

# SPINFIELD SCHOOL



**Learning, Developing &  
Growing Together**





Dear Parents & Carers

Welcome to our school and thank you for taking the time to read about us.

I hope you find this prospectus useful and informative.

Spinfield School was opened in September 1976. We are a combined school catering for children from the age of 4 to 11. We have a single form intake of 30 pupils in each of our year groups.

We provide a broad and balanced curriculum for all our children and expect high standards of work and behaviour.

We value the support of our parents who work closely with us as partners in the education of the children.

We look forward to working with you to ensure your child's time at Spinfield is happy and successful.

Our website provides a wealth of information and we hope you will take a look to see all that we offer.

*Miss Jayne Spreadbury*

*Headteacher*







## School Ethos

At Spinfield our vision is to provide an enriching environment to inspire each and every child to thrive, achieve their full potential and have the confidence and skills to meet the challenges of the future

### Our values are:-

**“Learning, developing and growing together”**

#### AIMS OF THE SCHOOL

- To realise each child’s full learning potential through an enriching, stimulating, broad and challenging curriculum
- To provide a secure, happy and flexible school environment for all our children to become highly motivated life-long learners
- To foster children’s esteem, respecting themselves, others and the environment as well as creating the ability to work independently and collaboratively
- To nurture in the children a desire to extend themselves in mind, body and spirit, developing an enquiring mind, a sense of curiosity and respect for other races, religions and ways of life
- To develop the learning partnership between school, home and community enabling the children to adapt confidently to the rapidly changing world

**To become a global citizen and develop respect for others**



## EARLY YEARS

### ADMISSION TO RECEPTION CLASS

Children begin in the reception class at the beginning of the Autumn Term when their fifth birthday falls between 1<sup>st</sup> September and 31<sup>st</sup> August of that academic year. From September 2011, parents have been able to choose whether their child starts school on a part-time or full-time basis. Should parents opt to admit their children on a part-time basis, the options for starting full-time are as stated below. Please note that your child **MUST** attend school full-time during the term after his/her 5<sup>th</sup> birthday. We would encourage all parents to discuss with the Headteacher, the most effective date to start full-time.

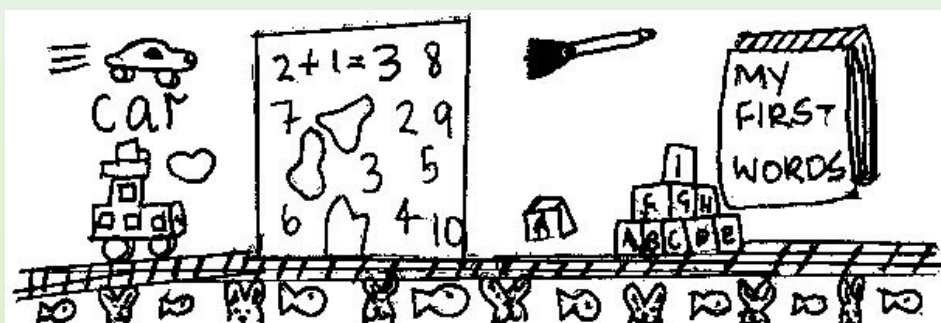
<b>Option 1</b>	Attend full time starting in the Autumn Term (September)
<b>Option 2</b>	Attend full time 3 weeks after the starting day (September/October)
<b>Option 3</b>	Attend full time starting in the Spring Term (January)
<b>Option 4</b>	Attend full time from the beginning of the Summer Term (April)

To help children and parents settle quickly into the school we run an induction programme:

- An induction afternoon during the Summer Term for children and parents/carers
- Induction pack for new starters
- Interviews with parents/carers and child during the first two days of the Autumn Term. (The reception class begins two days after the other classes begin.)
- A reading, writing & maths workshop in the first half term.
- Coffee morning for new parents/carers.
- An opportunity for parents/carers to liaise with school staff to discuss any individual induction needs.
- In the term before your child starts school, staff to visit, where appropriate, pre-school settings.

### ADMISSION AFTER RECEPTION

This depends upon school numbers. Our admission number per class is 30 and statutory regulations state that in key stage 1, class sizes are a maximum of 30. Parents/carers may appeal to Buckinghamshire County Council. We encourage all new children to spend a day in their new class prior to starting so that they can feel more at ease with the change of school.





## CURRICULUM AND CLASS ORGANISATION

### CLASS ORGANISATION

The National Curriculum is divided into stages. The primary stages are:

- Foundation Stage for 4- 5 year olds, Year R (Reception)
- Key Stage 1 for 5 – 7 year olds, Year 1 and Year 2
- Key Stage 2 for 7 – 11 year olds, Year 3, Year 4, Year 5 and Year 6

For teaching purposes the school will be organised in the most effective way, having due regard to the resources available, number of teaching staff and children on role. For most children, this will mean that they are with their class teacher most of the time working as a class, in groups or individually. There will be times when children will be taught by another member of staff e.g French. Teaching Assistants may work alongside the class teacher to support the children's learning. Parents also kindly come in to help.

Classes are named using the National Curriculum year. Each term class teachers send letters outlining the curriculum for that term and other relevant information.

### THE CURRICULUM

#### *What is taught at Reception:*

The curriculum for the foundation stage underpins all future learning by supporting, fostering, promoting and developing children's:

- Personal, social and emotional well-being
- Positive attitudes and dispositions towards their learning
- Social skills
- Attention skills and persistence
- Language and communication
- Reading and writing
- Mathematics
- Knowledge and understanding of the world
- Physical development
- Creative development

At the end of the reception year the children's progress is assessed using observations that cover all areas of learning that make up the Foundation Stage Curriculum.



#### *What is taught at Key Stages 1 & 2:*

##### **Core subjects:**

- English
- Mathematics
- Science
- Information and communication technology (ICT)

##### **Foundation subjects:**

- Design and technology
- History
- Geography
- Art and design
- Music
- Physical education
- PSHCE
- Citizenship
- Modern foreign language (French)



### RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

Religious education is also taught. Although our collective worship assemblies mainly reflect the broad traditions of Christian belief, we do encompass other major religions. Parents may, if they wish, withdraw their children from religious education lessons but please talk this through with the Headteacher before making such a request. If a child is withdrawn we will offer an alternative activity and adult supervision will be provided.

### ICT FACILITIES

The school is well resourced for ICT. We have an interactive whiteboard in every classroom, laptop trolleys and an iPad trolley. The school also has Wi-Fi access.

### SCHOOL TRIPS

Trips are an important part of the children's learning experience. These may involve walking to the local park or a coach trip to a specialist museum. The school has also built up a tradition of residential field trips for children in years 5 and 6. These are always of an educational nature involving thorough preparation and follow-up work. These trips follow National and Local Authority recommendations and guidelines.



## THE SCHOOL DAY

Our school day starts at 9.00 am and the children have access to the playground from 8.45 am. The day ends at 3.30 pm. We expect children to be in school by 8.55 am to facilitate an organised and calm start to the school day.

The children have morning and afternoon breaks of 15 minutes each with an hour at lunchtime for KS2 and 1hr 15 mins for KS1.



## SPINFIELD HOUSE SYSTEM

The school has a house system. Our houses are named after four famous people who have had connections with Marlow.

A house shield is awarded annually to the most successful house. There are a number of house competitions



## SCHOOL GROUNDS

The school grounds give many opportunities for play and for learning. There are playgrounds, a balance trail, climbing apparatus and gazebo where children can sit quietly and chat. In the fine weather the open space of the large field is very popular. We have a nature trail around the edge of the field, a wild life pond and small garden areas, which support the environmental aspects of the science, geography and art curriculum.

## FOREST SCHOOL

All classes get the opportunity to engage in Forest School in our nature trail. The children love this inspirational activity which offers ALL learners regular opportunities to achieve and develop confidence and self-esteem through hands-on learning experiences in a woodland or natural environment with trees. Forest School is a specialised learning approach that sits within, and complements, the wider context of outdoor and woodland education.





## BEHAVIOUR

Our ethos is based on care and respect for each other and we expect all members of our school to behave in a polite and responsible way. This is stated in our behaviour policy, which is made explicit to the children so that they are aware of our expectations.

Children are encouraged to be considerate and self-disciplined, behaving well at all times, whether closely supervised or not. By using praise and encouragement, we work hard to enable good relationships to develop between all members of our school. We aim to ensure that all children feel they are equally important and to help them have high self-esteem.

Incidents of unacceptable behaviour are always treated seriously and are dealt with promptly and fairly. Children are asked to record what has happened and to reflect on their actions. If children have a problem or a worry they cannot cope with, they know that they can go to any member of the Spinfield staff for help. It is also helpful, if parents think that their child is being upset by another, that they inform us so that the appropriate action can be taken.

Reference is made to behaviour in our Home/School Agreement.

## SPORT



Sport plays an important role at Spinfield. Through the curriculum, children are taught games, gymnastic activities and swimming. The children are time tabled for two PE/games sessions per week and there are plenty of opportunities for them to take part in our extensive programme of extra-curricular sporting clubs. The school participates in many local area sporting competitions and organises a variety of House tournaments.



## THE ARTS

Art and the performing arts are actively encouraged at Spinfield and every opportunity is provided for the children to explore their artistic/musical abilities to many different levels. The children are time-tabled for one class music session and one singing session each week. There is also a wide range of extra-curricular activities and opportunities for children to extend their talents and commitment by learning to play musical instruments. As we recognise the importance of performance for children, they are encouraged to share their talents in school assemblies, concerts, inter-house competitions and in the wider community.



## EXTRA-CURRICULAR ACTIVITIES

There is a wide range of extra-curricular activities offered by the school. Some are run by the school staff while others are run by private providers. At the beginning of each term, arrangements for the term's clubs are sent to each parent/carer.

## COMMUNICATION

We recognise the importance of effective communication and do our best to keep you as fully informed as possible. The Headteacher sends out newsletters, which always include the dates of forthcoming events. Teachers send out class letters at the beginning of each term outlining the curriculum and other relevant information. The youngest children have home/school books where parents and teachers can exchange messages when necessary. All letters from staff, governors or PA are sent via the children and/or e-mail/ParentMail.

In December 2019, we were inspected under a new education inspection framework. The report is available on our website. The report concluded:—

Overall effectiveness: **Good**  
The quality of education: **Good**  
Behaviour and attitudes: **Outstanding**  
Personal development : **Outstanding**  
Leadership and management: **Good**  
Early years provision: **Good**

**"Thank you so much for all your support and hard work over all of the years! I don't know what we would have done without you!"**

*Spinfield Parent*



**"Pupils' behaviour is excellent. They show high levels of respect towards other pupils, peers, staff and visitors."**

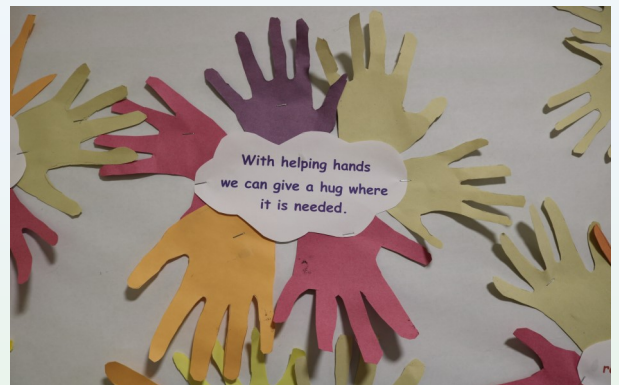
*Ofsted 2019*

**"... We appreciate everything that the school has done for our family."**

*Spinfield Parent*

**"... It's because of you and your team that we realise how lucky we are to be a part of such a kind and nurturing school. You deserve nothing but praise and recognition for the incredible job you do."**

*Spinfield Parent*



**"Pupils love coming to school and say that their teachers are 'fantastic'."**

*Ofsted 2019*



**"Pupils take part in a wide range of experiences which inspire new interests, develop skills, build self-confidence and nurture their talents. Inter-house competitions in art, music and poetry recital are very popular. Pupils are determined to become 'global citizens'. They are proud of their actions to address concerns about the environment. Many pupils develop character through holding leadership roles in school."**

*Ofsted 2019*



**"Pupils, their families and staff value the strong sense of community."**

*Ofsted 2019*

