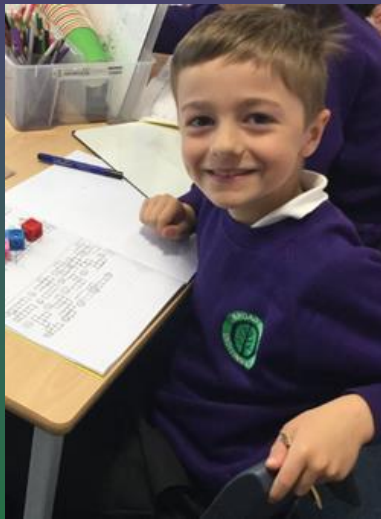


Broad Oak Primary School



WELCOME TO BROAD OAK PRIMARY

Dear Parents/Carers

Thank you for your interest in our school and welcome to Broad Oak.

My name is Kevin Corteen and I am the Head teacher. I joined the school in September 2012 and am extremely proud of the achievements of our school community.

Our motto 'Exciting Minds' succinctly outlines our commitment to provide engaging and memorable learning experiences that foster a love of learning and allow our pupils to reach their full potential.

We have well over 500 children in school, including a 40 place Nursery. We are very fortunate to have children from a diverse cultural background with families joining us from countries across the globe. Some of our children speak very little English at first but within weeks their confidence grows and their language develops. We love to learn about each others countries and customs.

There are many opportunities for children, parents, governors and staff to be an integral part of the shaping of our school community. We strongly believe that education is a partnership between home and school. We believe that children learn best when home and school work together for their benefit, and so we will strive to involve families and encourage you to share your child's learning journey.

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 and enthusiasm to learn more.

I look forward to meeting you

Kevin Corteen
Head teacher



Attitude

Behaviour

Courage

Determination

Enthusiasm

Friendship

Resilience

At Broad Oak Primary School we want every child to be happy and to grow socially, personally and academically.

All children are valued equally, regardless of race, gender or disability.

Through our **Core Values (outlined below) we will help children to:**

question and argue rationally and to apply themselves to tasks

acquire the knowledge and skills relevant to adult life which will enable them to participate as citizens and parents in a rapidly changing world

appreciate the aspirations and achievement of people throughout the ages

acquire reasoned attitudes, values and beliefs including a respect for and understanding of other people's religious and moral values

understand the world in which they live and the inter-dependence of individuals, groups and nations

experience responsibility, develop negotiating skills and exercise judgement

experience the school as a caring, supportive learning environment where there is equal opportunity regardless of sex, race, culture or disadvantage

enjoy the learning process and encourage them to take advantage of education opportunities throughout life.



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Our school buildings comprise of 23 separate classrooms, 3 group teaching bays, an ICT suite, a library, a resourced provision for pupils identified with SEMH needs (Social, Emotional, Mental Health) and a multipurpose redeveloped bungalow with a therapeutic room and a practical bay for gardening and cookery. There is a hall and a dining room. We have asphalt play areas all around the building with games courts marked out. We are very fortunate to have extensive grounds incorporating football pitches, a running track, tyre play areas, woodland areas and even our own pond which will be used for pond dipping. We love to care for the environment and often use the outdoor areas during lesson time. Every classroom has an interactive whiteboard and three PCs. The children also have access to a mobile unit that contains laptops and iPads.

Our published admission number each year is 40 in the Nursery and 90 in every other year group. The school currently has capacity for 650 pupils. School will begin with a bell at 8.55am. Lunchtime is from 11.30am until 1.30pm, with staggered sittings so that each child has a 1hr lunchtime.

The afternoon session ends at 3.15pm for the Nursery and 3.20pm for everyone else. We ask that parents arrive promptly to collect and deliver their children.



High expectations, High achievements

The broad and balanced curriculum will stimulate your child to acquire knowledge and develop individual skills. Children's achievements are celebrated and everyone enjoys success and praise regularly during their time in school. We encourage children to become independent and confident in both their work and social development.

The children are taught by their own class teacher in mixed ability classes with children of approximately the same age. There are two/three classes per year group that take up to 30 children each. Every classroom is fully furnished and equipped with the highest quality learning resources.



The class teacher will get to know your child very well and will be pleased to involve you in their life at school. Children make progress at their own rates and in their own ways. It is important to value them as individuals and to provide learning opportunities that will build on their strengths and overcome their weaknesses.

The curriculum is broad and balanced and provides for the academic, moral, physical, creative and personal and social development of every child.

In our school today we recognise that learning consists of:

- Acquiring knowledge
- Understanding ideas
- Perfecting skills
- Developing good attitudes.

In order for this to take place the children must:

- Become involved with things that 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.

The Foundation Stage

The Foundation Stage makes a crucial contribution to children's early development and learning. We provide children with a rich variety of teaching and learning experiences that are appropriate to their needs. The Foundation Stage is about developing key learning skills such as listening, speaking, concentrating, persistence and learning to work and co-operate with others.

The areas of learning that make up the Foundation Stage curriculum are:

- Personal, social & emotional development
- Physical development
- Communication and language

- Mathematics
- Understanding the world
- Literacy
- Creative development



The outdoor environment is also a very special part of the Foundation Stage curriculum.

As such it is carefully planned for and available each day. The reception classes share the outdoor area with the Nursery. The teaching to achieve these early learning goals will be through first hand experience and structured play. The areas of experience will be linked to the National Curriculum.

The teachers, key workers and teaching assistants will keep records on children's experiences and attainments.

Assessments of development and learning needs will be ongoing throughout the school year. During the first half of the autumn term the teacher will carry out a baseline assessment for every child. This will establish where they are in aspects of their learning and development and help future planning. The results of this early assessment will be shared with parents at the parents evening in the autumn term.

We encourage children towards reading, communication and mathematical skills from the very beginning. Much of this earlier learning is achieved through carefully structured play. Young children who cannot read or write often express their ideas and feelings through play. It is an important way of developing new skills and building up relationships with other children both individually and in groups.

Reading is taught through a variety of different structured reading schemes supplemented with a wide range of other books. Books are organised in a structured, graded way to allow children many opportunities for consolidation of key vocabulary. We encourage parents to work with their child at home by hearing them read on a daily basis. We are always pleased to discuss ways in which they can help their child at each stage of their reading development with parents.



Key Stage 1 (ages 5-7 years) and Key Stage 2 (ages 8-11 years)

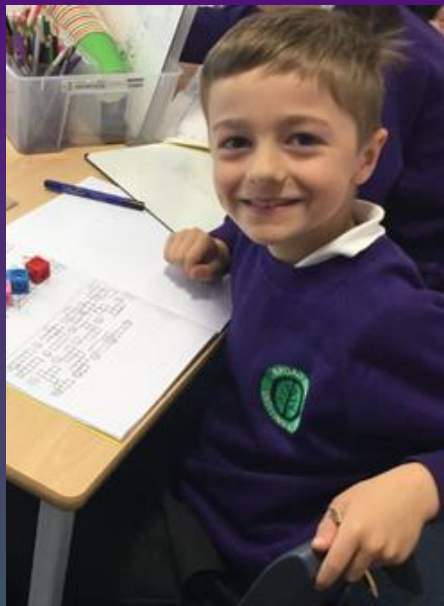
The core curriculum comprises of:

- English
- Mathematics
- Science
- Information Communication Technology

Children also study the subjects below as part of the National Curriculum. These are called foundation subjects.

- Art and Design
- Design Technology (DT)
- French
- History
- Geography
- Music
- Physical Education

Children are also taught Personal, Social, Health and Citizenship Education.



Religious Education

Non-denominational Religious Education is provided for all children as part of the curriculum and is in accordance with the local agreed Manchester Religious Education syllabus. Assembly is an important part of the school day when we meet together as a community. It is a time when we place emphasis on the development of values and attitudes towards each other and the world around us. Assemblies are nondenominational and although they are of a broadly Christian nature due consideration is given to the multicultural society in which we live. Parents have the right to withdraw their children from religious education and collective worship should they so wish. If parents do not wish their child to be taught the agreed syllabus or take part in short acts of collective worship then they should inform us in writing. Their child can then be excused and suitable alternative arrangements made.



Extra-curricular activities

We have a wide range of activities on offer. Our breakfast club runs every morning from 8:00am. Children from Nursery to Year 6 enjoy a healthy breakfast and love to play games with each other. Sports activities vary from year to year as we work closely with the School Council to find out what our children would like.

We currently offer sports such as judo, pentathlete, football, netball, streetdance and cheerleading. For children who enjoy other activities we also offer art, gardening and film club.



Educational Visits

Visits play an essential role in our work and take place on a regular basis. These vary from place in the locality for instance the library, Fletcher Moss Park and Parris Wood High to residential trips for children in Year 6.

Home Learning

At Broad Oak Primary we work hard to provide home learning opportunities that are enjoyable, manageable and interesting. Children throughout the school are encouraged to read at home for at least 10 minutes on a daily basis. It is also expected that parents and staff will write comments in their reading diary when a child is heard reading. We do set 'Brain builder' homework that incorporates a range of open tasks each week linked to the learning taking place in the classroom. These could be researching a topic, finding out specific information, practising spelling words that they find 'tricky', playing a game from school to consolidate a particular maths skill, visiting a place of interest, finding artefacts at home to bring into school ... the list is exhaustive!



SATs

In the summer term of Years 2 and 6, the children carry out the required Standard Assessment Tasks and Tests (SATs). The class teacher assesses each child's development in speaking and listening, reading and writing, mathematics and science. In the summer term of Y1 all children also undertake a Phonics Screen. Parents are informed of how their child has done at the end of the summer term as part of their child's annual school report.

Special Educational Needs

Children's progress is constantly monitored and assessed and careful records are kept.

Occasionally we find that a child does not make the progress we expect. If this were the case parents would be consulted and appropriate steps to support the child taken. An Individual Education Plan may be made with individual targets, review dates and ideas to help parents to support their child at home. If targets continue not to be met, outside agencies such as Educational Psychologists, Speech and Language Therapists or Behaviour Specialists may be called upon for extra support. After further consultation with parents the Local Authority (LA) may have to make a statutory assessment based on specialist advice. The LA may then draw up an Education Health Care plan (EHC). This describes all of the child's needs and all the special help that should be provided.



Good behaviour is a necessary condition for effective learning to take place

We have a clear code of conduct which is applied consistently to all stakeholders in school. The code is based around the principles of rights and responsibilities; these are mostly matters of common sense to ensure the safety of our children. The emphasis in the school is to praise positive behaviour, attitude and effort and to increase children's awareness of the need to make a positive contribution to their community. We have a Behaviour Policy which is consistently applied by all adults who work in school; pupils who consistently follow the rules and demonstrate our Core Values can earn the 'Always' badge.



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What happens if a child behaves inappropriately?

- The child will be given warnings depending on the nature of their behaviour
- They may be given 'time out' to calm down and reflect
- If the inappropriate behaviour continues your child will be spoken to by the member of the senior leadership team responsible for their phase, and you will be invited into school for a meeting.
- In the case of serious or persistent misbehaviour that could endanger or distract other children. The head teacher will meet with the child and parents and this could lead to a fixed term exclusion from school.

Working together to improve behaviour

We will always try to work with parents. Good behaviour is the result of a partnership between home and school and standards set at home and school should complement each other. If any pupil lets his or her standards of behaviour fall, we will inform parents and discuss it with them. It may be that sanctions outside school can help to reinforce sanctions being used in school.



Food and Drink

We have our own school kitchen which is run by Manchester Fayre and the children can have a freshly cooked meal each day. Alternatively they can bring a packed lunch. Children in the nursery and reception classes have a free piece of fruit each day which they eat at morning or afternoon break time. In the main school a healthy snack is encouraged. A list of appropriate items can be found in our Healthy Eating policy via the school website. A small carton of milk can be purchased. Details of this will be available at induction. Children are encouraged to drink water during the day at school. It has been proven that if children have regular access to water during the day they are more able to concentrate. Water bottles/cups are kept in the classroom.



Friends Of Broad Oak (FOBO)

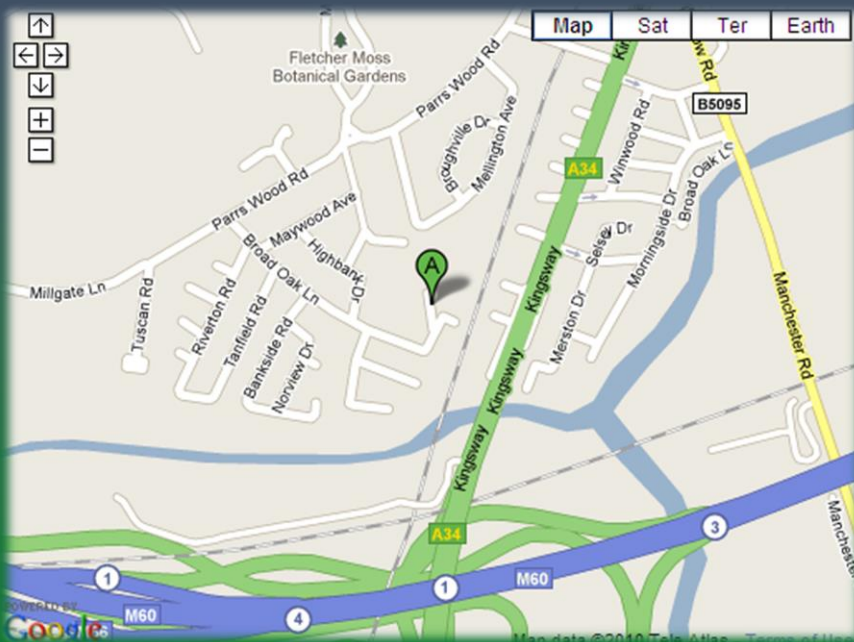
All parents are automatically members of FOBO and everyone is welcome to attend the monthly meetings. The group organise various functions throughout the year. These events will raise money that will enable FOBO to provide equipment that might not otherwise be available to the school. We encourage all parents to get involved, it is a brilliant opportunity to meet other parents and have some fun. (The FOBO noticeboard can be found in the main reception area).



We would be delighted to welcome you on a visit to our fantastic school. We have an open door policy and will always try to answer any questions that you may have very quickly.

If you are looking for a school place for Nursery or Reception aged children please contact the Local Authority on 0161 2347188 as they are responsible for our admissions. If you are looking for a place for an older child please telephone to establish if we have any vacancies in the appropriate year group.

All schools are very different and choosing the right one for your child is not an easy task. We wish you every success in finding the school that best suits your child's unique personality, interests and learning needs.



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Head teacher: Kevin Corteen

Chair of Governors: Mr John Janulewski



We Love Manchester

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The information in this booklet was correct at the time of going to print