



# Working hard, aiming high



## Welcome to Bucklesham Primary School

This Prospectus introduces our small and friendly village school which is heaped in character, both inside and out and situated in a quiet, picturesque location, amongst rolling countryside. A peaceful countryside setting but conveniently only a few minutes' drive from the A12 / A14 intersection near Trinity Park, on the outskirts of Ipswich. We are very proud of our school and highly value the strong community links we have both locally in the village and further afield.

At Bucklesham School, we believe that every child can be confident, responsible and successful, making considered and appropriate choices about how they learn and develop. We work in close partnership with parents, to promote the foundation and development of important key skills and values, encouraging their application in all aspects of daily life.

We last welcomed Ofsted into our school in July 2024, to once again highlight the 'Good' provision we share with our families and local community.

For a flavour of daily classroom life and other exciting school activity, please visit our website at [www.buckleshamprimaryschool.co.uk](http://www.buckleshamprimaryschool.co.uk) or, experience them in person by visiting our welcoming, caring school.

"This small, caring school has a big vision for children's lives. Pupils like their school. They are happy and safe because staff have pupils' physical and mental welfare at the forefront of their minds. Pupils' behaviour is calm and respectful because of their teachers' high expectations." Ofsted, July 2024

Our last set of published results in 2024, showed that we were at least in line with National data for phonics, following the introduction of Little Wandle Phonics Scheme. The results for Early Years were above National in 2024.



We trust you will find this information helpful. We wholeheartedly encourage all prospective parents to visit our unique and wonderful school during the school day, to witness our school environment in action. If you would like to make an appointment, please contact the school Office on 01473 659389.



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Our vision is for all children to be:

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We at Bucklesham Primary School aim to develop happy and confident learners for the future by, most importantly:

- We remember that children are the centre of our focus, and that they provide, along with the staff, parents and wider neighbourhood, a whole school community worthy of everyone's education and support.
- Providing a safe and happy learning environment
- Fostering a love of learning and a desire to do well
- Embrace and celebrate diversity with understanding, respect and a sense of responsibility to others, our community and the wider world
- Providing a rich and diverse curriculum which meets the needs and individual differences of the children
- Helping all pupils to understand their own learning styles by developing knowledge, understanding and enthusiasm for learning
- Developing co-operative working relationships between all pupils, staff, governors and parents
- Providing equal opportunities for all

### About Our School

Bucklesham Primary School is situated in a rural village east of Ipswich and convenient for the A12 and A14. It is an attractive, traditionally built Victorian school, nestling in beautiful rolling Suffolk countryside, surrounded by ancient trees. Extensive grounds and facilities, which include large play equipment, allotment plot, football pitches and playing field, cater for a wide range of activities and interests for both education and recreation.

As a small village school, we have the advantage and privilege of knowing each pupil as an individual, enabling us to guide them and tailor their learning to achieve at least good levels of progress and personal success. We have high expectations for every child, cultivating a love of learning within a supportive, challenging, caring and friendly school environment. Children actively demonstrate respect, care and concern for others, both in lessons, at play and around the school site, with older pupils supporting and taking initiative in leading activities for the younger children within school.

Belonging to a small village school facilitates and encourages full participation by all pupils in every aspect of school life. Leadership roles are encouraged with the appointment of Head Pupils and the election of School Council members, with pupils representing the voice of their peers, making important decisions that affect them to enhance provision for their school community. Pupils also take responsibility by being Librarians, Sports Leaders, Peer Mentors, Well-being Ambassadors and part of the Eco Team.

Children, their welfare and well-being, are at the centre of everything we do and play a substantial and active role in establishing a school where all can enjoy work, play and build friendships and key life skills.



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## Organisation of Learning

There are 4 mixed aged classes:

Willow Class	-	Reception
Oak Class	-	Year 1 and Year 2
Ash Class	-	Year 3 and Year 4
Yew Class	-	Year 5 and Year 6

All classes work together as a whole school for some activities, enabling younger children to work alongside the older children with differentiated work. All children have the opportunity to represent the school at sporting events and to take part in school productions and events.



## **Admission of New Pupils**

The Local Authority (LA), is responsible for admissions to our school and full details of their Admissions Policy and procedures are set out on their website: [www.suffolk.gov.uk](http://www.suffolk.gov.uk). Please contact the school Office if you need assistance accessing this information. The annual admission number for Bucklesham, determined by the LA, is 15 pupils. Current legislation allows all Reception children to attend school full-time from September after they have turned 4, regardless of the term in which they become five years old.

We encourage parents to visit prospective schools, before making an application for a place, to ensure they are well informed in their choice. We will happily welcome you to our unique and friendly school to witness it in action and, to answer any questions you may have.



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Suffolk County Council offers prospective parents the opportunity to apply online at [www.suffolk.gov.uk/children-families-and-learning/schools/school-places](http://www.suffolk.gov.uk/children-families-and-learning/schools/school-places) . If we can assist in this process, please contact the school Office.

## Wrap-Around Care

If wrap-around care is a consideration when applying for a school place, Bucklesham is able to support both before and after-school care. A morning club runs every school day from 8am at Bucklesham School and there is provision for after-school clubs every day until 4:10pm or 4:30pm. We are currently looking into longer after school club provision.

## Pre-School

Children who attend Bucklesham School come from a wide range of pre-school providers in the local area. As part of our induction process the Early Years teacher visits all local pre-schools to meet the new intake and support parents and pupils in the transition to primary school with sessions in school too.

## Progression to Secondary Education

During the final year at Bucklesham, pupils visit Kesgrave High School in preparation for secondary education. Whilst most children progress to Kesgrave High School, some have continued their learning at other schools in the Ipswich area. Staff prepare children in good time for this progression and support parents to make an informed choice about the best school for their child.

## Curriculum

Bucklesham Primary School recognises the importance of a creative and reflective curriculum which meets the needs of our pupils. In our design of such a curriculum we cultivate a spirit of enquiry, enabling pupils to investigate and discover new knowledge, skills and talents for themselves.

Our curriculum drivers are diversity, environment and wellbeing. These are weaved into assemblies, topics, classroom learning and enrichment opportunities. We have had a focus on wellbeing since the pandemic and recognise how important this is. We have in place mentoring, social and emotional interventions, 1:1 counselling and trained peer mentors where the older children mentor the younger ones.

As well as indoors, our learning also takes place in the outdoor environment, where children are encouraged and inspired to grow in confidence, self-esteem and independence. Outdoor learning is developed as part of our Early Years curriculum, and embedded across other areas of the curriculum as children move through school. We are working with the Suffolk Wildlife Trust over the next 3 years to become a 'Wilder School' and staff will be trained to deliver outdoor learning.

We teach all subjects within the framework of the National Curriculum, often linking subjects together through topics or themes to make learning as cohesive as possible. In addition to these statutory requirements, we enhance our curriculum by:

- Providing swimming lessons for pupils from Year 3.
- Introducing the French language from Year 3 to Year 6.
- Promoting philosophical debate from an early age.





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- Developing awareness of healthy eating by growing and cooking a range of food.
- Giving opportunities to engage in enterprise and environmental projects involving financial awareness and budget management.
- Working in partnership with local businesses and other schools, sharing expertise and resources. We work in a family of small schools with Waldringfield, Bealings and Martlesham Academy.

## Swimming

We believe swimming is an essential life skill and should be taught from a young age, to enable children to stay safe and have fun in and near the water. Our aim is to ensure all children leave Bucklesham School as competent swimmers and 94% of our children left last year swimming 25 metres unaided and having their personal safety award. Therefore, children from Year 3 upwards attend swimming lessons as part of our curriculum. We currently use Felixstowe Leisure Centre for our swimming lessons.

## Sport and Physical Education

Bucklesham Primary School excels at the delivery of PE and sport and has been awarded the top Platinum Award by School Games for our excellent provision.



As a small village school all children have the opportunity to represent Bucklesham in a range of tournaments and competitions. Regular events take place within our pyramid of schools with potential for representing the County at larger events. We work closely with external clubs, involving qualified coaches to enhance the PE curriculum alongside teachers and lead after school clubs in a variety of sports.

## Extra Curricula Clubs

A range of extra curricula clubs including music lessons such as piano, guitar and ukulele, dance, sports, gardening and homework club are also on offer, utilising internal as well as outside expertise to enhance engagement.

## Residential Visits

As part of learning in the oldest class, we offer children the opportunity to be involved in overnight stays, at residential centres every other year. Children are encouraged to join in outdoor fun and games, campfire songs and challenges. During this visit more emphasis is placed on adventurous activity and physical challenge and children are encouraged to work co-operatively as part of a team, developing self-confidence and self-esteem.

## Partnership with Parents

Every opportunity is taken to work in close partnership with parents and our local community, creating real purpose to the learning and activities we share. We encourage



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engagement through consultation, information evenings, open learning sessions and shared assemblies. Parents have regular opportunities to discuss their child's progress and next steps throughout the school year and are encouraged to fulfil the important role they play in their child's education. We regularly provide updates by email, Class Dojo and text, so it is important that parents keep a close eye on communications, to ensure they know about the many activities we provide for the children. The website is another source of information and is always updated well in advance with news and dates of events.

## Special Educational Needs and Disabilities / Able Gifted & Talented Provision

Bucklesham School aims to provide a challenging learning environment which enhances achievement and enjoyment for all children. This includes those pupils with Special Educational Needs and Disabilities (SEND) and those with additional abilities and talents. We regularly encourage pupils to work independently as well as co-operate with others. Occasionally, extra activities may be planned to support or to extend learning in particular areas of the curriculum. We work closely with Kesgrave High School, and BT Adastral Park to offer a wide range of experiences. Activities often extend higher level skills and talents and signpost opportunities for further collaboration outside of school.

## Behaviour

We aim to develop a sense of community and a feeling of pride within school. Everyone attending school is expected to show respect, courtesy and kindness to all people at all times. We offer our children the opportunity to learn in a happy, supportive environment, helping them to make positive choices about their behaviour and learning. High expectations are reinforced and rewarded through achievement stickers and awards as part of our behaviour policy, encouraging hard work, perseverance, politeness and responsibility. We also have clear sanctions in place so children and parents know how any poor choices will be handled. Our Behaviour Policy is available on the website.



## Bucklesham School Association (BSA)

Bucklesham School Association is made up of parents and teachers who work tirelessly to raise money for our village school. We encourage all families to take part in a range of social activities to support our fund-raising efforts. Funds raised have purchased computers, reading books, outdoor learning and play equipment, as well as other essential resources. Many trips and events have been subsidised by the BSA and they have raised over £12,000 3 years ago to help fund our new Gym Trail outdoor equipment and £6000 last year to support the purchase of new books and tablets.



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## Governing Body

The Governing Body has responsibility for strategic development and raising standards of achievement at Bucklesham School. We share a passionate belief that all children deserve to have access to high quality teaching and learning experiences and governors regularly visit school classrooms to observe and see learning in action. Governors work in close partnership with and support the Headteacher and staff. We celebrate successes and share next steps for development.

More information about our Governing Body can be found on the website.

[www.buckleshamprimaryschool.co.uk](http://www.buckleshamprimaryschool.co.uk)

## Safeguarding

Bucklesham Primary School is committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children and young people and expects all staff and volunteers to share this commitment. We have a comprehensive Child Protection and Safeguarding Policy which is reviewed annually by the Headteacher and governors. All staff, governors and volunteers receive safeguarding training, covering procedures and how to manage disclosures. Details of our safeguarding policy, procedures and the names of designated safeguarding professionals can be found on the school website.

