

### **How can I get involved in my child's learning?**

We strongly believe that the education of your child is a joint process between school and home. Therefore, we provide plenty of opportunities for you to be involved in your child's education. An example of this is Family Morning – every Thursday. All parents/ carers across all year groups are welcome to stay at school between 9:00am – 9:30am to engage in activities that are set out by the teacher – typically reading based activities. After this session, coffee is served in the hall with the opportunity to network, where we also invite visitors into the school to share best practice about supporting your child in school and at home.

### **Does the school have a breakfast club and after school club?**

Yes. Our wrap-around care is provided by an outside company called Aspire. Aspire run breakfast club from 8:00am and after school club until 6:45pm. Arrangements can be made directly with Aspire if this is a service you require upon being given a place at our school. The school also offers a range of after school clubs each term ranging from sports, cooking, arts and crafts and drama etc. that run from 3:30pm—4:30pm.

### **Does the school take the children away on a school residential?**

Yes. The children in Year 4 attend a PGL visit for two nights, where they get to experience many outdoor and adventurous activities. In Year 5, there is a four night residential trip to France to support their learning in their World War 1 topic. It is the school's expectation that all children in these years attend these residential visits.

### **What is the settling in process to Reception?**

All children new to the school will receive an opportunity in the Summer term to come and stay and play with their child. In addition, a home visit will be organised so children can become familiar with school staff. In the Autumn Term, children start Reception for a morning, then a morning and lunch and then finally a full day. This is reviewed for each child and can be adjusted based upon individual children's needs.

### **How much time do children get to choose to play in Reception?**

There is a balance between adult direct and child initiated play. All reception children will have a chance to be with their teacher at key points of the day to learn. For the rest of the day children are able to play both indoors and outdoors with activities that the Teacher plans. During this free-flow time, teachers and TAs will work with small groups of children.

**Thank you, once again, for visiting. We hope that this booklet answers most of your questions. Please do not hesitate to contact us, if you require any further assistance to help you decide whether we are the right school for your child. We hope to welcome you back again soon.**



**Phoenix**  
PRIMARY SCHOOL

## **PROSPECTIVE PARENT/ CARER TOUR:** **FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS**



**Mayflower**   
FEDERATION

Welcome to Phoenix and thank you for taking the time to come and visit us. We believe Phoenix is a fantastic place to learn and we hope that you feel the same during your tour. Please note that today is like any other day and the children and teachers will be busy in lessons. Photos and mobile phones are not permitted at any point during the tour. Within this booklet is a list of some commonly asked questions. However, if you have any other questions then please do not hesitate to ask. We hope you enjoy your time with us.

Kind regards,  
Mr Assig  
Headteacher

#### **How many children are in the school?**

There are currently around 700 children enrolled at the school. Each class has a maximum of 30 children.

#### **How many adults work in each class?**

Each class has a Qualified Teacher and a Teaching Assistant. Other adults may be allocated to classes if there is a high level of Special Educational Needs. We also have a range of trainee teachers and teaching assistants, who also may work in a class throughout the year.

#### **What support will my children receive?**

Children's progress is tracked each half term by the Headteacher. Any children who are not achieving in their learning will be given additional support, so all children are able to make progress. This includes: Class Teacher intervention, Deputy Headteacher intervention, specialist Reading or Maths intervention. Parents/ Carers will be informed if children are receiving any additional support.

#### **What are the chances of my child getting a place at the school?**

It is very hard for us to be able to give any indication whether or not your child will be allocated a place at our school. However, in previous years most children who live within a mile radius of the school and who put us down as their first preference have received a space in Reception. There have also been instances where children from further afield have also been allocated a space. The advice we give to all parents/ carers is that you must ensure your application is submitted before the deadline and you put us as your first choice preference.

#### **My child has a diagnosis/ special educational need – will their needs be met here?**

In each year group, there are a number of children who have additional needs within each class. The Special Educational Needs Co-ordinator oversees the provision for these children and draws upon a range of external services to make sure your child's needs are met.

#### **How is the curriculum delivered?**

Our curriculum is unique to our school and much research of best practice has been deployed in order to make sure the children get the best start to their education. In Early Years, learning revolves around topics appropriate to the children's age. These are underpinned by high quality texts that children will love to read. All areas of learning are linked and enable children to make connections between themselves and the world they live in. In Key Stage 1 and 2, children are taught in more traditional lessons. Some lessons are taught discretely, such as Maths, Science, PE and RE. Other lessons are combined into topics as so children can learn a variety of skills amongst a broad range of topics. Further information regarding our curriculum can be found on our website.

#### **What sports opportunities does the school provide?**

All children have the opportunity to learn a range of sports and PE skills through our PE curriculum. Typically children will receive two lessons per week in PE. They will have a range of opportunities through PE lessons, which encompass all the main sports and associated skills. Children will also get the chance to swim regularly in our private swimming pool.

#### **What phonics scheme will my child be learning?**

The school uses the DfE programme Letters and Sounds to deliver phonics sessions from Nursery to Year 2. More information can be found on the internet in regards to this approach.

#### **How much art do the children do?**

Art is embedded into our topic based curriculum and is also delivered by our specialist art teacher. Each class will receive lessons in Art during one half term that will give them the chance to produce some really exciting artwork. Teachers will also provide further opportunities throughout the year so children get exposure to a range of mediums and crafts.

#### **Does the school have an ICT suite?**

No. However, the school does have access to a wide range of laptops and ipads that are used to deliver the ICT curriculum. These devices are used within children's classrooms.

#### **Will my child learn music/ a musical instrument?**

Yes. Children have music lessons delivered by our specialist teacher throughout their time at Phoenix from Nursery to Year 6. These music lessons are every other week and cover a range of skills. All children learn the Ukulele in Year 4. There is also the chance for children to have private music lessons, such as piano, violin and guitar. We also have a school choir.

#### **Will my child learn a second language?**

All children in Key Stage 1 and Key Stage 2 have Spanish lessons every other week with a specialist Spanish teacher.