



Prospectus 2020-21

www.paintersashprimary.co.uk





GROW, NURTURE, SUCCEED

SCHOOL VISION

At Painters Ash Primary school we **nurture** the individual characters of all our pupils so that they become caring citizens who make a positive contribution to their community.

The team at Painters Ash support pupils to **grow** academically and emotionally so that they are confident, independent individuals who take responsibility for their own learning.

All staff at Painters Ash aim for all children to **succeed** and to reach their full potential. We invest time in celebrating the success of all children in our care.



SCHOOL VALUES

Our school values are: **Community, Success, Excellence, Self-confidence, Determination.**

Care and respect must be the basis of all our relationships. It must begin with ourselves but also between children. We should respect others' property and celebrate each other's differences.

We strive to create a sense of community and belonging through working together. We encourage school and parents to work in partnership to support every child. We welcome involvement from the wider community.

Everyone at Painters Ash is encouraged to aim high and reach their full potential. We sow the seeds,

nurture the growth and celebrate the success of all individuals.

We aim to provide a curriculum that cultivates a love of learning by all. We want everyone to fulfil their potential in every way.

We aim to develop independent thinkers who take ownership of their learning; have the courage to make decisions, and know when to seek advice and take it on board.

Creativity is a thread running through all we do. We strive to nurture happy, creative learners. We value originality and innovative approaches to both learning and teaching.

OUR SCHOOL

Painters Ash Primary School is a Foundation School. We currently have fourteen classes with pupils from four to eleven years. All year groups have two parallel classes. Each class has a class teacher and a teaching assistant who works in class or with small groups each morning. Classes may be reorganised as appropriate.

Behaviour

Our positive behaviour policy ensures all children feel special. We have a house point system for individual success as well as giving out dojos as rewards, which parents can see through the ClassDojo app. Our celebration assembly each Friday celebrates success of all children and each child receives many certificates and awards during the year.

At Painters Ash School, we have expectations of good discipline and behaviour. The principles for good behaviour are set out in our class charters, which children work collaboratively together to create.



Parents

We encourage parents to work in partnership with us. We keep you fully informed by:

- ✳ Fortnightly newsletters
- ✳ Consultation meetings three times a year
- ✳ Reading record books
- ✳ Contact books
- ✳ Progress Reports
- ✳ Annual reports
- ✳ Annual Open Day
- ✳ Termly Show and Share meetings

We believe that if we know about a barrier to learning, we can act swiftly and decisively to ensure that the barrier is removed. Please ensure you notify us promptly of any relevant concerns. You can make an appointment to see a teacher at the end of any day. Please make appointments to see Miss Salter, Headteacher, through the office. Miss Salter or a member of the Senior Leadership Team will be available on the gate at the start and end of the day when commitments permit.

The Governing Body

We are lucky enough to have a vibrant and supportive Governing Body who carefully monitor and track the progress of the school. The Chair of Governors, Alan Russell, leads a dedicated team of Governors who report annually to parents. If you are interested in joining the Governing Body please contact the school office regarding the next Parent Governor Elections.

Parent Teacher Association

Painters Ash has a thriving Parent Teacher Association which is run by a group of dedicated parents. They raise funds for the school through social events, which are always extremely successful. As a parent of a child at Painters Ash, you are automatically a member and we look forward to meeting you at events. Annual events include:

- ✳ Christmas Fair

- ✳ Summer Fair
- ✳ Discos and other events at various points of the year

Volunteer Helpers

We welcome volunteer helpers into school to support classroom work or visits, especially reading. All volunteers must have a Disclosure Barring Service check.

Bullying

Painters Ash has a zero tolerance policy against bullying. All incidents are taken very seriously and are fully investigated with appropriate actions taken. Parents are notified if applicable.

Racism

Racism is a very serious issue. We are vigilant to avoid racist remarks and attitudes occurring. Such incidents are rare, but if they do occur, a report is generated for the LA and parents are informed immediately.

Equal Opportunities

All people are treated equally, regardless of ability, gender, race, disability or any other characteristic.

The School Day

- ✳ Gates open at 08:40 and children enter straight into their classroom, where they are greeted by their class teacher who will have prepared some challenging learning opportunities to start their day.
- ✳ All children must be in class before the bell goes and the gates are locked at 08:55.
- ✳ Children who arrive late should enter via the front entrance and be signed in.
- ✳ Morning learning finishes at 11:55am for Reception and Key Stage 1, and 12:10pm for KS2.
- ✳ Afternoon learning starts at 1:10pm.
- ✳ The school day ends at 3:20pm.
- ✳ Breakfast club runs daily, at a cost of £3.00 a day, from 07:45am
- ✳ After School Club runs daily from 3:25pm to 5:25pm at £5.00 for an hour and £9.00 for two hours.
- ✳ These allow children to be in school from 7:45am to 5:25pm to support working parents.

Uniform

All children are expected to wear the school uniform. Our belief is 'Smart uniform, smart minds'. The detailed uniform list can be obtained from the school office. Trainers are not allowed to be worn other than in PE lessons. We believe that shoes with heels are dangerous and so ask all pupils to wear flat shoes. Shoes made of breathable material are preferred, and plastic shoes (such as jelly shoes) are not acceptable. Shoes which incorporate flashing lights or similar distracting gimmicks are not appropriate for school wear.

Winter boots/ Wellington boots may be worn to and from school during bad weather but shoes must be brought to school and worn during the school day. Due to the safety of your child, open toed sandals should not be worn.

On hot sunny days, children should be protected from the sun when outdoors by:

- Wearing a plain cap without a logo
- Wearing an appropriate sun screen that has been applied at home

Jewellery

On health and safety grounds we do not allow children to wear jewellery other than one plain pair of studs. Earrings will need to be removed for PE and children should be able to take them out themselves, earrings cannot be taped. If your child needs to wear jewellery based on religious grounds, please contact the Head teacher. Appropriate watches are permitted.

Hair

The school does not permit children to have extreme haircuts or colouring that could serve as a distraction to other children. Hair bands, clips etc. should be discrete designs in colours compatible with school colour and only used in order to keep hair in place. Long hair should be tied back to help us eradicate head lice. No makeup, nail varnish or false nails may be worn during the school day. Similarly, temporary transfers or 'fake' temporary tattoos are not permitted.

Attendance - Attend, Achieve, Succeed

The school values good attendance, and has a committed Family Liaison Officer who monitors and supports parents where necessary.

It is the parent's responsibility to ensure their child's safe, regular and punctual attendance at school and return home. Parent's commitment to this is through our home school agreement.

If your child is to be absent from school, you must ring the school office early on the first day of absence, stating the reason. A message can be left on the answer-phone.

Children should attend school on all school days that they are fit. Holidays and days out for non-medical reasons will not be authorised. We adhere to the Government directive and as such parents of children who have taken their children out for 5 days holiday in total in one school year may be subject to a fixed penalty from the local authority. Only in exceptional circumstance and with prior agreement will a child/children be allowed to leave school early.



Care Plans

If your child has an allergy or known medical condition which we need to provide support for or administer medication in an emergency, we will ask you to come in to school to talk to our Care Plan co-ordinator.

Illness or Emergency

The school MUST have two emergency contact numbers as well as a home number so that we are able to contact you in the case of an emergency.

Security

We value the welfare of your children and ensure the security of the building at all times.

At the end of the day, children are taken to external doors where they remain with their teacher until the adult meeting them collects them. All children must be collected by an adult unless we

have written permission for older children to walk home alone.

Safeguarding

We have trained Designated Safeguarding Leads and our staff are trained to deal with situations where a child may seem to be at risk from abuse or neglect. We work closely with Social Services and the Early Help and Preventative Services.

All adults in school are identified by their Painters Ash badge, or a "Visitor Badge". Everyone is required to sign in and photo ID is provided through our inventory system.

Parking

We are working with parents to ensure the safety of children at the beginning and the end of the day. Please be mindful of parking on double yellow lines as this compromises the safety of children. Also, we would ask you to be respectful of our neighbours and refrain from parking over their drives.

Collecting your child

Your child will be brought to an agreed collection point for the class. Please ensure you wait so all adults can be seen by the class teacher. If your child is to be collected by someone different, please ensure the class teacher knows. If arrangements change during the day, please ring the school office who will inform the class teacher. If you are going to be late, please ring the office to save unnecessary worry.

If there is no one to collect your child at the end of the day, they will be taken to the office, where they will wait for collection. If they are not collected by 3:40pm, they will be taken to After School Club at a minimum charge of £5.00.

Educational Visits

All Year Groups go on Educational Visits for which there is a cost to parents. The school always searches for best value to keep costs to a minimum. Additionally we have many visitors to enhance the curriculum.

If there are insufficient payments from parents, the trip may be cancelled. We do ask parents to pay for swimming throughout.

Lunches

A healthy menu is provided by Nourish Catering. Due to Government guidelines, Reception and KS1 pupils are all entitled to a universal free school meal. Registration forms for free school meals are available from the office.

For those parents paying for school meals, payment needs to be paid in advance via ParentMail. Cash will not be accepted, except on special lunch days.

Children having packed lunches are asked to be supplied with a healthy alternative to a school meal, such as sandwiches, fruit, salad or even a hot dish in a non-breakable flask. Chocolate, sweets or fizzy drinks are not allowed at any time. No nuts of any kind are allowed due to severe allergies in school.

Water

Fresh water is essential. Children must bring a labelled bottle of water into school daily.

Playtimes

KS1 and KS2 have different playgrounds where they play at playtimes. In summer months children play on the field.



Year 6 sports leaders provide activities for all children to play with.

All children should play outside at playtime, provided the weather permits. Children should come to school with a coat during terms 1 to 4 and on cooler damp days in other terms. If a child cannot play outside for any medical reasons, a letter should be sent to the office.

Out of School Clubs

We have many clubs run by staff at Painters Ash, both during lunch hours and after school. These cover many areas and meet the interests of many of our children.

School Council

The school has an excellent School Council, which is a team of children, two from each class from Year 1 to Year 6, who are elected by their peers. They discuss school procedures and events and make decisions about some future events. They also bring to the table items which are causing concern. Their views are greatly valued and they have been involved in many important decisions.

Learning and the Curriculum



At Painters Ash we value learning and believe in a motivating and inspiring curriculum that engages all children. We strive to achieve this by giving children new experiences that immerse them in their learning to become inquisitive, independent learners. We welcome working with parents ensure that they are informed about their children's learning. We hold Show and Share meetings, which update parents on upcoming learning and give the opportunity for children to show parents work that they are proud of.

Making links in all areas of the curriculum is central to our school's philosophy of learning. Children are immersed in termly topics from which all their learning stems.

We believe in a child centred approach and in Reception the children learn through play and experimentation, each child being challenged to discover more about all the areas they are discovering.

English



From the first days in Reception, the children are immersed in books and stories. The first books they bring home will be picture books to share. Phonics teaching plays an essential part in your child learning to read. We will hold workshops to ensure that you feel you are able to work with us to support your child.

We encourage children to develop a love of reading in a variety of ways and your support by hearing your child read at home is invaluable.

Guided Reading takes place daily within all classes where children experience and discuss books from a variety of genres both independently and with an adult.

Our curriculum and language rich learning environment encourages writing and promotes confident speakers and writers.

Maths

Maths is taught daily in all classes, sometimes in ability groups. Mental strategies and speaking and listening in Mathematics plays a major part in the development of skills. Times tables knowledge is a crucial skill and we would appreciate your help in supporting your child to develop their confidence and accuracy.

Science

Our Science teaching is interactive and engaging and has a strong emphasis on practical activities and learning by discovery. Children apply their skills and interpret results, linking their findings with the scientific concepts.

RSE (Relationship and Sex Education) covers emotional, social and learning about relationships. Physical development is covered through specific sessions in Years 5 and 6 of which parents are informed.

Computing



Painters Ash provides a range of high quality, relevant and current ICT resources which support and extend learning in other areas of the curriculum.

We also ensure that discrete ICT skills are taught to pupils at the appropriate stage in their development.

Religious Education

We follow the Kent Agreed Syllabus for Religious Education, recognising all faiths and beliefs. This scheme promotes children's spiritual, moral, social and cultural development and helps to continue to raise standards of attainment in RE.

Design and Technology

All children are encouraged to become creative problem solvers. They develop their ideas using a range of equipment and materials. They learn to evaluate and improve their work, ensuring designs that are fit for purpose.

Geography and History

Children start by developing their knowledge and understanding of the world leading to research based learning in later years.



Music

In addition to music development within all classes, many children enjoy extended musical activities. We have a thriving choir who perform in local festivals. Whilst at school, children will have the opportunity to learn instruments including the recorder and ukulele. There is an opportunity for you to pay for piano lessons if you so wish and we also have a recorder club.

Arts

The Arts are an integral part of our school life and provides another opportunity for children to shine. We have a specialist Art teacher who works with children. Art is displayed throughout the school to celebrate success and inspire learners.

Physical Education

There is a strong emphasis on PE throughout the school and we provide many opportunities for children to try new sports and enter inter school competitions including Boccia, Curling and Tag Rugby. We have an active Football team and have a range of after school activities including yoga, football and dance. Exercise takes a high profile role throughout the school and all children appreciate the need to exercise as part of a Healthy Life Style.

During their time at Painters Ash Children will have swimming lessons at Cygnets Swimming Pool.

Homework

At the start of each seasonal term, a letter is sent home explaining the topic and work to be covered during the term. All children will bring home their reading books, which are to be shared with an adult. They will also bring home a weekly English and Maths homework activity, which will increase in difficulty throughout their school life. This activity enhances

work done in class. There may be other homework tasks sent home which link to the current class topic.

Feedback and Assessment

Teachers assess children's knowledge on a day to day basis through questioning and marking. We believe that prompt high quality feedback is central to your child's learning development. Your child's work will be marked using the School's Marking Policy. Green marking is used to celebrate success and pink marking is used to identify the next steps in your child's learning journey.

Admission to School

We follow the LA admission policy to school available from the office on request.

Our Planned Admission Number (PAN) is 60 per year group. This means we can accept up to 60 per year group, after which children who wish to attend Painters Ash are placed on a waiting list.

Transfer to Secondary School

At the end of Year 6, all children transfer to secondary schools. Locally there are several Secondary Schools to which children transfer. Parents may opt for their child to take the Kent Test for a place at the Grammar Schools. Parents are fully advised of the complexities of the transfer system.

Special Educational Needs and Disabilities (SEND)

At Painters Ash, it is felt that early identification, assessment and provision for any child who may have Special Educational Needs and Disabilities is very important.

The relationship between parents of children with SEND and the school is very important. At all times parents are seen as partners and are encouraged to recognise that the most effective provision for their child will be made when they work in partnership with the school and with any outside agencies.

High achieving children in any area are also supported, as are children who have English as an Additional Language. Appropriate support is in place for all children whatever their need.



Why not come and visit us, be shown round by our Year 6 ambassadors and see the wide range of opportunities available for your child!

PLEASE NOTE THAT DUE TO COVID-19 RESTRICTIONS SOME NORMAL PRACTICES HAVE HAD TO BE ADAPTED. VISITORS TO THE SCHOOL ARE NOW RESTRICTED AND MEETINGS WITH PARENTS AND INFORMATION SHARED IS CURRENTLY VIA GOOGLE CLASSROOM OR DOJOS. TO PREVENT YEAR GROUP BUBBLES MIXING WE HAVE ALSO HAD TO ALTER START AND FINISH TIMES. WE ARE HOPING THAT THE SCHOOL WILL REVERT TO NORMAL PRACTICES SOON.