



# Irby Primary School

*Inspiring Pupils Successfully*



## Prospectus



# WELCOME TO IRBY PRIMARY SCHOOL



## A MESSAGE FROM THE HEADTEACHER

We are delighted that you and your family have chosen to be a part of Irby Primary School, whether you are an existing member of our community or new to us. We hope that the website provides any information you seek and an insight into everyday life in our friendly and caring school.

Irby Primary School's success is based upon the commitment of children, parents, staff and governors, who work in unison to nurture a caring and supportive learning environment in which every pupil is valued. Our skilled and diligent staff have created and continue to develop a broad and balanced curriculum that is tailored to the needs of the children. It is delivered through high quality teaching and engaging learning activities that revisit and build upon key skills and knowledge.

Our motto is: 'Be kind, Work hard and Never Give Up' which is nurtured and supported through a focus upon the positive reinforcement of children's behaviour, efforts and attitude to learning which helps us to ensure each child unlocks their potential and is well placed to enjoy a happy and rewarding life.

Passionate about academic excellence, we recognise that academic study is only one of many strands that form an enjoyable, memorable and quality education. Through a structured PSHE curriculum, high levels of pastoral care and staff who care, we focus upon the needs of individuals pupils to nurture children that:

- Feel safe and secure.
- Recognise and develop positive relationships.
- Develop confidence and self-worth.
- Learn about and demonstrate honesty, respect and responsibility.
- Learn about and demonstrate determination, resilience and positive thinking.

Through the provision of a rich selection of school-based and extra-curricular activities, we encourage children to actively participate in all aspects of school life, developing enterprise, sport, creative and artistic skills, as well as exploring new opportunities and discovering possible future interests.

We encourage children to approach challenges and new experiences with positivity, to realise that mistakes are an important part of learning and to be proud of their efforts when they have given their best.

We welcome you and look forward to supporting yourself and your child over the forthcoming years.

Mr Dixon  
Headteacher

In November 2015, the OFSTED inspectors judged our school to be outstanding and described our strengths:

- Supported by continually learning and highly skilled staff, the headteacher is successful in establishing a calm, friendly school with a family feel. The culture established by the headteacher is one of ambition for every pupil.
- Teaching is outstanding across most subjects. As a result, pupils are musical, artistically creative and develop linguistically in three languages. They have a good understanding of the world through their geography work and develop a thorough understanding of different cultures. Almost every pupil has secure computing skills and a good understanding of events and people in history. Highly effective teaching assistants and highly trained teachers check pupils' skills and knowledge throughout lessons. They ask searching questions that develop pupils' thinking and understanding.
- There is a rich, varied curriculum which has been thoughtfully planned and designed to have a significantly positive impact on pupils' outcomes.
- Provision for the youngest children is outstanding. In Reception, children quickly gain in confidence and independence. They make rapid progress and are very well prepared to start school in Year 1. The leader of the early years provides highly effective leadership. She is continually looking to improve provision. The leader has high expectations of children, which is key to making sure that they attain the highest possible levels. These expectations extend to children's behaviour.
- The behaviour of pupils is outstanding. Parents, pupils and staff all agree that behaviour is well managed by the school. Pupils regulate their own and others' behaviour and attitudes. Bullying incidents are rare. Their outstanding behaviour and attitudes to learning are key factors in their excellent progress. Pupils' behaviour in lessons is a strength. They are keen, concentrate and persevere in their activities, show an eagerness for learning and rarely get distracted from their activities. As a result, they become very successful learners. In part, this is because the curriculum and activities are lively and exciting.
- Pupils' personal development and well-being are outstanding. They feel very safe and they develop into mature, confident, articulate young people who make a strong contribution to their community.
- Governors are highly knowledgeable and committed and make a very good contribution to school improvement.

# LEARNING AND WORKING TOGETHER

## Curriculum

- Our curriculum is planned carefully so that all children are inspired and motivated to learn
- We aim to ensure that the curriculum meets the needs of every child and is delivered in a way that helps the children perform well academically as well as feeling happy, safe and secure in their environment
- Our curriculum is broad to ensure children have the chance to shine in different areas
- We take account of children's differing learning styles and ensure our lessons accommodate their varying needs and involve the children in their own learning

*"It is the accumulation of whole-class, individual and small-group teaching that is effective at this school. The different styles and techniques blend well to suit pupils' different styles of learning."* OFSTED 2015

## Complaints about the Curriculum

Any concerns about the curriculum are settled quickly and informally at school level. The complaints procedure exists for those parents who wish to pursue a complaint through more formal channels. A copy of the complaints procedure is available from the school or directly from the Local Authority.

## Gifted and Talented Children

We identify children who have the ability to function at a higher level in one or more of the following areas:

- Academic – English, Mathematics, Science
- Physical – Sport, Dance
- Aesthetic – Music, Art, Drama
- Mechanical – DT, Computing
- Social Skills – Leadership, Teamwork

We then:

- Adjust tasks and expectations
- Provide enrichment and extension activities to motivate and challenge
- Provide opportunities to develop talents
- Signpost outside clubs, events and competitions.



## Special Educational Needs

- We are committed to inclusive education. We work closely with parents and outside agencies to identify children with special needs so that we can minimise barriers to learning and ensure children meet their full potential
- Our school has no stairs and we also have modern disabled facilities and access.

## Religious Education

- As a school we welcome children from all faiths, backgrounds and cultures. We celebrate our differences and seek to develop respect for the views of others
- We hold strong moral values and encourage everyone to demonstrate those within our school
- Children come together as a whole school for collective worship on a regular basis. We also have good links with our local churches; whether through visits or visitors taking special lessons or assemblies
- Religious Education is taught throughout both Key Stages covering many aspects of Christianity, Judaism, Hinduism, Buddhism, Sikhism and Islam
- Parents have the right to withdraw their children from all forms of religious education and should write to the headteacher if they wish to exercise this.





## **Parental Involvement**

- Parental involvement is key to success with the curriculum. Children thrive when the partnership between home and school works well
- It is by working together that we can ensure high standards in schoolwork, behaviour and attitudes
- We welcome parents into school to share in their child's education and develop positive links between home and school.

## **Parents of Irby Primary School (PIPS)**

PIPS is a group of dedicated parents who, with the support of the school and the local community, organise fundraising events and initiatives in order to raise much needed funds to enhance our children's learning journeys.

We hope that all parents will be able to support PIPS in some way over the time their child is at the school. This doesn't need to be formally as a committee member but attending events, buying raffle tickets (and providing raffle prizes) all make a difference.

Joining PIPS is a great way to meet new people, raise money for our school and have fun along the way!



## PROMOTING GOOD HEALTH

We offer a range of opportunities to encourage our children to stay fit and healthy:

- Two hours of PE a week
- Specialist Sports Coaches who work with our children during the year
- Competitions, school teams and tournaments
- Themed days and weeks
- Before and after school clubs
- Lunchtime clubs and activities
- We hold regular cycling events such as Bike-it Breakfasts, and also teach the children to cycle safely and understand sustainability

## ENHANCING THE CURRICULUM

We are committed to ensuring our children have the opportunity to enhance their experiences through:

- Trips and visits
- Visitors to school
- Themed curriculum days and weeks
- A range of before, after-school and lunchtime clubs



## Music

We are proud of the opportunities we offer to encourage musical development:

- We offer clubs for choir, recorders and guitar
- All children in Year 3 and 4 are taught to play the recorder as part of their school music lessons and all Year 5 and 6 children are taught to play the ukulele.
- We offer peripatetic tuition in brass, woodwind and keyboard and attend music festivals with partner schools.
- A key evening of the year is our Music Evening where children come together to celebrate musical achievement.

Children perform short pieces in groups or as soloists and the 'Young Musician of the Year', is voted for by the audience. Alongside this, gifted singers are given the opportunity to perform a short solo and compete for 'Young Vocalist of the Year'.

This is an excellent way to celebrate musical talent and achievement. Each class performs an annual class assembly with KS1 also performing a Christmas themed production and KS2 producing an end of term performance.





## Links outside school:

Irby Primary School is part of the South Deeside Primary Schools' Federation along with Pensby Primary School, Barnston Primary School, Gayton Primary School, Heswall Primary School and Thingwall Primary School. We work as a collaborative group to support and challenge each other, in order to ensure that our schools deliver the best possible education for our children.

We also have strong links with local Secondary Schools:

- KS2 children visit Pensby High School for taster days and to see school productions
- Our KS2 children learn to swim at Calday Grange Grammar School
- Science teachers from West Kirby Grammar School have delivered units of work for our KS2 children
- Past pupils choose to complete work experience at our school
- Many of our children take part in the local libraries' summer reading promotion
- Year Two children visit Irby Methodist Church and our annual carol service takes place at St. Chad's
- We participate in the annual Deeside Schools Coast to Country Environmental project.

## COMMUNITY

We are involved in events and support charities locally, nationally and across the world in order to lead our children to a better, fuller understanding of themselves and the world in which they live so that they can become responsible active participants in society.

We support other events happening in the community such as Harvest Festival and we join together to sing with our local community when Father Christmas comes to Irby village to turn on the Christmas lights.



## TAKING RESPONSIBILITY

Our children need to be prepared for the world beyond primary school and we therefore provide plenty of opportunities to develop the necessary skills:

Year 5 pupils:

- help in pre-school
- are reading partners to younger children
- help at lunchtime
- are digital leaders

Year 6 pupils:

- are prefects supporting our younger children
- are buddies to children in F2
- run the school library and annual book fair



We have a thriving School Council that contributes to the School Improvement Plan and meets with the governors. We also have an active Eco committee that works hard to help ensure our school is as environmentally friendly as possible.

Transferring to secondary school is a very important and exciting stage in your child's life and we fully support parents and children through the transition period.

## KEEPING OUR CHILDREN SAFE

The safety of our children is paramount at Irby Primary School. In 2016 we were commended by the Education Business Awards for Excellence in Health and Safety.

- The school gates are locked during the school day and we also have a secure main entrance
- Children of all ages are taught about online safety and anti-bullying
- Equipment is regularly checked
- Risk assessments are completed for all visits using the Local Authority Evolve system
- Safeguarding measures are stringent and include regular staff training
- We actively promote positive mental health, support children to develop a growth mindset and self esteem

## SAFEGUARDING

The protection of a child who may be at some kind of risk is crucial. Sometimes schools receive information from a variety of sources concerned with the protection of individual children from abuse. While we will deal with such information with sensitivity, care and as much confidentiality as possible, there are legal responsibilities and procedures we are expected to follow. A copy of the Safeguarding Policy is available for inspection at the school and on our website.

# WHAT OUR CHILDREN WEAR

## Summer Uniform

Red and white gingham dress or grey shorts/trousers with a red polo shirt

Grey cardigan or sweatshirt

Socks – white, black or grey

Black shoes

## Winter Uniform

Grey skirt/trousers with a red polo shirt

Grey cardigan or sweatshirt

Socks – white, black or grey

Black shoes

## PE Uniform

White polo shirt

Black shorts or jogging bottoms/leggings

Black/grey tracksuit top.

Black pumps

We like our children to look smart but also want them to be able to dress independently. It is for this reason that our uniform consists of a polo shirt and sweatshirt as opposed to a shirt and tie. The children are not allowed to wear trainers or earrings.

# TIMES OF SESSIONS

The beginning of the school day is 8.50am. Following the whistle, the children line up in the playground and we take your child into the classroom.

- Lunchtime – A school lunch is available, the alternative is for you to provide a packed lunch.
- In Reception (Foundation Stage 2) your child will initially go home for lunch, until staff feel your child is ready then he/she can stay for the whole day. All children will stay for the whole day within two weeks.
- The end of the school day for Reception and KS1 (Years 1 and 2) is 3.25pm and KS2 (Years 3, 4, 5 and 6) 3.30pm. A member of staff will accompany the children into the playground and we ask that you come forward to collect your child from us. We will not allow your child to go with anyone else unless you have informed us.

# If you need more reasons to join us at Irby Primary School, here's what our children, parents and teachers think...

## What our Children think

- "Our school is amazing. It has a huge playground and back field. I love trophy assembly."
- "Lessons are fun and interesting and teachers are always kind and caring"
- "We have lots of visitors to our school and there are lots of after school clubs to enjoy."
- "Our lessons are really fun as we learn from film, books and playing games."
- "The staff make our school special by organising things for us like music evening, productions and sporting tournaments. They do whatever they can to help us."
- "We have lots of special days in our school."
- "There are lots of school trips that we love and educate us well."

## What our Parents think

- "Irby Primary is a very good school that treats the children as individuals."
- "Warm, welcoming and hardworking atmosphere."
- "You teach the children to take care of each other and look out for each other."
- "I have been nothing but impressed since my child started with the school."
- "We like the inclusivity."
- "Such a warm, caring & hardworking environment that I feel so lucky my child is growing up in."
- "Teachers are always approachable and supportive."
- "Inspires respect and positive values".
- "Good at trying innovative and different ways of learning."

## What our staff think

- "There is such warmth at our school. The welcoming, family feel makes it a joy to go to work every day."
- "It is a pleasure to work with such a committed and hardworking team. Our families are so supportive enabling our children to thrive. Our school motto is at the heart of all we do...Be kind, Work hard and Never give up"
- "It is a privilege and pleasure working with such amazing children and staff."
- "I feel very lucky to work with the Irby Primary School Family in such a lovely environment with truly dedicated staff. It is so family orientated, the children are at the heart of everything we do."
- "One of the reasons I love working at our school is the small, family feel. We get to know our families very well and are part of the children's lives throughout their time here, not just during the year we teach them."



## ADMISSIONS CRITERIA

### **Admissions to Reception (Foundation Stage 2)**

Parents wishing to send their children to our school should complete the Wirral Authority Primary School Application Form which is available on [www.wirral.gov.uk](http://www.wirral.gov.uk) on the School Admissions page. Applications must be submitted by the published deadline to ensure the allocation of a place. Applications received after the published deadline will be dealt with once the offer of places has been sent to parents. It is very important to meet the deadline set by the Local Authority.

Children are admitted full time in September unless parents feel that their child is not ready for this. By law, children must start school at the commencement of the term following that in which they have their fifth birthday.

### **Admissions to any other Year Group (Years 1 to 6)**

Parents wishing to send their children to any other year group should make an appointment to see the Headteacher. You are then required to complete an in year transfer form which is available on [www.wirral.gov.uk](http://www.wirral.gov.uk) then go to the School Admission page.

Please do not hesitate to contact the Headteacher for further details or clarification regarding admissions. Whilst the Local Authority is the official admissions body, information is available from the school.

# WRAP AROUND CARE

## Irby Primary Pre-School - Our Aims

- To offer a rich, stimulating, safe environment where learning takes place through play.
- To foster and maintain close links with parents
- To encourage children to be active and interactive, to feel valued as individuals giving them the confidence to explore, learn and develop into strong and caring people.
- To be a place where equal opportunity for every child is put into practice
- To provide activities to promote emotional, social, moral, spiritual and social development.
- To assist young children to communicate confidently with other children and adults
- The Early Years Foundation Stage is implemented throughout Pre-School.

## Times of Sessions

Morning Session .....9.00-12.00

Afternoon Session .....12.30-3.30

All Day .....9.00-3.30

## How to contact Irby Primary Pre-School

**Telephone:** 0151 345 1462

**Email:** Irbyprimarypre-school@hotmail.co.uk

Irby Primary Pre-School  
Coombe Road  
Irby  
Wirral CH61 4UR

**Entrance:** The entrance to Pre-School is from Glenwood Drive.



Our transition arrangements, whether or not your child has attended Irby Primary Pre-School, ensure that joining full-time education is a happy experience for you and your child.

## CAPE

CAPE is an OFSTED registered childcare provider catering for children aged between 4 and 11 years during term time and is based within the school premises.

The aim of the club is to offer childcare for parents in order to help them return to work and take pressure off family and friends.

Breakfast Club runs between 7.30am and 9.00am

Afternoon Club runs from 3.30pm to 6.00pm

For more information, prices and availability please contact:

Emma Ferguson on 0151 648 4431 (between 9am and 3pm)

or e-mail the office at: [office@ejfassociates.co.uk](mailto:office@ejfassociates.co.uk) or you can also visit the Company's website [www.capeclubs.co.uk](http://www.capeclubs.co.uk).

Thank you for taking the time to read about Irby Primary School. If you would like to meet our school family, please contact us through the school office and we will be very pleased to welcome you.





## Contact Us

### Irby Primary School

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