



Happy confident Children with a passion for learning



Heatherside
Infant School





Welcome

It is with great pleasure that I welcome you to Heatherside Infant School. Choosing a school is one of the most important decisions we make as parents for our children.

This prospectus offers you a flavour of what our school is about. It gives you a glimpse of some of the opportunities and experiences that your child will encounter. If you haven't done so already, I hope that you will come and see our school for yourself and take the opportunity to ask questions.

At Heatherside Infant School we offer a strong sense of community with close ties to parents and carers, together with a rich and challenging curriculum in a stimulating environment.

We are very proud of our school and we look forward to getting to know you and your child.

Our goal is for every child to leave our school happy and successful, with memories they will cherish and skills that are the foundation for their future learning.

We welcome visits and feel that this is a very important way for you to come and learn more about us.

Christine Lynch

Christine Lynch
Headteacher



Our School

Heatherside Infant School has a friendly, caring atmosphere where work and play go hand in hand. It is a place where children will build a firm foundation of skills whilst further developing their lively, enquiring minds so that they are equipped for the world in which we live.

We are a large mixed county infant school for children aged 4 to 7, with a published admission number of 100. Our ten classrooms, library, cookery room and dedicated music/drama room are built around an inner courtyard where each classroom has its own garden. There are two large playgrounds, an amazing pirate ship, two breeze huts and covered canopy areas for outside exploring and discovery.

Our school and classrooms provide a warm, welcoming and stimulating environment for our children.





Vision and Values

Engage

Create a secure and happy environment where everyone is nurtured, valued and feels safe and confident to become an independent learner.

Foster honesty, empathy, responsibility and respect towards the ideas, beliefs and cultures of others.

Value and listen to the views and opinions of all members of our school community.

Enthuse

Promote an atmosphere of enthusiasm and challenge where we are all motivated to achieve our full potential.

Enjoy

A school where learning is fun.
Develop lively and enquiring minds, stimulating a passion for learning.

Excel

To equip our learners with the necessary skills, knowledge and creativity to become an independent and inquisitive learner.



Happy confident children with a passion for learning.





"Our World is an important place and the children take pride in caring for and learning about their environment.

We empower the children to take responsibility for themselves and each other both locally and within the global community."

Headteacher

"We sent our parachute with our teacher to children in Sri Lanka." School Council





Creative Curriculum

Enjoyment and **Achievement** are at the core of our curriculum. We believe that education is an holistic experience, not purely academic so that the whole child is developed.

We offer a broad and balanced curriculum enabling children to develop independence, confidence and a real love of learning. Thematic topics such as 'Being an Explorer', 'My World' and 'Traditional Tales' are enjoyed simultaneously across the whole school. Our thematic approach allows us to encompass literacy and numeracy with such subjects as music, art, history and geography, so that learning is real and relevant. This approach is stimulating and motivates our children to learn and have fun in the process. It provides the opportunity to develop new skills and to use them in solving problems.

Enrichment

Our curriculum is further enriched through school trips both into the local area and further afield. At lunch break children can join in organised games or play independently. The children look forward to the young play leaders coming over from the Junior School to lead organised games.

We have a wide variety of after school clubs ranging from Judo and football to choir and french.



"I love coming to school because learning is lots of fun." Pupil Quote



Partnerships

Partnership with Parents

As parents you want the best for your child and you have already begun their learning journey within your family. At Heatherside Infants we believe that by establishing an open, honest and positive partnership with you, your child will gain the most from his or her education.

We value our relationship with parents and are committed to ensuring families feel involved and informed. We run coffee morning programmes discussing topics from Educational Psychology to Lunchtime Supervision. It's a wonderful opportunity to get to know other people and find out more about the school and the wider community. We also hold fun information evenings covering reading, writing and arithmetic where you will be actively encouraged to join in.

We believe our partnership with you is a very important aspect of our work in nurturing your child's development.

"Staff, parents and carers work exceptionally well together in supporting pupils' learning."

Ofsted Quote



Communication

Regular communication is vital and essential in building an effective partnership.

We encourage parents to come in regularly to meet and discuss things with our teaching staff, no matter how insignificant they may seem. For things that are more significant we are always happy to arrange to meet you so that there is quality in the time spent with you.

There are regular newsletters providing updates on events taking place in the curriculum as well as other aspects of school life. It is also a way of celebrating pupil and family achievements such as badges gained in swimming, ballet or at Rainbows and Beavers. Children always love to read about themselves.

During the year there are further opportunities to come and find out more about the curriculum and how you can help your child at school. We also have good supporting literature to help with ideas for number games, reading and spelling practice, knowing your numbers and helping your child to read. Most of these can be found on our website.

Of course, we also hold parent evenings where parents meet more formally with teaching staff to discuss their child's progress.



Helping at School

Parents, grandparents and carers provide invaluable support with all aspects of school life.

This includes helping in the classrooms, library, cookery room, gardens and with the reading support groups. It's fun and rewarding, a good place to meet other people, be part of a community and to find out what your children are up to.

So if you have time or a particular expertise you think you could share with us, we would love to see you. We really value your help and the children love to see you in the school.





HSA fund raising bought our pirate ship.



Partnerships

Transition

Children join us from many different pre-school settings and we maintain good links with them. Our staff will liaise with each setting prior to your child joining us. During the summer term before your child starts school you and your child are invited to to invited to stay and play sessions.

There are further opportunities to come and listen to stories in their new classroom. These opportunities allow them to be familiar with the school and their new teachers before they start school.

At the end of Year 2 most of our children will move on to Heatherside Junior School with some moving on to other local junior schools. This is another milestone in your child's educational journey. Good liaison with the schools ensures that our children are feeling happy and confident about the next stage.

Governors

We very much see our governors as partners in shaping the future of the school. They bring to their role a variety of business and personal expertise enabling them to fulfil their commitment to ensuring our school continues to develop and provide the very best experience for your child. Governors meet regularly and have a variety of duties which include visiting the school and attending training to keep updated on their role and commitments.

Heatherside Schools Association

Our school association embodies our strong belief in partnership. Parents of both the Infant and the Junior Schools at Heatherside form one school association. This association is an intrinsic part of our school life. The committee works very hard, and has a lot of fun, organising a variety of social as well as fund raising events. Our Summer and Christmas School Fairs, Movie Nights, and Children's Discos are some of the events Heatherside Schools Association organise during the year, with profits going to the school.

As soon as your child starts school you become members of our joint Heatherside Schools Association.

Breakfast Club

We have an on-site breakfast club that starts at 8am and is run by SCL. A healthy breakfast followed by fun activities is designed to start the children's day in the right way!

Lunch

Meals are prepared on site by our school cook. She is always happy to talk to parents and is able to support children with specific dietary needs.



"This school is fantastic, the teachers are lovely and our children are very happy here."

Parent Quote





"At School Council we
decided on the types of
tables needed for outside."

School Councillor

"We have been thinking about recycling and reusing."
Pupil voice Eco team



Inclusion

Pupil Voice

The children are very proud of their school and are encouraged to take positions of responsibility such as school councillor, library assistant, play ground friend or helper of the day.

This is an important part of developing the children's independence, encouraging them to think about wider school issues and working together to make their school a great place for everyone to be.

We actively seek the opinions and ideas of the children and consider this a vital part of the school's self evaluation process as well as contributing to our improvement priorities.

Collective Worship

Assembly is an important time in the day when we gather together to reflect as a class or in larger groups in the hall. Our assemblies are non denominational but follow the basic principles of Christianity as well as covering a wide range of beliefs and events in different faiths and cultures. Parents may withdraw their child from collective worship.

Gifted and Talented

Children who are more able or talented in a particular area will be identified, challenged and extended through the provision of differentiated tasks, investigations and questioning strategies.

Equal Opportunities

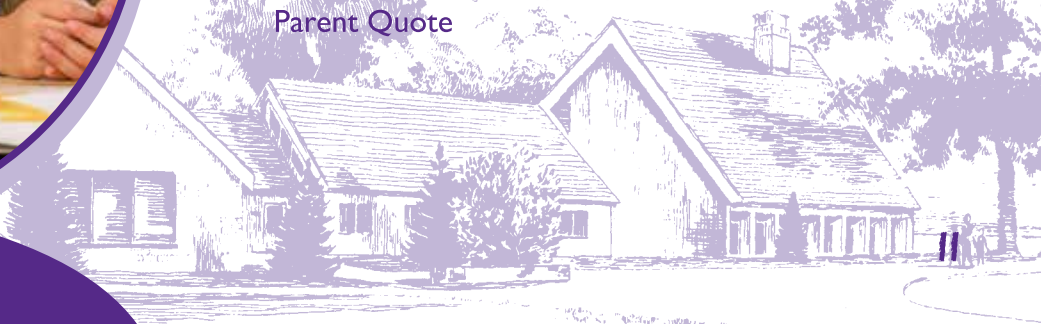
In line with Hampshire County Council policy we provide equal opportunity for all children regardless of their gender, race, religion or disability.

Special Educational Needs

The school's aims and ethos are to ensure that all children have equal opportunities to access a broad and balanced curriculum, differentiated to meet their needs. Sometimes children experience specific difficulties that require additional support or different programmes of study. In consultation with parents, an Individual Education Plan will be written and used as a means of regularly reviewing progress with you.

"Without the dedication of the Head Teacher, Mrs Lynch and her wonderful team at Heatherside, my son wouldn't be where he is today. I will be forever grateful to them all for going that extra mile."

Parent Quote



The World of Tomorrow

Respect

We place great emphasis on positive attitudes and encourage a mutual respect between all members of the school community. Children are encouraged to show care and consideration, honesty, sincerity and respect for themselves and others. The children's behaviour reflects this positive approach.

Outward Looking

In a world that is ever changing we believe that it is important for your child to have had the opportunities and learning that will help them to meet new challenges with confidence.

We are always open to new ideas and change in order to improve our provision. We have the determination and the courage to manage change in a positive and inclusive way through a process of trial, reflection and review. In this way the education your child receives prepares them for the world of tomorrow.



"The very positive ethos is evident in pupils' outstanding behaviour and excellent attitude to learning."

Ofsted Quote





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