Sandown Primary School and Nursery

Headteacher
Mr C Wright

Deputy Headteacher
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Welcome

On behalf of our staff, governors and the wider Sandown community, I am delighted to welcome you to Sandown Primary School & Nursery.

At Sandown, we believe that every child can succeed and that, together, we can be **the best that we can be**. This simple belief is at the heart of everything we do.

We are committed to providing an education that develops the whole child. Alongside high academic expectations, we place great importance on children's personal development, wellbeing, character and confidence. Through sport, the arts, enrichment opportunities and a wide range of experiences, we encourage every child to discover their strengths, pursue their interests and develop a lifelong love of learning.

Strong relationships are central to our success. By working closely with families and the wider community, we create a supportive and inclusive environment where children feel valued, challenged and inspired to achieve their very best.

We want every child to leave Sandown with happy memories, high aspirations and the knowledge, skills and resilience they need to thrive in the next stage of their education and beyond.

I am proud to lead such a caring and ambitious school and look forward to working in partnership with our children, families, staff and governors as we continue to build on Sandown's strengths.

Mr C Wright, Headteacher.

See our wonderful school in action – scan the QR code to watch our video!

Introduction

Sitting in the heart of the local community, Sandown Primary School and Nursery is a hub of learning. It's building and large grounds provide a spacious and stimulating environment for our 470 pupils to explore and extend their education. We are a school that has high aspirations for all of our community, both educationally and socially. We are a school that delivers a quality education within a happy and caring ethos. We are a school where everyone strives to become…

'**The Best that We Can Be**'.

High expectations for all

We believe all children deserve the chance to succeed – and we are unapologetic in having high expectations for all our children.

Children at Sandown enjoy some of the strongest academic results in the town, with end of KS2 results consistently above both the town and national averages.

Admissions

The Argus newspaper recently described Sandown as one of the 'Top 10 Hardest Primary Schools to get into in East Sussex' – we hope when you visit you will see why!

Due to our growing numbers, and the success of our school, we encourage you to visit us for a tour, meet the Head or Deputy and view the school in action before applying for a place at Sandown Primary School and Nursery.

Applying for a Place at Sandown Nursery

Please arrange a meeting with the Head or Deputy to discuss our offers before applying for a place via the School Office.

Applying for a Place at Sandown Primary School

To apply for a place, please visit the East Sussex County Council Website via the link below:
https://www.eastsussex.gov.uk/educationandlearning/schools/admissions/

All Reception children are admitted in the academic year of their fifth birthday.

Curriculum Vision

At Sandown, children are challenged to reach their potential through an inter-connected and ambitious curriculum. This cohesive curriculum ensures synergy and is designed to meet the needs of all pupils. Our curriculum fosters an ethos of risk-taking and creativity. Innovative ideas are encouraged in order to enable learners to make mistakes and thereby learn from them. We recognise the responsibility to provide learners with powerful knowledge in order to interrupt inequality rather than reproduce it (Mary Myatt). Alongside this powerful knowledge, our Preventative Curriculum empowers pupils with the crucial skills, knowledge, and emotional resilience they need to make safe, healthy, and informed lifestyle choices both online and within the wider community.

Mary Myatt (2018) writes that 'the brain does not make much of a distinction between reading about an experience and encountering it in real life'. For this reason, reading is prioritised because the Cultural Capital of our pupils can be enhanced through reading quality texts across the curriculum as well as providing rich and meaningful real-life experiences, e.g., trips and visitors.

Specifically, the curriculum is designed to:

- Fulfil the school vision
- Be filled with rich, purposeful experiences
- Raise awareness of significant current events and have an eye on the future, as well as the needs of future citizens
- Go beyond the classroom to embrace our outdoor learning spaces
- Involve real people with first hand experiences
- Strengthen partnerships

Houses

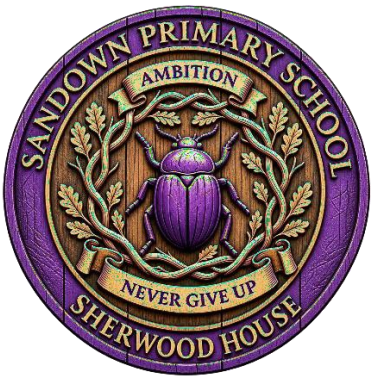
At Sandown, we believe that being part of a team is an important part of growing and learning. Our house system brings children together across the school, giving them opportunities to work as a team, support one another, celebrate each other's achievements and strive to be the best that we can be.

Our six houses reflect the values at the heart of our school vision: Nurture, Pride, Community, Ambition, Health and Mastery. Each house represents one of these important aspects of school life, helping children to understand what these values mean and, most importantly, how they can demonstrate them every day.

Our houses are woodland themed, reflecting the beautiful natural environment that surrounds our school. With our extensive school grounds, trees are an important part of the Sandown landscape and our school identity.

Houses are a way of grouping children for activities and competitions throughout the school. Our classes take part in house competitions to earn tokens for their house. These challenges celebrate the wider curriculum and are not limited to sport.

Children work together as a house to earn house tokens through a variety of activities, achievements and events.



The Curriculum: Foundation Stage

At Sandown our Foundation Stage provides a warm, nurturing and stimulating start to school life for children aged 2 to 5 years across our Nursery and Reception settings. We recognise that every child is unique and develops at their own pace. We create an environment where children feel safe, valued, confident and excited to learn.

Our Nursery children aged 3 and 4 have the opportunity, when ready, to move into our Saplings group, providing a familiar and supportive step towards starting school.

The Early Years Foundation Stage (EYFS) provides the foundations for children's future learning and development. Our curriculum is built around seven interconnected areas of learning:

Prime areas

- Communication and Language
- Personal, Social and Emotional Development
- Physical Development

Specific areas

- Literacy
- Mathematics
- Understanding the World
- Expressive Arts and Design

We provide a rich balance of purposeful play, exploration, adult-guided learning and direct teaching, allowing children to follow their interests while developing the knowledge, skills and confidence they need. Through play, children learn to explore, persevere, communicate, solve problems and think creatively.

Book and stories are at the heart of our curriculum. Carefully chosen texts inspire children's imaginations, develop vocabulary and provide opportunities to explore new ideas, cultures and experiences. Our language-rich environment encourages children to talk, listen, question and express their ideas with growing confidence.

Our fantastic outdoor area is an extension of our classroom, carefully designed with the prime areas of development in mind. It provides children with exciting opportunities to move, explore, create, communicate and develop independence. Children can build and dig in our large sand pit, investigate at the water area, get creative in our mud kitchen and mud-digging pit, and develop strength, balance and coordination on our climbing frame and balance equipment. Our bikes and balance bikes encourage physical confidence and independence, while our role-play areas and stage inspire imaginative play, storytelling and performance. Our outdoor learning extends beyond our Early Years gardens. Each week, children take part in outdoor learning sessions across our beautiful school grounds, including our woodland areas and gardens. These experiences provide wonderful opportunities to explore nature, develop confidence, take manageable risks, work together and discover the world around them.
Knowing every child

We work closely with parents and carers to ensure that every child is supported to flourish.
Above all, we want our children to leave the Foundation Stage as happy, confident, curious and enthusiastic learners, ready for their next adventure.

The Curriculum: Key Stage 1 and Key Stage 2

Key Stage 1 caters for pupils aged from 5 to 7 years old within the Year 1 and Year 2 classes whilst Key Stage 2 caters for pupils aged from 7 to 11 years old within the Year 3, Year 4, Year 5 and Year 6 classes.

During KS1 and KS2, pupils follow the National Curriculum for England:

- English
- Maths
- Science
- Design and Technology
- History
- Geography
- Art and Design
- Music
- Physical Education (PE), including swimming
- Computing
- French (at key stage 2)

as well as

- Religious Education (RE)
- Personal, Social and Health Education (PSHE)

My children have had amazing years at Sandown with experiences and memories they will keep with them for life. I'm proud to say my little people are a part of Sandown.

At Sandown, the curriculum remains a work in progress and is subject to constant development. This empowers subject leaders to enthuse the community in their curriculum areas.

As a maintained school, we use the following documents:

- The Early Years Foundation Stage EYFS Profile Handbook as well as Development Matters in Reception and Birth to 5 matters in the Nursery
- The National Curriculum in England for Key Stages One and Two
- The East Sussex agreed syllabus for Religious Education (RE)

The School Day

7.40am- 8.30am Our Breakfast Club is held in a designated building which allows parents to drop their children off before the beginning of the school day. For a nominal charge, they receive breakfast and enjoy a wide variety of activities before joining their classes at 8.30am. £3 per session or £12 for the week.

8.30am School gates open

8.30am – 8.45am Pupils arrive at school and are welcomed by staff.

8.45am Pupil Registration

12.00pm – 1.00pm Lunchtime

3.10pm End of the School Day – Reception and KS1

3.20 pm End of the School Day - KS2 and children with KS2 siblings

3.20pm – 4.15pm A wide range of clubs are available both free and paid.

3.20pm – 5.30pm Our Teatime Club takes place in our designated building which allows parents to pick their children up later than the end of the school day. Prices vary according to the length of the session they stay – with half sessions available until 4:14pm and full sessions running until 5:30pm. Once again, there are a wide variety of activities from which the children can choose. Half sessions cost £5, with full sessions costing £10 or £40 for the week.

Breakfast and Teatime Club must be pre booked with Mrs Meadows and pre-paid on Parent Pay. Teatime Club must be booked before 1pm on the day – bookings cannot be taken after this time.

Nurture

Sandown Primary School and Nursery is proud to be an inclusive school that recognises that every individual is unique. We endeavour to enable every child to progress, alongside their peers, in order to develop their full potential.

We are a dedicated team of professionals who work together to ensure all children can succeed. Because we always have the child's interests at heart, we will both support and challenge learning expectations, welfare, behaviour and attendance as success can only occur when home and school work together.

By the time our pupils leave the school, we aim for them to be equipped with the eight essential skills they need to continue their journey in becoming life-long learners as well as respectful citizens within a global society. Establishing positive learning behaviours are key to achieving this. Throughout the school, we have a behaviour system that challenges poor behaviour and celebrates those who follow our Community Commitment.

Top Scorer last week and golden pencil award this week. This girl is on a roll. When I ask her what is next? Her reply was 5 mentions in the log book. Her confidence has come on so much. ❤️

School Uniform

Wearing school uniform promotes a sense of belonging to and pride in our school. It also ensures children are wearing practical clothing which allows them to freely engage in all learning activities.
Long hair should be tied back, no extreme hairstyles and dyed hair colouring is not permitted.
No jewellery is to be worn with the exception of watches and small studs, both of which should be removed for P.E.
Uniform can be ordered from the school office, either by phone or Dojo message and must be paid for on Parent Pay. Branded items can also be obtained from SuperStitch, whilst non-branded items are widely available from local retailers.

Winter

Navy polo shirt (with logo, optional)
Burgundy sweatshirt, cardigan or fleece with logo
Black trousers, skirt or tunic
Sensible black shoes/plain black trainers
Plain white or black socks/tights

School Book bag or backpack (no handbags)
All uniform must be named.

Summer

As winter with black shorts or navy blue checked summer dress

Nursery

Burgundy sweatshirt with logo – optional
Comfortable trousers/skirt or dress
Comfortable T-shirt

P.E. Kit

School P.E. top with logo
Black P.E. shorts
Plain white or black socks
Trainers
School Jumper or Navy-blue hooded sweatshirt with logo
Navy-blue jogging bottoms

All uniform must be named.

Communication

We place a great deal of importance on the partnership between home and school; therefore, we have an open-door policy where parents/carers are regularly invited to a wide variety of activities, such as parental engagement activities within classes, enjoying school performances, supporting Friends of Sandown events, joining us on visits, becoming school champions, sharing hobbies and skills and taking part in parent courses.

Staff are available at the beginning and end of the day to answer questions and share any shining moments. We have a Home School link book which is checked regularly. In addition to this we hold personalised consultations at least twice a year where we review your child's learning, behaviour and attendance, and after discussion, set new targets.

Wow - never thought I'd have seen myself cooking but I actually really enjoyed it . 😂😊😂😊 x

Friends Of Sandown
Charity Number: 1038584

As we look to maintain a sustainable future, Sandown Primary School and Nursery mostly operates a paperless system of communication. It is therefore essential that we have the most current contact details for you. This can take the form of:

- The school website with weekly news, information, diary of school events and class pages showcasing the children's learning
- Class Dojo managed by the school
- Parent Pay

Safeguarding Team

The safeguarding of children, staff and visitors to our school is of upmost importance to everyone at our school.

If you have any concerns regarding child protection or safeguarding then please speak to a member of our safeguarding team:

Mrs K Tugwell
Deputy Headteacher &
Safeguarding Lead

Mrs G. Harley
Assistant Headteacher/SENCo
& Safeguarding Deputy

Mrs A Bible
Teacher &
Safeguarding Deputy

Mrs G. Wright
Nursery Manager
Safeguarding Deputy

Miss B. Fox
Welfare TA
Safeguarding Deputy

Miss M Smith
Teacher &
Designated Teacher
for online Safety

Please contact us on: 01424 436983
or make an appointment to see one of the Designated Safeguarding Officers.

Thank you for visiting our school.