



Hopwood Primary School
PROSPECTUS



Hopwood C.P. School





Welcome to Hopwood

The school first opened in 1908, as part of the first wave of 'council' schools to be opened in England. Originally, it was named Magdala Street Primary, but was renamed as Hopwood County Primary in the 1950s before becoming Hopwood Community Primary in 1999. The original buildings still form the main accommodation but have been augmented by a number of extensions and outdoor facilities.

Many visitors comment on the warm, welcoming ethos of the school and that the children are happy, confident, polite and well behaved. We believe it is important to know each child and to make good relationships with their families. Hopwood is highly regarded within the community and is regularly over-subscribed it is a special place where multiple generations of local families have been given a great start in life

The development of staff is a feature of the school. We believe in supporting and developing staff to be the best they can be, in order to provide the best quality of education we can.

The school value statement: ***"Together we stay safe, show respect and try our best"*** underpins its work and sets out the behaviours staff and children have of themselves and expect of each other.





Hopwood Achievements and Success

School leaders are ambitious and seek opportunities to evaluate and accredit the excellent provision on offer, this includes national awards for aspects of their work:

- Gold School Council
- Arts mark
- Enhanced Healthy Schools
- Primary Science Quality Mark
- Anti-Bullying award
- Platinum School Games

Historically the school's academic results are significantly above national expectations and the children consistently achieve well at the end of every key stage.

Pupil Voice

The children enjoy the leadership responsibilities given to them and pupil participation is fundamental to the school. There is a school council which consults with the pupils regularly and try to respond to their suggestions for improvements to school routines and policy. The children are also elected to various other groups including:

- School Council
- Eco Team
- Team Captains and Vice Captains
- Librarians
- Anti-Bullying Ambassadors
- Sports Leaders
- Digital Leaders

Behaviour and Conduct

The school values establish its expectations for pupil conduct. Incidents of inappropriate behaviour are low and the children know that we will work in partnership with home to resolve any issues positively. At Hopwood staff pride themselves on managing bullying incidents well. Children are constantly reminded, through curriculum activities, assemblies and social discussion that all children have the right to come to Hopwood feeling safe and secure. The message is clear: **Bullying in any form, and for any reason, will not be tolerated.**





What do pupils learn about?

Curriculum

We have worked hard to produce a curriculum that is stimulating, relevant and age-appropriate. In addition to the direct teaching of basic skills we concentrate on their application in the foundation subjects which are taught separately. The curriculum champions Diversity, Equality and Opportunity - DEO

As part of its commitment to providing an outstanding curriculum, the school employs specialists to deliver some subjects. Residential visits, opportunities to excel in sport, and music and participation in school concerts and productions give confidence and opportunities to pupils of all abilities.

The school has an Experience Promise; a program of cultural visits which all children will have experienced by the time they leave school. We place a great emphasis on the whole child. In practice this means catering for academic, social and personal development. We teach children how to stay healthy, how to be safe, and how to make informed decisions.



Instrumental Tuition

Rochdale Music Service offers group instrumental tuition to Key Stage 2 pupils for violin, guitar, brass, keyboard and woodwind instruments. These lessons are optional and there is a charge for each lesson. The governors do have a remissions policy, which the head teacher will gladly discuss with any interested parent. We purchase whole class music tuition from Rochdale Music Service and currently our KS2 classes receive a term of instrumental tuition: Year 3 Ukulele and Year 4 Violin, Year 5 glockenspiel, Year 6 singing. These lessons teach children to read music and perform pieces together.





What do pupils learn about?

Relationships and Sex Education (RSE)

We have a policy for the teaching of RSE from Reception through to Y6. Parents have the right to withdraw their child from some aspects of these lessons; if they so wish to do so they are asked to contact the headteacher to discuss this.

Religious Education (RE) and Collective Worship

RE is taught in all year groups and provided in accordance with the local authorities agreed syllabus. Parents may withdraw their children from these lessons and also from the legally required daily acts of collective worship which are broadly of a Christian nature. Collective worship themes teach children to understand and appreciate different religions and cultures, as well as develop an appreciation of values and qualities.

Physical Education (PE) and Sport

Sports coaches teach PE across the whole school and we have a variety of sports teams. The school is rightly very proud of the many successful teams, who compete at both a local and regional level. All children have a minimum of two hours of PE per week and Year 5 have weekly swimming lessons funded by the school as part of the Key Stage 2 curriculum. The school also employs a specialist dance teacher.

Homework

Pupils are expected to take time to improve their reading, learn times tables and spellings. Children will also be given set tasks to do at home each week, which reinforce what they have learnt that week.

Extra-Curricular Activities

Staff give their time freely after school and run a variety of clubs which enable children to experience a wide range of opportunities such as, singing, craft, baking, orienteering and photography.





How do we teach our pupils?

Teaching

The aim is simple – to provide high quality teaching that successfully meets the needs of all pupils. Teachers work in teams, together with teaching assistants, to prepare lessons that are relevant and engaging. We challenge pupils of all abilities through careful lesson planning.

Teachers ensure that teaching methods reflect a balance of approaches with opportunities for individual, group and class teaching. Support staff are a vital resource in providing one-to-one or small group sessions for pupils who need extra help. Intervention programmes are used where needed to accelerate learning in key areas such as reading, writing and mathematics.



Pupils with Special Educational Needs and Disabilities (SEND)

The school has a well-established system of identifying and addressing the barriers faced by children with special educational needs. Once a special need has been identified, it will be dealt with according to its nature. Class teachers and the school Special Educational Needs and Disability Coordinator (SENDCo) work closely with parents and a range of outside agencies to ensure provision meets the needs of each child. The school has a SEND policy detailing provision and this is available on the school website.





Healthy Eating

Hopwood is a designated Healthy School. Daily fruit and vegetable snacks are provided to the children in Reception and Key Stage 1, free of charge, as part of the national fruit scheme. Key Stage 2 children are permitted to bring a healthy morning snack. Children in Reception and Key Stage 1 are offered milk during the morning and children across the whole school are encouraged to drink fresh water throughout the day.

School Meals

Children have a choice of having a school meal or bringing a packed lunch. School meals are provided by Dolce, who offer delicious new menus each term, which are cooked fresh from raw ingredients. The content of the school meals is in line with healthy eating guidelines for all schools. They are of a high standard and excellent value for money. Teaching assistants are on duty over the lunch hour to supervise the children. Children are encouraged to try a little of what is on the menu, but no-one is forced to eat everything.

Parents have to choose meals via an online ordering system with their child at home. All children in Reception and Key Stage 1 are entitled to Universal Infant Free School Meal funded by the government. For Key Stage 2 children dinner money is paid online.

Packed Lunches from Home

Facilities are available for those children who prefer to bring a packed lunch from home. The governing

board request that the contents of packed lunches are healthy and form a balanced diet. Chocolate, sweets and snacks that contain a high level of fats, sugar and salt are not permitted. The children are taught about healthy lifestyles as part of the curriculum and parents are provided with advice on what a healthy lunchbox might contain.





General Information

Admissions

The school admission policy operates in accordance with the Local Authority (LA) arrangements. The application window opens in early autumn for children due to start school in the following September, prior to the child becoming five years of age.

If the number of applications for the school is greater than the number of places available, then the school is oversubscribed. This means that the number of places has to be limited and the LA will use the following admission criteria when offering places.

Where a child has a statement of special educational needs naming a specific school, the child will be allocated a place before any other places are allocated.

The remaining applications are considered in the following order of priority:

1. Looked after or previously looked after children.
2. Children with exceptional medical needs or exceptional welfare considerations which are directly relevant to the school concerned.
3. Children with older siblings attending the school.
4. Children with church affiliation (only applicable to voluntary controlled Church of England schools).
5. Children eligible for the service premium.
6. Proximity, where you live.

School times

The morning session begins at 8.45am but the doors open from 8.30am. The school day finishes at different times for each year group. The timetable includes a morning break and lunch break.

Welfare

The welfare of each child is monitored at all times. It is a parental responsibility to ensure that the pupil personal details are up to date and amended when contact details change. Parents are notified of emergency accidents and illnesses as soon as possible and close home-school links are highly valued. There is a standing invitation for parents to contact the headteacher whenever they have a problem or query relating to their child's education or health.

Medicines

It is school policy not to administer one off prescription medication (including creams) in school. If a child requires medication, parents or a family member are asked to come in and administer the medicine themselves.

Queries, Concerns or Complaints

The school has an open door policy and parents are encouraged to discuss any concerns or worries at a mutually convenient time. All concerns are taken seriously and dealt with quickly.

The first point of contact for parental worries or concerns is the class teacher. The vast majority of worries are resolved at this stage. If parents would like to discuss the matter further, then they are invited to meet with a member of the senior leadership team, for example this may be the SENDCo if the concern is about special educational needs or the leader of a particular Key Stage. The headteacher is happy to meet with parents to discuss the concern further. After meeting with the headteacher, parents may contact the chair of governors in writing via the school office.



Access to Records

The school website contains a great deal of curriculum and policy information. Parents can request access to pupil records by contacting the headteacher.

Charging Policy

Offsite learning opportunities are used to enhance and support the curriculum. For example, pupils may visit a farm as part of a topic about animals. Parents are asked to make a contribution towards the cost of visits. No charges are made for any school activity, but voluntary contributions are requested to enable visits to go ahead. If we do not receive enough contributions, the school reserves the right to cancel a visit.

Uniform

In keeping with the school's dress code, children are not allowed to wear exaggerated fashions. Sensible and smart black shoes, not trainers, should be worn. Hairstyles should not be of an exaggerated fashionable nature but should conform to the school's code of high standards of dress and behaviour. Shaved hair patterns, dyed or coloured hair are not allowed.

Uniform: A simplified uniform based on colour rather than garment has been adopted:

- Navy or grey trousers / skirt
- Navy or grey v-neck jumper or cardigan (no round neck or sweatshirts)
- White shirt
- School tie (available from the school office)

Summer uniform (1st May – 30th September)

- Blue gingham dresses
- Grey or navy dress shorts & school T Shirt.

PE Kit: Indoor

- Navy blue shorts or gym skirt
- White school T-Shirt
- Black pumps

Outdoor

- Navy joggers (no branded logos)
- Navy Hoodie (plain or school logo)
- White school T-Shirt
- Black or white trainers

Children come into school on their PE day in their PE kit so there is not reason for them to change from their uniform. However, pumps must be kept in school in a pump bag in case there is a need to do indoor PE due to bad weather.

Illness / Absence

Good attendance and punctuality are fundamental to a child's progress at school. The school expects 100% attendance. Staff closely monitor each child's attendance and will take action where a child's attendance falls below 97%. The Educational Welfare Service works closely with the school and will be contacted if a child's absence is causing concern. If a child is ill or is going to be late for any reason, parents are asked to contact the school either by telephone or email by 8.45 am.

Holidays

All parents are asked to take family holidays during school holidays as any time out of school has a negative effect on a child's education. The law states that head teachers cannot authorise holidays in term time, so holidays will be unauthorised. After the fifth day of absence, parents who take their children out of school for holidays will be issued with a fixed penalty notice.



Safeguarding and Child Protection

Five senior staff are Designated Safeguarding Leaders (DSL) who liaise with other professionals when necessary. An up to date safeguarding and child protection policy is available to all parents on the school website and national guidelines are followed at all times.

Pupil Achievements and Talents

A weekly achievement assembly is attended by all staff and pupils; certificates are awarded to celebrate achievement, attainment and effort. Children are also encouraged to share their out of school achievements with the rest of the school.

Parental Involvement

From their first contact with school, parents know that their involvement in their child's education is valued. Formal and informal contact is sustained through a variety of parent meetings, workshops, questionnaires and newsletters. Parents are invited to class assemblies, workshops, curriculum presentations, drop-ins, learning together sessions, formal meetings as well as three progress evenings annually.

Parents, Teachers and Friends Association

All parents are automatically members of the PTFA. The purpose of the PTFA is to forge strong home school links as well as to provide for treats for the children and additional educational resources. Events organised include coffee mornings, raffles and competitions etc.

Charity

The school and PTFA support one or two charities annually, usually at Harvest time and a national appeal such as Comic Relief and Macmillan Cancer Support.

Hopwood Hub – Wrap Around Care

Hopwood Hub is the school's breakfast and after-school club provision. The Breakfast Club operates from 7:30am to 8:30am, and the After-School Club operates from 3:15pm to 6:00pm. Places at the club are limited and must be booked in advance. Attendance is regular and agreed through a signed parent/carers agreement; places are not available on an ad hoc basis.

Please contact hopwoodhub@hopwood.rochdale.sch.uk for further information and bookings.

Communication

Friday News is sent out each Friday and reports on the achievements of the week as well as giving general reminders. The headteacher sends newsletters updating parents on more significant issues. The school website is regularly updated and contains a wealth of information as well as links to class pages. The school also uses a text messaging service to send information and reminders to individual families. A range of curriculum and policy leaflets are published by the staff to help parents have a greater understanding of school. Parent reminders and updates about what the children have been doing in school are regularly posted on the school social media platforms.

Loss or Damage to Personal Property

Parents are asked to note that the school do not accept any responsibility for loss or damage to personal property in school. All items of school clothing must be clearly labelled.



Hopwood C.P. School

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