

ASHBURY MEADOW PRIMARY SCHOOL



School Brochure 2023-2024

Headteacher

Mrs L. Thomas

Chair of Governors

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www.ashburymeadow.co.uk

WELCOME

Welcome to Ashbury Meadow Primary School, a centre for excellent education, in the heart of East Manchester.

In September 2003 Ashbury and Bank Meadow Primary Schools amalgamated to form Ashbury Meadow Primary School and we moved into our super, newly built premises in September 2004. We have excellent facilities for the children and a Surestart children's centre which parents, carers and the wider community use for a variety of activities. In September 2015, we moved into our next phase of expansion to support our local community. A new, purpose built EYFS and upper Key Stage Two department, along with a further studio for drama and exercise was opened.

Children come to our school with wide and varied cultural and social experiences. We value each child's experience and background and aim to work in partnership with parents and carers to develop every child's ability to his or her maximum potential. With school and home working together, we can achieve far more for the children.

We have achieved the gold Rights Respecting Schools Award, the silver Learning Outside the Classroom Award, and Sainsbury's Gold Award for P.E. and the silver healthy schools award. We aim to continue to develop the school to provide the best possible education for the children by participating in the International Schools Award and are a Communication Friendly School.

Ofsted

The school was inspected by Ofsted in June/July 2015. They were extremely pleased with the range of evidence presented by the school and the school received an overall grading of 'Outstanding' in all areas.

Our Vision Statement

At Ashbury Meadow Primary School children are at the heart of everything we do. We want our pupils to be challenged to reach their full potential and become life-long learners that have an active and positive role in our global community.

Our pupils will be resilient, inquisitive and eager to learn whilst being taught by inspirational staff in an outstanding learning environment. Within this environment all pupils and staff will feel safe, respected and supported. Their success will be recognised and celebrated. Pupils will enjoy each other's company while taking responsibility for their own actions and understanding how these affect the rights of those around them.

We will have positive relationships within our own community and work closely alongside parents and carers to ensure their children have the best start to life to become global citizens and make a wider contribution to others around them.

We aim:

1. To help children develop lively, enquiring minds with a lifelong love of learning and the ability to communicate effectively.
2. To help the children to use the knowledge and skills they are taught in a variety of practical situations both inside and outside of the classroom.
3. To develop self-awareness and encourage children to value and appreciate their own talents and the talents of others.
4. To provide varied opportunities for success, so that everyone can succeed at something and be proud of their achievements.
5. To foster respect and consideration for everyone; encourage people to work together and oppose all forms of discrimination.
6. To develop our children's understanding of the world and an awareness of their responsibility towards the environment as they start their journey to become global citizens.
7. To help children to become decent and responsible members of society, caring for and respecting each other in school, as we hope they will in later life.

8. To develop a pride in their locality and region and foster a desire to continue to explore and learn about them through different learning experiences.

Unicef Rights Respecting School (RRSA)

Ashbury Meadow Primary School is a Gold Level Rights Respecting School. The Rights Respecting School Award recognises that the UNCRC (United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child) is at the heart of everything the school does. The award is based on principles of equality, dignity, respect, non-discrimination and participation and at Ashbury Meadow we have adopted these values to underpin our school values, behaviour policy and ethos. Throughout the year, we promote these values through our everyday teaching, assemblies and various events.

ADMISSIONS

Ashbury Meadow applies the Manchester Admissions Policy for admissions to school. Admissions to Nursery are made at the discretion of the Headteacher. After September 2018, a priority will be given for free full time places to children whose parents are eligible under the government's 30 hours free childcare scheme.

We offer a warm welcome to parents who are considering sending their children to Ashbury Meadow and we are very pleased for them to come and visit. Arrangements can be made for parents to look around the school whilst it is in session. Please make an appointment with the School Administrator. During the term before their child enters the Nursery or Reception Class, parents are invited to a pre-school introductory meeting and also transition sessions for their child. Children of school age are admitted by the local authority, the school has no power to admit them and parents must contact the local authority, not the school, to request school places.

ASHBURY MEADOW SCHOOL TIMES

We start at 8.45 am and finish at 3.15 pm.

SEMH RESOURCED PROVISION- THE MEADOW ROOM

We start at 8.45 am and finish at 2.00 pm; a bell rings at 8.45 am at which point pupils will enter the provision from the playground. Lunch with staff will be at 12.00 pm

The gate off the carpark will be opened at 2.00 p.m. for parents or carers to pick up their child.

The SEMH Provision follows the same expectations and policies as the rest of the school, including school uniform.

The SEMH provision is staffed by one teacher and two TAs and provides a more personal curriculum, based on the needs of the child and the outcomes listed in their EHCPs.

The provision provides a safe and flexible learning environment for the children, however there is an expectation that children join in learning and social activities with their peers in the main school wherever possible.

COMMUNICATION, LANGUAGE AND INTERACTION RESOURCED PROVISION- THE BUMBLEBEES

We start at 8.45 am and finish at 3.15 pm; a bell rings at 8.45 am at which point pupils will enter the provision from the playground. Lunch with staff will be at 12.00 pm.

The Communication, Language and Interaction Provision follows the same expectations and policies as the rest of the school, including school uniform.

The CLI provision is staffed by one teacher and two TAs and provides a more personal curriculum, based on the needs of the child and the outcomes listed in their EHCPs.

The provision provides a safe and flexible learning environment for the children, however there is an expectation that children join in learning and social activities with their peers in the main school wherever possible.

ATTENDANCE AND PUNCTUALITY

Children need to be in school every day and arrive on time. It makes an enormous difference to their progress, right from the start of nursery, if children are late or absent. If a child is absent from school, even for a day, parents/carers should telephone or send a text or letter to let us know the reason. Children should not be absent from school for holidays in term time. However, if there is an unavoidable reason for an absence in term time, then parents/carers should write to the Headteacher and explain why leave of absence is needed. A meeting will be arranged to discuss this with the Headteacher or the home school liaison officer, permission will only be granted in exceptional circumstances and where evidence has been provided.

Children with 100% attendance are rewarded at the end of each term.

School Uniform

Grey trousers, skirt or pinafore dress

(children in the nursery may wear jogging bottoms)

White polo shirt

Navy blue sweatshirt

Black shoes

Blue and white striped or check dresses may be worn in summer.

P.E. Kit (from Reception upwards)

Black shorts

Plain white tee shirt

Black tracksuit bottoms

Trainers are needed for outdoor games (shoes must be changed)

(Track suits may be worn for outdoor games)

No football club strips or designer brands please

Sweatshirts, fleeces, white polo shirts and school bags embroidered with the school logo may be purchased from the manufacturer via their website:

<http://www.gooddies.co.uk>

Uniform can also be purchased at any reasonably priced store such as Asda or Tesco.

There are three 'pre-loved' uniform sales in the school playground, these are typically at the start of the year in September, December and at the end of the Easter term.

Items range from 20p to £1.

The school office only carries a small amount of stock for emergencies.

Please click the link below to read Ashbury Meadow's School Uniform Policy.

http://www.ashburymeadow.co.uk/serve_file/7112745

All children's property should be clearly named to help us to return lost items to their owner.

JEWELLERY / VALUABLE ITEMS

Children should not wear jewellery in school as it can be a hazard and can result in injury. This is a health and safety issue. Valuable items should not be brought into school because we cannot be responsible for their loss or damage. If, for a specific safety reason, parents want their child to bring a mobile phone to school, then it must be named and given to the administration staff in the main office for safe keeping during the day.

SAFEGUARDING

Ashbury Meadow Primary School aims to create and maintain a safe learning environment where all children and adults feel safe, secure and valued and know they will be listened to and taken seriously. Our school is committed to the

principles outlined in 'Working Together to Safeguard Children, 2018' and implements policies, practices and procedures which promote safeguarding and the emotional and physical well-being of children, young people and staff. We record and monitor safeguarding incidents closely and take the appropriate steps when necessary to ensure the safety of pupils and adults.

We hold a key stage assembly called 'Keeping safe' to educate pupils at their relevant age level about issues such as cyber bullying, road safety, bullying within school.

E-SAFETY

Children and young people spend a lot of time online – it can be a great way for them to learn and explore. However, children do also face risks such as cyberbullying or seeing content that is inappropriate. It is important for them to know how to stay safe online.

At Ashbury Meadow, we go to great lengths to keep your child safe whilst using the internet in school. However, it is recognised by all leading agencies, including the Department for Education that using the internet can never be 100% safe. We have an E-Safety Policy and Acceptable Use Policy which outlines safe working practices and procedures and we routinely conduct eSafety assemblies led by the School Council as well as dedicated E-safety lessons. Some staff meetings focus on e-safety for pupils and staff. We like to work in partnership with parents and carers and the school communicates with parents regularly regarding advice on how to keep children safe online at home. Links for parents to site which advise about e-safety in the home can be found on our website.

BEHAVIOUR

Ashbury Meadow Primary School is a values-led, Rights Respecting School. Over the past few years the school has developed with the help of pupils, staff and governors six values which can be seen throughout the school and which are

discussed during assemblies so that all pupils know the values and know why they are important to us.

The values are

- Be kind and friendly
- Show respect to others by keeping hands, feet and objects to yourself
- Respect adults by following instructions
- Walk around school quietly
- Take care of yourself, respect each other and our school
- Think before you speak, think before you act.

Being respectful is non-negotiable as a Rights Respecting School. We believe that through these values we are able to ensure our commitment to UNCRC Rights Respecting School's work that forms the basis of whole school policy and practice to ensure that all the children's rights within the convention form part of everyday life for all our children at Ashbury Meadow Primary School. These are:

- The right to be listened to A12.
- The right to be safe A19.
- The right to be healthy A24.
- The right to an education A28.
- The right to become the best we can be A29.
- The right to relax and play A31.
- The right to be treated fairly A37.

We believe that through our RRBP all our children will grow up aware of these rights and will learn to respect these rights for themselves and for others.

BULLYING

This is a sensitive issue, but one that is important and cannot be ignored. At Ashbury Meadow bullying is not tolerated and there is a recognised procedure in

place for dealing with it. This is explained in our behaviour policy on our website. We also hold assemblies which deal with issues around pupil safety, such as bullying and cyber bullying. The children are regularly informed about who they can speak to and what to do if they think they are being bullied.

CURRICULUM

At Ashbury Meadow we teach a wide range of subjects through a broad based and differentiated creative curriculum. We aim to make learning interesting and enjoyable and ensure that it meets the needs of our pupils. In the Nursery and Reception classes children follow the Early Years Foundation Stage curriculum. After this, through Key Stage 1 (infants) and Key Stage 2 (juniors), children are then taught the core and foundation subjects of the National Curriculum 2014 and Religious Education.

Please click the link below to read Ashbury Meadow's Teaching and Learning Policy.

http://www.ashburymeadow.co.uk/serve_file/7112743

FOUNDATION STAGE

Children in the Nursery and Reception classes follow the Early Years Foundation Stage curriculum which follows six areas of learning. A lot of early learning is play based and links different activities together through themes. The prime areas of learning are:

- Personal, social and emotional development
- Communication and language
- Physical development

The specific areas of learning are:

Literacy

Mathematics

Understanding of the world

Expressive arts and design

English

Children learn to read, write and explain themselves as clearly and fluently as possible. They are encouraged to read for pleasure; to develop a good understanding of what they have read and to appreciate poetry, literature and drama. We have an excellent school library and promote the love of reading across school. Several approaches are used in the teaching of English. Primarily, we use the Talk For Writing strategy in which model texts are used to support spoken language, reading and writing skills. Literacy lessons include the teaching of sentence level and grammar, spelling strategies and the development of different genres of writing through quality texts which usually relate to the topic for that term. Phonics is taught through Little Wandle Letters and Sounds. We also teach literacy through other subjects and develop links throughout the curriculum where appropriate. Guided reading takes place daily throughout the school and gives pupils an opportunity to develop the skills needed to read and understand texts of different genres. Please refer to the policy on the school website. Lexia, a web-based phonics-based literacy intervention is used throughout the school from year 1. Pupils can access this at home too as well as a Spelling Support app called Spelling Shed. Students also have access to MyON online books as well. The school website contains links to online resources and games under the Curriculum section to support your child.

Mathematics

Mathematics is taught through a daily lesson in which mental, oral and written skills are modelled and practised. There is an emphasis on fluency, reasoning and problem solving to enable children to become proficient mathematicians and to enable them to develop to mastery level. Key skills are taken from the National Curriculum 2014. Children are taught specific mathematical vocabulary and use and apply mathematical skills across the curriculum and in outdoor learning so that children apply their mathematical understanding to everyday life. There is a strong emphasis on proficiency in arithmetic and it is expected that children learn the appropriate number facts which are age-appropriate. Please refer to the

mathematics policy on the school website. Mathletics is a web-based maths intervention used throughout years 1 – 6 and can be accessed by your child at home. The school website contains links to online resources and games under the Curriculum section to support you child.

Science

Children learn Science through a combination of practical and theoretical work. We encourage children to have a questioning attitude and to gain satisfaction and enjoyment from investigating and solving problems. This helps them to develop a better understanding of the physical world around them and the animals and plants that inhabit it. We intend to develop children's science capital by valuing and linking pupils' experiences, identities and what matters to them.

Computing

We follow the New National Curriculum for computing. They learn skills which enable them to become IT literate. Pupils have good access to different types of equipment, including desktops, laptops and i pads.

FOUNDATION SUBJECTS

The Foundation Subjects include History, Geography, Design and Technology, Art, Physical Education and Music. We have a musician in residence once a week who teaches the music curriculum across the school. Children are taught to develop the skills and knowledge related to each subject as part of the creative curriculum and are encouraged to enjoy taking part in them all.

Physical Education (P.E.)

P.E. is taught through games, gymnastics, athletics and dance. Children go swimming once a week in Year 4. We work with Manchester City in the Community, who provide sports coaching alongside our teachers to classes 1- 6 every week and also to EYFS. There are also opportunities for extra-curricular sporting activities and through School Games children take part in events with other schools.

Religious and Worldviews Education

At Ashbury Meadow the Religion and Worldviews curriculum gives important opportunities to promote respect for others, challenge stereotypes and build understanding of other cultures and beliefs. This contributes to promoting a positive and inclusive school ethos that champions British values and being a Rights Respecting School.

Teachers in years 1-6 teach Religion & Worldviews through the use of Discovery RE, NATRE resources and Manchester agreed RE syllabus, which helps set out a progressive response to the needs of their cohorts. This includes developing pupils' knowledge and understanding of key Religion and Worldviews vocabulary. Staff promote Religion and Worldviews through cross-curricular links, cultural celebration events, discussions and pupil enquiry.

Our Religious and Worldviews curriculum:

- provokes challenging questions about the meaning and purpose of life, beliefs, the self, issues of right and wrong, and what it means to be human. It develops pupils' knowledge and understanding of Christianity, other religions within the school community, and religious traditions that examine these questions, fostering personal reflection and spiritual development
- encourages pupils to explore their own beliefs (whether they are religious or non-religious), in the light of what they learn, as they examine issues of religious belief and faith and how these impact on personal, institutional and social values
- enables pupils to build their sense of identity and belonging, which helps them flourish within their communities and as citizens in a diverse society
- teaches pupils to develop respect for others, including people with different faiths and beliefs, and helps to challenge prejudice
- prompts pupils to consider their responsibilities to themselves and to others, and to explore how they might contribute to their communities and to wider society. It encourages empathy, generosity and compassion.

Social, Moral, Spiritual and Cultural education.

SMSC is threaded through the curriculum, and also taught through specific events, such as global week and our weekly assemblies. It is planned for in literacy units of work where SMSC themes in texts are discussed and relevant questions are planned for to allow pupils to reflect on SMSC aspects, it links in closely to our Rights Respecting school work and also our International School work.

At Ashbury Meadow, we have a School Council which meets every week. It consists of two representatives from each class from Year 2 upwards. Class Councils meet and raise issues which are then taken to the School Council to be discussed. Recommendations are made and these are then considered by staff. We have school prefects who set an example to the younger children and carry out a number of duties such as arranging the hall for assembly. We also have Ashbury Buds, who are pupils in KS2 who help other pupils at play and lunchtime, ensuring everybody has an enjoyable play.

EDUCATIONAL VISITS

Learning outside the Classroom is an integral part of our curriculum ethos, Educational visits are part of this and are arranged as appropriate to provide children with first hand experiences to enhance their learning in school. Parents are asked to make voluntary contributions, in accordance with the Governors' Charging Policy, to enable these visits to take place, which are all risk assessed.

Relationships & Sex Education (RSE)

Ashbury Meadow Primary School recognises the need to ensure that its pupils identify with a Relationships and Sex Education which is relevant to their own lives, so that they are able to face life's inevitable challenges and pressures from a position of knowledge and confidence. As children are growing up in an increasingly complex world both on and offline.

We recognise that parents and carers are key figures in helping their children to cope with the physical and emotional aspects of growing up and in preparing them for the challenges and responsibilities which sexual maturity brings. It is our duty to build on what parents and carers teach them at home to ensure that they

develop a good understanding of healthy and respectful relationships, how to look after their mental well-being and to equip them with the knowledge and skills to support their personal development, both physically and mentally, so that they become happy and successful members of society ready for their next stage.

Our RSE curriculum is delivered through the CORAM Scarf scheme of work as part of our broader PSHE curriculum and through the Growing and Changing units delivered by class teachers. This ensures that core knowledge is broken down into units of manageable size in a carefully sequenced way within a planned programme of lessons. RSE is planned for in every year of primary school through our spiral curriculum, as it helps pupils to learn progressively as they mature and revisit the subject on a regular basis, to reinforce learning and provide opportunities to ask further questions.

For further information on our RSE curriculum, please refer to the school's RSE policy which can be found on the school website.

HOMEWORK

Homework is set regularly. It is an integral part of the work that children are doing in class. Homework is part of the partnership between home and school and we ask that parents help to ensure that children do their homework on time. Parents will be advised of homework return dates and expectations in the September or when your child is admitted.

Please click the link below for Ashbury Meadow's Homework Policy.

http://www.ashburymeadow.co.uk/serve_file/7112487

TEACHING METHODS

A range of teaching methods are employed as appropriate for each subject and specific activity. These include whole class, group and individual teaching. A variety of approaches are used and work is modified to meet the needs of children of varying abilities. Inclusion is important and we aim to meet the needs of all pupils. Teaching Assistants, in consultation with the teacher, help pupils

individually and in groups. Sometimes they work with the children in class and at other times teach a group of children separately. We also welcome parents, grandparents and other voluntary helpers into school to work with children in a variety of ways.

SPECIAL EDUCATIONAL NEEDS and DISABILITY

Ashbury Meadow has a Special Educational Needs and Disability Policy. The Code of Practice procedures are followed and parents are involved at every stage. In this way we aim to enable all children to achieve as much as possible regardless of their level of need. Our SEND co-ordinator is Mr Fuller; if you have any concerns about your child's educational or health care please contact him. Please see our Special Educational Needs and Disability Policy on our school website.

PLAYTIME

The children in Key Stage 1 and 2 have a morning playtime of 15 minutes. Key Stage 1 pupils are given a free piece of fruit daily. There are games available for the children to play at playtime both outside and in the classroom if it is a wet day. We have a playground buddies scheme operating at playtime and lunch time.

DINNERTIME

Nursery children	11.30am – 12.30pm
Reception children	11.30am – 12.30 pm
Key stage 1 children	12.00pm – 1.00pm
KS2 children	12.30 – 1.15pm

Children may have a school dinner or bring a packed lunch. Sweets, chocolate and fizzy drinks are not permitted. We ask for a week's notice if parents wish their child to change the type of dinner they have. There is a choice available with school dinners and classes take it in turns to go first so that everyone has the opportunity to have first choice on a regular basis.

EXTRA-CURRICULAR ACTIVITIES

These include a variety of sporting, music and other activities which are run after school. Some of the clubs we offer include boys and girls' football, multisport, art club and chess. There is a Key Stage 2 choir and music clubs.

A physical education organisation called '*Commando Joe*' is also resident in school for one day per week and runs an after-school club and before school club which aims to develop teamwork and self-esteem through physical activities.

AFTER SCHOOL AND BREAKFAST CLUBS

At Ashbury Meadow we have before and after school provision for pupils aged three to eleven. This means that parents can make arrangements in advance for children to come to school early and have breakfast from 8.15 am -8.45am or to stay at school after 3.15pm to participate in the afterschool club curriculum until 6.00pm. The activities for the children include games, construction materials, craft activities and outdoor play. Parents have to pay for this facility, although help with fees can often be obtained from colleges, employers or through the Working Tax Credit scheme.

These activities are capped so it is advised to book spaces in advance if you know you are going to need them. Please note any child not booked on via Schoolcomms will not be able to attend either breakfast or after school club due to safeguarding.

MAKING PAYMENTS TO SCHOOL

The school operates a cash free office.

Payments to school are made using the school's online payment service Schoolcomms. The Schoolcomms payment service allows payments to be tracked, any outstanding payments to be checked and allows for payments to be made directly to us using a debit card or instant bank transfer. To use Schoolcomms to make payments, you will need to register for a school gateway account at www.schoolgateway.com

HOME-SCHOOL LINKS

We are very keen to work with parents in the education of their children and good communication is vital. The class teacher is responsible for pastoral care under the general supervision of the Headteacher. If parents and carers are concerned about anything they should get in touch with the class teacher, or through the school office, and make an appointment to discuss the matter. A consistent approach between home and school encourages children to flourish and we aim to keep parents informed about their children's progress. There are two parents' evenings per year, in the autumn and the spring terms. At the end of the school year parents are given a written report for their child. Pupils' attainment at the end of the Autumn and Spring terms is also sent out to parents in the form of a short report. The learning expectations for pupils are sent home in September in the form of a key skills booklet for each year group so parents understand what is expected of their child that year. We also communicate through a weekly sent via e-mail and put on our web site. We like to share good news with parents who are very welcome to attend the phase celebration assemblies on Friday mornings when children receive certificates. Parents can provide help in school in many ways such as hearing children read, helping them change their library books, working with children in class, and helping to supervise visits.

SECONDARY SCHOOL LINKS

Children from Ashbury Meadow go on to study at a number of different secondary schools. However, the majority of children go to the East Manchester Academy. Ashbury Meadow has close links with the Academy with children making use of the facilities for some lessons and events. Ashbury Meadow is one of the linked primary schools for admission to the Academy.

WIDER COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT

At Ashbury Meadow we have a Children's Centre which is used by the community in a variety of ways. For example, there is pre-school provision in the children's multi-purpose playroom and this is also used for carers and toddlers' sessions. The training room and ICT suite are used for adult training sessions and meetings.

HEALTH AND SAFETY

The school takes matters of health and safety very seriously. There is a detailed Health and Safety Policy in place. Regular fire practices are held and other various health and safety systems are regularly checked to ensure that the school premises and systems are in good working order. There are key pads at the entrance doors and visitors and members of staff wear badges to aid security.

Smoking is not permitted in the school building or grounds. Dogs, except for guide dogs, are not allowed on the site. All adults coming in to school on a regular basis have to have a Criminal Records Bureau (CRB) check. The children are taught e-safety across school through a planned programme which educates them about keeping safe online. We also provide parents access to National Online Safety website and materials, which provide parents with guides and webinars in how to keep pupils safe at home. All parents must enter school via the main reception if they have meetings or need to speak to somebody.

We request that parents turn off all electrical devices before entering the school and do not take pictures of children unless authorised.

CONCERNS

If parents/carers have any concerns we are always willing to discuss these with you. If you need to talk to the class teacher, please come at the end of the day so that there is time to talk together. It is best to ask or telephone for an appointment as teachers sometimes have meetings to attend after school. Please enter school by the main reception area for these meetings.

If you wish to see the Headteacher please ask for an appointment so that there is time to discuss any issues you want to raise.

If, after discussion with the Headteacher, you are unhappy with the way concerns have been dealt with then you can refer the matter to the Chair of Governors. Ashbury Meadow follows the Manchester Local Education Authority curriculum complaints procedure, a copy of which is available through the School Office. This procedure can be found on the school website.

DATA PROTECTION

Ashbury Meadow is registered for data protection and all records are held in accordance with the latest General Data Protection Regulations 2018.

FURTHER INFORMATION

School documents, policies, schemes of work and Ofsted reports are available through the School Office or on the school website.