



**THAXTED PRIMARY SCHOOL**



### VALUES AND VISION

*Together, Learning for Life  
because...  
The dreams of today are the  
future of tomorrow.*

# WELCOME TO THAXTED PRIMARY SCHOOL!

I, and all the staff, governors and children here at Thaxted Primary School are extremely proud of our school and everyone in it. We achieve such an inclusive, happy and safe learning environment by all working together towards the same high expectations and within common guidelines. Over the following pages, you will find some of these expectations and other aspects of our provision outlined. If you would like any further information, please do not hesitate to contact us via the school office on 01371 830240 or [admin@thaxted.essex.sch.uk](mailto:admin@thaxted.essex.sch.uk).

### ***Our School Provides:***

- A stimulating, safe environment which inspires a love for learning
- High expectations that ensure achievement for all
- A philosophy underpinned by a growth mindset



At Thaxted Primary School, we nurture the 6Rs which are lifelong learning skills. Respect, Responsibility, Reasoning, Reflectiveness, Resourcefulness and Resilience. The children have designed characters to represent each one of these skills and they are rewarded in our weekly celebration assemblies. We have Bob the Bee says 'Bee Responsible', Roberta the Resilient, Respectful Ralph, Ron the Reasoner, Mr Mirror the Reflection Man and Ronnie the Resourceful Robot.

**MRS M HUGHES**  
*Headteacher*



*“ Thaxted is a very happy village school with amazing teachers. ”*





## WHOLE SCHOOL VISION

To be a school in which every child, regardless of background and ability, is an independent learner with an enquiring mind which enables them to achieve their full potential.

## PASTORAL CARE

The well-being of the children at Thaxted is of up most importance to us all. We teach the children the skills related to the 6Rs mentioned above. These are woven into our weekly assemblies and into daily life around the school. All adults in school show the children kindness and respect and we expect the same in return. Positive praise is used consistently throughout each and every day. We have a celebration assembly each week where the 6R skill of the week is discussed and one child from each class is celebrated for showing this skill. We also award children as 'Reading Champions' when they have shown great effort or improvement with their reading. We have recently started giving medals to reward learning times tables too-this has been a great hit.

Every class has a 'Positive Recognition Wall' where positive behaviour is recognised daily. Upon arrival at the school children are put into one of four houses: Guilders, Holst, Clarence, Webb. For kind, thoughtful behaviour or making an extra effort with their work children receive house points. At the end of each week the house points are collated and shared in our weekly celebration assembly.

We pride ourselves on our level of Pastoral Care at Thaxted Primary School. The children are taught that any adult is always available for them to talk to should they have a worry. We are also very lucky to have Miss Black. Miss Black is qualified in EFT (Effective Freedom Technique) and NLP (Neuro-Linguistic Programming) both of which are forms of mentoring. Most children pop to see Miss Black every now and again with a friendship concern or a small worry regarding something outside school. However if their worries are a little bigger Miss Black would contact you to arrange a meeting and put a programme of support together to support your child.



**MISS BLACK**



*“ My daughter has multiple severe allergies and the school has made our family feel very secure with how they have approached the whole process ...thank you! ”*



## STANDARDS AND DATA

KS2 SATs Results 2019	Thaxted 2018	Thaxted 2019	Greater Depth 2019	National 2019
Reading	93%	86.1%	30.6%	73%
Writing	83%	83.3%	11.1%	78%
Maths	90%	86.1%	27.8%	79%
GPS	87%	83.3%	50%	78%
RWM Combined	83%	77.8%		65%

## THAXTED PRIMARY SCHOOL-DATA SUMMARY-2019

### KS1 TEACHER ASSESSMENTS 2019

	Thaxted 2018	Thaxted 2019
Reading	72.5%	83%
Writing	72.5%	71.4%
Maths	67.5%	80%
Combined	62.5%	65.7%

### PHONICS RESULTS

Year	Number of children who have taken the test	%of children who passed the Phonics Screening in 2018	Number of children who have taken the test	%of children who passed the Phonics Screening in 2019
Year 1	32	81%	31	81%
Year 2	13	69% (9/13)	7	85.7% (6/7)

### EYFS GLD

%of children who achieved GLD at the end of Reception in 2018	71%	%of children who achieved GLD at the end of Reception in 2019	78.8%
% of children achieving beyond Age Related Expectations in 2018	29%	% of children achieving beyond Age Related in 2019	31.5% (on average across 9 areas of learning)

Your child's attainment and progress is of great importance to us. We always strive to deliver a high standard of teaching and learning throughout the school. The national data only covers English and Maths however at Thaxted we provide a broad and balanced curriculum which is rich and stimulating.



*“The leadership team are always willing and open to change and progress. We are really lucky to have such a caring group of people that work so tirelessly to support our children's well-being.”*





# ADMISSIONS

The Governing Body of Thaxted Primary School is the admission authority for the school.

The school currently has the physical capacity to provide for 266 pupils. The admission number to admit is 38 for each year group from Reception to Year 6.

We do not hold annual open days as we prefer to show around prospective parents in small groups. This allows parents to ask lots of questions and gives you a real chance to get to know me, as the headteacher, and the school. We welcome visits to the school at any time of year-please contact the school office to arrange an appointment.

Subject to the availability of places, we shall be pleased to admit any child whose parents wish them to be educated at this school. If a child has a disability it is always wise to inform the school before application, to ensure reasonable adjustments can be made.

Applications must be made in accordance with the co-ordinated scheme operated by the child's home local authority. For children resident in Essex, this is detailed in the Primary Education in Essex booklet. Applications for Foundation Stage children must be made by the National Closing Date, detailed in the Primary Education in Essex booklet, which is available from Essex County Council.

Late applications will be dealt with as detailed in this booklet for children resident in Essex. Children resident outside Essex should refer to the process for handling late applications published by their home local authority.

All mid-year applications will be processed by Essex County Council.

The Headteacher welcomes visits to the school, by appointment, by anyone interested in seeking a place for their child.

If you require any further information regarding admissions, please see the our admissions policy which can be found on the school website.



*“ Such a lovely school, incredibly friendly, children are so polite. Only state primary I know with a Pastoral Care Manager, which shows how much they put into children's well-being and happiness. ”*

# SCHOOL UNIFORM

We have a school uniform to simplify the task of getting children ready for school, and to present a smart and tidy image of ourselves. We therefore, ask that children choose from the following school uniform: -

## WINTER

- Grey school trousers, grey skirt, pinafore dress
- White collared shirt - short or long sleeves
- Red tie\*
- Red V-necked sweatshirt or red cardigan with Thaxted Primary School logo\*
- Sensible black shoes (no heels, boots or other inappropriate footwear)

## HAIR (Boys and girls)

If the children have long hair, it must be tied back neatly with a simple red or black band. A long fringe should be clipped back.

## SUMMER:

- Red gingham or striped dress - optional
- Grey shorts
- White collared short sleeved shirt
- Sensible black school shoes (no sandals)

## JEWELLERY

We suggest that children do not wear jewellery at school, with the exception of a watch, if they wish. If you are planning on getting your child's ears pierced we would like you to get them done at the start of the summer holidays, if possible, as all earrings MUST be removed for any form of PE.

## PE KIT:

Children should be equipped with a red t-shirt and black shorts for indoor PE activities. They also need to have trainers for any outside PE, as they provide better support for their feet and better grip on grass or the playground than plimsolls. Please also ensure that they have a red tracksuit top and black tracksuit bottoms for when the weather turns colder. (If you would like a hoodie and tracksuit with the Thaxted logo, these can be ordered from the Fosters website below)

Following Essex County Council safety recommendations, from September 2011, children will not be able to take part in PE sessions if they are wearing earrings. Please make sure that your child can remove and replace earrings for themselves, or they should not wear any at all on PE days.

## OUR SUPPLIERS OF UNIFORM ARE AS FOLLOWS:

**Ties and bookbags:** Can be bought from the school at reception at a cost of £3 for a tie and £4 for a book bag

**Embroidered uniform:** Can be bought online, either from Myclothing Uniform Embroidery Service or from Fosters Schoolwear.

**My clothing:** Please go to <https://myclothing.com/> and select Thaxted Primary School from the list, or alternatively use the link on the homepage of our website

**Fosters:**  
Please go to [www.fostersschoolwear.co.uk](http://www.fostersschoolwear.co.uk) and search for Thaxted Primary School.

Embroidered hoodies and tracksuit bottoms can be bought on the Fosters website

Please make sure that all clothing is clearly marked with your child's name. Labelled lost property is generally returned to the child, whereas unlabelled lost property is stored in plastic boxes in the school reception. These are put out in the playground at the end of school from time to time but you are welcome to look through the boxes in reception at any time.



“ My child is happy to come to school everyday-to me that's the most important thing. ”



# OUR SCHOOL DAY

*The school day starts at 8.45am with registration*

*Assembly is at 9am on Mondays and 2.45pm on Fridays. There is also a singing assembly for all children on a Wednesday morning.*

*Morning break is from 10.30am to 10.45am*

*Lunch is from 12 noon to 1.00pm for Years 2 to 6 and from 11.50 am for Years R and 1*

*In the afternoon, the Reception and Key Stage 1 children (years R to 2) have a 15-minute break at 2.30pm.*

*The school day finishes at 3.15pm*

Mrs Hughes or a member of SLT will open the gates and be on the playground from 8.30am. There will also be a second member of staff with a clipboard, who will be available to take messages that you would like to pass on to your child's class teacher.

Parents may wait with their child until the whistle is blown at 8.45am.



# ARRIVING BY BUS

Children who travel on a bus/taxi - Buses should arrive at 8.35 am and children are then escorted by the drivers into Reception where they sign in and wait to be collected by the duty staff member who takes them onto the playground.

# BREAKFAST CLUB

Breakfast Club-Our Breakfast Club runs from 7.45-8.45am each morning. Sessions cost £3.50 each and can be paid for online through Parent Mail. The children are offered a range of cereals, toast, fruit and yoghurts as well as a range of fun activities to take part in through the morning. At 8.30am children are taken onto the playground and supervised by one of the Breakfast Club supervisors. At 8.45am KS2 children are sent into their classes and KS1 children are walked to their class' lines.



*“ The pace of improvement from starting school to now has been incredible: ”  
His confidence as well as his skills such as reading and maths.*

# END OF SCHOOL

Reception and KS1 children are handed over to parents at the classroom door or on the playground.

Children who travel on a bus/taxi wait with a staff member at the hall entrance until collected by the bus drivers. If your child is not returning home on the bus, please ensure that the school is aware of this so that the bus does not wait for him/her unnecessarily.

Barn Kids Club are met in the bus shelter in the playground at 3.15 pm and are escorted back to the Barn by bus where they are offered a cooked tea and have the opportunity to play before collection up to 6.15 pm.

KS2 children are accompanied to the playground by an adult who remains on the playground until all children have been collected. Children are instructed to return to the Reception area if they cannot see their parents and not to leave school unless they have parental permission to walk home alone.

The caretaker locks the gates as soon as parents have left the playground.

# HEALTHY SCHOOL

## BREAKTIMES

In accordance with our Healthy School Policy, where we encourage healthy eating, we do not allow crisps or sweets to be eaten at morning break. If your child wishes to eat at break we suggest a piece of fruit or vegetable.

KS1 children, including Reception children, are all provided with a piece of fruit, as part of the Fruit for Schools Scheme, during afternoon break.



## SCHOOL LUNCHES

We serve excellent school meals, which offer a balanced choice of food. All children in Key Stage 1 and Reception (Reception, Year 1 and Year 2) are entitled to a free school meal. Current menus are always available on the school website, on the noticeboard outside our kitchen or in the school Reception. If you do not wish your child to take advantage of the free school meal offer he/she may bring a packed lunch to school.



Information about common allergens is available for all of our menus at Reception. Please note that we are a nut free school as we need to protect children who have significant allergies to nuts. Parents are asked, therefore, not to send food containing nuts into school (including packed lunches).



*“ After relocating from Australia our three children were welcomed into the school. The transition into English school life has been fun and a positive experience. They have made many friends and embraced everything the school offers. ”*



# EDUCATIONAL VISITS AND ENRICHMENT ACTIVITIES

One of our priorities at school is to find opportunities to enrich and extend the curriculum we offer. When taking a moment to look back over a year, it is surprising and pleasing to realise the range and breadth of activities provided. These activities invariably involve a “hands-on” approach, which is not only great fun, but also brings their learning to life!

We try to ensure each class has a visitor who comes to school or children will go on an Educational Visit, which is related to their work in the classroom.

We ask parents for voluntary contributions towards these experiences, without, these experiences would not be possible.

When children reach Year Six they have the option to go on a five day residential to Manor Adventure in Norfolk. Here, they get the chance to take part in many outdoor activities as well as learn many independence skills when living away from home for the week.

## FOREST SCHOOL

Every child attends at least one Forest School session per year. The local Parish Council have given use permission to us Welly Boot Wood, a local woodland within a five minute walk to school.

All children in Reception have Forest School sessions each week throughout the year. They have great fun whilst learning valuable life skills outdoors.



## MUSIC TUITION

Music plays an important part in school life. Brass, Woodwind, Piano, Strings, Singing and Guitar lessons are currently offered to children from year 3 onwards.



*“ A school that provided forest school was something I wanted and it has definitely been good for our daughter. ”*



# FUNDRAISING

The school is fortunate to have a very active PTA group 'The Friends of Thaxted School' who have had several very successful fundraising years. They are pleased to welcome new members and can be reached on the playground, via the School Office or by email ([pta@thaxted.essex.sch.uk](mailto:pta@thaxted.essex.sch.uk)).



*“ Friendly school, small enough for everyone to know each other. ”  
My son has friends in all year groups.*





## SECONDARY TRANSFER

From the beginning of Year Five the local secondary schools hold many Open Evenings/Days. Also throughout Year Five the whole of the year group go to local secondary schools with their teachers for taster activities.

At the beginning of Year Six you will need to apply online stating your order of preference for your child. On March 1st you will be notified which school your child has been accepted by.

Following this the Heads of Year will come to visit our school to meet with the children and teachers. All records and information regarding your child's academic attainment and needs will be passed onto the school.

During July your child will be invited for a days introductory session. Within this time parents will also be invited to an information evening.

We will support your child in preparing them for their transition to secondary school through the skills we teach them. If you need any further support please do not hesitate to contact us.

## INSPECTION REPORT

Thaxted Primary School was last inspected in February 2017 and achieved a 'Good' grading. Please find our report by following the link below:

<https://reports.ofsted.gov.uk/provider/21/115288>



*“There is continual research into different methods of learning to benefit all children.”*

## AND FINALLY...

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Thaxted Primary School is an extremely welcoming place. Your child's happiness and education underpins everything we do here. Team work is especially important to us and we always strive to create strong links with parents and carers. Teachers are on the playground every day after school. Please feel free to have a quick chat if you have any questions at all. Often a small worry or question is solved easily this way.

We hope you will come and join us-we look forward to welcoming you into Thaxted Primary School.

