

The Links Primary School Prospectus



Carnoustie Drive
Eaglescliffe
Stockton on Tees
TS16 9ES

Tel: 01642 785950

Website: www.thelinksprimary.org.uk

Email: admin@thelinksprimary.org.uk

Head of School: Miss C Briston

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.

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

Schools also part of the Trust are;

- Eggescliffe School
- Junction Farm Primary School
- Whinstone Primary School
- Chandlers Ridge Primary School
- Laurence Jackson School
- Saltburn Primary School
- Huntcliffe School

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

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

The Head of School manages the school, to carry out the policies defined by the Governing Committee and regular meetings take place.

The full Governing Committee 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 Committee is Jill McGuire.

Name	Responsibilities
Mrs Daly	Executive Headteacher
Miss Carly Briston	Head of School
Mrs Hutchinson	Deputy Headteacher KS1 Team Leader Year 2 Teacher
Mrs Mitchell	KS2 Team Leader Year 6 teacher
Mrs Kay	EYFS Team Leader Nursery/Reception Teacher
Mrs Barr and Mrs Jones	Year 1 Teachers
Mrs Beecher and Miss Mcloughlin	Year 3 Teachers
Mrs Cain	Year 4 Teacher
Miss Barron	Year 5 Teacher
Support Staff	
Mrs Reilly	HLTA
Mrs Spence	TA
Mrs Seymour	TA
Miss Frame	TA
Mrs Salt	TA
Mrs Nolan	TA
Mrs Smith	Office Manager
Mrs Ellington	Administrator
Mr Bowen	Caretaker
Mrs McCabe	Lunchtime Supervisor
Mrs Seymour	Lunchtime Supervisor
Mrs Wilkinson	Lunchtime Supervisor
Mrs Hugill	Lunchtime Supervisor
Mrs Ritchie	Wrap Around Manager
Mrs McCabe	Wrap Around Support
Mrs Wilkinson	Cleaner
Mrs Medd	Cleaner
Mrs Hugill	Cleaner

You can view the school term dates, including PD Days please visit [Calendar \(thelinksprimary.org.uk\)](http://Calendar (thelinksprimary.org.uk))

Curriculum

Early Years

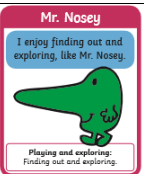

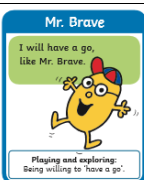


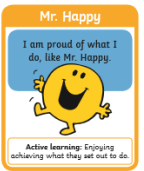
In addition to the whole school curriculum intent and implementation, our curriculum is informed by the EYFS Framework which is adapted to meet the needs of each individual child.

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 for Early Years

Playing and Exploring - Engagement	Finding out and exploring	 <p>Mr. Nosey I enjoy finding out and exploring, like Mr. Nosey. Playing and exploring: Finding out and exploring.</p>	I enjoy finding out and exploring like Mr Nosey
	Playing with what they know	 <p>Little Miss Curious I play with what I know, like Little Miss Curious. Playing and exploring: Playing with what they know.</p>	I play with what I know like Little Miss Curious
	Being willing to have a go	 <p>Mr. Brave I will have a go, like Mr. Brave. Playing and exploring: Being willing to 'have a go'.</p>	I will have a go like Mr Brave
Active Learning - Motivation	Keeping trying	 <p>Mr. Bump I keep trying, like Mr. Bump. Active learning: Keeping trying.</p>	I keep trying like Mr Bump
	Being involved and concentrating	 <p>Mr. Busy I join in and concentrate, like Mr. Busy. Active learning: Being involved and concentrating.</p>	I join in and concentrate like Mr Busy
	Enjoying achieving what they set out to do	 <p>Mr. Happy I am proud of what I do, like Mr. Happy. Active learning: Enjoying achieving what they set out to do.</p>	I am proud of what I do like Mr Happy

Creating and thinking critically- Thinking	Choosing ways to do things	 <p>Mr. Adventure I choose ways to do things, like Mr. Adventure. Creating and thinking critically: Choosing ways to do things.</p>	I choose ways to do things like Mr Adventure
	Having their own ideas	 <p>Mr. Clever I have my own ideas, like Mr. Clever. Creating and thinking critically: Having their own ideas.</p>	I have my own ideas like Mr Clever
	Making links	 <p>Little Miss Brainy I can make links in my learning, like Little Miss Brainy. Creating and thinking critically: Making links.</p>	I can make links in my learning like Little Miss Brainy

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.

Problem Solving Posse

You are part of the problem solving posse with Sherlock Holmes and Alan Turing. People in this posse are good thinkers, they see problems as challenges and try to achieve a solution with the use of knowledge and information and through a lot of effort and determination.



"When you have eliminated all which is impossible, then whatever remains, however improbable, must be the truth."



Turing joined the government's code breaking department in July 1939. The Polish Cipher Bureau passed on crucial information about the Enigma machine, which was used by the Germans to encipher all its military and naval signals. After September 1939, joined by other mathematicians at Bletchley Park, Turing worked alongside a team of other mathematicians to break the Enigma code of sending secret messages on an encrypted code.

Curiosity Crew

You are part of the Curiosity Crew with Maria Curie and Malala Yousafzai. People in this crew are interested in learning about lots of different things and like to ask questions and investigate things they have learnt.




Be less curious about people and more curious about ideas.



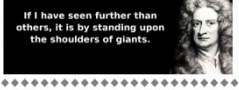
"ONE CHILD, ONE TEACHER, ONE BOOK, AND ONE PEN CAN CHANGE THE WORLD."

INDEPENDENT INDIVIDUALS

You are a Independent Individual like Ismael Watson and Sir Isaac Newton. Independent individuals are able to take care of their own needs. They take responsibility for their own decisions and are in charge of their own learning. They are also good at working on their own to solve problems.



Ismael Watson (2001) completed some of the world's most famous races and earned seven gold medals and 20 days alone at sea to become the youngest sailor to sail around the world, aged 14.




SIR ISAAC NEWTON
If I have seen further than others, it is by standing upon the shoulders of giants.

Risk Taking Revolution

You are part of the Risk Taking Revolution with Mark Zuckerberg, Bill Gates, Neil Armstrong and Christopher Columbus. People in this revolution are willing to do things that involve danger or risk in order to achieve a goal.



Bill Gates dropped out of Harvard University and went on to develop the world's most successful personal computer software.



Neil Armstrong was spacecraft commander for Apollo 11, the first manned lunar mission, and became the first man to walk on the moon.

Creative Circle

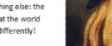
You are part of the Creative Circle with Walt Disney, Leonardo Da Vinci and Albert Einstein. People in the Creative Circle think about things in different and interesting ways. When they are finding something tricky they try to find another way to tackle it.



"It's kind of fun to do the impossible."



"Get a good idea and stay with it. Dog it, and work at it until it is done right"



"Creativity is intelligence having fun"
- Albert Einstein

The Italian master had the skill and great ideas, but he also had something else: the ability to look at the world around him differently!

Resilience Ring

You are part of the Resilience Ring with J.K. Rowling, Charlie Chaplin, Thomas Edison and Richard Branson. People in the Resilience Ring are good at sticking with things and trying their best. This means they recover from difficult situations quickly.



J.K. Rowling was born being extremely poor and being an orphan. She had to work very hard to become a successful author.



Due to the death of his father and the subsequent illness of his mother, Charlie and his brother Sydney, had to fend for themselves before the age of 10. Charlie turned to acting and by his mid-twenties, Charlie Chaplin was the most famous man in the world.



Thomas Edison was a prolific inventor and businessman. He held over 1,000 patents and was one of the most important inventors in the history of the United States.



Richard Branson is a British entrepreneur, investor, and philanthropist. He is the founder of the Virgin Group, a conglomerate of companies in various industries.

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

Learning environment

- 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.

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 minibeads, 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.

Behaviour

‘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

Sharing your children's progress

Reports – we offer termly attainment and progress reports in the Autumn and Spring term along with a written End of Year Report to all pupils. This outlines their academic performance and behaviour for learning.

Parents evening – We involve parents in open communication throughout the year. We provide 2 opportunities each year for s parents' evenings, one informal in the Autumn Term and one formal in the Spring Term. This allows parents and staff to discuss the work that has been completed and talk about the progress of their child/children. We offer a variety of time appointments so that working parents can also attend easily. Although these are formal arrangements, parents are encouraged to arrange an appointment throughout the year if they feel they need to discuss anything with their teacher.

KEEPING YOU UPDATED

Marvellous Me – you will receive regular news, photographs and rewards about your child sent directly to your phone

Parentmail – newsletters and any other letters/information will be sent out via Parentmail.

Facebook – we update Facebook regularly to share with you the wonderful experiences they have in school. [The Links Primary School | Facebook](#)

YouTube – we have our own YouTube Channel where we can share performance and work completed by the children. [The Links Primary YouTube](#)

Website – all the information you need about the school can be found on our school website. [The Links Primary Website](#)

OUR SCHOOL DAY

Nursery

8.45 am to 11.45 am

12.30 pm to 3.30 pm

All year groups from Reception to Year 6

8:45 am – 3:15 pm

For security reasons, external doors and main playground gates are locked at 8.50am.

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 £2.50 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.

BREAKFAST CLUB AND AFTER SCHOOL CLUB INFORMATION

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 6:00pm.

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.

Sessions are available to be booked/cancelled on Parentmail until midnight 2 days before. (E.g. Thurs sessions are available until midnight on Tues night/Weds morn). If you need to book a place and the session is no longer available please call the School office 01642 785950. If you need to book a breakfast club place and the office will not be open before you would need to drop off (i.e. you need to book the night before or the morning of) please bring the child to the club and check them in with Mrs Ritchie, it is likely this can be accommodated. The office will then be able to add on your bookings/charges to the system.

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

P.E.

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.

To order from Motif8 please click on the picture below to be directly directed to their online site. Motif8 stock the full range of uniform for our school.



Please note that the majority of the uniform can be purchased from any high street shop. The school does have a stock of good quality pre-owned jumpers and cardigans that we are more than happy to share with anyone that needs it.