



**Hatchford Brook Junior & Infant School
Old Lode Lane, Solihull, B92 8LW**

Welcome

Dear Parent/Carer

It gives me great pleasure to welcome you to our school, especially if you are joining us for the first time. Ours is a happy and popular school where all strive for success and children are proud to be members of the school community. We have a strong team of teaching and support staff who are committed to the education and welfare of our pupils.

Ours is a caring community where every child and family matters, and we listen to the views of our stakeholders with a high priority placed on our links with parents and carers. We have a committed governing body that works hard to ensure that the children receive the best educational start available.

We hope that you find this prospectus informative and that it gives you a broad outline of the school. There is, however, no substitute for a visit to the school, where a warm welcome awaits you. If you would like to visit us, please contact the main school office.

We look forward to hearing from you.

P B Read-Law
Head Teacher

The information contained in this document is correct at the time of publication and is reviewed on a four year cycle, appendices updated annually.

About Us

About Hatchford Brook School

Hatchford Brook Junior and Infant school is situated in the Elmdon district of Solihull. It is a popular school situated on an attractive site that includes a playing field, grassed areas and an environmental area.

The school was originally constructed in the 1940s but has been modernised and is regularly updated and improved to offer the best learning environment for our pupils.

The school hosts an Additionally Resourced Centre for pupils with Speech and Language difficulties. It provides full time education and regular speech therapy for a maximum of 16 pupils aged 3-11 years who come from across the Borough. A separate booklet is available to parents/carers seeking a place for their child.

The school will soon have a new purpose built ARC, Key Stage 1 Block, a community room and ICT resource centre, and all KS2 classrooms will be refurbished.

Admission to the school is via the Local Authority. (Appendix 1).

Striving For Excellence at Hatchford Brook School

Every child is different and it is our aim to enable each child to reach their full potential within a happy, stimulating and secure environment through a culture and ethos which promotes:-

- Tolerance and understanding
- Attitudes which reflect and support equal opportunities for all
- Responsibility, self-discipline, self-esteem
- Courtesy, consideration and care for others
- Celebrations of effort, achievement and excellence
- A love of learning through a broad and balanced curriculum
- A strong partnership with parents, the local and wider community

We strongly believe in a Learning Community and Life Long Learning hence the school's

Mission Statement:-

Striving for excellence by providing the opportunities for every child and all staff to realise their full potential and to achieve their chosen goals.

To us **every child matters**, and we fully support the Every Child Matters agenda (DfES 2004).

SATs/Ofsted

The most recent SATs results for the school can be found on the DCFS website <http://www.dcsf.gov.uk> (Appendix 6).

The most recent Ofsted report can be found at <http://www.ofsted.gov.uk>

In KS2 Single Level Tests in English and Maths are taken in December and June each year. Parents receive results via the school and children receive certificates for each level test achieved. From 2009/2010 Year 6 SATs Maths will be replaced by Single Level Tests in June 2010.

School Organisation

Children enter the Infant Department in the September that they reach three and progress through the school until they are eleven years of age. They then transfer to a place at a Secondary School (Appendix 2).

A comprehensive welcome pack is in place for all children entering the school.

Foundation Stage Age 3 – 4 and Foundation Stage Age 4 - 5

In the Foundation Stage classes we aim to provide a happy, secure and stimulating environment in which your child can grow and develop. A balanced curriculum developed with expertise from local advisors as well as our team of dedicated staff, covers the six areas of learning:

- Personal, social and emotional development
- Communication, language and literacy
- Problem Solving, reasoning and numeracy
- Knowledge and understanding of the world
- Physical development
- Creative development

Key Stage 1 Age 5 - 7

Key Stage 1 is made up of Year 1 and year 2. Here the children build on the foundations laid in the Foundation Stage and develop basic skills of number and language.

The other National Curriculum subjects and RE are taught through a thematic approach.

Key Stage 2 Age 7 - 11

Staff in Key Stage 2 liaise closely with the infant staff and the staff at Valley Infant School to ensure that transition is smooth. In Key Stage 2 children are encouraged to develop in an ethos conducive

to learning, independence and self esteem. We also have close links with Lyndon Humanities College.

Teaching Time and the School Day

Children in the Infants and Key Stage 2 are expected to be in good time for the morning bell at 8.55am. The school doors are opened at 8.45am at which time members of staff are on duty. Children are not allowed to leave the school premises until 3.25pm (3.20pm Infants) except when special permission has been given by the Head Teacher at the request of the parents.

Children in Foundation Class 1 arrive at 8.45am and finish at 11.45am.

Infants:

8.55am	-	12.15pm
1.15pm	-	3.20pm

Juniors:

8.55am	-	12.25pm
1.25pm	-	3.25pm

Holidays and INSET days can be found in the appendices. (Appendix 4).

The Curriculum

At Hatchford Brook the schemes of work are carefully planned to meet the needs of the National Curriculum and the demands of the revised frameworks for Literacy and Numeracy. We aim to equip our pupils with the basic tools of learning, giving Literacy and Numeracy high priority. We offer a full and broad education which not only develops the academic side of learning, but also the creative, physical and aesthetic aspects.

Great importance is placed on first hand experiences and practical tasks. Pupils are encouraged to become self-confident, self disciplined and courteous; to set their own high standards and learn to appreciate when they have attained them.

Experience of a modern foreign language is offered in Key Stage 2.

Teachers use a range of groupings to ensure that all children make the best possible progress. Groupings are regularly reviewed and children allocated according to the principle of 'Best Fit'.

English

The English curriculum is an integral part of the Foundation Key Stage curriculum and permeates all aspects of learning. In Key Stage 1 and Key Stage 2 the English Curriculum is delivered within the Literacy lesson in extended time and across the curriculum. The main aim of the English Curriculum is for children to be able to read and write with confidence, accuracy, fluency and understanding. They will develop a fluent and legible style of handwriting and understand the sound and spelling system sufficiently to read and spell accurately. The children will be taught to communicate clearly and confidently, using a variety of ways of speech and writing.

Numeracy

At Hatchford Brook School children are taught about mathematics in many ways. They explore numbers, space, shape and measures, and the different ways of handling data. Above all, children are taught how to use and apply mathematics. They decide how to

tackle problems. They record what they do using mathematical language, symbols and explain their reasoning.

Science

At Hatchford Brook the study of science allows pupils to explore, discover and investigate the world around them. Our Science policy ensures continuity and progression. Investigation is the key element to scientific understanding and pupils are able to initiate ideas, plan a fair test predict and record results in KS2 they can offer a reasoned evaluation in support of their findings.

Information and Communication Technology

In ICT the children learn to find, explore, analyse, exchange and present information through a variety of exciting media. Emphasis is placed on developing the skills necessary to make the best use of the technology. At the same time we encourage the children to be confident, creative and independent learners.

Children have access to a networked and internet accessible ICT suite which is equipped with up to date hardware and software. Additional computers, projectors and interactive whiteboards are provided across the school.

Religious Education (RE)

Religious Education is the subject, above all, where children not only learn but are given time to think more deeply and to reflect on what they have learned.

We follow at all three stages, the Solihull Syllabus. This helps pupils to understand the way that religious beliefs share life and conduct. Throughout there is a strong emphasis on moral education that runs throughout the curriculum. Stories of people past and present are used to exemplify qualities universally held.

Any child may be exempted from RE on special religious grounds at the written request of their parents.

History & Geography

These subjects are taught through a topic based approach. In Geography the children are encouraged to become Global Citizens by studying the area in which they live and then enlarging this to develop their understanding of the U.K., E.U. and the wider world.

Through history topics children study a period of recent history, ancient history and some aspects of British and world history. The children are encouraged to develop a sense of time and an understanding of the past and how this has influenced the present day.

Music

The music curriculum has a central role at Hatchford Brook. We believe that a vibrant musical environment has a tremendous impact on our pupils' cultural, social and spiritual development. Musical performances in assemblies, ensembles, our school choir, LEA curriculum support and whole school productions all ensure that music has a high profile within the life of the school.

Design and Technology

Design and Technology is “thinking and doing” – design being the process, and technology the means of getting there. One of our aims is to provide the children with the experience of a wide range of materials, tools and techniques, and for them to incorporate them in Design and Technology activities. In doing this the children use a variety of skills.

Art and Design

Throughout the school our aims in Art and Design are to develop the children's creativity and imagination, to increase their awareness of colour, shape, pattern and texture, and to use these to represent and communicate their ideas and feelings. Children are encouraged

to express their ideas using a variety of media including graphics, painting, printing, collage and sculpture.

Physical Education (PE)

Children are encouraged to develop the fundamental skills and techniques across a wide range of sporting areas. We aim to provide a love of, and an enjoyment and interest in sport and PE.

We want the pupils of Hatchford Brook to not only have active minds, but also active bodies!

Swimming

Children in Year 3 attend swimming lessons. The aim being for them to be able to swim 25 metres. This activity is a vital life long skill and could be life saving. It is statutory.

Health & Sex Education including Personal & Social Development

Personal and Social Development within the school incorporates both the ethos and the values of the school together with the taught curriculum.

Sex education and drug awareness form part of the curriculum during a child's time at school. After consultation with Parents, Governors, Teachers and Health Professional, an approved Drug Awareness and Substance Use and Misuse Policy, a Sex Education Policy and Programme, and a Healthy Eating policy were produced, and a Healthy Eating policy were produced for use across the school.

All parents have the option to withdraw their child from the sex education programme. All children have to take part in the Science National Curriculum programme of study, which deals with the biological aspects of reproduction.

Multicultural Education

The richness of our multicultural society is explored through our cross curricular approach. Through an understanding and respect of religions, customs and festivals we prepare our children to play their part in a multicultural society

Environmental Education

Children learn about the world in which we live and the fragility of the environment through our cross curricular approach and many Eco awareness activities.

Special Needs

At Hatchford Brook all children are special and all teachers are teachers of special needs. Through a system of continual assessment, teachers are able to make an early identification of pupils who display particular learning requirements and provide an increasing level of support to overcome barriers to learning. Support nearly always happens within the classroom and may include further testing, greater differentiation of tasks and materials, specialist equipment and alternative approaches for learning, to enable access to the curriculum. Small group work, to provide focussed intensive support aimed at the individual needs of a child, may also be offered. Pupils and parents are kept fully informed. If required, external agencies can provide further assistance, assessment and guidance.

In exceptional circumstances support from the authority can be sought through a Statement of Educational Needs.

Gifted and Talented Pupils

All children have different talents and we encourage pupils to share their achievements and talents with us whatever they might be. In school lessons are differentiated to ensure that children can be challenged in their learning. This may be through different levels of questioning, different tasks or resources. At times children with

particular talents may be invited to partake in additional opportunities or Master Classes.

Assessment

All children are continuously assessed by their class teachers. Any child whose progress is causing concern is identified and investigated and plans put in place to support them. National Testing (SATs) takes place for Years 2 and 6 (see Appendix 6). Maths SATs have been replaced in Year 6 by Single level Tests; there are also opportunities in December and June each year for Years 3, 4 and 5 pupils to take Single Level Tests

Each child's progress is very much an individual matter. Children do not compete with one another but through target setting and on-going assessment, each child's progress is carefully monitored. This allows us to ensure that wherever possible every individual's needs are met.

Pastoral Care

Every class teacher has responsibility for the welfare of the pupils in their class. We believe that this is an essential role to ensure that pupils' emotional, social and academic needs are accommodated. We do ask that parents keep us informed of any changes which may affect a child, so that we can deal with pupils sympathetically, acknowledging their individual needs.

Child Protection

The school has responsibility to protect and safeguard the welfare of the children entrusted in to our care. All staff have a statutory responsibility to respond to concerns about a child's well being and we have a duty to work with other agencies including Education Welfare and Children's Services. Our Child Protection Policy ensures that all staff in our school are clear about child protection issues and safeguarding. A Designated member of Staff (see Appendix 3) is responsible for Child Protection issues.

Discipline

A code of behaviour and structured reward system has been evolved which makes a major contribution to the maintenance of a happy and secure atmosphere. This establishes a sense of community, awareness, self control and self confidence. Priority is given to consideration for others at all times. Bullying in any form is not tolerated at Hatchford Book. There is an agreed system of support within school for children who bully or who are bullied.

Uniform

All pupils are expected to wear school uniform. This is readily available from a range of outlets and is a symbol of our pride. (Appendix 7)

The Extended School

School Clubs and Voluntary Activities

These take place outside school hours or during the lunch break. Staff freely give their own time in order to allow a range of clubs to take place as well as a number of external agencies providing activities. These vary from term to term, depending on the availability of staff and seasonal changes. Typical activities may include football, athletics, cricket, netball, rounders, gardening, art and choir. Full details are sent out each term.

School Trips and Residential Courses

We try to include many educational visits as part of the curriculum in bringing children's work to life. These are varied in order to appeal to as many children as possible.

To enable these trips and other visits e.g. visiting artists, drama groups, we depend on contributions by parents. In cases of hardship parents should speak to the Head Teacher in order to discuss any possible arrangements that can be made regarding payments. (Appendix 5)

Before/After School Care

The school works closely with an external company called Playtime Pals to provide before and after school as well as wrap around and holiday care. Playtime Pals is run by a qualified teacher with eighteen years experience and was classed as good in its recent Ofsted inspection. Please contact the school or Playtime Pals on 07908 122899 or at playtimepals@hotmail.co.uk for further details about the care provided.

Parents and the School

At Hatchford Brook we recognise the important role of parents/ carers in their children's education and believe that when parents and the school have shared values and work together, the children's

educational experiences are enhanced. A number of events and activities take place during the school year, such as workshops in which particular areas of the curriculum are explained; assemblies and school presentations being amongst some of the events. We also actively encourage parental involvement in school. Parents help with a variety of activities and enhance the educational experience on offer. All parent helpers are required to be CRB (Criminal Records Bureau) checked.

There is a strong and active Friends of Hatchford Brook Association to which all parents automatically belong. They organise a number of social and fund raising events during the year that help to support the school and the resources available.

Homework

As part of the home/school partnership we encourage children to read daily at home and complete weekly homework tasks. This supports learning that has gone on in school, and in later years helps to prepare children for secondary education. There is a school policy regarding this. Class teachers use their own professional judgement in the way homework is set but should you have concerns then please do not hesitate to speak to your child's teacher or contact the Head Teacher.

Parents Evenings

Parents are invited during the year to meet their child's class teacher to discuss progress and targets. Summative reports are also provided. At the end of the school year a formal report is sent home as a record of each child's effort, application and achievement.

Access to Children's Records

Parents are granted access to their children's records under the Education Reform Act unless the disclosure of this information is deemed likely to be detrimental to the child concerned.

Safety

Your child's safety is of paramount concern to us in school. In order to keep the site secure the doors are locked at 8.55am so that the only access for visitors is via the main reception area.

Insurance

Public liability insurance is taken out by Solihull LEA and the Board of Governors, but negligence has to be established before a claim for injury is met.

A sports injury insurance scheme exists to cover serious injury incurred by pupils taking part in organised games or PE lessons. When pupils are taken on trips outside school, personal accident cover is effected.

Car Parking

Because of very limited parking in the school car park, parents (unless authorised) are not allowed to use the car park or turn around in it between the hours of 8.15am – 4.30pm even if helping in school, delivering or collecting.

Please note: The information in this prospectus was accurate at the time of printing, however, changes may occur during the year.

Hatchford Brook Junior, Infant & Nursery School
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