



Pilgrim
Academy

Prospectus





Welcome to our wonderful school

Pilgrim Academy is an average sized primary school which caters for children between the ages of 3 and 11. We have a dedicated and highly motivated staff who work extremely hard and have high expectations for all of our children.

The Academy received its first full Ofsted inspection, under the new government framework, in January 2020. We were judged 'Good' in all areas, including: The Quality of Education; Behaviour and Attitudes; Personal Development; Leadership and Management; and Early Years provision. We were all delighted with the outcome of the inspection, testament to our wonderful children, families, teachers and support staff.

The staff at the academy have an excellent understanding of how children learn and what learning should look like for each individual child. We use regular assessment and knowledge of the children to plan carefully for each lesson, group and individual. Those children who are high ability and have a particular gift for a subject will be supported to further develop their talents; and those children with specific needs will have dedicated support and a curriculum designed to meet their requirements.



Our vision and ethos

We always have the child's best interests at heart and firmly believe that learning must be an enjoyable and rewarding experience. We are continually trying out new ideas, arranging exciting trips, inviting visitors to the Academy and using the community to enhance our provision. We believe strongly in the importance of providing a stimulating environment for learning and outdoor learning is an exciting, developing focus for our school..

We hope you will find this brochure useful. Please contact me directly at the Academy if you would like to discuss any aspect of the school or you would like to arrange a visit.

Andrew Clark

Principal





The first successful steps - Nursery

Our children start learning the foundations of phonics, literacy and numeracy through a wide range of teaching techniques and strategies. We believe strongly that play, both indoors and outdoors, makes a powerful contribution to children's wellbeing, development and learning.

Children play, not least because it is often fun and offers a joyful opportunity for engaging in many different activities and being with others. As they play, children immerse themselves in what most interests them, and in the process find out about themselves, other people, and the world around them. Because play is open-ended and flexible, children can explore and experiment with confidence, take risks and challenge themselves at the limits of their capabilities, without fear of failure.

Parents and carers make a crucial difference to children's outcomes. Partnerships with parents are truly effective when parents and practitioners work together to enable children to create meaningful connections to their wider world and to foster a love of learning.





The next exciting step – Reception



Our children become deeply involved in their learning. They build on existing knowledge and skills, through interaction with open ended resources and a high-quality environment, both indoor and outdoor, including our newly-developed wildlife area. In transferring their knowledge through new connections and applications, our children learn to master important concepts. They embed skills and knowledge, explore and experiment with ideas and new ways of thinking, which support and enhance their own creativity.

As our children gradually develop the ability to focus, our short, sharp and lively adult-led sessions are an opportunity for thinking and learning. Within group sessions, which are planned in response to children's interests and current levels of development, we interact with individual children according to their own needs.

Each child and family are unique and this is respected and celebrated, as each brings aspects of their own personal and cultural knowledge and values which enrich the whole setting.







Maximising every child's potential

Every child's progress and attainment is discussed at least once every half term, in line with our effective and robust assessment and monitoring process. We know each child well and together, we strive to bring out their strengths and support them to work on areas for their development.

Where children have specific barriers to their learning, we provide the necessary early support and targeted intervention to help overcome these barriers. Interventions are regularly reviewed to ensure that the approach is the right one and is making a positive difference to the child's learning. Our new sensory room is a safe haven for staff and external providers to work closely with individuals, offering specialised workshops and bespoke sessions.

We recognise that all children are individuals with their own specific needs, gifts and talents. Children who are identified as being exceptionally able or talented, are monitored and provided with stimulating and enriching lessons and activities, appropriate to their needs.

Developing confidence in key areas

We prioritise reading and writing as key life skills and are dedicated to enabling our children to become lifelong readers and enthusiastic writers. We strive to embed a culture of reading into everything that we do, providing opportunities for the children to choose books to read from our new library as well as allowing them the chance to discuss and recommend books that they have read to their peers. Reading in our school begins with dedicated sessions to support the children's phonetical understanding from their nursery education. Children then develop these skills within their writing to become competent readers and writers with experiences of a variety of literature.

Enjoyment and engagement are at the heart of the way we teach Mathematics. Through the use of the White Rose Maths Hub, we make skills relevant and appropriate to the children's lives to ensure that skills link to other areas of learning and promote a love of mathematics, through a range of different enquiry and application methods. On-line programmes such as TT Rockstars help to promote the importance of times tables and participation in events such as the national Number Day help to prove that maths is fun!





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Supporting personal development

Our key focus is to develop all aspects of a child's character, nurturing talents and providing opportunities for new interests and potential future pathways. A full programme of after school activities provide a basis for enjoyment and developing skills in areas such as sport; art and craft, gardening; chess and dance.

We are fully supportive of and involved in community projects and charity-based initiatives in Immingham and the wider region. For example, we participated fully in the Pilgrim 400 programme and this year, raised over £3350 for the 'When you wish upon a star' foundation. External visits and internal visitors help to support the teaching of our curriculum, in a wider context, and help provide fun and engaging experiences for our pupils. Our children learn to be young leaders as house captains; sports leaders and library monitors, giving them the chance to take responsibilities and risks to help develop resilience and life skills.

Nurturing creativity, knowledge and skills

We aim to inspire and motivate our children to encourage them to be curious and creative. Through external specialists, we also offer a range of additional opportunities in music and sport.

Learning is planned through topics, which include activities that span a range of curriculum areas. Alongside English and mathematics, our curriculum promotes all subject areas on a weekly basis – it is important that our children focus and nurture their talents as young historians; scientists; artists; designers and musicians. In addition, in KS1 and KS2, every child has a dedicated lesson in RE, PSHE and Computer Science. Practical learning is key – we want our children to be making, doing, singing, painting, experimenting and building! Within classrooms, children have access to various resources to aid and support their learning. Children's interests and views are considered when planning and teaching topics, so that they can be active and engaged learners, helping to shape their own development.







Enhancing healthy living and well-being

We recognise the impact a healthy lifestyle has on a child's progress, academically, mentally and physically. Each class takes part in the 'Pilgrim Mile' on a regular basis to promote fitness and well-being in the open air.

The quad area now boasts an outdoor stage, as well as an area where children can grow vegetables. Our wildlife area incorporates an outdoor classroom, allowing children to learn whilst being close to nature. Our new sensory room supports children with sensory, communication, mental health and fine motor skill needs. Our PSHE curriculum aims to build on and complement the learning that has already started at home to provide the knowledge, understanding and skills that children need to lead healthy, fulfilling and meaningful lives, both now and in the future. In addition, we have close links with Compass Go, a mental health support team, who provide support to individuals and groups of children who require it. We also work with Young Minds Matter, where a child may need additional support.



Preparing for the next steps

Academic attainment and progress is key to supporting every child to reach their goals at secondary school level and beyond. This academic focus begins when the children arrive at an early age and we build on knowledge and skills every year to provide each individual the chance to excel when they take their national tests at the end of Year 6.

Our pupils are fully supported through high quality teaching and a wide range of enrichment experiences. In their final year, they will also be provided with additional revision opportunities and materials, alongside focused support to ensure each individual is in a strong position to achieve to the best of their ability.

Throughout Year 6, we will support your child in preparing for the transition to Year 7. We work in close partnership with a number of local secondary schools to ensure a smooth transition. Your child will be given the opportunity to visit their new school, meet the staff and participate in different activities. We see this as our final role in ensuring that your child's journey with us ends with a smooth and continuous step to the next exciting adventure in their young lives.







**Pilgrim
Academy**

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**Lincolnshire Gateway
Academy Trust**

Pilgrim Academy is part of the Lincolnshire Gateway Academies Trust