



**Buxton Junior School**

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**Welcome from the Chair of Governors**

On behalf of the governors, staff and pupils, I would like to thank you for your interest in the post of Headteacher of Buxton Junior School.

The school is popular and well established in the local community with growing numbers on roll, where positive home-school relationships and parental expectations are high for some children. We are ambitious for all aspects of our children's education and the school's ethos reflects our commitment to providing an inclusive and caring education. We are dedicated to providing high quality teaching and learning which allows all our children to reach their full potential. It is essential that the children remain central and we are looking for a Headteacher who has an open, positive mind-set and believes there is a pathway for each child, and is committed to achieving the best for every child spiritually, morally, socially, culturally and academically.

Our school is situated in a wonderful location; we have large playing fields and Forest School provision and we take advantage of every opportunity for outdoor learning. We continue to seek opportunities to invest in the premises and outdoor spaces for the benefit of our pupils and community, and this will be an area of focus for our new Headteacher.

As well as following the National Curriculum we also deliver high quality art, music and sport provision. We have received Artsmark Silver for our strong partnership working with cultural institutions, have an active choir and three of our year groups have access to Wider Opportunities instrument tuition. We have achieved Gold Sports Award for two consecutive years in recognition of ongoing excellence in sporting provision. We are looking for someone who can recognise our achievements and create a remarkable curriculum that allows all our children to excel.

Our new Headteacher will have the vision, enthusiasm and resilience to lead our school forward and will have opportunities to guide and to influence our future ambitions and develop further an outward facing school.

We hope that the information that follows gives you a flavour of our school, but we would encourage you to come and visit so you can meet the pupils and staff for yourself. We will be happy to welcome you to Buxton Junior School on the mornings of the 6th or 9th February. Please contact the school office on 01298 22156 or email info@buxton-jun.sch.derbyshire.uk and myself and our current headteacher will be delighted to show you around.

If you believe that you have the drive and vision to take us forward on the next stage of our journey we would very much like to meet you and would be delighted to receive your application.

**Emma Carroll**

Chair of Governors



Artsmark  
Silver Award  
Awarded by Arts  
Council England





### School key facts

Last OFSTED: November 2017 rating GOOD

Type of school: Junior

School category: Community

Age range of pupils: 7 to 11 (Y3-Y6)

Gender of pupils: Mixed

Number of pupils on the school roll: 223

Number of staff: 34

School website: [www.buxtonjuniorschool.co.uk](http://www.buxtonjuniorschool.co.uk)

School address: Mosley Road, Buxton SK17 9DR

School tel: 01298 22156



### School vision

- To be an inclusive school where all pupils feel safe, valued and able to fulfil their potential.
- For all pupils to develop as excellent learners and have excellent social and emotional skills.
- To provide an engaging, broad and balanced curriculum at the same time as ensuring high standards in the core subject areas of Reading, Writing and Mathematics.
- To be forward looking and constantly review, improve and enrich our curriculum to ensure learning is relevant and exciting for all pupils.

### Our educational approach

We have high expectations of all our pupils and expect everyone to do their best. Our TOP CLASS initiative rewards the attributes of being a good learner. We encourage our pupils to be resilient learners and take responsibility for their own learning. We personalise provision as much as possible and believe our role is to find a pathway through for all learners. We have adopted aspects of the 'learning without limits' philosophy which challenges the notion of fixed ability and encourages all pupils to work hard and aim high without limits set on what they can achieve. Our teaching focuses on the key skills of reading, writing and mathematics and we provide a broad range of opportunities across the curriculum to apply, develop and consolidate these important life skills.

### Our pupils

Buxton Junior School serves a diverse catchment area with a range of pupils from different socio-economic backgrounds. In 2017 over a quarter of pupils were classed as disadvantaged. Whilst Buxton is blessed with beautiful surroundings, access to a broad range of opportunities is limited for many children at the school. Our staff work hard to raise aspirations and we are ambitious for all pupils to fulfil their potential. As a school we involve ourselves with a wide range of enrichment and cultural opportunities in order to prepare children for life in modern Britain.

The majority of our pupils transfer from Buxton Infant School and a higher than average number of pupils arrive with Special Educational Needs or Disabilities. Our Teaching Assistants work with individuals and small groups of pupils to help them develop. Pupils enjoy coming to school and attendance is above the national average.

Pupils are enthusiastic and active citizens in the school – running clubs and assemblies and engaging in Circle Time in vertical groupings to discuss school improvement. The school works to promote British values and raise awareness of diversity to give children a wider range of experiences than are available in the local area.

We work closely with the Open Centre in Derby and have recently joined the Stockport Area School Linking Project.





We asked pupils to describe the school to a new Headteacher, this is a word cloud of their responses



Our teachers have a range of experience, from three recently qualified teachers to those with many years' experience. Most are full time, but there are job shares in two classes. We have two Specialist Leaders in Education (one in science and one for assessment) as part of the Synergy Teaching School Alliance. One of our maths coordinators has been involved in a research and development project as part of the Alliance. Two of our staff have completed the NPQSL and one has achieved the SENCO qualification. We have two sports coaches who take PE lessons while teachers have their PPA or management release time.



## Our culture

Safeguarding remains at the core of all we do at Buxton Junior School and our safeguarding arrangements are highly effective. Our pupils' happiness is a key priority. The school is concerned with the whole child, and seeks to provide holistic care and support through provision of Family Resource Workers and a school counsellor. We are currently fundraising an outdoor learning hub which will provide further potential as a holistic space.

The well-being of staff and pupils is an important ethos of the school and extends to the staff room, with annual massage sessions being provided for staff.

The mindfulness programme that is currently being piloted within year 5 and 6, will hopefully be rolled out to the whole school after it has been evaluated and further training undertaken.

## Our parents

We foster good relationships with parents and carers, and most are very supportive of the school. Our Family Resource Workers are a valuable asset in promoting relationships with families. Parents are encouraged to come into school and engage with their children's learning through various activities including reading together, mouthwatering maths and French breakfast. Feedback from parents is sought at all parents' evenings on a 'comments tree' and via topic specific coffee mornings. Some of the comments made at the most recent parents' evenings are shown right;

*'Children have lots of opportunities to reach their academic potential but also follow interests in sport, music, leadership and lots of other things'* **PARENT 2017**

*'Excellent teaching staff who work extremely hard to encourage my girl's confidence and academic attainment.'* **PARENT 2017**

*'I feel staff really care about the children and go beyond making the children feel happy and content at school.'* **PARENT 2017**

The school also has a growing PTFA who arrange a number of events during the year including this year's very successful Christmas Bazaar which included games run by each class in school.

## Our future

Our Governors and staff are highly ambitious for our school and determinedly address areas for improvement. We work with all stakeholders to ensure a shared approach to the school vision. Governors recently ran a Three Year Planning session attended by all staff which discussed amongst other things:

- Encouraging children to perceive themselves as curious learners and take more control of their learning
- Ambitious plans for expansion of outdoor learning and greater community links focused on better using the school.
- Continued team enrichment and professional development of staff
- Exploration of new opportunities to open up communication with parents
- The need to be outward looking and prepared to make the most of collaborating with others



## Additional Information

Please visit our website for more information and link to recent Ofsted Report and School Policies at [www.buxtonjuniorschool.co.uk](http://www.buxtonjuniorschool.co.uk)