



The Links Primary School

Prospectus
2021-22



Welcome to The Links

Although we may be a small school, we want our pupils to have big ambitions and high expectations of themselves.

We are an outward looking school, with a strong sense of community and we aim to create a curriculum that truly meets the needs of our children.

It's our children's voices that we want to drive and shape that curriculum; a rich, exciting and balanced curriculum which enables each individual child to develop academically, emotionally, creatively, socially and physically.

Our curriculum will enable the children to share ideas, express their opinions and apply knowledge and skills learned in a wide range of meaningful contexts. It will offer opportunities for all children to investigate, question, debate and challenge. It will enable all children to flourish and to be the very best they can be.

All reasonable efforts have been made to ensure that the information in this prospectus is correct and current at the time of publishing and is subject to change without notice. For up to date information please see our website.

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Louise Daly
Headteacher

To support the implementation of our vision we will create:

- A stimulating environment for developing inquisitive, independent and resilient lifelong learners who work hard and strive for excellence
- A culture of working independently and collaboratively, where we see getting something wrong as part of learning how to get it right
- An ethos where all children are encouraged and supported and challenge is fully embraced
- Exciting and challenging opportunities to promote our children's personal development and understanding of their own emotional and physical wellbeing
- Opportunities for our children to see that they can **Dream, Believe and Achieve!**



THE GOVERNING BODY

The Links is part of a Multi Academy Trust (MAT) – Vision Academy Learning Trust.

Schools also part of the Trust are;

Egglescliffe School
Junction Farm Primary School
Whinstone Primary School
Chandlers Ridge Primary School
Laurence Jackson School
Saltburn Primary School
Huntcliff School
Saltburn Primary School



We have a board of Trustees govern the MAT each school also has a Local Governing Body.

The Governing Body of our school is a mixture of people from all walks of life - from parents of children in the school, representatives of the community, who want to give something to the school.

They all give their free time to ensure that your children's education is second to none.

The Governing Body carry this out by setting targets, challenging the way things are done and adopting and checking the policies are being implemented.

The Head Teacher manages the school, to carry out the policies defined by the Governing Body and regular meetings take place.

The full Governing Body meets about six times a year, during these meetings Governors look at all aspects of school life from curriculum, standards and safeguarding.

The Chair of our Governing Body is Jill McGuire.

OUR SCHOOL STAFF

Mrs Daly - Headteacher
Mrs Hutchinson - Deputy Headteacher, Year 2 Teacher
Mrs Mitchell - KS2 Team Leader, Year 3 Teacher
Mrs Jones - Nursery Teacher
Mrs Kay - Reception Teacher
Mrs Barr and Mrs Beecher - Year 1 Teachers
Miss Barron - Year 4 Teacher
Mrs Cain - Year 5 Teacher
Miss Mcloughlin - Year 6 Teacher

Mrs Montgomery - HTLA
Mrs McMillan - TA
Mrs Seymour - TA
Miss Frame - TA
Mrs Salt - TA
Miss Brown - TA
Mrs Nolan - TA
Mrs Shearer - Office Manager
Mrs Smith - Office Manager
Mrs Ellington - Administrator
Mr Travers - Caretaker
Mrs Coning - Lunchtime Supervisor
Mrs McCabe - Lunchtime Supervisor
Mrs White - Lunchtime Supervisor
Mrs Seymour - Lunchtime Supervisor
Mrs Wilkinson - Lunchtime Supervisor
Mrs Ritchie - Wrap Around Manager
Mrs McCabe - Wrap Around Support
Mrs Morgan - Cleaner
Mrs Wilkinson - Cleaner

CURRICULUM

Early Years

In addition to the whole school curriculum intent and implementation, our curriculum is informed by the EYFS Framework which is adapted to meet the needs of each individual child.

Children's learning is largely play-based using high quality, age appropriate resources. They will learn through play and exploration both indoors and outside. Children are supported to join in both child initiated and adult led activities both indoors and outside.

Pupils will be learning skills, acquiring new knowledge and demonstrating their understanding through seven areas of learning and development and will have many opportunities to develop the nine characteristics of effective learning through our Mr Men and Little Miss characters, which are adapted to be accessible, age appropriate and enable the children to develop qualities for successful learning.

The children will be supported to use the language around characteristics of effective learning through modelling from practitioners and interactive displays.

The Links Learning Powers KS1 and KS2

It is important that our pupils are equipped with the necessary skills for the fast-changing world in which we live. This means that they need to be adaptable, able to apply their learning in a wide range of contexts and develop strategies for what to do when they are unsure.

We want our pupils to be active learners, questioning, investigating, challenging themselves and sharing responsibility for driving their own learning. Above all, we want our children to give their very best and to be proud of their achievements.

These qualities needed for successful learning are underpinned by our Learning Powers of independence, curiosity, problem solving, risk taking, creativity and resilience.

IMPLEMENTATION

Curriculum organisation

- The curriculum is designed to be ambitious and cater for the needs and interests of all learners.
- Progression of knowledge, skills and understanding is carefully planned, reviewed and adapted to ensure children's learning builds effectively over time.
- Time used creatively and flexibly in order to suit our intentions and maximise learning

Quality First Teaching

- Highly focused lesson planning with sharp objectives based upon children's prior learning/interests
- High levels of interaction for all children (including Active Learning);
- Emphasis on learning through dialogue;
- Culture of encouragement and praise to motivate children.
- The use of learning resources and computing developed to allow children to work independently and successfully;

Intervention

- Provision for intervention is mapped according to need;
- Detailed plans are put into place; evaluated and adjustments made
- Learners are enabled to perform beyond the norms expected for their year group where appropriate;
- Progress Meetings regularly meet to discuss current and future interventions engaging in dialogue around the impact of interventions, potential barriers and further actions required.

Focussed assessment

- Meaningful assessment and tracking of children's knowledge takes place to inform classroom practice allowing children to make good progress and close gaps in knowledge;
- Day to day, Periodic and Transitional assessments used effectively;
- Assessment for Learning evident across the school – learning objectives, learning outcomes, success criteria, self and peer evaluation

Intervention

- Organisation of the classroom/learning environment to be flexible in order to meet the children's learning needs;
- Make effective use of other spaces – 'outdoor classroom', computer suite, hall space;
- Displays to be a mixture of celebration of children's work, supportive resources and information.

'Be Ready, Be Respectful and Be Safe'

The Links Primary School is committed to creating an environment where outstanding behaviour is at the heart of a productive learning environment. Everyone is expected to maintain the highest standards of personal conduct, to accept responsibility for their behaviour and encourage others to do the same.

As members of our community, we adhere to the values of being: 'Ready, Respectful, and Safe.'

At The Links we aim to:

- Provide a safe, comfortable and caring environment where optimum learning takes place
- Provide clear guidance for children, staff and parents of expected levels of behaviour
- Use a consistent and calm approach
- Ensure all adults take responsibility for managing behaviour and follow-up incidents personally
- Ensure all adults use consistent language to promote positive behaviour and
- Use restorative approaches instead of punishments

ENRICHMENT

We are committed to the broadest educational offering, ensuring that opportunities are available for children to further their knowledge, understanding, skills and experiences. The programme is clearly linked to the curriculum progression documents for each subject and across all year groups. A very successful enrichment programme, which draws upon a wide range of adult skills and includes opportunities from working collaboratively with cluster, local authority and Trust schools is offered.

- Music, PE and Chess specialist teachers work alongside teachers to develop subject knowledge and provide the children with bespoke teaching.
- PE opportunities – attending Cluster, Stockton Sports Partnership and Trust events in order to develop skills and take part in competitive activities, balance bikes, Funky Feet.
- Workshops linked to curriculum opportunities and provide by community organisations and businesses (Hosting More Able Writing and Maths Days with other schools, Labman, Evolve, NATWEST, Roman Day, Zoolab, Farm bus, E-Safety – children and parents, Den Building, Children’s First Aid, Bikeability).
- Visitors to assemblies and classrooms (community church links; fire safety and awareness; safety crossing the road, NSPCC; charity events – Ghana, Library Challenge, Leo’s Charity, Children in Need, Comic Relief, Pantomine).
- Educational visits directly linked to curriculum subjects, which allows the children to have knowledge brought to life and to experience things first hand (remembrance service, space workshop, church visit to observe Baptism, Gurdwara visit linked to RE and children’s cultures in school, English – play of Boy who Cried Wolf linked to Big Writing, Author Visits, Butterfly World linked to minibests, Crucial Crew).
- Themed days/weeks are also incorporated into our curriculum. These may be designed to fit with national initiatives (World Maths Day, Anti-Bullying Week, Cultural Week, World Book Day, Science Week, Safer Internet) or to match with events in the UK (national charity days, elections) and also to highlight our curriculum subjects (Trust Art Week, Spelling Bees, Sports Week).

Extended Curriculum

- Full Range of ‘extra-curricular’ activities and clubs which enhance and extend the basic curriculum.
 - We ensure access for all.
- Parents and carers, school staff as well as the wider community, are involved in extended provision.

Impact for our children

- From their different starting points, all children will make good progress academically, emotionally, creatively, socially and physically.
- Knowledge, understanding and skills will be secured and embedded so that children attain highly and are fully prepared for their next stage of learning.
- They will have strong communication skills, both written and verbal, and will listen respectfully and with tolerance to the views of others.
- They will take pride in all that they do, always striving to do their best.
 - They will demonstrate emotional resilience and the ability to persevere when they encounter challenge.
 - They will develop a sense of self-awareness and become confident in their own abilities.
- They will be kind, respectful and honest, demonstrate inclusive attitudes and have a sense of their role in our wider society.



BREAKFAST CLUB AND AFTER SCHOOL CLUB

Little Acorns has been set up to provide our pupils with a safe and fun place to start and end their school day.

The aim of the clubs is to be informal and friendly, allowing children a choice as to how they start the day and end the day: some children like to wake up slowly or wind down at the end of the day, others prefer to get on and play. The club will provide a quiet space (for reading, etc), a free play area, as well as more structured activities. Play, rather than education, is at the heart of the club.

Each morning a breakfast will be provided and after school a small snack will be provided. The children will be encouraged to sit down and talk together, and then clear up their dishes: the idea is that our breakfast and snack time replicates as far as possible the atmosphere of a family meal.

The clubs will take place in the mobile classroom to the right of the school.

Breakfast Club

Children will be able to arrive from 7.30 a.m. There will be no admittance before this time. Children will enter via the green gates next to the car park where they will be registered. At 8.45 a.m. the children will be taken to their individual classes.

The Breakfast Club will have a fixed cost of £5.50 per session which includes a choice of breakfast and fun activities. The cost does not change depending on the time you arrive or if you choose not to have breakfast with us.

After School Club

Children will be collected from their classes and taken to the mobile classroom. Please note the end of this session is 6:00.

The After-School Club will have a fixed price of £8.50 per session and includes a choice of snack and fun activities. The cost does not change depending on the time your child is collected or if they choose not to have snack with us.

You can book sessions by contacting Mrs Ritchie at admin@thelinksprimary.org.uk

THE SCHOOL DAY

Nursery

8.45am - 11:45am
12:30pm to 3:30pm

Reception - Year 6

8.55am - 3.15pm

Main school doors will open 10 minutes before the start of the morning session at 8:45 to allow children time to get ready for lessons. For security reasons, external doors will be closed at 9.00 with main playground gates locked at 9.05 am.

All children have a 15-minute morning break. For children in Early Years and KS1 they are provided a piece of fruit which they can have at this time. KS2 children may bring in a small healthy snack for them to have at this time.

Lunch time is 12:00 – 1:00 for Reception to Year 2 and 12:05 – 1:00 for children in KS2

Children can bring a packed lunch or order a school lunch. School lunches can be ordered in school in the morning. School lunches are free for all children from Reception to Year 2 and for those entitled to free school meals.

School meals currently cost £2.10 per day.

All children in Reception, Year 1 and Year 2 classes are entitled to a daily free school meal under the Government's universal free school meals programme.

Children may be entitled to free school meals if they, their parent or guardian are in receipt of certain benefits. If a child qualifies for free school meals they automatically qualify for Pupil Premium, which is additional financial support paid direct to school to help with other costs such as uniform, trips and learning interventions. Even if your child already receives a free school meal because they are in Reception, Year 1 or Year 2 and if you are eligible to do so we would ask you to register for a free school meal, as your child can also access this additional financial support. (Your application is confidential and it will not affect any other benefits you are claiming.) To learn more about free school meals and to apply please [click here](#)

You can find out more about school lunches and view the most recent school menu [here](#).

Gates will be unlocked at 3.05pm at the end of the school day to allow parents access to the playground. Please ensure that your children are supervised in the playground before school each morning.



SCHOOL UNIFORM

Nursery

Navy/Red Striped knitted jumper or cardigan
White Polo Shirt
Navy jogging bottoms
Black school shoes/black trainers

Reception

Navy/Red Striped knitted jumper or cardigan
White Polo Shirt
Grey trousers, skirt or pinafore
Black school shoes/black trainers

Year 1 - Year 6

Navy/Red Striped knitted jumper or cardigan
White Shirt
Blue and Red Striped Ties (elastic, clip on or full tie)
Grey trousers, skirt or pinafore
Black school shoes
Summer - navy blue and white checked summer dress

PE KIT

On PE days children will be asked to come to school in their PE kit rather than bringing a kit in to change in to.

For outdoor P.E. children will need navy jogging bottoms, plain white t-shirt, navy sweatshirt or hoodie and trainers.

You can order your uniform from Elizabeth's Embroidery or Motif8

To order your child uniform for September 2021 Elizabeth Embroidery safely, they are offering three options to do so:

1. **Order online:** To view and order your child's uniform you can visit Elizabeth's and then use the password: Links
(A sizing guides and videos are available online to help parents with uniform sizing.)
2. **Virtual Appointment:** To book an appointment using LiZZoom. (You can then book a LiZZoom video call, where they will safely talk you through how to size your child and then they will take your order during the video call. These appointments are available up until 9pm at night, so even if it's just advice and to place an order after the children have gone to bed, they are still available.)
3. **Face to Face Appointment:** To book a face to face appointment at their Wellington Square shop.



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