



Prospectus

“Great oaks from little acorns grow”



Braishfield Primary School
Common Hill Road, Braishfield,
Hampshire, SO51 0QF
Tel: 01794 368359
www.braishfield.hants.sch.uk



Welcome to Braishfield Primary School

WELCOME

A very warm welcome to Braishfield Primary School. The following pages provide key information for new and prospective parents, carers and pupils.

We are a friendly and inclusive school situated at the heart of a rural community here in the beautiful village of Braishfield in the Test Valley. We firmly believe that building partnerships with our parents and carers as well as strong links with the local community have a positive impact for our children.

We seek to nurture happy, kind, honest and respectful children who are motivated to give their very best in whatever they do.

Our aim is to help every child grow to be the best version of themselves that they can be. We aim to inspire children to develop inquisitive and imaginative minds and a lifelong love of learning through a rich and varied curriculum. The individual talents of every child are recognised and encouraged to flourish.

We also focus on equipping children with the skills needed to become independent, resilient learners who are not afraid to take a risk and who see failure as an opportunity to learn from mistakes. Ultimately, we aim to develop confident, caring citizens who can play a positive and active role in modern life.

We hope you find this prospectus helpful.
Mr Jim Cascarini
Headteacher

OUR SCHOOL

Braishfield Primary School is situated in the village of Braishfield on the outskirts of Romsey, with easy access to the beautiful countryside of the Test Valley and a wide range of community amenities which support the learning of our children. Our school has been providing an education for children in the locality since 1876.

It is a popular, non-denominational school for boys and girls aged from 4 - 11 years old, with a maximum capacity of 105. Our school day is 8.40 a.m. - 3.30p.m. On arrival, children come straight into the classroom from 8.40 a.m. Registration is at 8.50 a.m. and the school day finishes at 3.30 p.m.

We have strong ties with Braishfield village and a vibrant and thriving school community. Pupils are able to use the adjacent recreation ground for sports lessons and clubs, and, during the warm summer months, for picnic lunches and play at break and lunchtimes. The nearby Village Hall and Social Club regularly host school activities such as concerts, dance and school productions. Our older children also volunteer in the local community shop and café, The Pantry.

There is a good sized-playground with a climbing frame and seating areas. We also have a quiet space where our school guinea pigs live and where children can paint, read, build Lego models or play board games.

From the moment that our children start school in Reception, they are encouraged and helped to mix with

the older children. Each Reception child is assigned a Year 6 buddy who will look after them, should they need it, during break and lunchtimes and with whom they share some special buddy experiences, such as story time or picnics. This enables our new pupils to settle into the school very quickly, forming positive relationships with the older pupils who serve as strong role models. The buddy system continues throughout the school.

GROWTH OF THE WHOLE CHILD

In every aspect of school life, we aim to ensure that the needs of each individual child are met and the unique talents of each individual child celebrated. We pride ourselves on a culture based on a strong sense of community, where positive relationships and children's wellbeing sit at the heart of everything that we do. We believe that for children to fulfill their academic potential, they need to feel happy and safe. This includes understanding their own emotions and behaviour, learning to take care of their physical and mental health and developing practical strategies to build emotional resilience.



THE BRAISHFIELD CURRICULUM

Intent - our vision for our curriculum

Although we may be a small school, we want our pupils to have big ambitions and high expectations of themselves. We are an outward-looking school, with a strong sense of community and we aim to create a curriculum that truly meets the needs of our children. It's our children's voices that we want to drive and shape that curriculum; a rich, exciting and balanced curriculum which enables each individual child to develop academically, emotionally, creatively, socially and physically. Our curriculum will enable the children to share ideas, express their opinions and apply knowledge and skills learned in a wide range of meaningful contexts. It will offer opportunities for all children to investigate, question, debate, reflect and challenge. It will enable all children to flourish and to be the very best they can be.

To support the implementation of our vision we will create:

- A stimulating environment for developing inquisitive, and resilient lifelong learners who work hard and strive for excellence
- A culture of working independently and collaboratively, where we see getting something wrong as part of learning how to get it right
- An ethos where all children are encouraged and supported and challenge is fully embraced
- Exciting and challenging opportunities to promote our children's personal development and understanding of their own emotional and physical wellbeing



CITIZENSHIP VALUES

Along with high academic standards, the school places great emphasis on nurturing **kind, respectful and honest** citizens. These qualities are reflected in our School Citizenship values. We encourage pupils to take responsibility for their actions and to work collaboratively as part of our whole school community. Ultimately, we encourage our children to develop the life skills to become confident, caring citizens who can play a positive and active role in modern society.



SCHOOL LEARNERS' VALUES

It is important that our pupils are equipped with the necessary skills for the fast-changing world in which we live. This means that they need to be adaptable, able to apply their learning in a wide range of contexts and develop strategies for what to do when they're unsure. We want our pupils to be active learners, questioning, investigating, challenging themselves and sharing responsibility for driving their own learning. Above all, we want our children to give their very best and to be proud of their achievements. These qualities needed for successful learning are underpinned by our Learners' Values of **independence, inquisitiveness, resilience and collaboration**.

Every week we celebrate two pupils from each class who have been nominated by their class teacher or the School Council for showing these values. Their parents are invited to come to a special Friday afternoon assembly to recognise their achievements.





Braishfield Primary School

Implementation - how do we achieve this?

At the heart of our curriculum are the core subjects of English, Mathematics & Science.

We also truly value our wider curriculum, covering all other National Curriculum subjects. This wider curriculum is organised into discrete subject specific work taught as 'stand-alone' units of learning and 'cross-curricular' learning where meaningful links can be made with other subjects that help secure prior learning or develop learning further.

All 'units' of learning will have an entry based 'hook' to excite and engage the children and a 'purpose' for study so that learning is meaningful and relevant for them.

Where possible, learning will be supported and enriched by field study, visits, workshops, artefact boxes, role-play and practical resources.

Progression of knowledge, skills and understanding is carefully planned, reviewed and adapted yearly to ensure that children's learning builds effectively over time to ensure children are ready to meet the expectations of secondary school.

Our teaching practice will be rooted in evidence-based research. Teachers will be self-reflective and as a team enhance their teaching skills and strategies to help raise standards across the full breadth of the curriculum.

Impact for our children

From their different starting points, all children will make good progress academically, emotionally, creatively, socially and physically. Knowledge, understanding and skills will be secured and embedded so that children attain highly and are fully-prepared for secondary school.

They will have strong communication skills, both written and verbal, and will listen respectfully and with tolerance to the views of others.

They will take pride in all that they do, always striving to do their best.

They will demonstrate inquisitiveness, emotional resilience and the ability to persevere when they encounter challenge.

They will develop a sense of self-awareness and become confident in their own abilities.

They will be kind, respectful and honest, demonstrate inclusive attitudes and have a sense of their role in our wider society.

SCHOOL HOUSES

On joining Braishfield Primary School, children will be assigned to a School House. If pupils have siblings in the school, they will be in the same House as brothers or sisters. Our Houses are named after four farms in Braishfield: Fairbourne, Farley, Hawkes and Pucknall.

Pupils earn House Points on a weekly basis, with a house treat (e.g. a film afternoon with ice cream and popcorn) being awarded at the end of each half term to the House with the most points. Pupils also represent their Houses in other activities, such as on Sports Day and during whole-school curriculum enrichment days.

PUPIL VOICE

We believe that the children's voice should sit at the heart of school life. We have a wide range of pupil voice groups, many of which include children who have been elected by their peers. These groups include the following:

- School Council – responsible for choosing and organising school fund-raising events and representing the views of their peers in school decision-making opportunities
- Sports Crew – these children help organise and lead sporting events. They also help other children to train and develop sports skills
- Pupil Librarians- these children assist with the management and development of the school library
- Helping Hands – offer support and advice for children who are feeling anxious, upset or who are struggling with building positive relationships



- Eco Team- promote environmental awareness and lead whole school projects e.g. preventing plastic pollution in our local community and improvement of school recycling procedures
- Digital Leaders – provide IT support for other children and teachers in class and during assemblies



INCLUSION

The school's provision for children with Special Educational Needs and Disabilities (SEND) is in line with the Government Code of Practice. We promote an inclusive culture with high expectations for all our children, whatever barriers to learning they may face. Children with SEND are carefully assessed and provision is tailored to meet their specific needs. We believe that quality-first teaching in the classroom with their peers has the greatest impact but children may also be withdrawn from class for specific 1:1 support, or supported in class either individually or as part of a group.

We carefully track the progress of *all* of our pupils throughout each half term, and our policy is to provide a caring and supportive environment in which *any* children who require additional support either academically, physically, socially or emotionally will have their needs met so that they are able to continue to make progress and achieve in line with their peers.

Children with specific skills and talents have their learning needs met through quality-first classroom teaching during which higher order and extension activities are provided, as well as rich tasks to promote mastery and deeper learning. During these, pupils are encouraged to drive the direction of their own learning. We actively look for opportunities to enrich our curriculum with academic challenges and sporting fixtures with primary schools in our cluster. Our Year 6 pupils also have the opportunity to participate in transition activities,

arranged between ourselves and our local secondary schools.

A dedicated and skilled team of staff ensure that the needs of every individual child are met.

ADMISSIONS

Parents have the right to state a preference for the school their child will attend. The County Admissions Team considers all applications received by the deadline date. They allocate places based on the following priorities:

- Children who are in the care of the local authority
- Children for whom there is a serious medical, physical or psychological reason and which is supported by appropriate written professional evidence
- Children of staff
- Children in catchment who have brothers or sisters already on roll at the school who will continue to attend the school for the following year
- Children in catchment living closest to the school based on a straight-mile measurement from the school to the entrance of the property
- Children out of catchment who have brothers or sisters already on roll at the school who will continue to attend the school for the following year

- Children out of catchment living closest to the school based on a straight-mile measurement from the school to the entrance of the property

Applications received after the deadline or received for older children will only be considered if there are places available.

JOINING RECEPTION

By law, children have to be in full-time education by the start of the term following their 5th birthday. However, Braishfield Primary school offers full-time places to all children in the Autumn term following their 4th birthday, as, with small numbers, we are able to provide an environment that is completely responsive to the needs of each individual child as they start school.

Children will be invited to attend school in the mornings only for the first few days and on one of these days there will be the opportunity to sample a school lunch with their parents and go home once they have eaten.

If the child is not ready for full-time education, then discussion between the parents and class teacher may lead to agreement that the child should attend school for some additional morning sessions until they are able to attend school full time, starting full time education no later than the term following their 5th birthday.



Braishfield Primary School



UNIFORM

We want our children to look smart in their uniform and to take real pride in their school, including during P.E. lessons. The school uniform can be ordered from any shop which stocks unbranded school uniform. For parents wishing to have uniform with the school logo, please obtain this online from www.direct4logos.com. Alternatively, uniform can be purchased from their shop at Unit 44, Romsey Industrial Estate, Greatbridge Road, Romsey, SO51 OHR.

Uniform expectations:

- Grey skirt / pinafore dress
- Grey trousers / shorts
- White polo shirt
- Navy cardigan or sweatshirt
- Blue and white summer dress
- Grey / navy tights
- Black school shoes (not trainers or fashion shoes)

P.E.

- Navy shorts
- Plain white T-shirt or a school logoed T-shirt in the house colour (Hawkes: red; Farley: yellow; Pucknall: blue and Fairbourne: green)
- Navy tracksuit bottoms
- Plain (or logoed) navy hoodie
- Trainers (not plimsolls)

Book bags, P.E bags, school coats and fleeces are also available to purchase. All items of clothing, lunch boxes and bags must be clearly named.

SCHOOL MEALS & MORNING SNACKS

Our wonderful school cooks prepare lunches in the school kitchen every day, following the Hampshire Primary School menu that can be viewed at: <https://www.hants.gov.uk/education/ndlearning/hc3s/education-catering/menu-primary>. Wherever possible they use locally-sourced fresh ingredients (many from the New Forest). There is a meat and vegetarian choice every day, with a pudding. Specific diets, such as gluten-free, can also be catered for.

The Government initiative introduced in 2014 means that all pupils in YR and at KS1 will receive school meals at lunchtime without charge.

Parents receiving income support may be entitled to free school meals for the whole of their child's time in school. Further information can be obtained from the School Office and all such applications are treated with total confidentiality. It is important to point out that even if your child is in KS1 and receiving a free school meal, parents should apply formally for free school meals, as other funding becomes available for children whose parents receive income support, for example help with funding for trips and visits or to pay for extra help in class.

Children not eating a school lunch should bring sandwiches. Please note,

we encourage healthy eating at Braishfield Primary School and would ask that packed lunches reflect this. Please ensure all ingredients are nut-free.

The Key Stage 1 children are provided with fruit or vegetables at break time every morning as part of the Government Initiative. Key Stage 2 children have the opportunity to buy fresh bread each morning; alternatively they may bring a healthy snack to eat at morning break.

In addition, all children up to the age of 5 receive a carton of milk daily, and all other children can receive milk in school by ordering through the CoolMilk website at: <https://www.coolmilk.com>.

MEDICAL MATTERS

The School Nurse carries out a Health Check on all children during their first year at school after which she may suggest children visit their own Doctor. The Nurse continues to monitor the health of all pupils and checks such things as vision and hearing. Parents are notified prior to her visit. No treatment is carried out at school.

If children become ill during the day we take all necessary steps to ensure that they are looked after until they can be collected, so it is essential that we are given at least 2 emergency contact numbers.

If a child has an accident in school which needs medical attention, we contact the parent immediately. If we are unable to do so it may be necessary for the school to arrange transport to the nearest hospital. If this happens, a member of staff stays with the child until a parent or carer arrives.

Inhalers, tablets or other prescribed medicines must be handed in to the School Office in a named container. Instructions for administration and dosage must be clearly stated. We are also able to administer painkillers in the course of a day with parental consent.

CLUBS

At Braishfield Primary School we are committed to our pupils participating in a wide variety of sport and sporting competitions. We regularly train school staff, pay for experts to coach our children and enable our pupils to participate often in leagues and

competitions at both school cluster and County levels. Our small pupil numbers mean that all pupils will have many opportunities to represent the school in competitive and non-competitive sport during their time with us. Sports include cross country, football, netball and athletics.

All children in the school from Reception to Year 6 participate in swimming lessons with professional swimming coaches or qualified staff members.

We also run a range of extra-curricular sport and non-sporting clubs. We try to respond to our children's interests and requests, and are always on the look-out for parents willing to offer a club!

AFTER SCHOOL ACTIVITIES

These activities change every term. See below for examples of some clubs we run:

- Book Club
- Netball
- Media and Animation
- Baking
- Gymnastics
- Athletics
- Multiskills

MUSIC LESSONS

We invite peripatetic music teachers to instruct the pupils in a wide variety of musical instruments, either on a 1:1 basis or in small groups. Instruments currently taught include piano, flute, keyboard and guitar.

All pupils in Year 3/4 also receive tuition from a fully qualified music teacher in three different areas of music each year. This year children have enjoyed singing as well as learning to play the flute and the recorder.

BREAKFAST CLUB

The school runs a morning breakfast club, Early Buds, which begins at 8am. The cost is £3.50 per session. There are a variety of board games, craft activities and Lego to entertain the children after breakfast.

AFTER SCHOOL CLUB

The school also runs an after school club on Tuesdays & Thursdays 3.30 - 5 pm. Children will be provided with a variety of games, sports and craft activities as well as a drink and a snack. If the weather is good, they will have the opportunity to play outside. The cost of the club is £6.50 per session.



SCHOOL TRIPS & ENRICHMENT ACTIVITIES

We believe school trips help to enrich the curriculum and support the children's learning. We offer a wide and varied range of trips and workshops across the school. These have included the following:

- Reception- trip to the Blue Reef Aquarium to look at the diversity of marine life
- Year 1/2- trip to Milestones in Basingstoke, to learn about children's lives in the past
- Year 3/4-trip to Butser Ancient Farm, to learn about Anglo-Saxon life
- Year 5/6- residential trip to Osmington Bay and trip to visit the Mary Rose to learn about the theories of its sinking
- Whole school- wellbeing workshops, science activities, first aid
- Whole school -cricket, tag rugby, skateboarding workshops

Drama and dance is a strength of our curriculum with previous productions including 'the Lion King' and 'Aladdin.'

The school is fortunate to have an active and enthusiastic Parents' Association, the BSA. Throughout the year they organise a number of fund-raising events. In the past these have included cake sales, quiz nights, family camping on the recreation ground and a barn dance. They are always very keen to welcome new parents. They communicate via the school newsletter, The Braishfield Bugle, to keep parents up to date with planned events and details of how funds raised have been used.

Here are just a few of the items the BSA has provided for the pupils:

- Sports Bibs
- Laptops and wireless internet
- Christmas disco
- Funding for transport for school trips
- Wireless microphone
- Sports equipment
- Eggs for the Easter Egg hunt
- Gifts for the Year 6 leavers
- Climbing Frame
- New Library and Learning Support Room

GOVERNORS

Braishfield Primary School benefits from a strong Governing Body that works closely with the Headteacher to ensure the strategic direction of the school, including overseeing financial performance and holding to account to ensure the best possible education is provided for our children. Governors are always keen to receive feedback from parents and the Chair of Governors writes to parents on a termly basis to ensure they are fully-informed of what the Governing Body have been doing to support and challenge the Headteacher..

