

# BRIGHTON AVENUE PRIMARY SCHOOL

## SCHOOL PROSPECTUS

2012 – 2013



Brighton Avenue Primary School is;  
*a good school ...with many outstanding  
features*



Care, guidance and support  
Safeguarding procedures  
Community cohesion  
Partnerships in promoting learning and well being  
Equal Opportunities  
Spiritual, moral, social and cultural development  
Contribution to the wider community  
Healthy lifestyles  
Pupils feeling safe

OFSTED... May 2010

Dear Parents/Carers

I would like to thank you for requesting our school prospectus. I do hope that you will find the information useful.

If you are considering a place for your child I would really welcome the opportunity to meet with you and show you around the school.

We have a lovely school and we are very proud of the education that we provide for our pupils.

One of the most effective ways of securing excellent progress for a child is for the school to work in close partnership with the family that is why we see your involvement in your child's education as crucial and welcome you as partners to our school.

Every child does matter most sincerely to us and we embrace the five outcomes of the Children's Act in all aspects of school life. Our school plan is written to these five outcomes, enjoy and achieve, stay safe, be healthy, make a positive contribution and achieve economic well being

At Brighton Avenue Primary, we offer an education that has at its heart the basic skills with a cross curricular themed approach encompassing a global dimension. We also have a strong programme of school sport and physical education. Outdoor and an educational visit programme ensure that the children are given first hand experiences to stimulate their learning.

We offer a wide range of extra curricular activities depending upon the season and children are afforded opportunities to represent the school at a wide variety of sporting events and tournaments.

I hope that I have given you a brief taster that has encouraged you to read on and indeed make an appointment to view the school. In the meantime you will find additional information on the school website.

I do hope to have the opportunity to meet with you in the very near future.

Yours faithfully  
M.Pallent  
Headteacher

## What can you expect when you visit our school?

Imagine a stimulating place ringing with the sound of children's laughter.

See confident, reflective and playful learners, filled with their own sense of purpose and self belief.

Listen in as they discuss the challenge of new experiences, pose questions and solve problems.

Admire the high levels of academic, sporting and creative achievement, as everyone strives to be the best they can be.

Marvel at the use of technologies as children explore the possibilities.

See how learning extends beyond the school gates, to embrace the outdoors and wider community.

Enjoy the security and harmony of a group of people who nurture and care for each other

Sense their respect for people from different backgrounds and cultures, for society, and the natural world

Sense everyone's pride in themselves, each other and their school.

This is our school - a place where we ' Capture the imagination of young minds'

**A place where everyone shines.**

## A curriculum for everyone

Our aim is to provide a world class curriculum that inspires and challenges ALL learners and prepares them for the future.

Our school continually looks for ways to improve its facilities and move forward in a rapidly changing world. We can already boast forward thinking ICT resources such as interactive whiteboards, mobile computer facilities along with hand held devices to motivate and engage children from nursery through to Year six.

The school has the Basic Skills Quality mark in recognition of its high priority within the Literacy and Numeracy curriculum.

A themed topic approach which is skills based encompasses the foundation subjects and is personalised to take account of individual styles of learning and embraces the uniqueness of our school. We look for ways to extend learning to the outdoors and have a series of linked visits including residential opportunities for our older pupils. We weave a global dimension through our work and have been credited with the International School Award.

The school places a high emphasis on the sports curriculum both within the school day and as extra curricular opportunities. We participate in a wide range of tournaments and festivals throughout the year. The school has attained 'The Active Mark' in recognition of our work.

We are continually developing a creative curriculum and use the expertise of specialist musicians, artists and theatre companies on a regular basis to broaden the skill base. Friday afternoons are set aside to stimulate creativity. The school has been engaged in a Creative Partnership to enrich the provision and we have been awarded with the GOLD ArtsMark in recognition of our excellent work in this area.

Focus Days/Weeks are always exciting times as children are encouraged to think big and take risks. They involve various aspects of our work and ensure that we are promoting healthy lifestyles, keeping children safe, enabling children to enjoy and achieve, allowing children to make a positive contribution and achieve economic well being. We welcome visitors and visits within the local and wider area in order to positively promote and celebrate our diverse community.

### Extended School Activities

Our school day begins at 8.00am with Breakfast Club and opportunities are available for children to extend the school day by attending a wide range of extra curricular clubs including homework, many different sports, art, music, dancing, ICT, reading, enterprise work, card making to name but a few.

Throughout the school year there are many opportunities for parents to work in partnership with the school and also to develop their own learning.

Open days are regular events and there are formal parental consultation meetings held termly. Progress reports are issued mid year and end of year reports are discussed with parent and child. The Parents Forum is a perfect opportunity for parents to help us evaluate our provision as we continually strive for excellence.

### Special Educational Needs

Children who have Special Educational Needs in our school are given full access to the National Curriculum, although in some cases, the curriculum has been adapted to suit the needs of the individual. They are supported both by the class teacher and the learning support teacher who follow Individual Educational Plans for each special needs child in their care. Work with the child can take place within the classroom, or in the learning support room, whichever is more appropriate.

Parents are always informed and involved with their child's education and are invited to review their child's Individual Education Plans during the termly parents' consultation meetings. Where necessary, support may be asked of the available special needs services outside the school, such as medical and Psychological services.

The school has a Nurture Group, which runs every morning and afternoon. The children in this group have full access to the National Curriculum but in a small group situation with an emphasis on building self-esteem and co-operative skills.

### **Inclusion/Accessibility**

At Brighton Avenue Primary School we are fully committed to providing a fully accessible environment which values and includes all pupils, staff, parents and visitors regardless of their education, physical, social and cultural needs. We are further committed to challenging attitudes about disability and accessibility and to developing a culture of awareness, tolerance and inclusion.

We plan to increase accessibility provision for all pupils, staff, parents and visitors to Brighton Avenue Primary School through our accessibility plan, which can be obtained from the Head Teacher.

In order that children with disabilities are not disadvantaged the school liaises with the Local Authority when necessary in order to ensure that adequate provision is made.

### **Medical Issues**

Parental consent is always obtained before any medical examination and parents are always invited to attend. However, it is assumed that parents have no objection to their child having hearing and vision tests. Please inform the school if you do not wish your child to be tested.

School nurses no longer check children's hair for head lice. As you probably realise head lice are becoming more and more resistant and becoming a menace in all schools. We do our utmost to ensure that any child found to have head lice is treated at home immediately. Please contact the school if your child has been treated for head lice and rest assured that this would always be dealt with in the strictest of confidence.

If your child is taken ill at school we will contact you to make arrangements to send the child home. In the event of a serious accident, a child is taken straight to hospital and parents informed immediately. When your child starts school, we give you a form to complete showing where we can reach you in an emergency.  
**Please assist us by ensuring that the information is kept up to date.**

We are unable to administer antibiotics or other short-term medication to children in school. However, if your child suffers from a chronic illness such as asthma or hay fever, arrangements can be made. Please contact the school if you need to discuss any issue.

## **Attendance/Punctuality**

For registration purposes it is **essential** that teachers distinguish between authorised and unauthorised absences and therefore all parents must let the school know of illness, doctors or dentists appointments or hospital visits as soon as possible. It is very important that parents notify the school by phone or letter on the first morning of an absence.

The school has a policy of first day of absence contact. If a parent has not contacted us on the first day of absence, the school will contact you either by phone, letter or a visit.

**The school day starts at 8.55a.m.** If your child is late for school he or she could lose their attendance mark for that session. The first session of the day is probably the most important of all. The work for the day is discussed, experiences and stories are shared. It is not to be missed.

If your child needs time out of school for a medical or dental appointment (or for any other reason) please let the teacher know and keep such absences to a minimum. Please remember, however, that you must come and collect him/her, as we are unable to allow children to leave school unattended within school hours.

Good attendance is encouraged and rewarded within school as children with good attendance are more likely to make good progress.

## **Clothing Policy**

Our school uniform is a royal blue sweatshirt or cardigan and a gold polo shirt. Any dark trousers and skirts are acceptable, but not denim. School shoes should be practical and dark colours are preferred.

Sweatshirts, cardigans and polo shirts can be ordered through the school office. Please note that the governors have agreed that uniforms are compulsory and your child will be given one to borrow if he / she forgets their own.

Other items of uniform, such as fleece jackets and waterproof jackets are optional.

### **Sport tops are not considered suitable clothing for school.**

For PE and games lessons as well as after school clubs, the children should wear the following clothes.

KS1 Indoor PE and games can be done in underwear and bare feet. For outdoor games children should wear sandshoes or trainers with shorts and t-shirt.

KS2 Indoor PE and games, shorts and t-shirt or leotards should be worn. Indoor trainers or sandshoes should be available although bare feet is more appropriate for some activities. Loose baggy clothing is not suitable and is potentially dangerous.

### **Expensive sportswear is not considered suitable for school.**

For outdoor games this should be the same as for KS1.

We ask that PE kit should be kept at school in a drawstring bag, available at school for £2.50, and taken home at regular intervals for washing – once per week is certainly adequate.

Please name all your child's clothing

### **Religious Education**

All children from the time they enter the school undertake RE. We teach according to the agreed syllabus. Parents have the right to withdraw their child from RE lessons for religious reasons. See RE Policy for more details.

We give a progressive understanding of the roots of Christianity whilst also giving some understanding of other religions generally. We also aim to give the children an appreciation of the relationship between humankind and God.

## Staffing List

| Staff Member       | Designation and current role including lead roles                                    |
|--------------------|--|
| Moira Pallent      | Headteacher Strategic Team Lead. Designated teacher for Child Protection. Assessment |
| Felicity Dickinson | Deputy Head (0.8) Inclusion Team Lead. Literacy, Gifted and Talented                 |
| Louise Heathfield  | Year 6 Class teacher – ICT lead  |
| Lynn Sweeney       | Year 5 Teacher TLR - Maths PE, PSHCE lead.   |
| Simon Burns        | Year 4 Teacher   |
| Sonia Wasiejko     | Year 3 Teacher - TLR – Creativity Team Lead, Science,                                |
| Jacqui Kevan       | Year 2 Teacher, Music/ CLLD lead teacher   |
| Lynn Morgan        | Year 1 teacher   |
| Nicola Marley      | Reception/ Y1 Class Teacher  |
| Catherine Brown    | Reception /Y1 Class Teacher  |
| Angela Hayward     | Nursery Teacher (0.6)Design and technology lead                                      |
| Karan Franklin     | Nursery teacher (0.6) History/Geography lead   |
| Lisa Judson        | Learning Support Teacher Leadership Team SENCo; International dimensions lead        |
| Amanda Hind        | Learning Support   |
| Carolyn Russell    | Nurture Group Teacher RE lead.   |
| Pamela Gibb        | Higher Level Teaching Assistant  |
| Marie Jenson       | Level 3 teaching assistant (full time) Intervention lead                             |
| Lorraine Treloar   | Level 3 teaching assistant – Designated first aider lead H&S                         |
| Shirley Conway     | Level 3-Teaching Assistant – Library lead  |
| Lynn Graham        | Level 3 Full time Nurture Group Assistant- Display lead                              |
| Debbie Tough       | Level 3 teaching assistant – Resource Lead   |
| John Gallagher     | Level 2 teaching Assistant - Lunchtime Sports Lead                                   |
| Michelle Greaves   | Level 3 teaching assistant – Communication lead                                      |
| Teresa Adamson     | Level 2 teaching assistant-art resource lead   |
| Beverley Henderson | Business Manager - premises lead   |

|                     |                                       |
|---------------------|---------------------------------------|
| Margaret Williamson | Admin Officer- educational visit lead |
| Karen Hives         | Senior Lunchtime Supervisor           |
| Jacquie Coulson     | Lunchtime Supervisor                  |
| Kerry Horner        | Lunchtime Supervisor                  |
| Lorraine Treloar    | Lunchtime Supervisor                  |
| Shirley Conway      | Lunchtime Supervisor                  |
| Lynn Graham         | Lunchtime Supervisor                  |
| Karen Hunt          | Lunchtime Supervisor                  |
| Victoria Perrin     | Lunchtime Supervisor                  |
| Michael Watson      | School Caretaker                      |

## **Gateshead Council Community and Voluntary Controlled Primary Schools Admission Policy 2012/13**

**We allocate places at our Community Primary Infant and Junior Schools using our policy below and co-ordinate admissions to our schools using our co-ordinated admission scheme.**

The policy is as follows:

Your child will start school at the beginning of the academic year in which they will reach the age of five. (An academic year lasts from 1 September in one year to 31 August in the following year). However In many schools the first year will include an induction period, (a period for your child to get used to school life). This period may last from September until no later than the end of the October half term holiday. Parents who wish to defer their child's entry beyond this period must make this request in writing at the time of application for admission to school. Deferred entry must not extend beyond the

- beginning of the term after the child's 5<sup>th</sup> birthday, or beyond the academic year for which the application was accepted. Deferred entry will be considered by us the local authority (LA) in consultation with the Head Teacher and governors of the school.
- We will accept pupils up to the school's agreed Planned Admission Number for the year group unless we feel there are lawful grounds not to do so.

### **Oversubscription Criteria**

**We will consider applications from parents who have named the school as any ranked preference on their application form this is called the Equal preference system. If there are more applications for the number of places available at the school we will than allocate places by using the following order of priority:**

1. Children in Public Care (and as deemed under Section 22 of the Children Act 1989).
2. Children who live in the school's catchment area and who will have a brother or sister at the school, or at the feeder junior school during the coming academic year.
3. Other children who live in the school's catchment area.
4. Other children who will have a brother or sister at the school, or at the feeder junior school during the coming academic year.

5. Other children who have exceptional medical or social grounds see point 1 below
6. All other children.

**Point 1**-We can consider exceptional individual applications, particularly in cases involving medical or social needs. If you wish to apply on medical or social grounds you must provide written evidence from relevant registered health professionals i.e. a doctor or social worker. The evidence must demonstrate why the chosen school is more appropriate and what difficulties would be caused if they were to travel to and attend alternative schools. We will not consider such applications if the relevant professional evidence is not provided. The evidence will be assessed by the LA Admission Panel. No assumption should be made that submission of the relevant evidence will, in itself, be sufficient to allocate a place.

*Whickham Parochial Church of England Controlled Primary School*

***This school has the same oversubscription criteria as priorities 1 to 6 above except that criteria 3 and 4 above are reversed. Priority 1, 2, 5 and 6 remain in the same order however for this particular school their oversubscription criteria places priority 4 children above those children in priority 3.***

#### **Address**

**For the purposes of deciding whether a child lives in the catchment area of a school we will use the parent or legal guardian's address or the address of a relevant adult who has parental responsibility, as defined under the 1989 Childrens Act, for the child.**

#### **Tie breaker**

If, within any of the above criteria, there are more applicants than places available priority will be given to those children based on the distance they live from the school, measured 'as the crow flies' i.e. in a straight line from the centre of the home residence to the school's main entrance. Children living nearest to the school will have priority. We measure the distance using a geographical information system (GIS).

#### **Waiting list**

**If places become available we will consider all relevant applications based on a waiting list. The waiting list will be maintained by the council from the start of the academic year and be kept for the rest of the academic year. All applicants on the waiting list are placed according to the admission criteria and priorities set out above. However children who are the subject of a direction to admit by the LA or who have been referred for admission and have been allocated a place through the Fair Access Protocol will take precedence over any child on the waiting list.**

#### **Important Dates**

The closing date for the return of applications is Sunday **15 January 2012**. From 10 September 2011 you can apply for a place in a reception or Junior class for admission in September 2012 by applying on-line at [www.gateshead.gov.uk](http://www.gateshead.gov.uk) you must submit your application by no later than Sunday **15 January 2012**. Alternatively Parents requiring a paper application form must ensure that they request it in sufficient time for them to complete and return it by no later than Sunday **15 January 2012** to The School Admissions Team Gateshead Civic Centre, Regent Street, Gateshead, NE8 1HH.

If you live outside of Gateshead and want to apply to a Gateshead school you must obtain an application form from your own Council and return it to them by their closing date or apply through their on-line application system. However you must still consider the information in

Gateshead Council's "Admission to Primary school" booklet so that you know what the admission arrangements are to Gateshead schools. This information is available at [www.gateshead.gov.uk](http://www.gateshead.gov.uk) . Your own Council will send us notification of your application and they will let you know the final allocation of a school place for your child.

**General Information and definitions**

For information on our admission arrangements and definitions of the terms used in this policy please refer to our "Admission to Primary school" booklet for 2012 available at [www.gateshead.gov.uk](http://www.gateshead.gov.uk) The co-ordinated admission scheme and Catchment areas referred to in this policy can also be viewed at Civic Centre, Regent Street Gateshead NE8 1HH and on the website above.