

# THE AVENUE PRIMARY SCHOOL



**We  
learn!**



**We  
grow!**



**We  
SHINE!**

# Welcome to our school

Dear Parents and Carers,

I am delighted to welcome you to The Avenue Primary School. We are a busy and friendly family school, buzzing with exciting and stimulating learning opportunities. We pride ourselves on providing a caring and friendly environment.

Every child is encouraged to be successful and have high expectations of themselves both academically and socially and to have an understanding of the contribution that they can make to the school and the wider community. We celebrate children for who they are and ensure all children have an opportunity to SHINE!

The Avenue Primary School currently has around 400 pupils from Reception to Year 6 plus a 30 place Nursery on a morning and afternoon. This prospectus aims to give you a little taster of our school and what we can offer you and your family.

I look forward to welcoming you and your child to The Avenue family.

Mr Hunter  
Head of School



# Our Vision



*At The Avenue Primary School we pride ourselves on recognising children's individual strengths and building on these. We value each child and put them at the heart of all we do. We are committed to ensuring every child achieves their very best, has the resilience to persevere when things get tough and have the best opportunities available to them while they are with us.*

*Our School Motto, as created by the pupils and staff is:*

*We Learn We Grow We Shine*



# Our Mission Statement

*Working in partnership with our children, community, staff, parents and governors we will provide a rich and stimulating school environment that equips all of our children with the necessary skills and knowledge to ensure that they are the best prepared to competently and confidently face their futures.*

- To assist each child to enjoy school, aim high and reach their full potential*
- To encourage a warm, friendly and safe environment conducive to learning in which all children are valued*
- To work together to embed community spirit, an understanding of moral, spiritual and cultural values and the qualities of tolerance, courtesy and mutual respect*
- To develop our children as whole people who are educated beyond the classroom and have a thirst for learning outside of the school*

# Our Values

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*During the last year, we have worked hard to develop our new school values. Working with parents, carers, children and staff, we have built on our Motto of 'We Learn, We Grow, We Shine'.*

*We truly believe that every child should shine, which led us to our SHINE values.*

**S**how Respect

**H**onesty

**I**ndependence

**N**ever Give Up

**E**xcellence



# The Team

## Leadership

Trust CEO & Executive Head Teacher: Mrs Watson

Head of School: Mr Hunter

Deputy Head Teacher: Mrs Johnson

SENDCo: Mrs Owens

## Lower

Nursery: Miss Kitchen, Miss Walsh and Mrs Lewis

Reception: Miss Walker, Miss Hewitt, Mrs Law, Miss Robinson

Year 1: Mrs Carter, Miss Highfield, Mrs Taylor and Mrs Meakin

Phase Leader: Mrs Johnson

## Middle

Year 2: Mrs Laverick, Mrs Thomas, Miss Briston and Mrs Loran

Year 3: Miss Grayson, Mr Richardson and Miss Smith

Year 4: Miss Hope, Mrs Gibson, Miss Burnett and Mrs Iley

Phase Leader: Miss Hope

## Upper

Year 5: Mr Joy, Miss Lowe, Mrs McArthur and Mrs Leadbitter

Year 6: Mrs Naylor, Mr Thomas and Mrs Lynch

Phase Leader: Mrs Naylor

## The Nest

Mrs Owens, Mrs Daniels and Miss Carr

Pastoral: Miss Bytheway

## Governors

Chair: David Foster

Rachel Jones, Amanda Wright, David Joy,

Rebecca Hunter, Rob Bell and Caroline

Brown

Lunchtime Staff: Mrs Mann, Mrs Smith

Office: Mrs Steel and Mrs Palmer

Caretaker: Mr Hunter

Cook: Mrs Humphrey



# Our Day

## Nursery

*Morning: 8.30 a.m. - 11.30 a.m.*

*Afternoon: 12.30 p.m. - 3.30 p.m.*

*Morning Nursery - We ask that Parents/Carers don't arrive on the playground before 8.20am ready for the doors to open at 8.30am.*

*Afternoon Nursery - The gates will not be opened until 12.30pm. We ask that Parents/Carers wait at the doors where the nursery team will come and meet you and take your children into the classroom.*

## Main School

*8.45a.m. - 3.15pm*

*Doors open at 8.40 a.m.*

*Gates open at 3 p.m.*



*Morning break is between 10.40 and 10.55 a.m. for the whole school. The lower school has an afternoon break at a time when the class teacher feels they need it.*

## Key Information

[www.theavenueprimaryschool.co.uk](http://www.theavenueprimaryschool.co.uk)



@AvenuePrimaryUK

- *School Coms* – receive electronic letters and pay for trips and dinners online.
- *Website* – this is updated on a regular basis
- *Class Dojo* – keep updated and see what the children are doing in school

*Most of our information is now sent out electronically. Please ensure you are signed up to our email service via the app. If you have any difficulty accessing or setting up any of the above please contact the school office and they will be happy to help.*

*You will receive information about events and notices through school letters and newsletters.*

# Our Curriculum

*At The Avenue we have designed a curriculum that excites and engages the children in learning. We actively seek to promote a love of learning by making school fun and relevant whilst at the same time ensuring standards are high in order to prepare your children for their future.*

*The Nursery and Reception children follow the National Early Years Foundation Stage Curriculum and work towards achieving the Government's desirable outcomes on entering compulsory education. We recognise that young children learn through exploratory play and structured activities. Our EYFS children develop their self-confidence, independence and social skills in a secure and happy environment.*



*The staff and governors work together to continually develop our school's curriculum content to ensure that the very best provision is made to extend children's skills in every way. In particular we focus on each child's linguistic, scientific, creative, mathematical, technological, physical and social development as well as concerning ourselves deeply with their moral and spiritual growth.*



# ATTENDANCE

Our aim is that every child maintains a good level of attendance as this is important in ensuring that children are able to maximise their opportunities and achieve their true potential. As a guide the following figures indicate our expectations:

- Above 98% = excellent attendance
- 96% = good attendance
- + 90% = satisfactory
- 85-90% = poor attendance (this is equivalent to at least ½ day absent per week)

Obviously there are times when children are unwell or infectious and cannot come to school. Please keep the school informed; let us know as soon as possible, by phoning before 09:00a.m

We have a first day contact system, which means that we will contact you if a child does not arrive at school and where no message has been received. Our office team monitors attendance and punctuality very closely.

If possible, try to arrange any dental and doctor's appointments outside of school hours. If you do need to remove your child from class, please keep this to as short a period as possible and let us know beforehand. Please provide the office with evidence of any appointments.

The school strongly advises that parents make every attempt not to arrange holidays or to take occasional days leave during school time: amendments to school regulations make it clear that the Head Teacher may not grant any leave of absence during term time unless there are exceptional circumstances. If you do intend making a request for an exceptional leave of absence, you need to be aware that the DfE's statutory guidance states that even where leave can be granted, the number of days a child can be away from school should be determined by the Head Teacher.

We are working under the Government's new guidelines on attendance and lateness and as always, we want to work with our families to ensure the best for our pupils. However, parents must be aware that unauthorised absences that are not deemed to be 'exceptional circumstances' may be liable to fixed penalty fines by the Local Authority. **Leave more than 5 days in a 10 week period may result in a fine.**



# Learning outside the classroom

## OPAL - Outdoor Play and Learning

*Our children work so hard in the classroom - because of this, we are determined that their time outside is the best it can be!*

*We began our OPAL journey late in the summer term last year. The team are working with OPAL to develop high-quality, varied and exciting playtimes.*

*The play zones and social spaces we are developing are exciting, adventurous and fun. Play allows children to be creative, make decisions and manage risk. It provides many opportunities for them to develop their physical, social and communication skills and is invaluable to their emotional well-being.*



*Sandpit zone*



*Den Building*



*Music zone*

*For more information about the OPAL Programme, visit <https://outdoorplayandlearning.org.uk>*

## Forest Schools

*Since September of 2023, we have been working with SC.OUT.ED to provide the children with an opportunity to utilise the vast woodlands we have on site. Our Forest School teacher works with each class for half a day each half term.*

*The focus of the session is linked to an area of the year group's curriculum, helping to bring the learning to life.*



# SCHOOL DINNERS

The school is committed to encouraging a healthy lifestyle. We have regularly achieved the National Healthy Schools Status. Our school meals are cooked on the premises and are of a very high standard. Payment is made in advance, on the first day of each half-term online.

If you wish your child to change from school dinners to packed lunches then we ask for a half terms notice.



The current price of a Primary and Nursery school meal is £2.40 per day. School meals must be paid on the School Gateway App.

All pupils in Reception, Year 1 and Year 2 receive a school meal at no cost to the parent/guardian thanks to government funding. School meals are healthy, tasty, social and fun. Choosing a school lunch for your child/children will help save you up to £400 per year if you take up the offer.

**My child needs a Special Diet, are you able to feed him/her?**

Special diets can be catered for. Examples may include Diabetic, Coeliac and low fat diets. The Council now has a Peanut Allergy Policy in place. Please speak to school for more information.

In order for us to provide a child with special dietary requirements, however, we **must** have written confirmation, an allergy form must be completed and a care plan will be produced. This needs to be in place before school meals can be served.

## Packed Lunches

Children may bring a healthy, balanced packed lunch and a drink for their midday meal. Drinks should be brought in a plastic container or unbreakable plastic flask. Fizzy drinks, sweets or chocolate are not permitted and lunches should contain no nuts. Please can grapes be cut in half if sent as part of the lunch. Lunches must be brought in a suitable lunch box, clearly labelled on the outside.

## *Water at School*

*Children are encouraged to bring bottles of water to school to drink throughout the day. Research has shown that this helps to keep the children more alert and focused during the school day. Bottles should be clearly marked with the child's name and may be refilled in school.*

## *How can I see if I am eligible for Free School Meals?*

*The Free School Meal section is part of School Support and they can be contacted on 01642 726541. Children whose parents/carers receive Income Support, Job Seekers Allowance, or Child Tax Credit may be entitled to free school meals. Please contact the school office for the necessary forms and confidential advice. You can also go to the Middlesbrough Council website to download an application form and for more information.*

## *Free School Meals and the Pupil Premium*

*The government has allocated additional funding to schools in the form of 'The Pupil Premium'. One of the criteria used to calculate this additional funding is the number of pupils at a school who receive Free School Meals (FSMs). In common with most schools it is likely that a number of parents/carers whose children come to The Avenue don't claim FSMs, even though they are entitled to them.*

*As I am sure you will agree the children at our school can only benefit if we are able to attract additional funding. Not only that, our catering team provides an excellent range of healthy lunch options that are enjoyed daily by a significant number of our pupils. Your child may well be able to access these free of charge.*

*If you are eligible for and claim FSMs, you may also be provided with other services by the school, such as:*

- Discounted before and after school provision*
- Discounted residential visits*
- Access to additional support for your child's learning*



# Our Uniform

Uniform provides an identity for the school and encourages a sense of belonging. We do expect that parents will fully support our uniform policy.

Children are expected to wear:

- Black or grey trousers, skirt or pinafore
- White or pale blue polo shirt or shirt
- Blue jumper or cardigan (royal blue not navy)
- Summer dress (blue check) during the summer term
- Knee length shorts only
- Plain socks/tights – black, grey, blue or white



Totally black shoes only  
No fashion boots or UGG style boots, knee high boots, trainers, platforms or heels  
All children need a pair of wellies

## PE Kit

Children come to school wearing their PE kit on PE days.

- Pale blue polo shirt
- Blue/black tracksuit
- Trainers
- Navy blue zipped hooded top

The PE uniform is part of the uniform policy. Fashion tracksuits and patterned clothing are not part of the uniform and should not be worn.

Our uniform provider is  
Lollipops in Berwick Hills  
– 01642 225827



There is no requirement for your children to wear branded uniform. Lots of supermarkets and high street shops stock The Avenue uniform colours. We also have a stock of pre-loved uniform in school.

# Sporting Activities

As a school we constantly promote the need for a healthy lifestyle to all our pupils.

We are part of Middlesbrough Teaching School Alliance Sporting Partnership and this has affords us a very wide range of additional activities each year to enhance our in school curriculum. We attend the following:

- Gymnastics
- Football
- Netball
- Tag rugby
- Tennis
- Cross country
- Swimming



In addition to our P.E. curriculum, we offer and signpost other out of hours activities as the children progress through the school these include Boxercise, Gymnastics, Football and Multi-Sports.



## Personal Development

We have a whole school commitment to the wider personal development of our children. A key part of this is our 'PASSPORT', which the children work through in school. Beyond this, our programme of assemblies and PSHE curriculum ensures our children learn about the world beyond The Avenue.

# Our Wraparound Care

## Before School Club

A good start to the day is so important and our before school club offers exactly that! Ran by three members of school staff, we offer the children a range of activities to ensure a smooth transition between home and school.

Children can choose from playing team sport games in the hall, reading books on the bean bags, colouring in or playing board games. Children are not offered breakfast, but can bring a snack. We open our doors at 7.45am.

## After School Clubs

Our after school offer is something we are very proud of. Over the last few years, we have developed a programme of clubs ran by school staff and a couple of outside providers.

We release the clubs half a term in advance and they can be booked on School Coms.

Our offer includes Rounders, Athletics, Drawing, Jewellery Making, Forest Schools and Panto club. This is just a sample of what is on offer! Clubs run from 3.15pm for an hour.



We are always looking at ways we can support our families and the wraparound offer is something we will continue to review and develop.

# Safeguarding

*Safeguarding key members of staff*

*Mr J Hunter – Head of School & Safeguarding Lead*

*Mrs Johnson - Deputy Head*

*Miss J Bytheway – Pastoral Lead*

*Mrs L Owens – Nursery Teacher*

*If you have any concerns about safeguarding, please contact school.*

*Dogs are not allowed on the school site even if they are carried or in a pet buggy.*

*Thank you for taking the time to read our School Prospectus. This provides only a snapshot of what our school is all about. For further information, please look at our school website.*

## CONTACT US



[www.theavenueprimaryschool.co.uk](http://www.theavenueprimaryschool.co.uk)



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