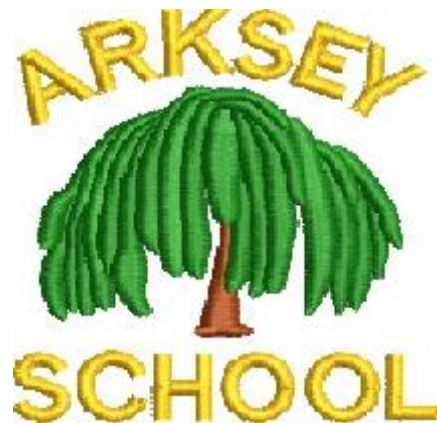


Arksey Primary School 2026

Prospectus





Virtual Tour



1 - <https://youtu.be/9C-wYGdEO98>

Ethos and Values

- The school offers a safe environment in which pupils actively learn and try out new ideas
- Children recognise the part they play in our school community and develop a thirst for personal growth.
- Our school shows its commitment to the development of every individual as a caring, concerned and contributing member of the community.
- We recognise that all children are unique individuals, who are entitled to equality of opportunities, guidance and support to enable them to realise their full potential.
- High expectations of standards of work, effort and behaviour are enhanced by a shared attitude to self-discipline.
- Broad experiences enable pupils to learn through a balanced, sequenced curriculum, which reflects our diverse society.
- Children learn about The World around them with involvement and interest.

Early Years Foundation Stage

During the summer term before the children start school, we invite parents and children into school to spend time with the class teacher and the current Reception class. Parents are invited to an evening meeting where staff share details of life in the Reception Class at our school. We also arrange for informal home visits to take place so the teacher can meet your child where they feel most comfortable. This also gives parents an opportunity to ask questions or pass on details (e.g. medical information) about their child. See this link for basic skills for your child to practice before starting in Reception Class <https://startingreception.co.uk/#the-basic-skills-to-practice>

The Early Years Foundation Stage Curriculum is taught to children during the school year in which they become 5 years old. There are 7 key areas of learning which teachers use to monitor and support children's progress. During the year your child will be observed and a learning journal is completed showing their achievements which follows on from the baseline assessment which is completed when they first start school.

Lessons are based on active learning; play and exploration and are largely practical, with a mixture of adult led and child initiated activities. Children design activities in each area of the classroom and outdoors including construction, mark making, painting, cutting and sticking, small world, role-play (home) corner, sand and water trays. Phonics and Reading are taught throughout the school starting with the Read, Write, Inc scheme followed by Oxford Reading Tree and Cool Classics as the children progress. Children practise these skills at home as well as within the school day and your support of your children with reading is very important - see the section on Homework.

Infants and Juniors Classes: Years 1 -6

All lessons from Years 1-6 are based around The National Curriculum. The lessons are taught through each subject area, enabling children to make links. For example; planting and growing vegetables, experimenting with a plant's requirements for growth and contemplating celebrations of harvest around The World.

Children in Years 1-6 follow The National Curriculum with physical activity forming a key part of the school curriculum across all subjects. This includes...

- English (Literacy)
- Mathematics (Numeracy)
- Science
- Art and Design
- Computing
- Design and Technology
- Geography
- History
- Languages (Years 3, 4, 5 & 6) - French
- Music
- Physical Education

We also follow the agreed local syllabus for Religious Education including major world faiths.

Collective Worship takes place through Whole School and Class Assemblies. Alongside the teaching of (PSHSRE) and throughout the statutory curriculum this underpins our children's spiritual, moral, social and cultural development.

The school also makes provision for Personal, Social and Health Education including Relationships and Sex Education in line with government guidance.

Relationships and Sex Education is an important aspect of the (PSHSRE) Curriculum and Arksey Primary School is concerned with enabling children to act responsibly, develop assertion, self-respect and respect for others. It is set within a framework of developing positive relationships and uses the 'Jigsaw' series, alongside units of work, which relate to local needs. Parents must notify the Headteacher in writing if they wish to withdraw their child from the non-statutory elements of Relationships and Sex Education or Religious Education. If you choose to do so, please be aware that your child will not have the opportunity to learn important concepts in school, which will enable them to lead a safe, happy lifestyle. Your child will be provided with alternative learning opportunities with children other than those in their class. The Headteacher will wish to discuss this with you if necessary.

Personalised Learning

The progress and attitude of all children in school is carefully tracked, allowing early intervention where needed.

Our classes contain a mixture of children's ages and lessons are based around assessment of children's prior knowledge, so time is not wasted teaching pupils what they already know. We endeavour to ensure all pupils receive an appropriate level of challenge for them, no matter what their present ability.

Where pupils do not make the expected progress, we provide additional support. Our Teachers and Learning Support Assistants provide opportunities for children to revise skills and concepts which they are uncertain of and help to fill gaps in children's understanding. Children who are offered this type of support are reassured that doing a little extra practise, alongside their usual lessons will help them and that their achievements will be celebrated. Sometimes, depending on the difficulty, children need additional support for a short period of time and some children will need extra support during all of their time in school.

Pupils who have been identified (through assessment and discussions with Parents/Carers) as having Special Educational Needs and/or Disabilities receive further additional support and targeted work programmes to enable them to continue to progress. We ensure that the support we provide is specifically targeted to meet the child's needs, whilst developing their independence. The targets and support are discussed and agreed by the school, the Child and the Parents/Carers. These are reviewed at least termly, dependent on the nature of the child's needs and their progress.

Pupils and Parents/Carers with disabilities and other protected characteristics are equally welcome at our school. Where specific measures need to be put in place to enable a Pupil/Parent/Carer to take a full part in the life of the school, we make all reasonable adjustments to ensure that no discrimination occurs. Please contact us if you have any specific requirements or would like further information about our provision.

Pupils who excel are as recognised as any other child; with challenging targets set and appropriate learning goals in class given. We celebrate out of school achievements, encourage and support advancement in specialist clubs and events.

Children are grouped in classes of similar age. Mixed year group classes are a common feature of our small school. This means that we are particularly careful to ensure lessons meet the needs of our pupils. Within each class children often work collaboratively. They may be asked to work with children with similar, lower or higher attainment, dependent on the activity. We understand that shared working is a key skill in our society and we endeavour to ensure our children have the skills to do this well. In one lesson children may demonstrate higher ability than in the next lesson. Because of this, we do not consistently set groups for children to work in.

Personalised learning at Arksey Primary School also includes meeting the needs of the children as they become citizens in the wider world. We tailor our Curriculum in order that children learn not only about where they live, but places and people different to them. Tolerance and understanding are gained through our children safely exploring the world around them and through our Personal, Social, Health Relationships and Sexual Education Curriculum.

Home/School Partnership

Children's success depends greatly on the partnership achieved between home and school. All adults at Arksey Primary School welcome the active involvement of Parents/Carers, Grandparents and the wider family.

In order to participate fully in your child's education, the school offers a range of materials to support you. There are of course formal opportunities to visit the school; but we welcome informal visits too. Please do not hesitate to let us know if you have any queries or concerns. Have you seen our...

- Home/School Agreement (part of our Induction Pack)
- Arksey Learning Curriculum (available to view on the school website)
- Weekly Learning Letters (sent direct to you via SIMS Parent App)
- Annual Pupil Report (with learning targets and how you can help at home)
- Newsletters (on the school website and sent via SIMS Parent App)
- Extended School Curriculum Plan (located on the school website)
- Progress Reviews at Parents' Evenings (Autumn and Summer term)
- Invitations to Look & Learn Days - come and see a lesson in progress
- Invitations to Munch & Move - come and enjoy lunch and then a physical lunchtime activity with your child

Parents and other members of the community are welcome at a variety of events at the school. These include special events such as Sports Day, Harvest Festival, Christmas Lunch, Music Concerts and School Production Performances.

Details of events are regularly provided through the weekly learning letter and Parent Engagement App.

Homework

Children will begin to complete homework when they start school in our Reception Class. Parents/Carers are asked to ensure that homework is completed every week. We ask you to set up good routines with your child, promoting learning as enjoyable and interesting. We encourage children to work with you on their homework, gaining independence as they get older. All Year 1 to Year 6 children will receive, as a minimum, English and Mathematics homework each week and it is expected that your child will read with you every school day or equivalent: five times per week.

Life at Arksey Primary School







Uniform

A school uniform gives pupils a form of school identity. It reduces the influence of high-cost fashion clothing and footwear, which can be an expensive problem for families. School Uniform is available through high street retailers, online and at no cost from the Local Uniform Bank. Our children are active learners and their clothing should be suitable for such.

Our school uniform is as follows;

TOPS:

Plain blouse, shirt or polo shirt in blue or white with or without the school emblem.

Plain sweatshirt, jumper or cardigan in navy blue with or without the school emblem.

BOTTOMS:

Plain skirt/skort or pinafore dress, trousers or shorts (not sportswear) in navy blue, black or grey or summer dress in blue gingham check.

FOOTWEAR:

Flat heeled black shoes or closed toe sandals. Trainers may be worn if they are black or white.

Brightly coloured trainers or those with overt branding are not acceptable. If, during the winter, you would like your child to wear boots or wellingtons, please send a change of footwear for indoors.

Hoodies, black cardigans and black sweatshirts are not acceptable.

SUPPLIER OF SCHOOL UNIFORM WITH LOGO:

If you wish to buy items of school uniform bearing the school logo, please check the school supplier, found on our website here <https://www.arkseyprimary.co.uk/school-uniform/>. Sweatshirts, polo shirts, fleeces and cardigans can all be purchased with the school emblem embroidered on them, but this is not mandatory.

PE KIT:

All children wear plain black or navy shorts with a plain white or blue t-shirt. Children may have bare feet for indoor PE and will wear white or black trainers outdoors. Tracksuits/leggings and sweatshirt may be worn for outdoor PE as suited to the weather. No hoods please.

Football shirts are not suitable for school. Footwear and clothing should not have overt branding/logos.

Please ensure all of your child's belongings are labelled with their name. We cannot accept responsibility for children's belongings lost or stolen during school activities. Unnamed found items are returned to classrooms, according to age levels. Uncollected items will be donated to the Uniform Bank.

Jewellery

Children who wear jewellery in school are at risk of serious injury. Please do not allow your child to wear earrings or other jewellery, except for a watch without internet/messaging capability. Any child who cannot remove their earrings for the first six weeks after having them fitted must cover them with surgical tape brought from home for all PE lessons and high risk activities.

Health and Safety

Illness & Medicines

You (or if unavailable, your nominated second person) will be contacted immediately if your child has sustained a significant injury or is taken ill at school and recovery does not occur within a reasonable time. Pupils will never be sent home unaccompanied.

When your child suffers from vomiting or diarrhoea they must be kept at home and not return to school until 48 hours after the last episode of vomiting or diarrhoea.

Children should not attend school with a fever.

Headlice are common in all Primary Schools. You do not need to keep your child at home if they have headlice. Please notify the school in order that we can inform other families to ask them to look at their child's hair and begin treatment if necessary. Advice is available from the School Nurse and Local Pharmacy on the latest recommended solutions.

Staff/Teachers are not routinely permitted to administer pupil's medicines or drugs. On the very rare occasions when a child needs to receive medication whilst attending school, an individual health care plan will be put together by Staff with the Parent/Carer before any medication is accepted and administered in school.

Pupils requiring regular medication, eg. for relief of asthma, are supervised by a staff member after medical information has been received from Parents. Pupils who use inhalers are expected to have their inhalers with them at school for immediate access when necessary and a spare kept in school. Parents must check that inhalers or other medication are clearly labelled and refreshed periodically.

Other long term medical needs must be discussed with the Headteacher/SENCO including any allergies which have been confirmed by a medical professional.

First Aid may be administered to your child in the event of a minor accident or injury. This often entails a cold compress and/or plaster. If your child bumps his/her head, we will ensure you are made aware. If we have any doubt as to the seriousness of a child's injury or condition, we may contact both the emergency services and you or your representative.

Contact Numbers

It is very important that the school has three up-to-date contact numbers for contacting parents/carers during the school day. In cases of emergency it is vital that an additional responsible adult may be contacted if neither parent is available. Data Collection Sheets are required to be completed/updated annually via the parent engagement app. If telephone numbers/addresses change within the school year, please let the school know immediately to amend records.

Attendance

The school day starts at 9.00am and finishes at 3.30pm. Pupils must be ready to enter the classroom at that time. Pupils arriving after 9.15am will be marked as unauthorised late. If a child is late or absent for over 4% of the school year (to the date of review), parents may be contacted by the Attendance Officer to improve their child's attendance.

If your child is absent from school, you must notify us immediately giving the reason for their absence. Requests for leave of absence for special circumstances must be made at least three weeks prior to the intended absence.

Absence for children within traveller families will be authorised as traveller absence if the family are travelling in connection with their parents' work. However, pupils from Traveller families must attend a minimum of 200 sessions per year.

Approval of absence for special circumstances may be granted by the Headteacher, eg. one day of absence for attendance at the wedding or funeral of a family member. This must be requested in advance with as much notice as possible. Unless holiday requests are as a result of very specific special circumstances, they will not be authorised in term time and may result in a Fixed Penalty Notice being issued. Absence for any event which can be reasonably arranged out of school time will not be authorised. Further information on circumstances which may be approved is available from the School Office.

Food in School

We promote healthy eating and do not allow children to bring snacks of crisps, sweets and chocolate bars to school. We encourage children to wear non-uniform on their birthday instead of bringing in food items to share. Fresh fruit or vegetables are available for all Reception, Years 1 and 2 children at no cost to parents every day. 189ml of fresh milk is also available to all children through CoolMilk.com. Your child will be entitled to free milk up to the end of the week before they turn five.

Lunches eaten in school must meet the School Food Standards and school lunches are available to purchase in advance through ParentPay. Many families are entitled to free school meals and all Reception, Years 1 and 2 pupils are entitled to receive a funded meal. We encourage Reception, Years 1 and 2 pupils to enjoy a school lunch to enable them to try a wide variety of foods. However, if you choose to provide a packed lunch from home for your child, please ensure that it meets the recommendations for a healthy meal in accordance with the School Food Standards. Advice on what you may wish to include is available from the school, or on the school website under Healthy Eating. Items which fall outside of the guidance will be brought home by your child.

Before and After School Clubs

We welcome all pupils to attend our Breakfast Club which opens at 8.00am each school day, where they can enjoy cereals, toast and fruit juice and activities before class registration.

We also offer a range of After School Clubs including Art and In or Out Construction Club. The School Office uploads information to ParentPay at the beginning of every half term on dates, prices and availability for parents to book. We also offer an extended school club until 5.00pm or 5.30pm everyday, Arksey Afters, all the information is on ParentPay for parents to book.

Advice, Help and Complaints

We believe that every child's needs are important.

If for any reason you have a complaint, please contact the relevant member of staff in school. If you are not satisfied with the outcome, contact the Headteacher who will be happy to help and can provide you with a copy of the school complaints policy if necessary. The Governing Body are also able to hear complaints. Most concerns can be remedied quickly and simply. Please come to see us as soon as you have a concern, no matter how small it may seem. Your child is important.

If you are seeking advice regarding your child, please take a look at the relevant sections of the school website, eg physical and medical health, including illness and speech and language therapy and school nursing. Mental Health including emotional health in parents and bereavement, psychological therapy and getting advice. Safeguarding including, social media, sleep advice, Uniform Bank and parenting information.

If you need support to find the best agency to help you and your family, please do not hesitate to ask the appropriate staff member.

Staff and Governors

Teaching Staff:

Mrs S Fisher (Headteacher and Designated Safeguarding Lead)

Miss C Davis (Headteacher, Class Teacher and Deputy Designated Safeguarding Lead)

Miss T Sykes (Class Teacher, SENDCo and Mental Health First Aider)

Mrs D Walters (Class Teacher)

Mrs S Tweed (Higher Level Teaching Assistant and Adult Mental Health First Aider)

Mrs C Evans (Learning Support Assistant)

Miss S Mason (Learning Support Assistant)

Support Staff:

Mrs F Hutchinson (School Business Manager)

Mrs D Gill (Administrative Assistant)

Mr N Walters (Caretaker)

Midday Staff:

Miss R Smith

Mrs J Walleth

Miss A King

Governors:

Mrs W Gray (Chair)

Mr R Gill (Vice Chair)

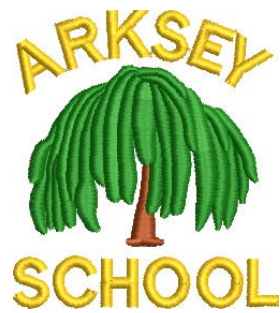
Mr M Cartwright

Mrs A Dusi

Mrs T Turner

Mrs S Fisher (Headteacher)

Miss C Davis (Associate Member)



All members of the community show they are 'Arksey Proud'. ... The school is an extremely happy place to be - Ofsted - May 2022