



Winton Primary School
Oswald Road
Bournemouth
BH9 2TG

- 01202 513988
- www.wintonprimary.bournemouth.sch.uk
- office@wintonprimary.bournemouth.sch.uk
- [@wintonps](https://twitter.com/wintonps)

OUR MISSION IS TO INSPIRE, MOTIVATE AND CHALLENGE
ALL CHILDREN SO THAT THEY BECOME CONFIDENT,
CARING, RESPECTED CITIZENS AND LIFELONG LEARNERS

Welcome

Welcome to Winton Primary and thank you for showing an interest in our school. It is an exciting time to take a look at what we offer to our pupils and the aim of this brochure is to give you an overview of our school ethos and highlight what makes it unique.

'Education is not the filling of a pail, but the lighting of a fire' - Yeats

As a parent, as well as a teacher, I know that each of us seeks a school with teachers who care, work hard, go the extra mile and have an unstinting commitment to the pupils in their care. We are looking for high academic standards and the knowledge that the individuality of our children and their strengths will be recognised and appreciated. In addition, we want a balance of support and challenge to ensure that our children thrive and exceed even what we believe they are capable of. However, we know that doing well academically is not all that the school must achieve for our children. We want the experience to go beyond the classroom and recognise the value of the arts, sport, music and adventurous activities. At Winton, that is the school we strive to be for our families.

We want to stand out from the crowd and prepare our young learners for the next stage of their education and lives. To succeed, we must offer motivated staff as well as an environment where pupils feel safe and secure. I am very fortunate to have had the opportunity to appoint 90% of the teaching staff in school. We have created schools within our school, so that pupils are familiar with their surroundings and know all of the adults and children that they come into contact with each and every day. Our expansion, over the last few years, also presented us with a unique opportunity to build the learning environment we wanted and as a result we have an amazing space for pupils to learn. As well as feeling secure, the children need to be motivated and we believe this is achieved by engaging pupils in what they are doing and ensuring that they see the relevance of learning. There is more detail of how we realise this on the coming pages.

I do hope this booklet gives you a flavour of our school but I urge you to come and see for yourself. We don't put on a show or hold an Open Day or event, we are always open for you to come and see the pupils learning and want you to see our school as it really is. So myself and Mrs James, Head of School, can do tours most days. Visits are an opportunity to come and see the school on a normal day and experience first-hand the learning opportunities that pupils are given.

Thanks once again for your interest and we look forward to showing you around our school. I know what a big decision it is that you are looking to make and I wish you all the very best in finding the right school for your family.

Best Wishes,

Neil Tarchetti
Headteacher



Basic Skills

The bedrock of a good education is a secure grounding in the skills associated with reading, writing and maths.

Reading & Writing

Children will begin reading on their first day of school and we hope they will be reading books at home and school from their first day right through to their last. To achieve this, children must love reading and see the intrinsic value and enjoyment they get from reading a book. This is promoted through the reading environment, teacher modelling and careful choice of books and resources. We have recently completed a two year building project and this provided us with a new research library. In 2016 we received an £8000 grant to improve the book stock throughout the school.

At Winton, we begin to develop the skills required for writing early by encouraging mark making, gross and fine motor skill development and writing in a range of contexts. By the second term in school, we provide a home writing pack and a workshop for parents to ensure that they know how we are encouraging children to become successful writers and ways to support this at home. As they get older, children continue to receive handwriting teaching to develop a neat and cursive writing style. Talk for Writing, developed by Pie Corbett, is a whole school approach that we use to familiarise children with texts and develop the more complicated writing skills that we all need to acquire in order to be successful writers.

Our English teaching also looks at the grammatical skills that children need to acquire to be effective oral and written communicators and we use engaging resources such as 'Exciting Sentences' to help children learn and remember the techniques of more complex sentence types.

Mathematics

Both the National Curriculum and our own curriculum look to ensure a clear progression of skills through the children's time at school. Pupils acquire basic skills quickly and the initial focus is on developing an understanding of number, place value and then addition and subtraction. When pupils have a thorough conceptual understanding of this they move to learn times tables and will be secure in these by the end of Year 4. As the children get older, the focus shifts to developing more formal written methods and a mastery of more complicated mathematical principles such as fractions.

Our maths teaching encourages children to learn first with a concrete model or resource to show what is happening. They then move to the pictorial stage, where they draw a representation of a concrete support material. Eventually, when they have acquired a secure concept, they can move to an abstract approach such as a formal written method. We also teach for mastery which means a greater depth of learning. Rather than acquiring a skill and racing to the next one, which often leads to the first being quickly forgotten, we encourage depth of learning. Children acquire a skill and have time to apply it to different contexts and they use it in conjunction with other skills. This allows genuine mastery.



Our Teaching Approach to the Core Curriculum

To ensure children make the best possible progress through the acquisition of basic skills, we have developed our approach to include many key elements.

Firstly, we adopt a “Learning without Limits” approach to our teaching. This means we encourage children to have ownership and make choices about their learning. We know that human nature dictates that we are more engaged in a task if we have an element of choice in what we do. Whilst children are younger they may choose how to complete a task or select the tools that they will use to do so. For example, to retell a fairytale they might use animation, roleplay, a storyboard or a text map. As they get older, children progress on to making considered choices about the right level of challenge for them. Here, children will have a chance to try questions at different levels of difficulty before selecting a level of challenge. Children are, of course, encouraged to move through the levels as appropriate to always ensure that they are moving their learning forward. In this way, the teacher maintains a clear overview of a child’s progress and encourages them to challenge themselves. By using this approach, at Winton Primary, we ensure no ceiling is placed on what a child can achieve.

Children are encouraged to collaborate and work together to meet the success criteria for a task. They assess their own and each other’s work against the identified success criteria and support each other in making improvements to their work.

At Winton we teach children about Growth Mindset and encourage them to understand that improving and developing work is part of learning. This discourages the “race to finish” approach which young children often develop and creates a mindset where mistakes are not seen as a bad thing, they are seen as opportunities for learning. There is an acceptance that learning can be tricky and challenge is good. Children know that there is no such thing as *can’t*. They just *can’t yet*!

Wherever we can, we bring in a real purpose to children’s work in English and maths so that they can see a value and a real world application to what they are doing.



Engagement

As the new National Curriculum was launched we devised our own new and exciting curriculum, using the changes as an opportunity to create better provision for our children. At the heart of the topics we teach are our drivers: Aspiration, Community and Enquiry. In teaching children about aspiration, we aim to provide them with as many role models and careers to aspire to as possible. Aspiration also involves aiming high, having confidence and tackling challenges which links very well to our Growth Mindset teaching and approach.

As a school we aim to be at the heart of our community and look for opportunities to make worthwhile links with the community around us. We enhance our curriculum through these links. Our Rights Respecting School status also looks at how we develop pupils to be responsible and considerate citizens of our school community, our local community and the global community.

Finally, enquiry is a driver used to ensure that children get to ask and answer their own questions as part of the curriculum. They are encouraged to take ownership of their learning, steer it in the direction that interests them and respond to current events.

Every topic has a launch – a stimulus to engage, excite and introduce a topic to the children. They will also participate in a landing at the end. This is often an opportunity to share and showcase their work, learning and achievements, and helps them to develop pride in what they do and see a purpose to their learning tasks. Once a term this is further enhanced by a real world outcome – this is an event or activity that has an impact beyond our school community. It is a genuine opportunity for children to see that what they are doing is useful, valuable and can make a difference. A great example recently was an event Year 4 organised at the end of a topic learning about animals. They visited local pre-schools and performed puppet shows for the young children before inviting them back to school for a special animal afternoon. The Year 4 children created and set up activities for the toddlers to learn about the animals and to get involved and carry out their own learning related to animals. For the children in Year 4 they were able to use their learning for a real purpose that impacted the wider community. This is just one example of how our curriculum comes together to make learning purposeful, exciting and engaging. Many of our topics also include trips, visits, visitors or workshops that make the learning more interesting and relevant for children. In Reception, to celebrate the Queen's Birthday, the children were visited by the author of the Queen's Knickers and learnt all about stories before designing and making their own knickers that they sent to Her Royal Highness – not surprisingly, they received her Royal Seal of Approval!



Opportunities

Whilst the curriculum is hugely important, we also recognise that many of the memorable elements of our school days are the other opportunities children are offered. One of the advantages of being a larger school is the additional staffing we are able to provide. We have four specialist teachers who teach PE, music and computing to all of our children during the course of the year. Rather than using cover staff, as many primary schools are forced to do, we can employ these qualified teachers to provide the planning and preparation time to which all primary staff are entitled. This means that our teaching in these areas is better than if it was solely delivered by general class teachers. As a result, we are a Lead School for the Teaching of Computer Science, have the Gold Mark for PE and School Sport as well as offering a huge range of musical opportunities.

Each teacher offers one after school club and the specialist staff offer several. This means that there are normally about 30 after school clubs on offer at any one time. They range from sports clubs such as football, netball, cricket and athletics to musical ones such as Glee club and choir. There are art clubs, computing, eco & gardening clubs as well as things like fashion design! They change all the time but the range is extensive!

Our courtyard area is a central part of our curriculum too. It has an outdoor kitchen and children grow their own fruit and vegetables as well as completing the cooking curriculum outdoors. By selling the produce to parents they develop an understanding of sustainability and raise the funds to buy the ingredients they will use when cooking in the outdoor kitchen. Our commitment to using the environment to teach goes further than this and we try and weave outdoor learning experiences into all of our topics. Pupils in Years 4 and 6 get the opportunity of a residential experience and we know that the adventurous activities they get to participate in are some of our pupils' lasting memories of Winton Primary. Our sport provision is greatly enhanced by our large outdoor space. Whilst many primary schools have lost their green spaces, we are fortunate to have retained our large field. This provides an excellent facility for sports teaching, as well as play.

We hope this booklet provides you with an understanding of our school and the approaches we use to engage learners. We have developed our curriculum and our school to make it an exciting place to learn. Please do take the time to come and have a look and see it in action.

