

WELCOME TO THAMESIDE PRIMARY SCHOOL



Welcome to Thameside Primary School

Welcome to Thameside Primary School, where joy, vibrancy, and learning intertwine to create a thriving educational community serving Grays, Tilbury, and the neighbouring wards.

Our commitment to the highest standards of teaching and learning is reflected in the experiences of our 850 pupils. Awarded a 'Good' rating by Ofsted in July 2014, we take pride in maintaining this title through a successful reinspection in October 2018.

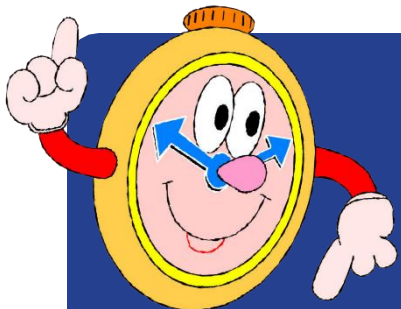
At Thameside, we cherish the uniqueness of each child, shaping a learning environment that caters to their individual needs. Aligned with the Cooperative values, our school is a proud member of the Osborne Cooperative Academy Trust.

Our dynamic PE department, with its highly skilled professionals, ensures our students actively participate and compete in diverse sports. Beyond academics, we offer an array of clubs both before and after school, fostering holistic development.

Visit us at any time to witness our vibrant community in action. For more information, explore our website at www.thamesideprimaryschool.com, which is regularly updated with the latest letters, news, and upcoming events.

If you have specific inquiries, please don't hesitate to contact us; we're here to assist you in every way possible.





It's
school
time!

Early Years & Lower School

Registration at 8.50am.
Morning break – 10.25am to 10.45am.
Lunch 12.00pm to 12.50pm.
Home time 3.20pm**

Upper School

Registration at 8.50am.
Morning break – 10.50am to 11.10am.
Lunch 12.45pm to 1.35pm.
Home time 3.20pm**

Nursery

Morning Session 8.45am-11.45am
Afternoon Session 12.30pm-3.30pm**

***Children should be collected promptly at the end of the day. If your child is not collected at the correct time, then parents will be charged for the cost of supervision which is incurred as a result.*

School Vision and Aims

Our vision is for every child to become a successful, independent and resilient lifelong learner and a responsible member of the community, prepared for an ever-changing world. Our aims are that all children will:

- Be resilient learners (Self-help & Self responsibility)
- Be responsible and independent people who have an understanding and respect for the values, views and feelings of others. (Equity, Equality & Democracy)
- Experience a wide, varied and exciting curriculum and have access to enrichment opportunities (Equality & Equity)
- Be confident with basic skills and achieve their full potential.
- Be aware of and take responsibility for their own personal safety (Self-help & Self responsibility)
- Experience a positive working relationship between the community, school and parents/carers. (Solidarity)



Admissions arrangements for parents to visit the school.

Parents are welcome to visit the school by arrangement with the school office when they move into the area or if they wish to see round the school prior to making a decision about their child's education.

Admissions policy

The school admits children without reference to ability or aptitude.

The number of intended admissions for each academic year is 120.

In this school, the children are admitted into the Nursery in the term after their third birthday and into Reception in the September after their fourth birthday. All children will have access to at least three terms in the Nursery and three terms in Reception. Both settings offer flexible arrangements and phased admission during the first term.

School Co-operative Values

As we are part of the Osborne Co-operative Trust we are guided, in all elements of school, by the Co-operative values.

These are embedded throughout the school by both staff and children. The Co-operative values are:

- Self-help - we help develop resilience and self-respect so everyone can help themselves
- Self-responsibility - everyone is answerable and accountable for their actions
- Democracy - everyone has an equal voice and a right to contribute
- Equality - everyone has a right to be treated the same and with respect
- Equity - everyone is expected to behave in a way that is fair and unbiased
- Solidarity we share a common and supportive purpose with all trust and Co-op schools



School admissions procedure

There is no guarantee of a place at the school. In the event of over-subscription, places will be allocated using the following criteria in the order given:

1. Children Looked After & previously Looked After Children
2. Special reasons
3. Children in catchment with a sibling already attending the school
4. Children in catchment
5. Children with parents, carers or guardians who are employed by Osborne Co-operative Academy Trust
6. Non-catchment children with a sibling attending the school
7. Non-catchment children

Further details can be found in the Osborne Determined Admissions Arrangements, which can be found on the website or a copy can be requested from the school office. All in-year applications for our school must be made through the Local Authority (Thurrock Admission

Services). Once a place has been allocated by the Local Authority the school will request that both the parent and pupil/s visit to fill out statutory paperwork and complete assessments to ensure that the pupil/s have a smooth transition into their class. Formal admission will then take place on the Monday following this visit.

Where parents are unsuccessful in securing a place at their preferred

school, the following arrangements for an appeal within the terms of the 1980 Education Act and 1993 Education Act apply: Parents must notify the Area Pupils Service Team in writing of their wish to appeal against their child's non-admission, within 14 days of being informed, in writing, that a place is not available. Arrangements will then be made for the appeal to be considered and parents informed accordingly.



Induction into Nursery

We are pleased to offer a home or alternative setting visit should you wish it. The visit helps us to gather a good picture of your whole child. Induction arrangements will then be tailored to suit you and your child.

Induction into Reception

We offer an induction package to help the children to settle into the Reception environment. The induction period is a great opportunity for the children to get to know the staff, the staff to find out

about the children and the children to get to know each other. During the summer term we offer a visit for children to attend, giving them the opportunity to familiarise themselves with the indoor and outdoor classroom.

The induction programme in September

For a specified time, normally no longer than a week, children will be offered a reduced induction period. Parents will be given a timetable of when they should attend during the transition period. Children will be taking part in a range of activities to find out all about them as individuals. After the initial part time sessions, the children will all start full day sessions and the usual school daytimes will apply.



Starting school

In your welcome pack you will find our Home/School Agreement, it contributes to the positive links we have with our families. The Agreement sets out, in brief, the key responsibilities that school has, that parents have, and that each child has. If we all work hard to fulfil these responsibilities, there will be a hugely positive impact upon the learning and well-being of the children.

School uniform

Children are expected to be appropriately dressed to participate in a range of indoor and outdoor activities.

Please remember when choosing clothing:

Children need to feel confident that they can dress themselves independently. Long sleeved shirts do cause problems when children are engaged in messy activities.

Children need to feel comfortable and be able to move freely.

Clothing needs to be practical and easily washable.

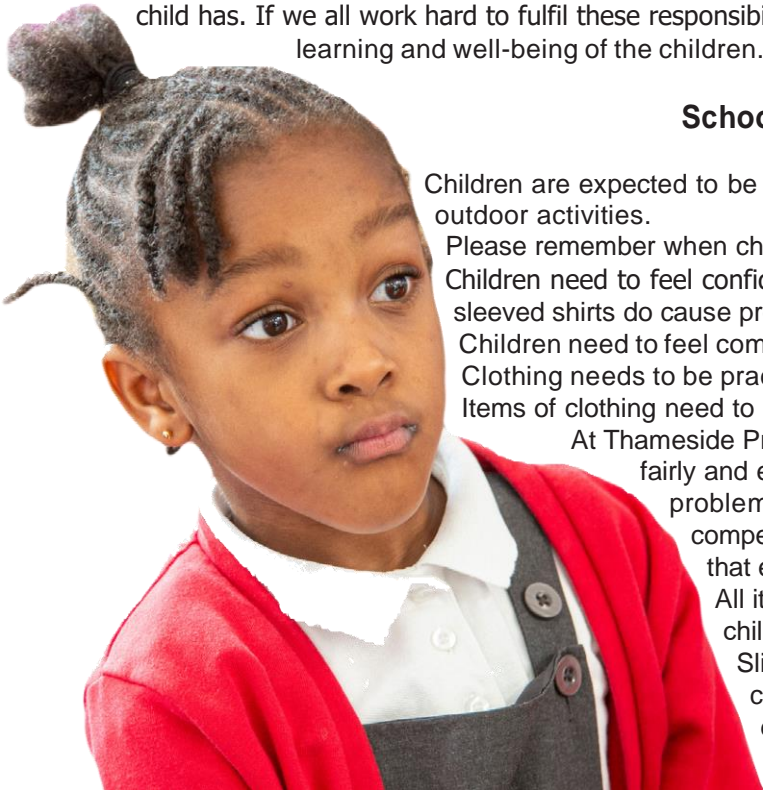
Items of clothing need to clearly marked with your child's name.

At Thameside Primary school, we aim to treat all children in the school fairly and equally, and it is our belief that a school uniform eliminates problems of

competitiveness over fashion clothes, and assists children in seeing that everyone is of equal worth.

All items of uniform and PE kit must be clearly marked with your child's name.

Sling backed heeled shoes and open toed shoes can cause accidents and in the interests of safety are actively discouraged. Our school uniform stockist is **UNIFORMS by Niki** (see inside back cover)



Dress code



Summer

Red and white check dresses - White polo shirts -
Grey or black shorts, trousers or skirts - Red
sweatshirts, cardigans or jumpers



Winter

Grey pinafore dresses - Grey or black trousers or skirts -
Red sweatshirts, cardigans, jumpers or fleeces - White polo shirts

Footwear

Black sensible shoes or black trainers (trainers should be
completely black with no additional colours) - Sandals may be
worn during summer months (sandals must be secured at the
ankle with a strap)

PE Kit

Black shorts - Red or white T-shirt - Plimsolls
(Please note: Due to Health and Safety PE clothing and shoes must be
separate to the school uniform worn during the day.) Children will also need
a named P.E. bag.

For Early Years

Wellies - Water Proof Jacket

Children are required to bring in a book bag and water bottle daily.

Jewellery should not be worn at school. In the case of earrings, only studs
or small hoops may be worn. These must be removed for physical activity.
(In exceptional circumstances, newly pierced ears will be covered with micro
pore Elastoplast).

Our school rules...

READY, RESPECTFUL & SAFE

We have discussed with our children what these words mean, how they can use these words to help them in school and what their behaviour may look like when they are ready, respectful and safe. This is what they think:

- We are **READY** to learn – we arrive at school on time, we have our equipment ready and we show that we are listening
- We are **RESPECTFUL** – we listen when others speak and we respect the property of our friends and the school.
- We are **SAFE** – we move around school in a safe manner, we follow instructions to keep ourselves safe on school trips, we use equipment safely and we stay safe online.

Attendance

We are required by law to keep detailed **absence** figures, so it is essential that parents telephone on the day that their children are absent. Should we not receive notification of absence before 9.15am we will contact you.

It is against the law to take pupils out of school during term time and holidays in term time will only be sanctioned in exceptional circumstances e.g. religious holidays and when annual leave is prescribed by a parent's employer. If it does become necessary to take your child out of school for a period of holiday then you should apply in writing for permission from the Headteacher.

If your child is **late** for school, please take him/her to the school office to be registered and arrangements can be made for lunch. If you know beforehand that your child will be late, please let

the school office know so that a lunch can be ordered before the cut off time 9.10am.

We do ask you to support us in educating your child by having them at school and in their classroom before the doors shut.

Absence and lates are closely monitored by the school and should they fall below the national averages the Educational Welfare Officer will become involved to look at ways in to improve the lates or attendance. All staff, children, governors and parents recognise that we have the right to learn in an orderly community in which effective learning can take place. As part of our commitment to this right, we have reviewed our behaviour policy and simplified our school rules to enable all our children to embrace them, whether they are three years or eleven years of age.

You will have a choice of dinner arrangements for your child.

School dinners - Each day pupils are offered a choice of 3 meals which all meet the latest Government standards for quality and nutritional content. Copies of the menu are given out to the children in school at the start of each cycle. They are also on display in the main school office or are available on the Thurrock website www.thurrock.gov.uk/school-meals/primary-schools-menu.

Payment for dinners - Children can pay each day or pay for the week. Dinners are paid for on-line via My Child at School app. For KS2 the cost of school dinner is available from the school office and they are free for all Reception and KS1 pupils as part of the Universal Infant Free School Meals scheme.

If you qualify for free school meals in KS2, the following must apply:

- your family is getting Income Support or Income Based Jobseekers Allowance or

- you are getting Guarantee element of State Pension Credit or income-related employment and support allowance or
- you are in receipt of Child Tax Credit (without Working Tax Credit except for the 4 week 'run on' period after a parent has become unemployed or reduced their hours to less than 16 per week) and your annual family income does not exceed £16,190.

If you think your child is entitled to free school meals then please ask at the school office for the relevant forms.

Lunch boxes - If you wish for your children to have a packed lunch, we ask that you follow the school guidelines on food. Please ensure that no chocolate bars, fizzy or high sugar drinks and no glass bottles are included and that the food gives them a balanced, healthy lunch. Please ensure their lunch is in a named lunch bag /box which is placed in the trolley for their class.

Unfortunately, we cannot refrigerate packed lunches.

Water bottles and snacks -

We encourage all pupils to have a water bottle in school and believe that it is important for children to have access to fresh water throughout the day. All pupils in Key Stage 1 and the Foundation Stage are provided with a piece of fruit or vegetable each morning funded by the Government Fruit and Vegetable scheme.

We encourage KS2 pupils to bring a healthy snack of fruit, cheese or yogurt for break-times.

We believe that lunch time is a social occasion and encourage pupils to speak politely to staff and each other, to sit sensibly with their friends and eat all of their lunch. Our mid-day assistants encourage all pupils to try new foods and ensure lunchtimes are safe and enjoyable for all pupils.

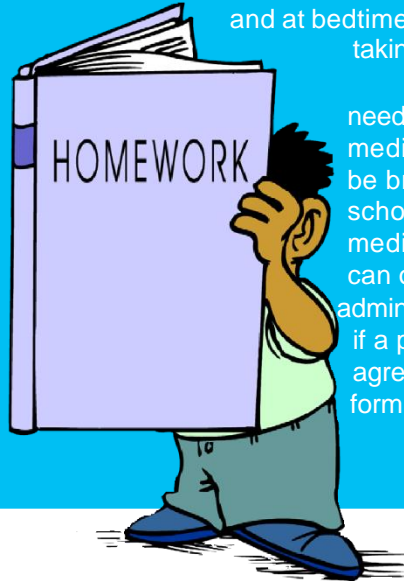


School milk is free for all under-fives and is subsidised for pupils aged five or older. If your child is entitled to FSM they would also be

entitled to free school milk.

All other pupils also can purchase milk (daily) via the Cool Milk scheme and applications are made online at www.schoolmilk.com

All children are expected to take books home to read or to share with you every day. EYFS children will practise their phonics when appropriate. KS1



will also have spellings to learn. KS2 are expected to read, learn spellings and multiplication tables and may be asked to complete other appropriate tasks. Full details, including how you can help, are outlined in the school's Homework Policy.

All medicines should be given ideally, before school, after school and at bedtime, therefore taking away the

need for these medicines to be brought to school;. Any medication can only be administered if a parental agreement form has been completed and signed.



Puffers, ventilators (marked with the child's name and stored in a suitable container) are kept available in the child's classroom for use when required.

Under normal circumstances, the school will not administer analgesics such as paracetamol.

Sickness

It is essential that staff know where to contact parents or guardians during school hours in case of illness.

Please keep your children at home for at least 48 hours after they have last had sickness or diarrhoea.

Our curriculum



We aim to provide an exciting curriculum through which children can enjoy learning, have fun and have a rich variety of experiences as well as developing the skills they need. Children in our Foundation Stage follow a topic based approach around the three prime areas and four specific areas of learning, with opportunities to develop the characteristics of effective learning.

In Key Stages 1 and 2 we follow the National Curriculum in all subjects. English, mathematics, RE, PSHE and PE are taught discretely to ensure that the children cover the national requirements. The other foundation subjects are covered through termly topics, using the Cornerstones curriculum. Cornerstones is a creative curriculum which enables children to explore subjects in a variety of ways. It is a four-stage teaching philosophy, in which the children are encouraged to: Engage, Develop, Innovate and Express. Each stage provides opportunities for children to learn and respond in a variety of ways, keeping projects flexible so that they develop with the children's interests and needs.

Information about the curriculum each year group follows can be found on the curriculum pages of the school website www.thamesideprimary.com

Physical education

Pupils receive two hours of timetabled PE per week with our PE specialists. The specialists develop the six areas of activity as set out in the National Curriculum – Dance; Games; Gymnastics; Athletics; Outdoor and Adventurous activities; Swimming. Children are given the opportunity to swim during Year 4 and we aim for all pupils leaving the school to be able to swim at least 25m. All pupils can also complete the National Cycling Proficiency scheme in KS2.



Each year we receive PE Premium funding from the Government to enhance pupil skills and allow them to participate in a wider range of events and competitions and provide enhanced coaching for both pupils and staff.

Equal opportunities

The staff of Thameside Primary school are committed to providing a curriculum where each individual child, regardless of race, gender or disability, is given equal opportunity to develop to their full potential.

Our school aims to be an inclusive school. This means that equality of opportunity must be a reality for our children.

We make this a reality through the attention we pay to the different groups of children within our school: girls and boys; minority ethnic and faith groups; children who need support to learn English as an additional language; children with special educational needs; gifted and talented children and any children who are at risk of disaffection or exclusion.

We achieve educational inclusion by continually reviewing what we do. We aim to give all our children the opportunity to succeed and reach the highest level of personal achievement. When planning their work, teachers take into account the abilities of the children.

Special educational needs and disabilities

In our school the teaching and learning, achievements, attitudes and well-being of every child are important. The staff work hard to ensure that children with SEN and/or disability have access to a fully inclusive curriculum and can take part in everyday activities.

The school operates within the guidelines contained within the revised Code of Practice that came into effect in September 2014. We will always consult parents if we feel that a child needs special support with learning and parents are encouraged to voice any concerns they may have with their class teacher or Special Educational Needs Co-ordinator (SENCO). Children will also be encouraged and helped to express their views and all staff work towards supporting these children effectively and boosting their self-esteem.

In the first instance all children's needs should be met in class through Quality First Teaching (QFT). QFT seeks to do the following: engage and support the pupil; build on pupils' prior learning and enable them to make progress. All children are assessed during the academic year and this highlights any possible developmental areas, which may benefit from very early identification and intervention. The support which children with SEN receive may be given in class or as an individual or small group out of the classroom. Children with SEN will receive specific help from their class teachers, the SENCO and learning support assistants. Where necessary, the school and parents will consult with and receive advice from various outside agencies, such as the Speech and Language Service or Treetops Outreach service for example. At all times, the progress of children with SEN is assessed and reviewed and individual or group education plans are produced accordingly. We provide programmes that are tailored to the children's needs, to support them in developing their skills, such as Language Link or Precision Teaching, for example.

Full details of SEN provision can be found on the school website www.thamesideprimary.com

The children who are the most able in their field are offered support in school to ensure they continue to progress. Most of the academic support is offered in class time through differentiated activities and adult support. Sometimes we ask the most able children to support those less able as research shows it is the best way to reinforce their own understanding.

Child protection and Safeguarding

Safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children is everyone's responsibility. Everyone who comes into contact with children and their families and carers has a role to play in safeguarding children.

In order to discharge our responsibilities outlined in the statutory document 'Keeping children safe in education' we have a robust and rigorous reporting system in place.

We have a Pastoral Support Team who provide invaluable support to many children in school to try to remove any social or emotional barriers to learning.

Thameside Primary is able to offer a Breakfast Care Provision, this runs from 7.45am to 8.30am. Children are able to choose from a range of breakfast options, consisting of cereal, toast and fruit.

We also provide a number of activities in which children can participate.

More information can be found on our website www.thamesideprimary.com

Accessibility plan

The school has an accessibility plan, to ensure that we consider the needs of people with disabilities.

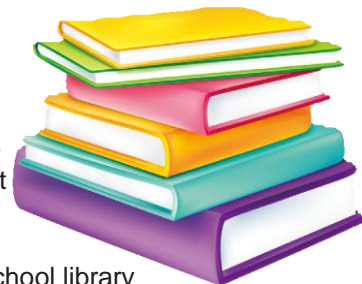
The school is committed to providing an environment that allows these children full access to all areas of learning. All our classroom entrances are wide enough for wheelchair access and there are designated points of entry for our school to also allow wheelchair access.

We have disabled access toilets on site. Parents with disabilities are encouraged to let the school know if there is any way we can make communication between home and school easier for them.

Extra-curricular activities

In-school and after-school clubs vary according to the time of year. They include sports activities, art and design activities and dance to name a few. The list for the current term is available on the school website.

The children have access to our school library as part of their curriculum.





School Council

The School Council is an important part of life at Thameside. Each year, two representatives - a boy and a girl - are elected from the class councillors in each year group onto the School Council. The School Council represents the pupil's voice, and the councillors are also our school ambassadors in the community. Past projects have included a creative partnership with the residents of a local care home and more recently they visited the council offices to see how local democracy works.

School trips

We use visits to places of interest and museums and as a stimulus for work across the curriculum. You will always be fully informed about any visits planned. All visits are planned with care, taking full account of the LA and Government safety recommendations.

Currently our policy is to ask parents/carers to make voluntary contributions towards the cost of visits outside the school etc. It was also decided that if a particular venture attracted less than 90% of the cost in voluntary contributions, then it would have to be cancelled.



Parent and teacher association

The school has an active fundraising association. Meetings are held during term time to plan for social and fundraising events. The P.T.A raise money to benefit the school.

The P.T.A. welcomes all parents, staff, governors and local residents and are keen for people to join their team. If you are interested in joining the P.T.A please ask at the school office.

Security

To ensure the safeguarding of all our children a variety of security measures are in place. These include:

- restricted and gated access to the main pedestrian entrance and car park
- all visitors signing in at the school office
- main pedestrian gate at the front of the school is open from 8.30am to 8.50 a.m. and 3p.m. to 4.30p.m.
- CCTV cameras installed on the buildings.



Parents have access to a range of documents at school by right of the 1988 Education Act. Parents wishing to consult any of these documents should ask at the school office. Documents available include:

- The Local Authority Curriculum Statement
- The National Curriculum and EYFS Curriculum
- The Procedure relating to the Exclusion of children
- Complaints Procedures regarding the curriculum
- Agenda and Minutes of Governors Meeting
- Written policy documents concerning Curriculum, Charging and Remissions
- Children's National Curriculum records

All documents referred to in this prospectus and any records concerning your child are available for your inspection at any reasonable time. If you wish to see them, please contact the school office staff to make an appointment.

Any formal complaint should be made in writing to the Headteacher. If the complainant is not satisfied with the response, then the Headteacher will pass on the concerns to the appropriate committee of the Governing Body which will consider the matter. At all stages the complainant has the right to representation and will be kept informed of the situation. Further details of the procedures are available from the school office. Every effort will be made to achieve a satisfactory conclusion to the complaint at the earliest opportunity.

We hope that the information in this prospectus has been helpful to you. Please let us know if there is additional information you feel future parents/guardians might appreciate.

The information contained in this booklet is correct at the time of printing but it is possible that changes may occur.

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