

SOUTHFIELDS PRIMARY SCHOOL



Prospectus



Believe in yourself, Value others,
Be proud of your achievements,
Smile, Shine, Be happy.





Head Teacher
Mrs L.M. Martin B.Ed (Hons)

Southfields Primary School
Southfields Estate
Stanground
Peterborough
PE2 8PU

Telephone: 01733 562873
Fax: 01733 703329
email:

office@southfields.peterborough.sch.uk
www.southfieldsprimary.co.uk

Hello and welcome to Southfields Primary School

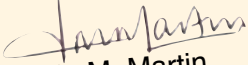
We believe in the magic of childhood. Our intent is to support our children to become excellent at communicating, whether this be through reading, writing, speaking, listening and the arts. Our children are encouraged to enjoy and achieve as individuals, as part of a team and as a school. We believe in a positive approach to school life. We want our children to be highly motivated, hardworking and confident individuals who are adept at expressing themselves.

Our school is a caring community where children are taught to be respectful, kind and considerate. Honesty and openness are expected, as is a good work ethic, resilience and perseverance.

We are an inclusive school where we endeavour to ensure all children are welcome, feel happy and look forward to their school day. Every child is different and we view those differences as opportunities for adults and children to learn together.

I hope you enjoy exploring our school through this Prospectus. Please do not hesitate to get in contact with us if you require any further information.

Kind regards,


Mrs L. M. Martin



School Vision, Aims and Intent

Our children are not statistics: they are the future. We will endeavour to equip them with excellent communication skills and a wealth of knowledge to shape the world around them to become happy, confident, articulate and productive members of society.

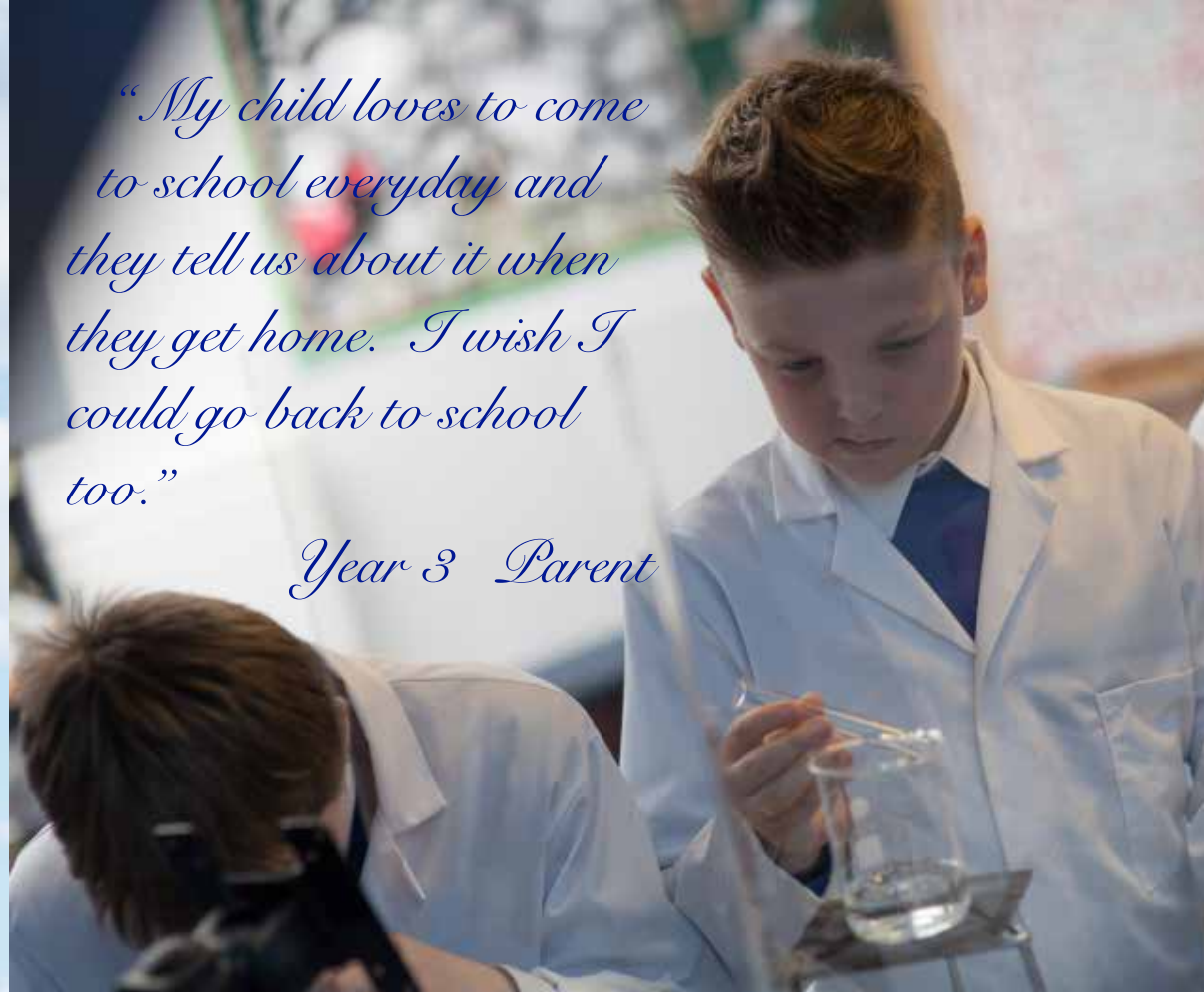
The school will endeavour to:

- 🚩 Ensure that all children are taught to communicate well in a variety of different ways.
- 🚩 Ensure that all children access an exciting, innovative curriculum with clear implementation which results in automaticity of knowledge which can be applied well.
- 🚩 Create an interesting and stimulating environment, which reflects our values, promotes a sense of community and an individual sense of self-worth.
- 🚩 Provide a differentiated curriculum which will enable all children, from the most able to those with special educational needs, to make outstanding progress.
- 🚩 To enable our children to develop life skills, for an ever-changing world by continually evolving the curriculum.
- 🚩 Promote social, cultural, moral and spiritual development, preparing children to be responsible citizens who have a good understanding of British values.
- 🚩 Encourage partnership with families which foster positive links with the community.
- 🚩 Provide opportunities for children to develop independent enquiring minds and an enthusiasm for learning.
- 🚩 Promote an understanding of the responsibility to sustain the local and global environment.
- 🚩 To diminish the difference between pupil premium and disadvantaged children and their peers.



“My child loves to come to school everyday and they tell us about it when they get home. I wish I could go back to school too.”

Year 3 Parent



Engaging Lessons, Exceptional Learning and Implementation

Determination Resilience Challenge Optimism Thinking Positive Improve Empower Persevere Collaboration Team work

At Southfields we strive to create an environment where children can develop intellectually, emotionally, socially, physically and morally. An environment where children learn to communicate well. We endeavour to enrich the curriculum for our children by offering a wide range of learning both within and outside the classroom. We work hard to provide a first class broad education that offers many opportunities.

We live in a country that leads in business, culture and technological innovation. We believe that to maintain this world position we need to equip our pupils with the fundamental skills of communication and be able to demonstrate this in English, mathematics, STEM and computing, whilst also understanding that they can only realise their talents by accessing and participating in the creative arts, music, drama and dance. The breadth of the creative curriculum allows children to grow in personal confidence and competence to lead successful, purposeful and fulfilling lives, contributing actively to the world they live in.

The staff work hard to provide a bespoke curriculum which is split into year groups where pupils access age appropriate materials and experiences. Our curriculum is designed specifically for Southfields pupils considering their interests, gaps in learning or experiences as well as providing opportunities to develop good learning behaviours and excellent communication skills and appreciation.

At Southfields we aim to foster 'Learning and Communication for Life', providing a curriculum that inspires a lifelong love of learning and equips our pupils with the key knowledge and understanding, skills and personal qualities they will need to thrive in a rapidly changing world.

As part of this we are committed to developing a growth mindset, encouraging learning behaviours that support this. Children need to be prepared for an ever-changing world. The teaching of mindsets builds resilience, a desire to learn, to challenge themselves and to encourage others – all of which are necessary for children's future success. The teaching of growth mindsets has had a huge impact in our school: it has raised standards, built resilience and created a culture of collaborative learning.

We are committed to providing many extended school opportunities - with over 30 clubs as well as many family events. We believe that educational visits and residential trips are an important part of learning. They provide excellent opportunities for children to learn first-hand about the wider world and its history.



Communicating through the Arts

Art, Craft and Design Music Photography Dance Drama, Performance and Theatre Studies Voice Training Film Art Technology



Southfields teaches creativity and expression to enhance communication with the wider world. We believe in the value of teaching the arts and also the opportunities to provide memorable experiences for our pupils.

The arts provide unique pathways to learning which we fully embrace and have over many years. We have child-led learning opportunities within the school where all pupils regularly use the arts to inspire independent learning, for instance in the 'Morphus and Nonsense' shop where pupils are inspired to use a variety of artefacts to inspire mark making and creativity, as well as explore the power of words and imagination through the arts.

This is also evidenced in living books where pupils become characters within stories such as 'Flower Fairies Dancing in a Mid-Summer Night Garden' or acting out 'the boy in the striped pyjamas' across the fencing of our Anderson Shelter.

Forest school and eco work is inspired by wellington trees, bug hotels and also 'catching a moment' rain droplets showing the magic of learning here and in the Sudan on our global Arts project through Connecting Classrooms. A quiet meditation garden develops philosophy allowing pupils time to think and reflect on the world we live in.

The school embraces the arts which is evident in the internal and external environment of the school.

Early cave man mark-making paintings, aboriginal burial poles, internal cafes to promote modern foreign languages even lunch times embrace the arts where we link foods and art work inspired by fruit and vegetables. Pianos are dotted around the school and all pupils learn to play five tuned instruments and read musical notation; we believe this improves work and standards in basic skills. Dance provides amazing memorable experiences in the broader curriculum.

At Southfields we value and embrace the similarities and differences of cultures around the world. We have worked hard over many years to ensure that pupils develop an understanding of different cultures and we have used the arts to compare similarities and differences, for instance in our whole school project on landscapes where we considered how different countries interpret their own landscape.



Experiences beyond the Classroom

Visits Visitors Experiential Learning Broadening Horizons Exploration Discovery Community Global Perspective Team work

Memories of school educational trips are among the most prominent of the formative years, largely because it is a time when pupils and teachers are able to explore the curriculum in a way that is not possible on the school site. While their purpose is essentially to educate, they can also be a fun bonding experience for everyone involved.

Educational trips, visits and experiences reinforce as well as inspire pupils learning. They provide the opportunity to socialise on a different level and expose the pupils to worlds beyond their own. The children learn the importance of communication, curiosity, engagement, challenge beyond what they already know as well as providing new insights into other peoples' passions and interests.

Residential visits provide many benefits to gain new perspectives on the world. This is especially true when pupils travel further away from home as they become directly in contact with a different environment, new cultures and dialects, pupils can better understand their place in the community and develop an openness to differences in others which deepens their ability to communicate on different levels for different purposes and audiences.

Educational trips provide an opportunity for total immersion in the natural environment and social setting. Pupils practise their social skills and critical thinking abilities outside of the controlled class setting. Being able to ask experts about their particular area of study on the spot requires thinking. They are able to learn real-world lessons.

Examples of these visits, trips, residential and events include: Skiing in France, Fineshade Woods, Farms and Zoos, Marine Parks, Dinosaur Park, Sculpture Parks, Railways, Historical Reenactment Villages such as Stibbington Evacuation, Black Country Museum, Jorvik Centre, Historical London, Museums, art galleries, theatres, visiting famous historical monuments, outdoor adventure, re-enactments linked to books such as Harry Potter and the Gruffalo, contrasting localities such as the beach, local cities, boat trips, space centres and planetariums, contrasting geographical environments such as the Living Rainforest, Spy Missions and Safety Challenge to name a few.

All of these visits enhance and provide a depth of learning beyond the school to provide amazing experiences for our pupils.



Science, Sports and Physical Health

Biology Chemistry Physics Food Technology Health Physical Education Gymnastics Netball Cricket Football Sports Day May Day



Science is essential as it enables young people to develop their understanding of scientific concepts and make sense of the world around them. It develops transferable skills to be able to communicate problem-solving, reasoning and enquiry.

At Southfields Primary we do all we can to ensure science teaching inspires primary pupils. We have designed an exciting curriculum based on practical aspects of science with links to everyday life. Our 'Big Questions' inspire pupils to want to find out more using many transferable skills including teamwork, collaboration, discussion, turn talking, problem solving, making links to prior learning and experiences, reasoning and using careful observations, following lines of enquiry and documenting their findings to share them beyond their own understanding.

Science is a core subject at Southfields and we have worked hard on our curriculum intent, implementation, planning, equipment, resources as well as up-skilling teachers and staff to deliver a first-class science lesson. We spend at least two hours per week on science and also link science into other areas of the curriculum to support and encourage pupils to have a natural curiosity about the world around them, as well as develop good understanding and knowledge to support them in the future.

Our high-quality physical education curriculum inspires all pupils to succeed and excel in sports both competitive and non-competitive. It provides opportunities for pupils to become physically confident in a way that supports their health and fitness. Opportunities to compete in sport and other activities builds character and helps to embed values such as fairness, teamwork, individual best, practise and respect.

Our curriculum offers a range of different sports delivered by both teachers as well as coaches and specialist sports teachers. We have a strong link with the local secondary sports college and also work alongside the Regional College in dance and drama.

We are proud of our gymnastics team, who have competed in both regional and also national competitions. We also take part in many football, netball, tennis, cricket and swimming tournaments. We are also proud to have our own swimming pool and miniature golf course.



Enriched Curriculum

Politics Financial Capabilities History off the page Re-enactment Bringing books to life Reasons to write Exploration Experiential Learning

At Southfields we believe in the magic of learning. Due to this we have developed a creative and experiential learning curriculum, full of exciting hands on opportunities that are fun for children to take part in and learn from.

We benefit from a wonderful environment, inside and out, that the children use on a daily basis to enhance their learning. Inside our extensive building, the pupils have access to a multi-media Apple suite, Music room, International Cafe, Morphus and Nonsense Shop (for creative writing inspiration), two large main halls including a stage with full sound and lighting, a costume and props room, dining room, sensory room, library, museum and dedicated SEND resource room. In addition to this, we have a large welfare area including meeting and soft furnished rooms for the counsellor's use. Throughout the school we also have break out areas for teaching and learning.

All children across the school take part in Morphus and Nonsense days, where they take ownership of their own learning. Children are given the time and resources to create a piece of work of their choosing using the skills that they have learnt in the classroom. During these days, pupils have access to all areas within the school, including our facilities inside and out of the building. Pupils can present their work in any format, evidence of which is displayed by the teachers.

Children throughout the school also take part in Enrichment activities each week. We have allocated additional time for children to take part in a range of activities to develop their experiences as well as to embed and apply basic skills and this includes sessions on: European culture; English Heritage; World Geography; Financial Capabilities; First Aid; Music; Forest Schools; Art and Design; Library studies; Graphic Design; Global Community; Cookery; Dance; Cycling proficiency; Drama; Sewing and Fair Trade as well as practical basic skills enabling them to apply these skills to real life.

In addition to Enrichment activities, Year 6 pupils take part in Magpie. This is an experimental learning experience to support and develop writing to support pupils as they move towards their end of year SATs and Secondary School; These include a trip to the rainforest, exploration of the Arctic, writing their own lyrics and publishing their very first books.



Great Outdoors

Environmental Eco Sustainability Growing Caring Food4Life Vegetables Fruit Plants Insects Pond dipping Forrest Schools



Our school provides an outstanding environment for our pupils to learn and prosper. We take great pride in the sustainability work that we have completed to date and this can be seen throughout our grounds. We have our own environmental area, sensory garden, allotments, forest schools area, pond, willow classroom, meditation garden, caravans with fire pit, mud kitchens, Anderson Shelter and wild life areas.

The pupils take responsibility for growing their own produce and selling this from our 'Sustainable Barn' to parents and carers throughout different points in the year.

In addition to the sustainable and environmental aspects in our outdoors, we also benefit from a range of other areas. Our children have two football pitches, three netball courts, three playgrounds, an outdoor Victorian classroom, trim trail, climbing wall, art sculptures, Tudor house, knight's training camp, crooked tree house, secret garden, Gingerbread story shed, story telling chair, multi-faith maze, Angry Birds SMSC area, dinosaur park, construction site, pirate ship, Peter Rabbit's garden, picnic areas and our own outdoor swimming pool.

Throughout the year the children take part in caring for the amazing environment that we have, learning how to grow vegetables from seeds and investigating the world around them including inspecting our very own Bug Hotel. With the help of our Eco Team we are able to maintain our beautiful environment and encourage all children to support us in all elements of this.

Each year we take part in the Peterborough Eco Awards, working towards creating a more sustainable future for our children and community. We have been lucky enough to win several awards each year, including the Eco School Student Choice Award for three years running.



Mental Health, Wellbeing and Communication

Kindness British Values Empathy Pastoral care Happiness Security Support Time to Talk Attendance Behaviour for life

We believe that pupils wellbeing is core to our work. A happy child achieves more. We endeavour to promote good communication skills to enhance wellbeing and support good Mental Health.

We have an Inclusion team who work with children and families across the school. Pupils may work with the team individually, in pairs or groups. The support groups we offer are: friendship, talk time, anger management, counselling, play therapy, advice and specific case-related personal support. We also have positive parenting classes and welfare drop-in sessions for parents. We have weekly meetings about welfare and parents should inform the school at the earliest opportunity if their child needs support at home or school.

We have a HUB of expertise for Speech and Language which children access across the school site. This provision supports pupils with speech and language difficulties through the use of highly trained teaching assistants who teach programmes and work closely alongside speech and language therapists and occupational health therapists to support pupils in progressing. We also have community speech therapists who work with the children regularly.

Pupils with Special Educational Needs and Disabilities are helped within the normal classroom environment in addition to being supported to work on individual programmes with additional trained staff. Our SEND team work closely with educational psychologists and other agencies who may support children where appropriate (The policy for Special Educational Needs and Disability is available if you would like more information - please refer to our SEND section on the school website). Our SEND co-ordinator is also happy to speak to you about general issues related to Special Educational Needs and Disabilities if the class teacher can not answer your questions.





Admissions

For this academic year administration of admission arrangements to community schools has been taken over by the Local Authority (LA) to be dealt with centrally. This reflects existing arrangements for admission to secondary schools. The children will be allocated their place and parents will be asked to complete a number of forms that will follow their child throughout the school. As a three-form entry school we will have 90 places available each academic year in our Reception class. We currently have substantial waiting lists in each year group.



The School Day

Timetables for each class are shared on our school website. The school timings for each Key Stage are as follows:

EYFS and KS1

Morning Session

8:45am-12:20pm

Afternoon Session

1:20pm-3:15pm

KS2

Morning Session

8:45am-12:20pm

Afternoon Session

1:20pm-3:15pm

Doors open at 8:35am for KS2 and 8:35am in EYFS and KS1. Both Key Stages also have a 15 minute morning break at the teachers' discretion.



Absences

If your child is absent through sickness or any unavoidable cause, please inform the school by telephone in the first instance. This absence constitutes an authorised absence. A note will be required from you on the child's return.

We appreciate that all family circumstances are different but we want children to be in school as much as possible. Absences during term time can seriously disrupt the continuity of learning. The school must collect and report details of absences by law and so all absence levels are monitored closely.



Term Dates

Please see our school website for this years and next years term dates.



Clubs

At Southfields we host a variety of clubs (over 30) and extra curricular activities that pupils can get involved in. Letters will be sent home providing children with all of the options at the beginning of each term.

Home and Online Learning

Each year group across the school will set home learning for the children to complete outside of school. This will include reading, spellings and mathematics practice in addition to a weekly journal activity. We have also purchased for pupils a variety of online learning platforms that they can access from home. All username and password information will be sent home in your child's school diary.

Events and Communication with parents

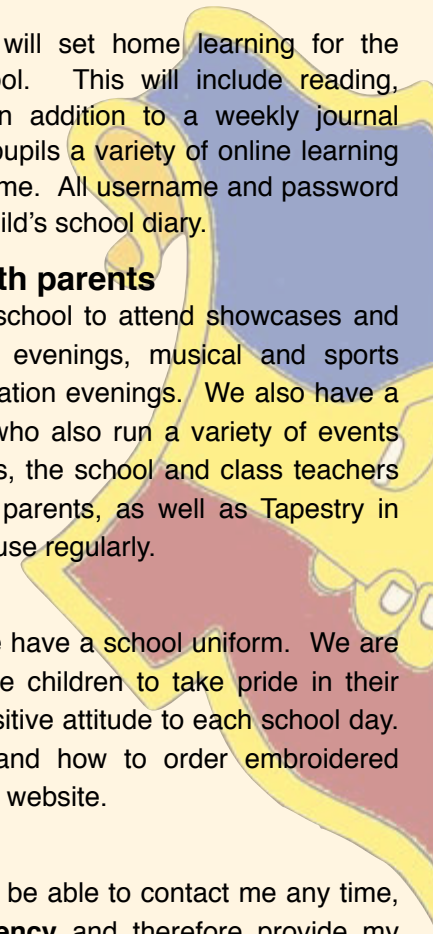
We welcome parents and carers into school to attend showcases and performances, workshops, curriculum evenings, musical and sports events, craft and art events and celebration evenings. We also have a Healthy Schools committee and PTA who also run a variety of events throughout the year. In addition to this, the school and class teachers use Class Dojo to communicate with parents, as well as Tapestry in EYFS, which we encourage parents to use regularly.

Uniform

Here at Southfields Primary School, we have a school uniform. We are of the opinion that a uniform helps the children to take pride in their appearance and helps to develop a positive attitude to each school day. Information on what the uniform is and how to order embroidered uniform items is available on our school website.

Essential Information

As Headteacher I would like parents to be able to contact me any time, night or day, if they have an **emergency** and therefore provide my mobile number on admission. This number should not be used for school issues or questions that can be dealt with the next school day.



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Class Dojo Learning School

