PROSPECTUS

'Together we can make a difference'

Welcome

From the Headteacher

Dear Parents and Carers,
Welcome to Littletown Primary Academy and Nursery.

I hope that you will find this prospectus helpful as an introduction to our school and that it will show you that we offer an exciting range of learning opportunities to enable your child to enjoy learning and to achieve.

We encourage a strong partnership between home and school and believe that trust and cooperation between us will help create a safe and happy learning environment for your child. As a school, we pride ourselves on our caring and supportive ethos where every child really does matter.

I would be pleased to meet you and your child personally, if you are able to visit us.

Helen Whitehead, Principal
Littletown Primary Academy and Nursery

From Littletown School Council

Hello. Welcome to Littletown Academy – our school!

We think our school is a great place to be. We have a friendly, safe school with lots of things to do, such as a trim trail, a climbing wall and after school activities including sports.

We have a wicked wildlife area, which includes a pond, and have great school trips to lots of places, including old houses where we can dress up. We also go to Dartmoor for a few days and do outdoor activities with our friends. We have a cool computer suite and we are well known for our music skills.

We are given lots of opportunities to be more responsible. We can be on the school council where we can sort out problems and have our say. We can also be on office duty and act as Guardian Angels, Peer Mediators and Playtime Buddies.

Our teachers smile a lot, and with their helpers they make learning fun, and we enjoy our lessons.

From the children of the School Council.

From the School Governors

We would like to echo Mrs Whitehead's welcome to you. Littletown Academy is a local community school that we are very proud of. School governors are parents and people from the school and local community who want to help the school staff to provide the best possible education for children. We also try to ensure that our work for the school meets with the wishes and needs of you: the school's children, parents and carers.

Littletown Board of Governors

From the Parent Teacher and Friends Association

Welcome from the Littletown Academy PTFA. All school parents and carers are automatically members of the PTFA. We meet regularly to plan activities and events for the school that are both fun and fund-raising. Examples are the summer fete and school discos. If you can get actively involved it is a great way to be part of the school community. You'll meet others who have a similar interest in supporting the school and also in having fun.

Our School Philosophy

Aims and Values

At Littletown Primary Academy, we value...

- And nurture the diversity of abilities, beliefs and cultures
- And nurture the individuality of children, staff and governors, their unique skills And qualities and their contribution to the life of our school.
- And encourage an active partnership with parents, carers, local and wider communities.
- Self-evaluation and collaboration, leading to the improvement, development and achievement of our individuals, groups and school.
- And encourage through high expectations, the development of personal aspirations and life-long learning for all.
- And nurture the safety and emotional and physical well-being of the Littletown community.

At Littletown Primary Academy, we aim to:

- Be an outstanding school in every respect
- Be the school of choice for our local community
- Remove all barriers to aspiration and achievement
- Offer a wide range of opportunities for all
- Develop pride and respect towards self, others and the environment
- Develop independent and creative thinkers who enjoy learning
- Develop resilience and perseverance
- Create an ethos that is safe, caring, happy, supportive and welcoming
- Have a strong partnership with parents, carers and communities

A Sustainable School

With the assistance of the children's Green Team, the staff and Governors are encouraging energy and water saving, reduction of waste and walking or cycling to school. Children are able to join one of our two 'walking buses' to get to school.

We have a popular outdoor wildlife area that is used to enhance children's learning throughout the school. Our children's Gardening Club also grows a selection of vegetables for sale to raise money for the school.

A Healthy School

Children enjoy a range of active pursuits. These include 'Huff and Puff' at break times and 'Take 10' exercises. Swimming is part of the curriculum and Year 5 children can do cycling training. We also have a Trim Trail and traversing wall.

We have received a number of awards for promoting healthy lifestyles at our school which show how we can help your child to enjoy a really healthy school life.

We have adopted the Local Authority's policy on nutritional standards for school dinners. From Nursery to Year Two your child will have free fruit and vegetables at playtimes and free milk until the age of five.

About our school

School organisation

School is organised as follows, in pairs of individual year group classes:

- Foundation Stage – Nursery and Reception.
- Key Stage 1 – Years 1 and 2.
- Key Stage 2 – Years 3, 4, 5 and 6.

Standard Attainment Tests (SATS) are taken at the end of Years 2 and 6.

Within the classroom, we take account of the different abilities of children by giving additional support, planning appropriate work for different groups, or showing that we have different expectations for the outcomes of tasks. We have a range of intervention programmes to accelerate progress where required.

We make every effort to ensure that your child is happy and secure in his/her learning and also stretched to fulfil his/her maximum potential.

Teaching assistants will help to reinforce your child's learning. They are well qualified and trained in the teaching programmes used. They work under the direction of the class teacher.

Teaching and Learning

Many children will start in our nursery, learning from the Foundation Stage curriculum and this continues in Reception. The Early Years Curriculum is based around four themes:

1. A Unique Child
2. Positive relationships
3. Enabling Environments
4. Learning and development

The Curriculum is divided into two areas:

Prime Areas:
1. Personal, Social and Emotional Develoment
2. Communication and Language
3. Physical development

Specific Areas:
1. Literacy
2. Mathematics
3. Understanding the World
4. Expressive arts and Design

If your child enters our Reception class from another nursery, we take special care to ensure that they have an easy transition to the curriculum.

Teachers use a wide range of approaches in teaching children, for example learning through play and child-initiated activities. Physical literacy learning helps both with your child's fitness and physical development. Phonics techniques are used to help with your child's reading and writing.

In Key Stages 1 and 2, your child will learn from the National Curriculum:

- The Core subjects of English, Mathematics and Science
- The Foundation subjects of Information and Communications Technology, History, Geography, Music, Art and Design, Design and Technology and Physical Education

We teach Devon's approach to Religious Education. You may withdraw your child from this if you wish, by writing to the Principal.

Your child will also learn Personal, Social and Health Education and Citizenship in both Key Stages. Swimming is taught in Key Stage 2.

Children learn about Sex and Relationships throughout the school from Reception to Year 6. You may inspect any of the teaching materials used and, if you wish, withdraw your child from these lessons by writing to the Principal.
Primary French is taught from Year 3.

Our teaching aims to integrate the things your child will learn in literacy and numeracy with other subjects throughout the day.

School Facilities

The school is built all on the same level around a central hall. It has a kitchen for the serving of school lunches; these are prepared at Honiton Community College.
The Littletown nursery is a separate building on the school site, with its own play area.

Your child will have access to computers, laptops and interactive whiteboards in classrooms and in the special IT Suite. Children are encouraged to use the computers and the internet to help with all areas of their learning from nursery onwards.

We have a large playing field for use during the summer. There are separate playgrounds for older and younger children. Each playground has a decked area with seating for quiet times during the breaks.

There are exercise facilities in the grounds including basketball nets, a climbing wall and a trim trail. There is a wildlife area which has a large pond and a wilderness area. Organised team games at lunchtimes ensure children are occupied and active.

Collective Worship

Every day we hold assemblies for collective worship. These are either in the Year group, the Key Stage or occasionally the whole school. We work on weekly themes for all assemblies, which aim to encourage children to reflect on their life and the world and to experience a sense of awe and wonder. The main religions of the world are referred to in our assemblies, although the main ethos is Christian. Parents are invited to assemblies on a regular basis. You may withdraw your child from collective worship by writing to the Principal.

Visits and Trips

Your child will experience many visits to places of interest. Recent school visits have been to Bicton, Exeter and Tiverton Museums, World of Country Life, Paignton Zoo, Weymouth Sea Life Centre, Dartington Crystal, @Bristol, Exmouth, Offwell Woods, St Paul's Church, Living Coasts at Torquay, Charmouth Heritage Coast Centre, the Fleet Air Arm Museum and the Houses of Parliament.

In Year 4 we have a 3-day residential visit to Dartmoor where they experience a range of outdoor and environmental activities and in Year 6 a three day camp in south Devon offers children further exciting experiences, led by qualified outdoor instructors.

Music

Your child will be introduced to music through taking part in singing and percussion-playing. All children in key stage 2 can join in the Choir, recorder group and the Samba Band. There are also opportunities for your child to learn to play various instruments such as the ukulele, the recorder or the ocarina. Further instrumental tuition (chargeable) may be arranged through the school for a wide range of instruments. The children are encouraged to perform for school assemblies and take part in concerts.

Questions you may wish to ask

How will my child know that he/she has done well?

Your child's efforts will always be acknowledged. We believe in reinforcing children's natural curiosity and willingness to learn and help. There are merit stickers in class, certificates presented in assembly, a 'Special Book' that commends children for especially good work or behaviour and a display board to show special items of children's work. We celebrate rewards during Friday assemblies and also recognise the achievements of children out of school time.

How will my child be supported if he/she has special needs?

We recognise that not all children learn at the same rate; some children may require more support with learning than others. We employ a Special Needs Coordinator to ensure the right support is given to those with individual needs. This includes physical disabilities because we are a fully inclusive school.
Gifted, talented or more able children are also offered additional opportunities and experiences, where possible.

Is there childcare available?

Yes. There is a range of childcare options that parents can choose to use.

The school offers childcare within the school setting from 8am to 6pm.

The school also has a list of local registered child minders for those parents who wish their child to be cared for in a home setting rather than a school setting.

What happens if bullying occurs?

We believe every child should be able to learn in school free from bullying of any kind and that they should feel safe and supported. We do not tolerate bullying and it is always actively tackled.

We take a positive approach to promoting good behaviour and respect for others and have several strategies in place that should make school a safe and happy place for your child. Our playtime schemes include Peer Mediators and Guardian Angels.

Mediators spend their playtimes encouraging children to play together and resolve minor disputes. Guardian Angels give support and look out for pupils whose behaviour can be unacceptable to others or who just find playtimes difficult.

We have a lunch club that is available for children who need some special time at lunchtime, either on a regular basis or as the result of a short term difficulty.

We have an anti-bullying policy to help school, child and parent work together to stop bullying. A copy of this is available from the school office and is on the school website.

What after school activities are there?

Our children participate in a range of activities at school such as football, Spanish, netball, computer clubs, recorders and choir.

How can I be involved in school?

At the beginning of each school year parents are invited to meet the class teachers individually and hear about their child's learning in the year ahead. In the autumn term you are invited to come and see your child's work. In the spring term you can come to school to discuss your child's progress with members of staff at parents meetings. Written/ online reports are sent to all parents during the summer term. The report covers how well your child has done, how hard they have tried and sets expectations for the following year.

You can also support the school by coming to hear children read, by going on educational visits, as a school Governor, or through the PTFA. Parents are encouraged to come into school and share their interests and skills with us. All help is warmly welcomed.

What next?

We would really like to meet you and show you and your child around. Please call the school on 01404 548749 to arrange a visit.

Nursery

Many children start at Littletown Academy in the nursery from the September after they reach the age of 3. This is a very popular nursery and admissions are based on distance from home to school and whether there are brothers and sisters in the school. Please ask for the Littletown Nursery prospectus to find out more about it.

Main School

We welcome children from our own and other nurseries into the school's two Reception classes. If you cannot get a place in our school nursery, you can still apply for a place in Reception through the Devon County Council admissions process. In this case we make arrangements for your child to get to know the school in the term before they start in Reception.

Children start in the school Reception class in the September after their fourth birthday. This is in accordance with Local Authority policy. If you wish your child to start on a part time basis or to defer your child's start date, please discuss these options with the Principal.

Applying for a place

Please get your application in for the nursery as soon as possible. Our school office can help you with your nursery applications. The admissions panel for the nursery meets early in the term before children begin at the nursery.
The earliest you can apply for a school place is 1st November for a place in school the following academic year. Applications close in the middle of January and any late applications may not get into their chosen school.

The easiest way to make your application for school is online at
http://www.devon.gov.uk/index/learning/schools/admissions.htm

For more detailed information about the school and latest test results please ask for the Prospectus – Annual Information

This includes items such as:
Data on children's achievement
Latest school newsletter
Latest term dates
Last Ofsted summary report
Staff and Governor list
School uniform
Disability Equality Duty

How to contact us

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