



Wales Primary School

Making a difference

Dear Parents/Carers

Welcome to our school!

Wales Primary School is a school with a strong sense of community. The school has approximately 242 pupils in the primary age phase, and has an attached nursery unit which is run by a private provider.

We are very proud of our school and work very hard to ensure that all of our children feel happy and secure here and that they are helped to achieve their full potential through a broad, stimulating, and relevant curriculum. It is important to us that all of the children in our school are successful and recognise their own talents.

We believe that our curriculum should help each child to develop a firm foundation on which they can build in preparation for adult life. We recognise each child's individuality and strive to meet his or her needs in a caring environment; we have a strong commitment to raising the achievement of all children through a wide range of opportunities and experiences that promote the development of the child academically, socially, physically, intellectually, morally, artistically and spiritually.

Our school grounds are beautiful! Our children have access to a rich outdoor environment, we have our own swimming pool, and we constantly strive to provide an attractive and caring learning environment within the school buildings. We believe we are developing a community in which children learn tolerance and respect for others, self esteem, independence and responsibility, together with a caring attitude towards others, their surroundings, the local community and the wider world.

Children coming into the school bring a wealth of knowledge and understanding about the world around them. It is our aim to build on these skills and promote a willingness, enthusiasm confidence and curiosity to learn more.

Education is a partnership between home and school and we place a great deal of emphasis on our partnership with parents. We know that children learn best when parents/carers and school staff work together for their benefit, we pride ourselves on having an 'open door' policy and welcome your insights into your child's interests, strengths and quirks, throughout their time in WPS but feel that this is particularly important as they join our community for the first time.

I hope that you will find the following information useful and informative. Should you have any further queries or want to share any thoughts or concerns with us please do not hesitate to contact me at any time.

Welcome to our school. I look forward to getting to know both yourself and your child better.

Yours sincerely

Adam Bramall
Headteacher





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A Welcome from the School's Governing Body

Dear Parents and Pupils

May we, the board of governors, take this opportunity to add our sincere and warm welcome to you all?

We understand that you have a choice of schools for your children and we appreciate that the decision to select the correct facility is a difficult one.

Our school offers the warm and friendly environment that is conducive to learning. We are small enough to give personal attention, while large enough to attract the best of the teaching profession.

Please take time to examine our school closely and absorb the feel and philosophy of the teaching practices. This truly is a family unit.

Yours sincerely

Paul Johnson

Paul Johnson
Chair of Governors



School Information





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Address: School Road
Wales
Sheffield
S26 5QG



Telephone: 01909 770236

Fax: 01909 515267

Email: wales.primary@rotherham.gov.uk

School website www.walesprimary.co.uk

Pupils on roll: 242

Type and range: Primary school 4-11 years

Head Teacher: Mr Adam Bramall

Chair of governors: Mr Paul Johnson

School Hours:

Morning	<i>F2 and KS1</i>	09.00 - 12.00
	<i>KS2</i>	09.00 - 12.15
Afternoon	<i>All key stages</i>	13.00 - 15.15

Rotherham LA: Children and Young People's Services

Admissions section
Riverside House
Main Street
Rotherham
S60 1AE

Telephone: 01709 822505





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Our School Vision and Values

Wales Primary School will be a school which sits at the very heart of the community it serves, where a culture of respect, tolerance and high expectations can be felt by every visitor who walks through the doors. It will recognise that the future skills that pupils will need will be very different from the skills needed today, and in order to maximise their life chances, we will prepare them to thrive in an ever changing world.



It is our vision that each pupil who leaves Wales Primary School will have:

- A strong sense of who they are and where they come from
- Respect, tolerance and empathy
- A strong sense of curiosity about the world around them
- An good understanding of what learning is and how to improve themselves as learners
- Resilience, Independent thinking skills and the confidence and ability to articulate and reason
- The strength of character to think for themselves and respectfully question and challenge others
- The ability and adaptability to respond to a changing world





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Our Aims for Children as Learners

We aim to provide our children with the best possible start in life through the provision of a vibrant, relevant curriculum where pupils are challenged and inspired to excel. We strive to develop a community of life-long learners who are ready to succeed in the 21st Century

We will achieve this through a school ethos which:

- Models high standards and sets high expectations of learning, teaching and behaviour
- Nurtures independence
- Works in partnership with parents, carers and the wider school community
- Values creativity and respects individuality
- Inspires children to recognise and build on their own talents
- Promotes outstanding Assessment for Learning by:
 - Enabling children to recognise that they have the power to drive their own learning
 - Teaching children the habits that will shape them as learners
 - Facilitating honesty and openness about learning and progress
 - Providing an environment in which children learn that building on failure is a critical part of improvement

Our non negotiable for every child is that they will achieve the highest possible standards and will have made, at the very least, expected progress, and in many cases will have exceeded national expectations for progress throughout their time in our school





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School Staff

Headteacher:	Mr Adam Bramall
Teaching staff:	Mrs Katherine Askey Miss Natalie Burton Mrs Kirstie Durrans Mrs Michelle Garrity Miss Lucy Harley Mrs Anna McDonald Mrs Charlotte Lax Mrs Claire Long-Melton Mr Michael Ritson Mrs Nichola Robinson Mrs Heather Spencer Mr Guy Turner
Teaching assistants:	Mrs Emma Baxter Mrs Nicola Brumby Mrs Helen Elian-Lycett Mrs Meredith Hinde Mrs Kay Marsh Ms Lindsey Morte Mrs Sarah Riley Mrs Samantha Stewart Ms Marie Watkinson Mrs Claire Willis
Administrative Officer:	Miss Joanne Hallam
School Manager:	Mrs Sheelagh Sorsby
Site Supervisor	Mr Lee Measures





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The School Day

The school day begins at 09.00 and ends at 15:15; however the school is open to pupils and parents from 08:45 for a whole school reading session, which runs each day in the child's classroom from 08:45 to 09:10 in F2 and KS1 and to 09.00 in KS2. Parents and carers are warmly welcomed to join their child's daily reading session.

Children are not permitted to play out in the school grounds prior to the school bell ringing at 08:55 and will be expected to join their class reading session if they arrive at school before 08:55.

School Sessions

- 08:45 – 09:10 (09.00 in KS2) whole class morning task
- 09:10 – 10:10 Session one
- 10:15 – 10:30 Assembly
- 10:30 – 10:45 Playtime
- 10:45 – 12:00 (12:15 in KS2) session two
- 12:00 (12:15 in KS2) – 13:00 Lunch
- 13:00 – 15:15 Afternoon sessions



All children must be picked up from school by a responsible adult unless the school has been informed **in writing** of an alternative arrangement.

Punctuality

School attendance is very important, as is punctuality. If children miss the first part of the day they miss out on important learning and often they struggle to get into the rhythm of the day. Please ensure that you child is ready and in their classroom by 08.55 at the latest and preferably in time for morning task at 08.45.

Attendance/absence

If a pupil misses one day's learning they are missing at least 30 minutes reading, an hour each of writing and mathematics and an additional 2 hours of other subjects. We ask parents to consider whether their child needs to stay off school and only keep them off if you consider them too ill to learn or a risk to other children through having a contagious illness.

If your child is ill or absent from school for any reason please telephone the school on 01909 770236 select option 1 and then leave a message stating the reason for the absence and how long you think your child will be away from school. Because of our legal safeguarding obligations we operate a 'first call' system in school which means that we will phone you if your child is absent from school and you have not contacted us.





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Term Dates 2016/17

School Opens Tuesday 6th September 2016
School Closes Friday 21st October 2016

School Opens Monday 31st October 2016
School Closes Friday 16th December 2016

School Opens Tuesday 3rd January 2017
School Closes Friday 17th February 2017

School Opens Monday 27th February 2017
School Closes Friday 7th April 2017

School Opens Monday 24th April 2017
School Closes Friday 28th April 2017

School Opens Tuesday 2nd May 2017
School Closes Friday 26th May 2017

School Opens Monday 5th June 2017
School Closes Tuesday 25th July 2017

Please note:

There will be 4 further closure days during the school year





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Your Child's Learning

Class Organisation:

The children are grouped according to age in similar sized mixed ability classes. Within each class there is a spread of ability and experience and we work very hard on planning quality learning experiences which meet the needs of all children and help them to achieve their full potential. To ensure this, work is carefully planned in both range and pace and is underpinned by regular assessment procedures, including children's assessment and evaluation of their own work. Whole class, individual and group teaching strategies are used as appropriate. Teachers are supported by well qualified teaching assistants. Class teachers and teaching assistants know your child very well and will be very pleased to involve you in their life at school.



High Expectations, High Achievements:

We have high expectations of ourselves as teachers and of the children as learners. We are confident that the broad and balanced curriculum we offer will stimulate and inspire children to acquire knowledge and develop the vital learning skills which will provide a firm foundation for their future. We know that children make progress at their own rates and in their own ways and that it is vitally important to value them as individuals; providing learning opportunities that will build on their strengths and overcome their weaknesses.

We encourage children to recognise their own talents and skills and to become independent and confident learners which we feel supports both their academic and social development. Children's achievements are celebrated and everyone enjoys success and praise regularly.





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Our children use the **'Wales Learning Behaviours Code'** which recognises, builds on and supports their successes as learners.

The Wales Learning Behaviours Code:

Wanting to learn
Asking questions
Listening and thinking
Evaluating my work
Sticking at it!



We recognise that learning consists of:

- Acquiring knowledge and applying this knowledge
- Understanding ideas and asking questions to further this understanding
- Perfecting skills
- Developing positive attitudes.

In order for this to take place we believe that the children must:

- Become involved with things that are relevant and interest them
- Be active in their learning
- Be encouraged to work with each other
- Make progress and be challenged in each area of learning
- Be encouraged to think and act for themselves and become independent.

We pride ourselves on offering a broad, balanced curriculum which provides for the academic, moral, physical, creative, personal and social development of every child. Every classroom is well resourced and equipped to the highest quality with an environment which is designed to stimulate and challenge. Children and staff make good use of all the available information technology to support teaching and learning. Children access learning opportunities both within the school environment and also through visits to and visitors from the wider community.





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Assessment

Teachers and teaching assistants carry out assessments of children in all lessons and these assessments are used to plan the child's teaching and learning in subsequent lessons in each subject. Day to day assessments are also used to inform judgements of each child's attainment against National Curriculum expectations in reading, writing, mathematics and science.

All assessments are moderated both within school and in Local Authority based moderation meetings. As a school we are very proud to be a Local Authority Lead School for Assessment for Learning which means that our children are given outstanding opportunities to be involved in the assessment of their own work and are encouraged to evaluate their approaches and the quality of their learning, identifying areas for improvement and setting their own targets for improvement.

Special Educational Needs

Occasionally we find that a child does not make the progress we expect. If this is the case parents are consulted and appropriate steps are taken to support the child. This can vary from a small amount of small group or one to one support to a tailored programme based on the recommendations of SEN specialists. Where a child is identified as having additional needs a plan is written to support the child's progress. If, after a period of focused support the child's targets continue not to be met, outside agencies such as the Learning Support Service, Educational Psychologists, Speech and Language Therapists Autism Communication Team or the Behaviour Support Service can be called upon for extra advice and support.

Parents are always consulted and kept fully informed at every stage once we have identified that their child could benefit from some extra help. Similarly, we encourage parents to discuss any concerns they may have about their child's progress or development with their child's teacher.

Our assessment procedures also identify children of very high academic ability, and work is planned to meet the learning requirements of these children. In school children's skills and talents are nurtured through the provision of a number of extra curricular activities, such as More-able mathematician's club, music clubs and lessons and sports clubs.

Children who are identified as having a specific gift or talent also have the opportunity to access a wide range of the LA's Gifted and Talented provision and resources, including those for thinking, mathematics, Science, IT and specific sports and music.





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Home Learning

Wales Primary School has a policy of providing home learning opportunities that are enjoyable, manageable and interesting. Children throughout the school are expected to read at home for at least 10 minutes every day and to work towards achieving their targets in mathematics and literacy. In FS and KS1 we do not 'set' homework on specific days but do give children the opportunity to carry out home learning tasks, which we call 'missions' regularly. These could include researching the strand of a topic, carrying out research, practising spelling words that they find 'tricky', playing a game from school to consolidate a particular mathematics skill, finding artefacts at home to bring into school, making a model linked to their topic... the list is endless! All we ask is that children are supported by reading with them each day and helping them to carry out their 'missions' and that parents inform us of any difficulties they or their children experience in the child's personal organiser, or by talking to the teacher, in order to allow us to adjust the work which is sent home.

In KS2 children will have set homework which includes weekly maths tasks, reading challenges and spelling/grammar activities. Details about homework are in the children's personal organisers.





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School Uniform

Uniform is worn at Wales Primary School to show children's pride in being a member of Wales Primary School.

Our Uniform is:

Navy blue sweatshirt or cardigan

Navy blue, grey or black trousers or skirt

White polo shirt

In warmer weather shorts or **blue** checked dresses may be substituted for trousers and skirts.

F2 children will need a pair of wellies!

Sweatshirts with the school logo and other items, such as book bags and water bottles can be purchased in school or are available at School Trends at Crystal Peaks



Clothing for PE

It is **very important** that children have a change of clothing for PE.

Children need their PE kit school in **everyday**. Their kit should include the following items:

White t-shirt or polo shirt

Navy blue or black shorts

Plimsolls or trainers

Navy blue or black track suit or jogging bottoms and a warm top to wear in colder weather

Please note children are not permitted to wear football shirts or patterned 'fashion' t-shirts or leggings for PE



Swimming

Children must wear swimming trunks or one-piece swimsuit; for safety reasons they **are not permitted** to wear bikinis or swim shorts.

Children with long hair should be able to tie their hair up and may wish to wear a swimming cap. Children are permitted to wear well fitting goggles, but we prefer them to try swimming without goggles first.

Jewellery

Jewellery is **not allowed** in school with the exception of a watch. If your child has pierced ears, small studs are permitted, however for safety reasons children are not permitted to wear earrings in PE lessons and adults in school are not permitted to remove children's earrings, so they **MUST** be removed **by the child** for PE.

We request that if you wish your child to have their ears pierced that you do this during the long summer holiday to give sufficient healing time and avoid your child having to remove earrings for PE before they are healed.





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School Meals and Snacks

At Wales Primary School children can choose to have a school meal, bring a packed lunch, or go home for lunch. Children are only permitted to go home for lunch if they are picked up from school by an adult at the end of the morning session.

School Meals

School meals are prepared off site and follow the Schools Food Trust guidelines for healthy eating. We now run a 'wristband' system where children make their choice of lunch in the morning ensuring that children do not miss out on their choice of meal. Menus are changed each term and vary week on week. Menus are displayed in school and posted on the school website.

Meals are **free for KS1 children** and are **currently £10.25 per week for KS2 children** and we ask for payment for the week on Monday morning. ***All dinner money and money for trips etc should be put in an envelope which is clearly marked with the child's name, what the money is for and the amount of money you are sending; this envelope should then be handed into your child's teacher.***

We do ask that children choose either a school dinner or bring a packed lunch from home and stay with that choice for the whole of the half term. If your child wishes to change, they can do so at the start of each new half term.

Packed Lunches

We have a healthy lunch box policy which means that we ask that children are not allowed to have sweets or confectionary, fizzy drinks or salty snacks such as crisps in their lunch box. You can find information and ideas about healthy lunches on our website. So that you are aware of what your child is eating or not eating we do not allow children to throw away uneaten food from their lunch box (except for opened yoghurts!) instead children will bring home any food which they do not eat so that you know exactly what they have eaten.

Snacks

Foundation Stage and Key Stage One children have the choice of a free piece of fruit or vegetable every day which is provided through the Fruit for Schools charity. Foundation Stage children also have free school milk each day.

Other children are permitted to bring a healthy snack for playtime they are not be permitted to eat sweets, biscuits or confectionary at playtimes.

Please note that children are allowed to bring in cakes to share with their classmates on birthdays, (but these are not compulsory!) please inform your child's teacher if you do not wish your child to have these treats.





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Child Protection and Safeguarding

The safety and welfare of our pupils is of paramount importance to us, all members of staff are very clear about their responsibility to keep children safe and also the ways in which they can support children in having a proportionate response to risk.

We give our responsibilities with regard to child protection and safeguarding high priority and maximum attention. All staff and volunteers hold a current CRB check and all visitors to school sign in, wear identification and unless they have an enhanced CRB are accompanied by a member of staff whilst they are on the school site.

Additionally, risk assessments for visits outside school and unusual activities held within school are completed in accordance with LA procedures.

The school is a child protection agency and has a duty to refer to Social Services and/or the Police any actual or suspected incidents of child abuse.

If you have any concerns about the safety of your child or other children in school or in the community please do not hesitate to speak to a member of school staff.

Mr Adam Bramall is the schools' designated member of staff with responsibility for children protection and safeguarding and Mr Paul Johnson is the designated governor.

If you wish to see a copy of our child protection and safeguarding policy please call into the school office or visit the school website parents' page www.walesprimary.co.uk

