We also have a number of former pupils who have joined our relief bank while at University.

Safety

Signing in and out of WAC

Children must be collected by **6:00pm** in term time, and **5:30pm** in School holidays. Whoever collects a child must let a staff member know that their child has left for the day. If someone other than the collector specified on the Registration Form is collecting your child, the manager should be told in advance. WAC staff sign out each child as they leave.

If a child is making their own way home from WAC, please notify the manager in writing giving details of the arrangement. WAC staff will then sign your child out at the agreed time.

If a child is arriving independently at WAC during school holidays the manager must be informed as the assumption is made that all children will be brought to WAC by an adult.

We ask that parents do not enter the building when collecting as there can be large numbers at a time, making it difficult for staff to monitor which child is leaving with which adult.

Also, if collecting from outdoors please advise a member of staff that you are collecting your child. *Do not call your child from the terrace or the path as we want to ensure we know each child is leaving and with the correct adult.*

As the above measures help ensure the safety of your child at WAC, we appreciate all parents and collectors taking the time to ensure they are followed.

Registers

A daily register is kept.

If a child is absent from School, we can access the daily absence record. If your child is at School but not attending WAC, please notify the manager in advance.

Fire Safety

Fire drills are held in accordance with School procedures.

Transport/Trips

We use School minibuses when collecting children from Goldenacre and on outings during holiday care. These are fitted with adjustable seatbelts and supervised by WAC staff.

Before we take your child on an outing, we will provide you with details and ask for signed permission.

On all outings children wear our matching red caps and t-shirts, for increased visibility and safety. These can be purchased from WAC.

Risk assessments are conducted for all trips.

Medication

If your child requires medication while at WAC we require written notice of the dose and time in accordance with School procedures. We can store emergency medication such as EpiPens or inhalers at WAC.

What does my child need for WAC?

Play Clothes

During holiday time children wear play clothes rather than school uniform.

Sunscreen

Please supply a named bottle of sunscreen for your child to keep and use at WAC.

T-Shirt & Cap

If your child is attending an outing, they will require a red cap and t-shirt. These can be ordered via WAC.

Packed Lunch

While a snack is provided after school and in the morning and afternoon sessions during holidays, we do not provide lunch.

During holiday times, or on any days school closes prior to lunchtime, children staying for the full day should bring a packed lunch. We normally sit down to lunch at 12:00, therefore children attending the morning session only are also welcome to bring a packed lunch.

We advise you to include an ice pack to keep perishable items fresh. We are unable to heat any food items.

Children should also bring their own, refillable water bottle.

Other requirements

If anything else is required for a specific activity, we will advise you at the time or via the information packs distributed prior to school holidays.

Visiting WAC

We hope this information leaflet is helpful to you. If you require any additional information, please do not hesitate to contact Deirdre McGhie, WAC Manager.

We are always happy to discuss the WAC provision with you and ensure you are familiar with our routine and answer any questions or concerns you may have. You will see the facilities on the Welcome afternoons, but if you wish to arrange a visit with your child, please contact us directly.

Contacting WAC

Please contact us using any of the methods below:

George Heriot's Wrap Around Care
George Heriot's School
Lauriston Place
Edinburgh EH3 9EQ

Tel: 0131 221 6721
Email: wac@george-heriots.com

Suggestions/ Complaints

If you have any suggestions, or have cause for complaint, please write to Deirdre McGhie, WAC Manager at the address or email address in this leaflet in the first instance.