



Whirley Primary School





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Whirley
Primary School

WELCOME TO WHIRLEY PRIMARY SCHOOL

Thank you for taking the time to find out about Whirley Primary School. Our vision for pupils, staff and the wider community is that we embrace curiosity and challenge in all that we do.

At Whirley Primary School we consider ourselves privileged to be in the position of helping to shape young lives in our community and we take this responsibility very seriously.

The school was opened in 1976 as a one-form entry primary school. In 2014 the school became an Academy. There are at present 211 on roll, divided into 7 single-age classes. We at Whirley School are committed to high standards of work and behaviour; how far we are able to succeed depends largely on the friendship and support of you, the parents/carers.

General information about all other schools in the area is available from the Local Authority www.cheshireeast.gov.uk Public Libraries and the Internet.

We look forward to forging a lasting partnership between yourselves and the school and we hope that your child will have a happy and fruitful stay with us.

Amanda Edwards
Headteacher

AIMS, VISIONS & VALUES

We have very strong core principles at Whirley Primary School.

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AIMS

At Whirley Primary School the child is at the centre of our endeavours. We aim to deliver a broad, balanced curriculum to our children which not only satisfies the specific requirements of the National Curriculum but which also encompasses other activities which we feel appropriate, e.g. play, extra-curricular activities and residential trips.

In Whirley Primary School children will feel safe, cared for and develop positive relationships. All achievements will be valued as children experience a rich, varied and exciting curriculum that enables them to thrive in an ever-changing world.

Children will display resilience, independence and determination, whilst always demonstrating respect, consideration and tolerance for the whole school community, Clear communication will exist between home and school, encouraging parents and carers to be partners in their child's education.

All of this will be achieved in a safe, attractive and stimulating environment.

THE STRATEGY BEHIND OUR VISION IS TO:

- Ensure our school is a place where children are safe, happy and able to 'be the best that they can be'.
- Nurture and develop staff, governors through continuing professional development (CPD) and working as full partners of the Fallibroome Learning Community.
- Be open and welcoming to all members of the local and wider community,
- working collaboratively to enhance our provision

TO DELIVER OUR STRATEGY WE WILL:

- Ensure our policies, procedures, training surrounding safeguarding are up to date, and are of the highest quality. Children are respectful and aware of the school's high expectations in relation to behaviour.
- Deliver a curriculum that is broad, balanced and challenging, meeting the needs of ALL learners.
- Provide an open environment where children know that their voice will be heard and that their opinions are important.



- Carry out Staff appraisals and reviews regularly to ensure CPD reflects the needs and ambitions of the staff and governors.
- Hold regular monitoring meetings with Fallibroome to ensure strong liaison.
- Have Peer support models in place to ensure CPD across key stages and best practice.
- Establish clear lines of accountability and management, ensuring communication is effective, within key stages and across the whole school.
- Expect parents and carers to adhere to the home- school agreement, supporting the school.
- Ensure parents are well- informed about the progress of their child and issues relating to wider school life.
- Promote Whirley Primary School to the wider community, ensuring a good reputation, as a school where children are safe, happy and make good progress in all areas of their learning.

Children are admitted to school in the September prior to their fifth birthday. All new intake children are invited into school for a number of sessions in the term prior to actual admission. There will normally be some staggering of admission arrangements in order to accommodate the full year's intake.

Whirley prides itself on being an inclusive school and we operate in a way that says, 'If parents want children to come to Whirley we will make every effort to ensure they can, regardless of any educational needs or disabilities they may have.' Whirley is a 'flat site' with no stairs and we are continuing to make the minor changes detailed in our accessibility plan to ensure easy access by all. Our Special Educational Needs Policy is reviewed annually.

Whirley Primary School is a feeder of Fallibroome Academy which is our nearest Secondary School. We have excellent curriculum and pastoral links with Fallibroome and most of our children transfer there at the end of Year 6. We also have close links with all other local High Schools should parents choose these.

VISION FOR WHIRLEY

'OFF TO
A FLYING
START!'

ADMISSIONS

Details of admission arrangements for schools are available on request from:
School Admission Service,
Delamere House (EC),
Delamere Street, Crewe,
Cheshire, CW1 2LL.

Telephone Number:
0300 123 5012

Fax Number:
91279 686491

Apply online:
www.cheshireeast.gov.uk



THE CURRICULUM

At Whirley Primary School, we believe that the child is at the centre of our endeavours and that he or she must be considered as an individual working to his or her personal limits.

Our curriculum is designed to contribute to the child's spiritual, intellectual, emotional, social, moral and physical development. Our aims are to enable the children to acquire knowledge, skills and practical abilities and to develop within them the capacity to act as independent, free thinking beings as well as the ability to contribute positively in group situations.

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"The rich curriculum adds depth and interest to the pupils learning."

Ofsted

"Overwhelmingly, pupils say they like school that their lessons are fun and they enjoy learning."

Ofsted

These aims are in keeping with the demands of the Educational Reform Act, 1988, which requires the school to ensure the entitlement of each child to all the core, foundation and compulsory subjects of the National Curriculum for a reasonable amount of time. Programmes of study in Key Stage 1 (5 – 7 years) with appropriate monitoring, assessment and record keeping have been implemented and extended throughout Key Stage 2 (8 – 11 years).

Our aims are to ensure that while the specific requirements of the National Curriculum are met; those areas which are not covered by the National Curriculum but which we know to be right and appropriate for our children should remain intact as well. We are also committed to promoting positive multi-cultural attitudes and to fostering equal opportunities for everyone in our school.

Communication skills receive considerable attention and the curriculum provides structured courses in English, Mathematics and Science. English and Maths are taught every day and strategies encouraging reasoning and investigation are integral to the children's learning. Time is also devoted to the child's curiosity about the environment,



(Geography and History) where they live and go to school, and also to people and places further afield or back in time. All this contributes to the child's understanding of local, national and global circumstances and culture.

"Pupils make an outstanding contribution to the school and the immediate and wider community."

Ofsted

"Teachers establish excellent relationships with pupils and promote pupils' personal development well so that they become more confident and have excellent attitudes to learning."

Ofsted



Further opportunities are available to enjoy a range of creative activities (Music, Drama, Art and Craft, Design Technology) which enable the children to express and develop their imaginations and personalities. We deliver a creative curriculum, with knowledge and the delivery of skills being at the heart of the children's learning. Children learn through investigation, being taught to question information and reason through responses becoming 'experts' within the themes being focussed upon.

Each year the children enjoy 'Creativity Week' – during this time the children work collaboratively with other schools in creating a Music and Drama production. The timetable is altered to allow workshops such as drumming and author visits, led by external providers alongside well trained school staff.

Educational visits, including local studies and field studies, provide opportunities to see the world at large and serve to stimulate creative activities as well as written and oral work. We have residential visits in Year 3, 5 and 6. The learning opportunities experienced during these visits are invaluable and really encourage extended learning.

Both infant and junior departments have regular access to computers and the Internet. The school has its own Home Page www.whirley.cheshire.sch.uk and has a computer suite to enable classes to work on computing. The school also has class sets of laptops and I-pads, allowing whole class teaching and learning, as well as access to technology to support children with additional learning needs.





Whirley has a proud tradition of offering a wide range of sporting and other extra-curricular activities. This gives our children the opportunity to further develop skills and talents and enjoy mixing with peers from other year groups.

During the year we typically offer opportunities for children in different year groups to join football, netball, lacrosse, tag rugby, cricket, athletics, hockey, art, choir, board games, gardening and book clubs. Our dedicated staff organise and run these activities, although we occasionally use outside providers to enhance our provision even further.

We believe sport and physical exercise should be an integral part of children's lives and we encourage full participation. We value healthy competition and participate in a range of competitions through the year.

The school has a multi-purpose hall for gymnastics, a netball court and a playing field which accommodates two football pitches, a cricket pitch, rounders pitches and a running track. Health Education forms an integral part of the whole curriculum, so that personal cleanliness and general hygiene are dealt with as a matter of daily routine.

Growing up and development is taught as part of our cross-curricular work throughout the school, our intention being to ensure that our children grow up with a healthy understanding of the security of family life with good attitudes towards themselves and others.

Human reproduction is taught to the oldest children in school with emphasis being placed on the quality of relationships, commitment, love and personal responsibilities. The school's sex education policy is reviewed annually by the governing body.

Religious Education is in accordance with the Cheshire Agreed Syllabus. The children are regularly involved in assemblies, and the school draws on many guest speakers from local churches and High Schools. Parents have the right to withdraw a child from Religious Instruction and from school acts of worship.





SPECIAL EDUCATIONAL NEEDS

The Head teacher is responsible for making arrangements for pupils with special educational needs within the existing resources of the school. A register is kept of children who require learning support, and the school employs a number of part-time support teachers.

The school is effective in identifying children with additional needs and arrangements include the provision of individual or small group learning situations on a regular basis. The school works closely with parents and regular meetings are held to monitor the impact of these interventions and discuss children's progress.

A detailed Special Educational Needs policy is available in school.

"Pupils with special educational needs and/or disabilities, including those with more complex needs, make good progress and enjoy learning because of the sensitive guidance they receive from the teaching assistants."

Ofsted

Formal meetings are held in Autumn and Spring terms when parents are encouraged to discuss their child's progress with the class teacher. Individual reports are issued to all parents at the end of the academic year. Parents are encouraged to come into school to discuss their child's progress at any convenient time.



Thanks to the generosity of the staff who give of their own time after school we are able to offer a wide range of extra-curricular activities. These are intended principally for K.S.2 children and it is assumed that parental consent has been obtained whenever a child stays for any of these activities.

“The outstanding range of activities beyond lessons is greatly enjoyed by pupils.”

Ofsted

EXTRA CURRICULAR ACTIVITIES

At present these include a choir, art club, gardening club and I.T. club as well as football, netball, cross-country etc. During the previous academic years, school teams have won the Football League, and were Netball County Champions. The older children also have the opportunity to take instrumental tuition, including guitars, woodwind and brass.

We aim to involve as many children as possible in competitions and sports leagues, entering more than one team whenever possible. We participate in a range of festivals organised by Falliboome, the Macclesfield School Sports Partnership and local clubs. We encourage our children to practise and perform to their very best.

Despite our relatively small size, we have an excellent reputation for sporting achievement in Macclesfield and further afield. Recently we having won the towns prestige swimming gala and have taken part in the County Finals in football. In 2018 we were crowned Cheshire Champions in Netball and went on to win the inaugural North West of England Championship match. Amazing achievements for a one form entry primary school that participates in such a broad range of activities.

Whirley children are encouraged to participate in a wide range of clubs and activities away from school as we believe this broadens their horizons, helping them to become the resilient, well rounded children we wish for them to become.

The school offers before and after school care for parents whose commitments mean these times do not suit their requirements.

The club is available from 7.30am until registration opens and until 6pm in the evening.

Please ask for a registration form so that the service can be used in an ‘ad hoc’ way or full time as best suits. There is a charge for this service.



BEFORE AND AFTER SCHOOL CLUB

BEHAVIOUR



At Whirley we 'Acknowledge the intrinsic worth of the person and their potential contribution to society' - Braithewaite 1989

For this reason we are proud to use Restorative Practises throughout the school. Through our school charter we encourage and expect tolerance and respect of one another to be shown at all times. However, on the small occasions when behaviour does not meet our high standards we use a positive approach to help resolve what has happened.

When an act of 'wrong doing' has taken place, we talk through the issues using skilful questioning techniques (with both the 'wrong doer' and the 'harmed') to establish the feelings of all involved. The purpose is for those 'harmed' to feel more empowered and to help the 'wrong doer' recognise the impact of their actions, learning how they can behave in a more positive manner in the future.

Most importantly we want all members of our community to know the practices we use are fair, to build trust and develop the commitment to making all at Whirley 'the best that they can be'.

SCHOOL LUNCHES



During the lunch break the children are supervised by the school's Midday Assistants. Children may (a) take a school dinner, (b) bring a packed lunch or (c) go home for a dinner.

Whirley has recently had a brand new kitchen, and we are proud of the meal options that we are able to offer. There are always two hot choices - a meat option, a vegetarian option and a sandwich option.

Packed lunches should be brought in a named plastic box, with drinks in leak proof containers. Hot drinks may not be brought to school. Payments must be made in advance and this is done through Parent Pay – an online account, Logon details are provided by the school office upon your child's registration.

We ask that whenever possible children remain on a particular lunch option for a whole term and that the school is notified of any intended change in lunchtime arrangements, in writing, at least half a term in advance.

As a member of the Fallibroome Trust, Whirley school regularly works collaboratively with other local schools in inter-school events and competitions.

We have an incredibly active and successful gardening group, who are repeatedly invited to take part in the RHS Flower show at Tatton Park each summer. This group is run by dedicated grandparents and parents and encourages Whirley pupils to grow in confidence when presenting to the public at the show and at RHS events, as well as developing their gardening skills and knowledge.

Whirley play a part in the Macclesfield Festival annually, this is held in the town Centre of Macclesfield. The school has performed, shared art works and joined the procession for many years and look forward to continuing this tradition.

The calendar is always full, we hold regular fund raising events - Whirley families and members of the public are warmly encouraged to attend events such as Quiz nights, Fashion shows and Gin nights, as well as fun runs and school fairs and coffee afternoons.

Whirley works hard to ensure communication is effective and consistent.

We have Parent pay – an online payment account. We use OurSchoolsApp- a free downloadable app which allows parents to view the calendar, receive updates on everyday school life and receive push reminders about school events.

We also have social media accounts on both Twitter and Facebook - @PrimaryWhirley

Whirley values parental feedback and therefore hold Parent Voice sessions annually with the governing body and also welcome parents' views via an annual survey.

The school has an active WSA (Whirley School association) and the staff work hard to support the dedicated parents in running the events that are planned over the course of the year.

The school opens its doors to welcome Mums and Tots every Tuesday afternoon from 2.30pm. Please do come along with your pre-schoolers to enjoy some fun with other mums/dads/grandparents and tots in the school hall.

SCHOOL IN THE COMMUNITY



PARTNERSHIP WITH PARENTS



THE Fallibroome TRUST

Whirley Primary School is a proud member of
The Fallibroome Trust.

The Trust is a Cheshire-based education charity which was created with the twin aims of delivering high quality school improvement in our family of schools and contributing to the education, achievement and well-being of children and young people in the wider world.

It is our mission to create life-changing educational experiences and opportunities that allow every child, no matter what their starting point or personal circumstance, to achieve success. We do this through a combination of high expectations, high quality professional development, care for each individual and innovative approaches to curriculum design and teaching.

We believe in the importance of developing the whole child to ensure that our pupils have the confidence, creativity, emotional intelligence and resilience to live happy and fulfilling lives, no matter what their chosen path.

We look forward to welcoming your child to
Whirley Primary School



Whirley
Primary



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www.whirley.cheshire.sch.uk



www.fallibroometrust.com