



## **Key information for Prospective Parents**

Everything we do at Barns Green Primary is driven by our core **values**:

- Respect
- Responsibility
- Perseverance
- Compassion
- Community
- Inclusion

At Barns Green we revisit 1 value every half-term. By the time pupils leave, they are able not only to define the value, but demonstrate what they look like in everyday life.

## **Our Vision**

- Promoting independent thought & learning
- Providing a broad-based education
- Respecting individuality and difference
- Emphasising the importance of team work
- Nurturing physical health, emotional security and spiritual richness

## **The Barns Green Curriculum**

At Barns Green Primary, we teach the National Curriculum. This consists of 3 core subjects:

English Maths and Science, and

- Art & Design
- Computing
- Design and technology
- French (Key Stage 2)
- Geography
- History
- Music
- Physical Education
- Religious Education
- Personal & Social Education
- Our full curriculum plan, breaking the National Curriculum down into classes and terms can be found on our website.

## **School organisation – the national picture**

Your child will currently be working through the **Early Years Foundation Stage** (EYFS). Their first year in Primary school (Reception) is also spent on the EYFS. At the start of Year 1, they will be ready to move onto the **National Curriculum**. This is split into 4 Key Stages. So we have:

- EYFS (Reception)
- Key Stage 1 (Year 1 & 2)
- Key Stage 2 (Year 3-6)

All of the above are taught at Primary School. At the end of Year 6, your child will move to Secondary School:

- Key Stage 3 (Year 7-9)
- Key Stage 4 (Year 10 & 11).

At the end of Year 11, pupil sit their GCSEs.

## **School organisation – Barns Green Primary**

So, with 7 school years (Reception and Years 1-6), how do they fit into 5 classes?

- Dormouse Class – Reception & Year 1 (currently 26 children)
- Hedgehog Class – Year 1 & Year 2 (currently 28 children)
- Squirrel Class – Year 3 & Year 4 (currently 25 children)
- Otter Class – Year 4 & Year 5 (currently 25 children)
- Fox Class – Year 6 (currently 19 children)

## **How do you decide which child goes where when a year group is split?**

This is down to the professional judgements of the class teachers. Our aim is to create balanced classes, with balances of gender, prior attainment, & friendship groups. We do **not** split year groups along age or ability lines.

## **How does 2 year groups in a class work?**

This is difficult to summarise in a few lines!

The National Curriculum is not split into year groups. Instead it provides us with our end of Key Stage goals. Each child will have a different starting point for this journey, and the journey is led by the teachers. Teaching for wide ability ranges within a classroom is part of everyday teaching experience. A (fairly-old now) piece of research one found that, even in a single-age class, the gap between the highest and lowest achiever is approximately 7 chronological years.

A longer explanation can be found [here](#).

## **Inclusion**

Looking at our school as a whole:

- 11% are on the Special Needs Register
- 9% have English as an Additional Language
- 4% are in receipt of Pupil Premium Grant

## **Academic**

We follow the Read, Write Inc. phonics scheme. Our Year 1 phonics outcomes are in line with National Averages.

At the end of Key Stage 1 and 2 our outcomes are in line with national outcomes.

In recent years our end of Key Stage 2 standards have been above the floor standard.

At the end of year 6, children move onto a whole range of secondary schools – The Weald, Tanbridge House, Forest, Millais and Christ's Hospital.

## **Pastoral**

- Your child's main point of contact through the year will be with their Class Teacher
- Children are sorted into houses 1 of 4 Houses (Siblings are in the same house)
- Once a week our Learning Mentor visits. She is available to work with pupils who face non-academic barriers to learning, e.g. a family bereavement
- School is supported by our Head Boy and Head Girl
- Pupils have a voice through the School Council
- Older pupils are trained with the skills to become effective Play Leaders

## **School Times**

Site opens – 8:45

Registration – 8:55

School ends – 3:20

We are currently unable to offer before or after-school clubs due to COVID restrictions.

## **Key Dates**

Online application are now open

Friday 15<sup>th</sup> January 2021 - National closing date

Friday 16<sup>th</sup> April 2021 – Online applicants notified by email; others by 2<sup>nd</sup>-class post

We have 20 places in Reception. In a usual year we would fill approx. 18 of those.

## **Contacts**

I am more than happy to make a telephone appointment to answer questions.

School office 01403 730614

*or*

[office@barnsgreen.org.uk](mailto:office@barnsgreen.org.uk)