



PROUD  
TO BE  
*Peckover*

A valued member of the

Brooke Weston Trust





# Welcome



I would like to welcome you and your child to Peckover Primary School. Peckover is a large primary school in the heart of the thriving market town of Wisbech.

We are lucky to have a diverse and vibrant community where everyone feels safe and special. It is a happy place to learn, where children, staff and parents are valued and welcome – a place where we all work together to achieve the best for each individual child. We value and uphold the principles of The Brooke Weston Trust and ‘leave no child behind’.

We listen to children; they are fundamental to all we do in school. We value their input and want them to feel a part of making their school a better place.

Our curriculum is demanding and immersive, rich in memories and experiences. We give high priority to literacy and numeracy and will always strive to teach these in an innovative and exciting way. The arts are central to our ethos in enhancing our curriculum and children’s enjoyment of school.

We welcome you as parents and carers; we look forward to working with you in order to support your child throughout their time at Peckover Primary School and helping them achieve their aspirations for the future.

**Kate Kendal,**  
Associate Principal



## Our Values: PROUD

We are PROUD to be Peckover. Our values permeate every aspect of school life in our happy and inclusive school.

- P** Perseverance
- R** Respect
- O** Opportunity
- U** United
- D** Do your best



### Peckover Primary School is a valued member of the Brooke Weston Trust.

With nearly 30 years’ experience of managing schools, the Trust’s mission is to transform educational performance by making long-term commitments to communities. Every BWT school has its own unique character, but they all share a culture of high expectations and ambition for all.

Our schools are based in Cambridgeshire and Northamptonshire, all of which regularly collaborate with each other to drive towards this ambition. This means that staff and pupils from across BWT work together to support each other, share best practice and try new ideas.

Over each academic year there are many opportunities for pupils from all our schools to meet, compete and celebrate success together.

As a school, we have carefully considered the curriculum we offer to our children.

#### Our vision is:

- Our curriculum is for everybody
- Creates lifelong readers
- Teachers the demanding, powerful knowledge (cultural capital) to address disadvantage
- Creates responsible, resilient citizens, who have the self-belief and ambition to make a difference in the future.
- Empowers pupils to be creative critical thinkers
- Nurtures individuals who will care for each other and the world in which we live.

*A valued member of the*

**Brooke Weston Trust**





# Early Years Foundation Stage

We strongly believe that every child deserves the best possible start in life and the support that enables them to fulfil their potential.

At Peckover, we have our own Nursery. It is a modern purpose built base, with opportunities for children to develop in an exciting indoor and outdoor space. Our Nursery and Reception teams work closely together to ensure excellent progression and continuity between the two phases, ensuring the best possible start to Foundation stage. At the beginning of a child's journey at Peckover, we carry out a baseline assessment which will provide a well-rounded picture of your child's knowledge, understanding and abilities. We continue to assess your child's progress as they develop through Early Years and into Year 1.

We follow the Early Years Foundation Stage (EYFS) framework, which sets the standards that all early years providers must meet to ensure that children learn and develop well and are kept healthy and safe. It promotes teaching and learning to ensure children's 'school readiness' and gives children the broad range of knowledge and skills that provide the right foundation for good future progress through school and life.



## There are four over-arching principles that shape the Early Years Foundation Stage (EYFS). These are:



Every child is a **'unique child'**, who is constantly learning and can be resilient, capable, confident and self-assured;



Children learn to be strong and independent through **positive relationships**;



Children learn and develop well in **enabling environments** in which their experiences respond to their individual needs. There is a strong partnership between practitioners and parents and/or carers;



Children develop and learn in **different ways and at different rates**. The framework covers the education and care of all children in early years provision, including children with special educational needs and disabilities.



# Curriculum

The Brooke Weston Trust Primary Curriculum provides children with everything they need to become educated, thoughtful and responsible citizens. It incorporates the essential knowledge and skills of the National Curriculum alongside providing enquiry, cultural capital and practical, purposeful first-hand experiences so that children develop an emotional connection to, and an understanding of, their place in the world.

It introduces children to the best that has been thought and said and helps engender an appreciation of human creativity and achievement, powerfully addressing disadvantage.

There is a strong emphasis placed upon speaking and listening and drama when children are given opportunities to share ideas, discuss opinions and express themselves clearly and confidently, showing sensitivity to the views of others.

Children play a major part in the development of our school, with school council, playground buddies, interpreters and class ambassadors bringing new ideas and helping to maintain standards. Through Personal, Social and Health and Citizenship Education (PSHCE) we aim to develop each child's self-esteem, confidence and independence. We promote social, moral, cultural and spiritual values through all we do at Peckover Primary School.

Tolerance and respect are fully expected and embedded in our ethos. We value and celebrate the cultures of all stakeholders in our school. We uphold British Values and actively practise democracy in elections for such groups as class ambassador and student council.



## English



At Peckover, we strive to make the teaching and learning of English an integral part of our curriculum. Speaking and listening, writing and reading are taught as much as possible in the purposeful context of the thematic curriculum. Children have daily writing opportunities that support their next steps.

We explicitly teach vocabulary to support reading and writing. Across a year, children will be taught to write in a range of narrative, non-narrative and poetic genres. The National curriculum for English is used by all staff as the key tool to planning in order to provide clear progression and expectations within Key stage 1 and Key stage 2.

## Reading



At Peckover, reading is an integral part of our curriculum. We follow the Read, Write Inc scheme to help our children to become fluent, confident readers and our aim is to help them to develop into children who learn to read, children who read to learn and read for pleasure.

The children read individually, in groups and as a whole class, using a variety of books from Read, Write Inc. and carefully selected high quality texts throughout the school.

Reading is explicitly taught through daily guided reading sessions and many other opportunities that link to their topics. Reading for pleasure is an integral part of our timetable;

teachers read high quality texts every day to children. We have a calm, engaging and inspiring library where the children have weekly sessions with their class and can borrow books. Teaching reading is very much a partnership between home and school. We expect children to share books and read at home with their parents regularly.

## Phonics



At Peckover, we follow Read, Write, Inc. where the books they read and the sounds they learn perfectly matched. Phonics is taught on a daily basis, by highly skilled staff. We have a wide range of videos to support the learning of phonics and reading at home.



## Maths



A typical maths lesson at Peckover begins with a recap of the basic skills and progresses to exploration of the four rules through problem solving or a focus on one of the wider areas of mathematics. Big Maths is at the heart of our Maths Curriculum; it teaches children in manageable steps and takes them on a clear journey of progression. Each small step of conceptual learning builds on previous learning leading to an understanding of mathematics that is deep rooted and meaningful, providing the skills needed for our children's futures.

The use of concrete mathematical resources is encouraged throughout all year groups to further scaffold a firm understanding and develop fluency in problem solving. At Peckover, we recognise that basic number skills are the essential foundation of problem solving. We develop children's times table knowledge with regular skip counting, opportunities to practise in weekly tables tests and regular games/contests for quick and accurate recalling of facts.

## Science



Our science curriculum allows children to be curious and ask questions. We want our children to be in awe of how things work and why things happen. It is important that children continually ask questions in order to develop a deep and meaningful understanding of how science affects our everyday lives.

## R.E



Our curriculum follows the SACRE document which has an emphasis on Christianity, whilst also studying the other main world faiths. Throughout our enquiry based RE curriculum, children are encouraged to explore world religions, learning about similarities, differences and developing tolerance and respect for all faiths. Our curriculum enhances our children's spiritual, moral and cultural development by exploring the fundamental questions raised by human experiences.

## Computing



At Peckover, we teach computing with the intention to equip our children to participate in a rapidly changing world, a world which has been transformed by technology. Purple Mash is our learning platform.

**The main areas covered are:**

- Computer science - including coding and debugging
- Digital literacy - including e-safety
- Information technology - including use of spreadsheets and animation

Links are made across the whole curriculum within the Purple Mash learning platform. Children can explore different themes such as The Victorians and The Egyptians to consolidate work in the classroom. Purple Mash has further links to maths, literacy, science, music, art and geography.

E-safety is of high importance; within our computing curriculum, we enable our children to acquire the necessary skills to support the decisions they make online. Time is allocated

to each class in our computing suite to ensure all children have access to high-quality resources. In the classroom, the children have access to Learn pads and programmable toys which can extend and embed learning.

## Physical Activity



Our aim is for children to develop a lifelong interest in sport and keeping physically active. Through our PE curriculum, we cover a range of activities and sports.

**The areas of focus are:**

- Send and return
- Attack, defend and shoot
- Hit, catch and run
- Run, jump and throw
- Gymnastics and dance
- Swimming

As well as teaching the children a range of sport skills, we also encourage them to lead an active lifestyle. We do this by taking part in the daily mile and also using the tool GoNoodle as a way to encourage being active.

## MFL

We teach Latin as our foreign language to children in Key stage 2, as this supports many other areas of the curriculum – eg. word origins, the arts and history.

## Arts



AArt plays a very important part in our curriculum. We are a Gold Artsmark school. We encourage the children to look at the natural world closely and record their findings with observational work. We believe it is vital to develop children's creative skills and allow them to express themselves in a different language other than words.

Music is a very important part of the Peckover ethos. Children work with music across the curriculum having opportunities to appraise music and to distinguish between composers and instruments when listening. They sing regularly and perform frequently at school and in the community. There are also opportunities for children in Key Stage 2 to receive lessons in playing brass or woodwind instruments. These lessons are given by private music staff. There is also a brass band and a choir.

## Geography



Geography allows our children to gain essential knowledge about the world around them. This contributes to their personal development and provides them with unique and specialised skills, which will assist them throughout their school life here at Peckover. Our Geography curriculum consists of four main purposes of study, these being: Philosophical, practical, emotional and intellectual.

Our children are immersed in a range of 'hands-on' experiences, including fieldwork, so that they gain a real sense of the world around them. We also aspire our children to become empathetic about the world and do their best to protect and look after it. We want our children to be knowledgeable about the world and to be given the opportunity to debate global issues.

**"Children will be able to think critically, weigh the evidence and interpret historical facts and give their own opinion about them – developing skills that will prepare them for adult life."**

## History



At Peckover, we bring History to life through role-play, class debates, visits to museums, trips to historical places; this helps children to learn a sense of period and develop historical empathy. History helps to understand the complexity of people's lives, the process of change, the diversity of societies and relationships between different groups, as well as their own identity and the challenges of their time. History is taught through carefully selected themes to inspire pupil's curiosity and understanding about the past.

Children learn about the importance of chronology in history but also about other key historical concepts like cause and consequence. History is not only about learning facts but also about understanding why things happened and why people acted the way they did. Children will be able to think critically, weigh the evidence and interpret historical facts and give their own opinion about them – skills that will prepare them for adult life.

## Design & Technology



Design and technology provides children at Peckover with the opportunity to evaluate how objects are designed and built and how food is grown and harvested. Areas of study include: electrical systems, structures, mechanical systems, food and textiles. Each sequence of work begins with a design brief and evaluating a product and understanding features that make it effective. Children then have opportunities to explore and interrogate features before designing their own product and evaluating it. Children learn to grow their own food within our extensive gardens and are involved in harvesting and cooking the products that they have grown.



# Including Everyone

## Behaviour

There is mutual respect between all adults and children within our school. We model and expect high standards of behaviour, manners and courtesy. We focus on positive behaviour and children know that outstanding behaviour and attitudes are non-negotiable at Peckover Primary School.

## Special Educational Needs

A great deal of care is taken to ensure that each child develops to their full potential and any learning or behavioural difficulties are dealt with. Extra help is given, short term and long term, both in and outside the classroom, as the need arises.

If more expertise is required then parents are informed and, with their permission, using the Early Help Assessment we are able to enlist further support from outside agencies. Our procedure for identifying and supporting children with SEND is explained fully on our website.

## Parent Partnership

We welcome parents and carers into school; we are partners in the education of your children. There are many opportunities for parents to become involved in the work of the school and to gain a greater understanding of its work. Parents' time and expertise can be used in many ways in school and are greatly valued.

Police checks and DBS checks are carried out on all adults helping in school. We have many evenings for parents during the school year: Parents' consultation evenings, residential and visits information evenings, feedback from visits, sex and relationships education, monitoring progress and SATs, curriculum, sports, performing arts and musical events.

As a family centred school, we have family events throughout the year. We also have regular assemblies and performances on our wonderful stage.

We have an active Parent Forum group.

## Extended Provision

We offer a safe and nurturing environment before and after school each day from **7.45am-5.45pm** for working parents. The provision provides busy parents with more flexibility during the school day and they can be confident their children are safe and well cared for.

## Forest Schools

We have recently developed a Forest School, within our grounds, with three of our staff, undertaking their Forest School Leader accreditation. Our aim is that all children will have the Forest School experience, as we recognise the importance of children respecting and taking care of the environment.

## Attendance

Going to school regularly is important for your child's future. Parent are legally responsible for making sure their children attend school.

### Benefits of attending school

Good attendance at school is not just beneficial, it's essential. Attending school is directly linked to improved exam performance which should in turn lead to further learning opportunities and better job prospects. As well as this, going to school helps to develop:

- Friendships
- Social skills
- Team values
- Life skills
- Cultural awareness
- Career pathways

We want to support and work with parents to ensure that children's attendance is good. Parents should contact the school on the first morning of any absence. The Brooke Weston Trust has opted not to authorise any absences for family holidays. The school liaises regularly with the Educational welfare officer. Most absences for acceptable reasons such as the following will generally be authorised:

- Sickness up to two days without some form of notification from the doctor.
- Unavoidable medical or dental appointments (you should try where possible to arrange these after school or during school holidays).
- Days of religious observance
- Exceptional family circumstances such as bereavement

Absence will generally not be authorised for any other reason. If you know you will be absent for any reason please contact the school office to complete an absence form.



## Uniform



We are incredibly proud of our uniform and it makes us feel special and ready to learn. Boys wear dark grey or black school trousers, a white collared shirt, a Peckover tie and a Peckover jumper. Girls wear our Peckover kilt, or black or grey school trousers, a white collared shirt, a Peckover tie and a Peckover jumper.

All of our uniform can be purchased from the link on our website. Our PE kit is a pair of plain black or navy shorts, or tracksuit bottoms in the winter, a plain red t-shirt or red sweatshirt and black plimsolls or trainers.

Children wear black school shoes; we do not allow them to wear trainers or boots. All clothing must be clearly named. Book bags and PE bags can be purchased from the school. Children should not wear jewellery to school. The Governors have made this decision in response to a Health & Safety Directive.

## Moving On



We fully engage with transition projects of our feeder secondary schools. We have a special link with Thomas Clarkson Academy (TCA) our main feeder school, which is also a school within the Brooke Weston Trust. TCA gives many exciting opportunities for our children to experience the facilities and experiences that a secondary school can offer.

The academic year begins on the 1st September and ends on the 31st August. Children are admitted to school in the September of the academic year in which they become five years old. Our catchment area is outlined on our website.

All admissions are dealt with by the Local Authority Admissions team who can be contacted on **01223 699 662** or online at **[www.cambridgeshire.gov.uk](http://www.cambridgeshire.gov.uk)**

The school office can also provide details of how to **[apply.office@peckoverprimaryschool.org](mailto:apply.office@peckoverprimaryschool.org)**



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