

WHITECOTE PRIMARY SCHOOL



Inspire • Nurture • Challenge



Prospectus

Head's Welcome

We are a thriving primary school located in Leeds and are committed to providing our pupils with a high-quality education that will enable them to reach their full potential.

Our school is a warm and welcoming place where all pupils feel safe, happy, and supported. We believe that every child is unique, and we tailor our teaching to meet the individual needs of each pupil. We also place a strong emphasis on developing our pupils' social and emotional skills, as we believe that these are just as important as academic achievement.

We offer a broad and balanced curriculum that covers all areas of learning. We believe that it is important for our pupils to be exposed to a wide range of experiences, so we offer a variety of extracurricular activities, such as sports, clubs, and trips.

We are proud of our school's reputation for high standards of teaching and learning. We have a dedicated and experienced team of teachers who are passionate about education. We also have strong links with our local community, and we work closely with parents and carers to ensure that our pupils receive the best possible education.

Thank you,

Frances Stead



Our School Values

At Whitecote Primary School, our school values of Inspire, Nurture, and Challenge run through all of our day-to-day interactions with our children.



We believe in fostering a culture of innovation, creativity, and intellectual curiosity. By inspiring one another, our children and staff are encouraged to reach their full potential and make a positive impact on the world. We also promote a sense of community and support, as we inspire each other to overcome obstacles, learn from our experiences, and strive for excellence in all that we do.



We believe in creating a safe, supportive, and inclusive environment for all members of our community. By nurturing each other's growth and development, we foster a sense of belonging, empathy, and respect. Nurturing also emphasises the importance of emotional well-being and resilience, helping children to develop the skills and attitudes needed to thrive in life.



Fostering a growth mindset encourages our children to step outside their comfort zones, challenging themselves, develop resilience, problem-solving skills, and a passion for lifelong learning. This value promotes a culture of innovation and creativity, as they push their limits. Challenging ourselves also helps us all to appreciate the value of hard work, perseverance, and overcoming obstacles.

A Message From...

The Governors

I am extremely proud of the school, its pupils and staff.

Expectations of standards at Whitecote have risen over the past couple years due to a tenacious approach in improving the quality of teaching, learning and pastoral support for our children. The children are well behaved and keen to learn as they feel safe, supported and secure in our school. Parents and carers understand they have an important role to fulfil in supporting our aims and aspirations for their children and are encouraged to play an active part in school life. We work closely with Bramley Cluster and other agencies to provide support for children and families who need it.

- Chair of Governors



School Uniform

Our school uniform really helps children feel a sense of pride and belonging to the Whitecote community. Our school colours are dark green, with black and dark grey trousers or skirt. Children will wear black shoes throughout the day, or black trainers on PE days.

For children in receipt of the pupil premium, we offer subsidies to help reduce the cost of your school uniform.



Our Curriculum



We are incredibly proud of our school curriculum. In November 2022, OFSTED told us that:

“Leaders have created an ambitious curriculum... Visits bring the curriculum to life... These experiences deepen the knowledge learned in the curriculum...”

We want all of our children at Whitecote to have a wealth of experiences during their time here. Each of these experiences is planned so that children maximise their learning.

In the early years, children will visit the Pantomime at Christmas and in reception, children visit Hesketh Farm in Bolton Abbey.

In Key Stage 1, children will take part in dance workshops from across the world, visit a castle, Yorkshire Wildlife Park, walk around the local area, and welcome a mobile space planetarium.

In Key Stage 2, children will visit even more places. In Year 3, they will visit the Bagshaw Museum and Yorkshire Sculpture Park. In Year 4, children will attend a one-night residential in Northumberland to see Hadrian’s Wall and learn all about the Romans in Britain.



Our Curriculum



In Year 5, children will visit Murton Park to learn about the Vikings and perform a Shakespearian play on stage at the Leeds' Carriageworks. Finally, in Year 6, children will visit Saltaire to learn about the Industrial Revolution and its impact locally, as well as a two-night residential stay.

Our children have also met some familiar faces in the past, including former Leeds United player, Luke Ayling, award-winning children's author and illustrator, Kate Pankhurst, author, Tom Palmer, Emmerdale's Lisa Riley, local street artist, Burley Banksy, known for his murals celebrating Leeds around the city, and Labour MP Rachel Reeves.

Because of our commitment to ensuring rich experiences for our children, we are able to offer small subsidies towards trips, meaning that school is sometimes able to contribute to these visits and visitors.

Our curriculum has had such an impact on our children, that we have been asked to share it with other schools in Leeds. This is what we think of when we think of the Whitecote Way: everyone in our community learning together.



A young child with blonde hair, wearing a school uniform, is shown from the chest up. They are holding a bright green plastic cup to their mouth and drinking. The background is a soft-focus indoor setting, likely a school cafeteria or kitchen. The overall tone is warm and positive.

Wrap Around Care

Breakfast Club

Whitecote Primary School offers a Breakfast Club during term time starting at 7:30 am. At Breakfast Club, we provide all children with a breakfast meal included in the charge. Please see our website for the latest costs.

After-School Club

As well as a school Breakfast Club, we also offer an After-School Club for parents with commitments after school. This starts at the end of the school day until 6pm.


Both our Breakfast and After-School Clubs can be booked using our online system, Arbor.

Enrichment Clubs

All of our staff are expected to run after-school enrichment clubs for children across the whole school. From football clubs, to yoga sessions, LEGO clubs and more, we've got it covered! We also take recommendations from parents and children as to the types of club that they would like us to run.

School Choir

Our talented school choir meet once a week to practice a range of songs. They later travel to Sheffield to perform alongside hundreds of children from around the country. At Christmas, they travel to Leeds to sing in the city centre.



Safeguarding

The school recognises the important role that the whole community plays in promoting health, safety and the well-being of all children.

In view of the school's relationship with children and families, staff need to be particularly alert to any signs of possible abuse or neglect and have a legal duty to pass on concerns to the Designated Safeguarding Lead. These concerns must be passed on to Social Care.

The school does not have any role to play in the investigation of child protection issues but must co-operate with any agencies in investigating or monitoring as necessary.

The school must follow the procedures set out by the area Child Protection Committee which all staff follow. These state clear internal procedures and guidance for the staff. It is expected that the school develops effective working relationships with all agencies concerned with child welfare.

Whitecote has a Child Protection Policy, which is available from the School Office for all parents who wish to see it.

If any parent has a concern about the welfare of any child in school, please contact the Designated Teacher, the Headteacher, or contact Social Services.

Behaviour

Behaviour in school is good, as identified in our OFSTED, 2022:

Pupils behave well in all areas of the school.

All children in school aspire to do well and form excellent relationships with staff and their peers.



Our school behaviour policy gives guidance on positive strategies, rules, rewards and sanctions. There are fair systems which make children feel safe and secure. We are committed to improving children's confidence and self-esteem and making the school environment a happy and safe place.

Within the classroom, the establishment of a sound, caring relationship between the teacher and the children helps to support good attitudes, which create a purposeful learning environment.

The school rules for children ensure that all children:

- 1. Follow instructions;**
- 2. Keep hands, feet and objects to themselves, and;**
- 3. Respect everyone and everything.**

A home-school agreement is in place informing parents and children of acceptable behaviour and the school's code of conduct regarding sanctions. All parents and children and the Headteacher sign an individual agreement, which helps to support good behaviour in school.



If there are concerns, parents can be asked to meet teachers at school to discuss the behaviour of their children and ways to support them. It is hoped that school and home will always work together in the best interests of your child(ren).



Admissions

The school is very fortunate to have its own Nursery, which serves a wider area than the school itself and admissions are taken in strict age order. Children are admitted to the Nursery in the term after their third birthday. Admission to the Nursery does not guarantee a place within the main school.

Little Doves Nursery provides free 15 hours for eligible two-year olds only or up to 30 hours paid provision for all. Please ask at Little Doves about eligibility or costs.

The school follows the admission criteria set by the local authority. Admissions into full-time schooling take place during the year in which the children are five. Admission to the Reception classes takes place in September. Parents are informed how their child will be admitted at a parents' meeting held during the Summer Term.

Whitecote's admission limit of 60 determines how many children can be admitted to each year group. A copy of the authority's admission policy can be obtained from the school or on the school website.

Parents of new children entering the school are welcome to visit the school by prior arrangement with the Head Teacher. An induction programme is in place for both the Nursery and Reception so that children and parents can visit the school prior to admission and see their teachers and their classrooms. Details about these visits and further information regarding the Nursery and Reception are sent to parents in the term prior to admission.



WHITECOTE PRIMARY SCHOOL

