



Vocabulary



ascending

descending



Broom Barns  
Primary School



Mrs J Currant  
Headteacher

# Headteacher's Welcome

## Welcome to Broom Barns Primary School.

I feel privileged to be the Headteacher at Broom Barns and I take pride in the achievements of all our children.

I firmly believe in the school vision and believe that every child should become R.I.C.H. Resilient, Independent, Confident, Happy.

The last Ofsted report stated (July 2023),

“ This is a welcoming and inclusive school where pupils are happy.”

"Pupils engage in their learning and take pride in producing high quality work."

"Behaviour of pupils is exceptional. Pupils are polite and well mannered. They listen to the instructions of adults and work hard in lessons." ”

If you would like to view the full report please visit  
<https://reports.ofsted.gov.uk>

We look forward to getting to know you and your child. Should you ever wish to discuss any aspect of the school with us, please do not hesitate to get in touch. If you would like to make an appointment to view our school, please ring the office on 01438 354913.

**Warmest wishes**

Mrs J Currant  
Headteacher

# About Our School

Our staff are dedicated, forward thinking and both children and adults enjoy working in a friendly, calm and purposeful environment.

Broom Barns Primary School is situated in a residential area of Bedwell, Stevenage, near to the Town Centre, Fairlands Lakes and Whomerley Wood/ Monks Wood. We have a variety of internal facilities including a new ICT suite and library, a hall, and Hub. Outside, there is: a large playing field; allotment areas for the children and our own nature area. We also have extended care/learning including a nurture club at lunchtime, a breakfast club and a variety of after school clubs.

## R.I.C.H.

**Resilient,  
Independent,  
Confident,  
Happy.**



## Vision Statement

At Broom Barns we treat each other with respect. We are a safe, happy and supportive school community, where everyone can enjoy learning to achieve their goals.

Broom Barns School is committed to providing equality of opportunities to all. We are proud to be an inclusive school that supports all children and adults.

At Broom Barns we aim to inspire and empower our children to learn by providing a stimulating and exciting learning environment. We will provide a modern and relevant curriculum to enable all children to achieve their full potential. We recognise each child as an individual and encourage them to become resilient, independent, confident and happy children who can think for themselves. This is underpinned by a core set of values, which will prepare them for today's society.



# School Information

## Organisation of Admissions

Admissions to the school are controlled by Hertfordshire County Council. The Admissions Team is happy to advise parents on all aspects of admission to the County's Schools. Though this brochure aims to give you a flavour of the school, you can only truly appreciate the atmosphere of our school if you come and visit in person, please call in or telephone to make an appointment (01438 354913).

## School Times

**Nursery**

8.55am - 11.55am

**Rec to Yr 6**

8.50am - 3.20pm



## Attendance & Holidays in Term Times

Children of school-age who are registered at a school must, by law, attend school every day. Attendance is important, not just because the law requires it, but because it is the best way of ensuring that a child makes the most of the educational opportunities which are available to him or her. There may be occasions when a child has to miss school - for example, if he or she is very unwell.

In particular, parents should avoid taking their children out of school during term-time in order to go on holiday.

We closely monitor attendance, punctuality and its impact on children's learning. Your child must be in class by 8.50a.m. to register, if they arrive after this time they are late. The class doors and registers shut at 9.00a.m. and for the staff and children's safety the door remains closed. If you arrive after 9.00a.m. please bring your child to the main entrance and sign them in on our electronic system.

If your child has a dentist, doctor or hospital appointment he/she must be brought to school as normal. You will need to collect and return your child from the office, and sign them in/out. Please bring your appointment card/letter with you so we can take a copy for our files.



## School Uniform

The school uniform is based on the school colours of grey and red. Good quality red sweatshirts, polo shirts together with grey fleeces are available for sale from most supermarkets and chain stores. School uniform makes an important contribution to the ethos of the school and the work and attitude of the children. Wearing a school uniform reinforces a sense of community belonging and avoids best clothes being spoiled. Please ensure that your child is dressed in clothes that he/she can easily manage. Younger children benefit from pull-up trousers and skirts and non laced shoes.

Our Year 6 pupils have the privilege of having the choice of wearing a black uniform. Your co-operation in ensuring that your child wears uniform to school is essential.

The children will need plain red, black or white shorts and a white T-shirt for P.E (no logos). and games. P.E. lessons in the hall are usually done in bare feet, but trainers are required for outdoor lessons. Please ensure your child is provided with suitable kit. It is a county health and safety rule that jewellery is NEVER worn whilst doing physical activities.



Children will be requested to remove earrings or they will be required to wear tape over earrings - Parents/Carers may be asked to provide tape.

Since many of the areas are carpeted, children are expected to have indoor shoes (plimsolls) to change into on arrival at school. Black slip-on plimsolls are ideal. A drawstring shoe bag to keep them in would be most helpful. A shoe bag is available for sale from the school office.



# School Curriculum

## Early Years

Children in the Nursery and Reception Class are in the Foundation Stage. The Foundation Stage centres around 3 prime and 4 specific areas of learning.

- Personal, social and emotional development
- Communication, language and literacy
- Physical development
- Literacy
- Maths
- Understanding of the world
- Expressive arts and design

The curriculum is designed to stimulate the child's desire to learn by introducing him or her to a broad range of educational experiences. We provide well planned experiences based on children's interests. Children learn to play, explore, become an active learner and create and think critically.

We are particularly fortunate to be situated within walking distance of many amenities, e.g. museum, fire station, leisure centre, Whomerley Wood, Fairlands Valley etc.

We frequently make use of the immediate environment and for short outings of this nature; we will not always inform you. We do, of course, ensure that any group is well supervised.

## Key Stage 1 and 2

The National Curriculum prescribes the content of much of what we teach and consists of core and foundation subjects, and Religious Education (R.E).

The core subjects are:

- Mathematics
- English
- Science
- Computing

We have developed our own school framework to ensure that we not only meet these requirements, but also establish a careful progression of skills and knowledge from year to year, with opportunities to assess and monitor children's progress. We use a wide variety of teaching methods, and children are taught as a class, in year groups, in pairs or individually depending on the nature of the class.



## Home Learning

We expect all children to read daily. Younger children need to read with an adult whilst parents should question, and have a discussion with older children about their reading. We also expect all children to do daily practise of spellings, times tables and number bonds. Class teachers will support you with any questions you may have about home learning.

## Most Able and Talented Children

All children are encouraged to be independent and self-motivated and develop their abilities. We believe that the role of the school is to provide a wide range of challenging learning opportunities which will enable each individual, including those with exceptional abilities, to develop to their full potential. At Broom Barns we aim to create an ethos which encourages children of all abilities to achieve, to establish a culture where children want to achieve, have high aspirations, and celebrate and reward performance.

Early recognition of the most able and talented children is extremely important. We keep a register of such children which is continually monitored and updated. When planning work for the most able and talented children, one of our main aims is to encourage higher order thinking skills. We endeavour to extend and enrich the children's learning and in doing so, we take advantage of links with outside agencies wherever possible.

## Special Educational Provision

Each child's progress is carefully monitored throughout the school. Many children at some time during their school life have some special or additional need. Sometimes this need is temporary and sometimes more long term. If a child has been identified as having a special educational need, parents will be consulted and where necessary plans are drawn up to help a child's learning. In the majority of cases children are supported through the school's own resources. For example they may, in some cases, work in a small group supported by a teaching assistant on work planned by the teacher. From time to time it may be necessary, with parental consent, for us to seek the advice and expertise of professionals outside of the school (e.g. the school educational psychologist).



# Keeping Healthy and Lunchtimes

We aim to ensure that children are encouraged to lead a healthy lifestyle by supporting; healthy eating; the enjoyment of exercise/sport and taking care of everyone's emotional well-being. Our family support worker works closely with children and families when the need arises. All our aims are bolstered by maintaining relationships with families to ensure good support of our philosophy and practices.

Water is freely available throughout the day and we encourage children to drink regularly. Children are encouraged to eat fruit at break time. Younger children are also able to drink milk every day. Break times are a time for children to play and enjoy themselves.

Our school kitchen staff provide the children with a well-balanced meal at lunchtime. School dinners have to be paid for in advance. The children who have a school meal have a choice of many options and these change daily.

School dinners prove to be a popular part of the day!

There is a wide and varying range of after school and lunchtime activities which are led by staff. These clubs differ termly and offer a wide range of different sports and activities. The school has a community focus and is sometimes used by external organisations.

We have staggered lunchtimes at Broom Barns where the younger children eat first. There is a team of skilled Midday Supervisory Assistants who supervise the children in our dining room and a team who interact with the children when playing outside. Lunchtime is a happy, safe and important time of the day.

## Behaviour

We believe that outstanding behaviour stems from:

- Positive relationships between children and between adults and children
- A well planned, relevant curriculum
- High expectations
- A commitment by all staff to the policies and ethos of the school
- A positive relationship between home and school
- Praise and celebration of achievement

At Broom Barns, it is expected that children from an early age behave well and show respect for other people and their property. As a school, we have a Behaviour Policy which all children abide by. Many positive reward systems are used in school, such as a R.I.C.H. award, certificates, stickers and special treats. All our children enjoy receiving praise! We also believe that behaviour is shown through a child's attitude towards their learning. We want children to love their learning and have a thirst for knowledge. At Broom Barns we challenge and drive for all children to have an outstanding attitude to learning. In cases of persistent misbehaviour, we hope to work together with parents to resolve any problem and put matters right. In the case of continuing bad behaviour, a series of carefully staged sanctions exist, the final one being exclusion from school in exceptional circumstances.

# School Council

At Broom Barns, we believe that 'children's voice' is important. We like our pupils to be independent, reflective and to plan for the future. We believe in listening to children and allowing them to have their own opinions and beliefs. Each year, every class votes for their class councillors. These children then join together to form our School Council. The School Council meets regularly to discuss school improvement and to share the opinions of their classmates with school staff. The School Council are also heavily involved in organising and delivering various events throughout the school year. We are very proud of our School Council.

# Illness or Injury

All of our staff are first aid trained. However, should your child become unwell, you will be requested to collect them from school as soon as possible. Children, who have been absent from school due to a sickness bug, must remain at home for 48 hours after the symptoms have subsided. Should a child have a serious accident at school, a parent will be contacted and medical help sought if necessary. All minor accidents are recorded as well and these are reported to parents either verbally or by accident slip. It would be helpful if parents could notify the school of any infectious illnesses. Eg: whooping cough; measles; etc.



# Child Protection

Broom Barns Primary School is committed to ensuring the welfare and safety of all children in school. Broom Barns follows the Hertfordshire District safeguarding procedures. The school will, in most circumstances, endeavour to discuss all concerns with parents/carers about their children. However, there may be exceptional circumstances when the school will discuss concerns with Social Workers and/or the Police without parental knowledge (in accordance with Hertfordshire District safeguarding procedures). The school will, of course, always aim to maintain a positive relationship with all parents/carers. The school's child protection policy is available on the school website.

# Extended School and Extra-Curricular Activities

## Breakfast

Broom Barns Breakfast Club is run by trained staff who plan the activities for children to have fun and learn whilst playing. Breakfast club runs from 7.50am to 8.50am. To arrange, for your child to attend breakfast club please pay and book via the online booking system 'Arbor App' for phones/tablets or 'Arbor Parent Portal' for computers. Please note bookings need to be paid for at the time of booking, and bookings must be made 24 hours in advance.

## After School

After school clubs run from 3.15pm to 4.20pm. To arrange, for your child to attend an after school club please pay and book via the Arbor online booking system.



# Comments/Complaints

We aim to do the best for all our pupils. Any comments you have will be helpful to us to ensure that we achieve our aims. We all like to hear praise about our work and any compliments would be very welcome, but equally if you have a problem or something concerns you, we want you to tell us about it.

# Information and Communication

We like to keep you informed and hear your views. This is achieved through:

- Daily contact with your child's class teacher
- Regular newsletters
- Our website
- Emails and texts
- Parents evenings twice a year
- Written school reports
- Questionnaires or consultation with parents
- An open door - parents are welcome in school at any time. Just call in or telephone to make an appointment.





**Broom Barns Primary School**

Homestead Moat, Stevenage, Herts, SG1 1UE

Tel: 01438 354913

Email: [admin@broombarns.herts.sch.uk](mailto:admin@broombarns.herts.sch.uk)