

Mersey Park Primary School



Be Nice, Work Hard, Never Give Up



Welcome to Mersey Park Primary School

Mersey Park Primary School is a busy, friendly school with caring and hard working staff. We believe that children learn best when they are happy, secure and interested in what they are being taught. If there is a problem or something you would like to discuss, please call and see me or a senior member of staff.

We have tried to collect all the information about the school together in one booklet, so that you can keep it handy while your child is in school.

We would like to see you in school often, helping in class or taking an interest in your child's education. By working together with our Home/School Agreement, your child will make great progress in school.

I look forward to meeting you.

Mrs M Thomas

Headteacher

Visit our website www.merseyparkprimary.co.uk

Mission Statement

As a school we have the following aims:

- Work in partnership with our families to foster a supportive environment that will enable all learners to be resilient to the challenges of the ever changing technological world;
- Engage all learners in a creative, fun curriculum that equips them with adaptable skills for their futures;
- Encourage children to make decisions for themselves and acquire the skills to become confident, independent learners;
- Equip all learners with the life skills to enable them to be responsible for their future health and well-being;
- Encourage all learners to be pro-active towards global, national and local issues and give them the means to become responsible citizens;
- Celebrate each other's differences, respect the ways in which we are unique and treat everyone with good manners and consideration.



School Organisation

The school comprises of two buildings. The smaller building is for Foundation Stage and Key Stage 1 children. The main building is for Key Stage 2 children and also where you will find the school office.

Each year group has two classes of mixed ability pupils. Each class has a teacher and is supported by a teaching assistant. Foundation 1 and 2 children have their own separate, covered outdoor areas. There are also three separate playgrounds for Key Stage 1, Lower Key Stage 2 and Upper Key Stage 2 children.

The breakfast and after school club is located in the middle playground. (Please see the leaflet in the back of this prospectus for more details.)



The School Day

Times of the school day are as follows:

Foundation 1 (Nursery)

Morning session - 8.45am to 11.45am

Afternoon session - 12.20pm to 3.20pm

Foundation 2, Key Stage 1 and 2

School opens - 8.50am

End of day - 3.15pm

Lunchtimes

Foundation 2 - 11.45am to 12.45pm

Key Stage 1 - 12.00pm to 1.00pm

Key Stage 2 - 12.15pm to 1.15pm

Children attend school for 190 days. Staff attend for 195 days with the five extra days being taken for staff training within the school year.



“Arrangements for Safeguarding are extremely effective. Pupils thrive in the safe, nurturing environment.”

Ofsted 2019



Safeguarding

The school has developed a thorough Safeguarding Policy in line with government guidelines. The Deputy Headteacher is the school's Designated Safeguarding Lead. She is supported by a qualified social worker who works as our Assistant Safeguarding Officer. If any concerns are raised regarding the protection of pupils, parents need to be aware that we will deal with such information with sensitivity and care. If required, we have a legal responsibility to report concerns to social services. This information will always be dealt with confidentially.



“Leaders place pupils' safety and well-being at the heart of the school's work.”

Ofsted 2019

Safety

Members of staff are on duty at the gates at 8.50am each morning.

In the interests of the children's safety, parents are asked to use the following guidelines when collecting children from school:

- Arrange to meet children on the same part of the playground or pavement each afternoon;
- Ensure school knows if there are any changes to normal arrangements;
- Impress on the children that if an adult is not there to collect them, they should go back into school with a member of staff;
- We will only allow someone else to take your child home by pre-arrangement.

During playtimes children are asked not to approach any adults by the fences. If any items or information is needed to be passed on to a child, organise this through the school office.

Illness

If a pupil becomes ill at school, every effort will be made to contact parents so that he or she can be taken home to be looked after. Up to date phone numbers are so important in these circumstances - please tell us of any changes.

Medication

Parents are responsible for the administration of medicine to their children. If your child requires medicine during the day, your child can either go home at lunchtime for the medicine to be administered, or you can come into school to give your child the medicine. In exceptional circumstances medicine may be administered by a designated member of staff, but this must only be at the discretion of the Headteacher.

For more information about safety in school visit our website www.merseyparkprimary.co.uk



“Attendance has risen sharply due to the concerted efforts of pupils, parents and staff.”

Ofsted 2019

Attendance and Punctuality

We attach particular importance to regular school attendance. If pupils are absent due to ill health, parents are requested to telephone school to explain the reason for each day of absence. Absences will only be authorised if school is provided with a genuine reason.

Holidays during term time are strongly discouraged and will not be authorised unless there is an exceptional circumstance. Unauthorised holidays will lead to a fine, payable to the Local Authority.

Punctuality is an important life skill. It is in your child’s best interests to arrive in school on time, ready to start lessons promptly. Missing even part of a lesson can be disruptive to your child’s education and will hinder their progress.

We regularly reward good attendance and punctuality.

To read our attendance policy please look at the Attendance section on our school website www.merseyparkprimary.co.uk



School Uniform

Wearing uniform helps children to feel part of the school community. We provide a P.E. kit for all our children. Please find a uniform leaflet with this prospectus.



At Mersey Park children are encouraged to try hard in all that they do and are taught that it is alright to ‘have a go’ when they find things difficult. We know that we learn from making mistakes. We don’t give up if things get difficult. This is called the Mersey Park Mindset.

The Foundation Stage

Our Foundation Stage environments are vibrant and inviting with richly resourced areas and stimulating displays. Children are involved in a mixture of small adult focussed group work and independent play throughout the day. They are encouraged to play collaboratively both indoors and outdoors on a variety of early learning activities organised through topics.

Extra-Curricular Education

There are a wide variety of clubs, aimed at different age groups, which run before and after school, such as: Dance, Dodgeball, Football, Badminton, Gymnastics, Judo, Gardening Club, Bible Club and Choir.

To find out more about our school curriculum visit our school website www.merseyparkprimary.co.uk



“Teaching is most effective. Adults skilfully plan activities that are engaging and appeal to children’s interests. The curriculum is rich and varied and immerses children in experiences that stimulate their imagination.”

Ofsted 2019



“High-quality, innovative teaching actively engages pupils in their learning. As a result, pupils make outstanding progress from their starting points in all curriculum areas.”

Ofsted 2019

“The focus on widening pupils’ horizons and raising their aspirations underpins the structure of the curriculum.”

Ofsted 2019



Key Stages 1 & 2

There is a strong emphasis on the teaching of Literacy and Numeracy to ensure children have a deep understanding in these areas. Subjects such as History, Geography, Art, Music, Design Technology and Computing are taught through themed topics geared towards pupils’ interests and prior knowledge. Topics are enhanced by the organisation of school trips or visitors into school.

Subjects that are not taught through topics include:

- Modern Foreign Language, in Key Stage 2;
- Physical Education, which may be taught by a specialist sports coach;
- Religious Education, covering Christianity and the study of other religions including close links with the local churches;
- Personal, Social and Health Education, taught through whole school themes.

Philosophy for Children (P4C) are sessions that give children the opportunity to debate issues. They learn to articulate their points of view and disagree amicably.



“Leaders use their precise understanding of the needs of each pupil to refine and adapt learning to ensure pupils with special educational needs and/or disabilities (SEND) make the best possible progress.”

Ofsted 2019

Special Educational Needs

Any particular difficulties which may hinder the progress of an individual child are monitored, and if considered necessary, parents are consulted and specialist advice and support can be gained, through our Special Educational Needs Co-ordinator, liaising closely with the SEN Support Service and Educational Psychologist. Education Plans will be tailored to the needs of individual children and the progress of those children who receive additional support is monitored and reviewed regularly by the Special Educational Needs Co-ordinator, Class teacher, support staff and Headteacher.

For all our S.E.N.D. information please visit our school website and look for School S.E.N.D. information www.merseyparkprimary.co.uk



Inclusion for All

Within Mersey Park Primary School we aim to focus on individual well-being, encouraging pupil participation and viewing diversity as a rich resource to support the well-being and learning of all. All children are treated fairly according to their needs, regardless of their cultural or social background or religion. Homophobic or racist behaviour will not be tolerated. This is in line with the school's Mission Statement.

Read our Equality Policy on our website www.merseyparkprimary.co.uk



“Pupils are proud of their school and are appreciative of all that the staff do for them. Many refer to how they feel they ‘belong’ to Mersey Park, with one comment summing it up well by saying, ‘We are like a family here.’”

Ofsted 2019

Behaviour

Positive behaviour is essential to the smooth running of the school and for the safety, welfare and development of the children. Pupils are expected to behave in a reasonable, sensible and orderly manner, conscious of the need to consider their own well-being and that of others. The expectations for behaviour are regularly made clear to the children and are shared with parents. Our values of ‘Be Nice’, ‘Work Hard’ and ‘Never Give Up’ are prominently displayed around the school and referred to in assemblies.

We regularly reward children who behave appropriately through our behaviour system. Occasional incidents of unacceptable behaviour result in consequences that are made clear to the children.



“Behaviour is exemplary. Pupils are happy and feel safe in this highly inclusive school.”

Ofsted 2019

Anti-Bullying

School takes all forms of bullying very seriously. This has been recognised by being the first school in the country to be awarded Silver level of the national Anti-Bullying Quality Mark. Please see our enclosed “Say No to Bullying” information.

To read our Behaviour policy and system and our Anti-Bullying policy please visit our school website www.merseyparkprimary.co.uk



Home/School Partnership

The school welcomes the active participation of parents/carers in the classroom and on school trips.

We have a Parent Partnership Group who regularly meet to find out more about the work of the school and to share their views. We have gained the national Leading Parent Partnership Award for our work in this area.

There is also a thriving School Association where parents/carers work together to support the school.

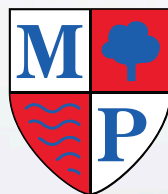
Our Home/School Liaison Officer is always happy to support the families of our children.

Homework is sent home weekly and the support of parents/carers is invaluable in helping children to practice new skills at home. The regular return of homework is important in accelerating children's progress.

We hold Home/School discussions in the Autumn Term and in the Spring Term and a pupil report is sent home at the end of the school year.

During the course of the year several adult education classes are held, such as Family Works and other family workshops on Literacy, Maths, ICT and Cookery.





Mersey Park Primary School

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Deputy Headteacher: Mrs R Tootell
Assistant Headteacher: Ms L White

