



Crestwood Park Primary School

Be the best you can be to achieve all that you deserve





Welcome to Crestwood Park Primary School

Foreword: Maggie Stowe, Headteacher, says...

It is with pride that I welcome you to our fantastic, small, family school, set on the outskirts of Kingswinford.

Small is good

Being a small school is at the heart of our strength; we know the children and families very well. Our support for families and children in more challenging circumstances was recognised as exemplary by OFSTED.

Dedicated staff

We are also very fortunate to have a team of highly experienced, dedicated and talented teachers and support staff... as well as wonderful children and their families!

Learning should be fun!

Education is all about creating experiences for children that make learning irresistible. We ignite an interest in learning.

"Smiles on the inside"

A visitor to school once remarked that this school "smiles on the inside" and everyone that visits remarks on the wonderful 'buzz' or 'atmosphere' that simply can't be put into words.

Parent partnership

Another important part of our school, is you, the parent! And you will see, by reading the many parent and pupil stories within this prospectus, that you and your child are very important to us. We champion the link between school and parent and work very hard to involve you in every step of your child's time here...and increase your child's enjoyment of learning.

Get in touch

I would urge you to visit Crestwood Park Primary School. I am truly confident you will find this a welcoming and supportive school, with staff that listen, consult and actively encourage your involvement. I know that you will be impressed by the quality of education we can offer your child.

To make an appointment to visit, or to simply ask me a question, please email the school office on info@crestwood-p.dudley.sch.uk or telephone 01384 818316.

Where **talented** teachers **care** for, and **challenge, confident** children



Claire and Matthew Bradley live in Pensnett with their children Kieran, nine, in Year 4, Lacey, six in Year 1 and Rhys, one.

Moving schools can be a risk, but Claire believes that moving her children to Crestwood Park Primary School was definitely a risk worth taking

An excellent school for additional needs

Kieran was diagnosed with autism in early 2014 and Claire was not happy with the support on offer at the school he was attending. "I really felt his needs weren't being met. I'd heard from others that Crestwood Park Primary School was excellent at supporting children with additional needs," explains Claire. "When I spoke to the Headteacher at Crestwood Park, I knew instantly moving schools was the right thing to do. She listened to all my issues, to her they were all resolvable. She gave me hope!"

When Claire visited Crestwood Park Primary School these positive feelings were immediately reinforced. "All of the things we had been experiencing as problems were not problems to Crestwood Park. I knew Kieran would be treated as a little boy with additional needs who needed nurturing rather than a boy whose behaviour wasn't good."

First class support

Claire was thrilled with how quickly resources were put in place to help Kieran settle in. "For any child moving schools, especially mid-year, can be a big upheaval but even more so for children with autism, so we were expecting some difficulties. Also I was seven months pregnant with Rhys so that was another imminent change for Kieran, but he settled far quicker than we anticipated."

Wonderful resources

Claire believes this was thanks to the wonderful support Kieran received right from the beginning. "He was immediately made to feel like he mattered. He was given a quiet, calming area and some ear defenders to help him with noisy situations and also some visual aids. He's dinosaur mad so as many resources as possible were used featuring dinosaurs;

and he had excellent one to one support from a teaching assistant. I really can't fault the things they did to help the transition. They were so encouraging."

Teamwork and reassurance

For Claire the reassuring staff have been instrumental in the family's positive experience of the school. "The staff work together as a team and ensure that you are part of that team. For a parent, of any child, but especially a child with additional needs, it's exactly what you want."

Claire adds: "Lacey struggled to settle initially - it was obviously an upheaval for her too - but the teachers buddied her up with certain people to ensure she had someone to play with and went that extra mile to nurture her too."

Every child matters

Claire adds: "Every single child matters at Crestwood Park Primary School. It's an amazing school that has its motto at heart. At Crestwood Park they really do support children to be the best they can be so that they can achieve all that they deserve."

"If you're considering Crestwood Park Primary School, please do go in and visit. You only need to walk into the school to see exactly what I mean."

Children say:

Kieran says: "I love the school trips at Crestwood Park Primary School!"

Lacey says: "I love lots of things about school. I've made some really nice friends!"

School day

School hours

School day starts at 8.55am and ends at 3.15pm.

The morning session is 8.55am-12.15pm and the afternoon session 1.10pm until 3.15pm.

Poppyfields Kindergarten and Daycare

Poppyfields is a private provider on our site that provides a full kindergarten as part of our Foundation unit. They provide nursery places for 3 and 4 year olds every day both morning and afternoon sessions as well as some limited 'Time for Two' Places. Parents can use their nursery vouchers to pay for up to 15 hours of funded provision.

Wraparound Care

This is also provided by Poppyfields Daycare. 'Breakfast Club' runs from 7:30am until school starts and 'After School Club' runs until 5:45pm.

Holiday Care

This is also provided by Poppyfields Daycare. It is open all days (except bank holidays) for children aged 3 to 12 years, and offers childcare from 7.45am until 6.00pm. They provide healthy snacks. During the day children enjoy many activities including:

- art
- games
- drama
- music.
- sport

Poppyfields can be contacted directly- on 01384 812526 or via the school office.

Uniform

There is a tradition that all our children wear school uniform. Governors, parents and staff agree this helps to set standards in school and gives our children a sense of pride and belonging to their school.

Girls

For girls, our uniform is a grey or black skirt or pinafore dress or grey trousers; a red polo shirt, school sweatshirt or red jumper or cardigan and sensible black shoes.

We have an alternative summer uniform of a red and white gingham dress.

Boys

Our uniform for the boys is grey or black trousers, a red polo shirt with a school sweatshirt or red jumper and sensible black shoes.

School Meals and snacks

School meals are cooked on the premises and we are justifiably proud of their excellent quality. The children are offered a wide choice of menu and our Catering Manager will cater for individual needs and special diets by request. Parents are always welcome to visit the kitchen to discuss meals and menus with the Catering Manager.

Instead, children may bring a packed lunch if you prefer.

Free school meals

All children in Foundation and Key Stage 1 are entitled to a free school meal every day. Free School Meals are also available for children in key Stage 2 when parental income is low. Details are obtainable from the Benefit Services Division, Council House, Dudley, (Tel 01384 814988).

Break-time

We are part of the national fruit scheme – a government initiative to promote healthy eating in young children. Fresh fruit is provided free of charge daily to all Key Stage 1 children.

All Key Stage 2 children may bring in a healthy snack to eat from home, or they can buy healthy snacks from the school kitchen for a small charge.

Drinks

Children also have the option of having milk every day (this is free for children under five years old) and we encourage children to keep hydrated with water throughout the day.

Curriculum

Every classroom is fully furnished and equipped with the highest quality learning resources which include an interactive whiteboard and computer. There is also a computer suite which houses enough computers for a whole class to be taught at one time. The school also has wireless capability and has a set of notebooks for use in classrooms.

The curriculum is divided into three stages:

Early Years Foundation Stage: from ages 0-5

Key Stage 1: from ages 5-7

Key Stage 2: from ages 7-11

Reception

The Early Years Foundation Stage Curriculum is based on seven areas of learning:

- Personal, Social and Emotional Development
- Communication and Language
- Physical Development
- Literacy
- Mathematics
- Understanding the World
- Expressive Arts and Design

Key Stages 1-2

Areas of the curriculum are:

- Mathematics
- Literacy
- Science
- Information and Design Technology
- History
- Geography
- Art
- Music
- Physical Education
- Religious Education
- Personal, Social and Health Education.

Woven through the curriculum are also the four aspects of Spiritual, Moral, Social and Cultural Education.



Michelle is appreciative to Crestwood Park Primary School for the pastoral care they have given her daughter

Caring ethos

Through her employment in the education profession, when it came to choosing a school for her daughter, Michelle was already familiar and impressed with Crestwood Park Primary School.

"I'd been in the school professionally for some time and already knew the staff and the school's caring ethos. It's a small school which I thought would also benefit Niamh," says Michelle.

As a working mum, the excellent facilities for out of school care was another positive reason which influenced her choice.

Nurturing staff

Niamh can find it difficult to cope with changes in her environment and so it took some time for her to feel settled in the school environment. Michelle believes the staff at Crestwood Park Primary School have been instrumental in easing the transition into school life. "I believe all of the staff - the Breakfast Club staff, her class teachers, the after school club staff - have all played an important role in ensuring she is happy at school," says Michelle. "They've all shown genuine care and concern."

Supportive strategies

Niamh found the uncertainty of the daily schedule at school difficult to adapt to, but Michelle has been really pleased with the support and strategies the school have put in place to ease her anxieties. "To prevent her worrying about what was coming next, the teachers adopted a visual timetable so that she could see her daily schedule."

Michelle believes this was helpful in reassuring Niamh about the day ahead. "Being able to see what was planned for her gave her an element of predictability," adds Michelle. "As she's progressed through school, they've continued to use the visual

timetable but they've also incorporated other things like a 'worry book' and a 'worry box'."

Approachable staff

Once Niamh was able to write, Michelle found the 'worry book' and the 'worry box' were really helpful ways for Niamh to communicate her concerns with the teachers. "Whilst Niamh has used these methods to express how she's feeling, staff have always been happy for me to approach them directly about any concerns; the door is always open for parents at Crestwood Park Primary School, which is reassuring for a parent."

"I don't think Niamh would be where she is now if it weren't for the brilliant support the school has given to her; I'm incredibly grateful."

Time to listen

As part of extended learning the school offers some wonderful trips to pupils, but for Niamh the prospect of visiting a new environment can sometimes be daunting. "Any initial worries Niamh experiences are met with genuine concern from teachers; they always have time to listen to her and talk through any worries."

Best interests

Michelle adds: "Crestwood Park Primary School is a truly caring school, which has the best interests of each child at heart. We will really miss it!"

Children say:

Niamh says: "I can speak to the teachers about my worries and I know they will take them seriously. I always feel like the teachers listen to me."

Michelle Guest lives in Kingswinford with her daughter, Niamh, nine, in Year 6.

Extended curriculum: *trips and visits*

To extend the curriculum, and make learning even more fun, we offer many trips and activities. These vary from places in the immediate locality to Hampton Court Palace in London, and a residential trip to The Pioneer Centre near Cleobury Mortimer for children in Year 6.

'Fabulous Finish'

All trips are linked to learning themes and they will often signify the 'marvellous middle' of the theme or occasionally the 'fabulous finish' to celebrate the end of the theme.

Trips have included:

- Year 1 and 2: Think Tank and planetarium - The Theme of Time Travellers
- Year 3 and 4: The Ruskin Glass Centre and Dudley Canal Trust
- Year 5 and 6: Sealife Centre and Woodgate Valley River Study

The thematic approach is crucial to how we work at Crestwood Park and the 'fabulous finish' has become a big event to which so many parents and extended family will come along. Sometimes this is marked by something as simple as a work sharing but it can also be a performance or joint learning experience with parents.

Awards and Achievements

The school has been re-awarded the Basic Skills Mark which celebrates and supports continuous improvements in literacy and numeracy.

We are very proud to have come second in two categories for Dudley Young writers in 2014 and in 2015 we have reached the finals of the Dudley inter schools maths competition for Year 3 and Year 4 and are hopeful of success.

We work to support children to achieve the best they can be so that they can achieve all that they deserve. We are proud to have pupils who have gone on to be selected for attendance at Wolverhampton Girls High School after attending Crestwood Park Primary School.



Communicating with parents

Parents are made very welcome in the school. We feel communication is key to developing good links with home and school. We produce weekly newsletters with information for parents on school activities and forthcoming dates, achievements and important notices. We also use a text system to communicate with parents and send home regular letters with children.

Website

Our website contains additional important information on uniform and term dates and provides you with direct access to our latest OFSTED report.

Reports

We offer many formal opportunities for parents throughout the year to meet with teachers to discuss their concerns and review their child's progress. We hold termly parents' evenings and provide regular reports on each child's progress. The Spring Term report is a subject report and at the end of the year there is a general, more personal report, including their achievement and progress.

Family assemblies

Assembly is an important part of the school day when we meet together as a community. We have weekly praise assemblies where children are chosen to receive awards for their achievements based on different themes

such as 'marvellous mathematicians' or 'being a good team player'. This is always a 'sharing' time when we celebrate all kinds of achievements including academic success, personal achievements and sports reports.

These weekly praise assemblies are held as 'family assemblies' each Friday afternoon and we welcome parents along to join us for an enjoyable way to learn about your children's achievements. They are a great way to help us and your children to celebrate their successes.



Inclusion: a curriculum for all

Special Educational Needs

We are totally committed to providing high quality provision and support for pupils who have special needs of any kind. We modify the curriculum where needed to ensure that all child can access education. Above all, we want to raise the self-esteem of all our children and give them the skills to enjoy life in and out of school.

Access

Children with a physical disability are fully supported in accessing all parts of the school with ramps and a lift in place at Crestwood Park Primary School.

Gifted and talented children

We recognise that all children are individuals with their own specific needs, gifts and talents. Children who are identified as being exceptionally able or talented, are monitored and provided with stimulating and enriching lessons appropriate to their needs.

Annual workshops for gifted and talented children are arranged with the cluster of local school primary and secondary school in a wide range of subjects. In addition we enter local and national competitions in maths, reading and writing giving our more able children the opportunity to compete at a local and national level.



Stefanie Jones lives in Kingswinford with her two children Jake, six, in Year 1 and Lauren, nine, in Year 4.

Stefanie values Crestwood Park Primary School's positive attitude to diversity and is grateful for the support they have given her family

The Crestwood Park family

Whilst Crestwood Park Primary School is not the closest to Stefanie's home, she chose it because of the positive links it had to Jake and Lauren's Nursery, Poppyfields, which is part of the Crestwood Park family. "The nursery had been great for both of my children. It has such a good relationship with the school and the Reception staff at Crestwood Park Primary School that the school felt like the natural progression for both Lauren and Jake."

Excellent, supportive staff

For Stefanie, the key strength of the school is the staff. Jake was born prematurely and without any balance, so he uses a wheelchair to get around and a walking frame. "I'd been really happy with the school for Lauren and I wanted Jake to go to there too. The Local Education Authority (LEA) wanted me to move him to a school which had already been adapted, but when I spoke to the Headteacher at Crestwood Park the school had no issues at all in putting in place the adaptations needed for Jake. They've really been excellent, incredibly supportive and I cannot fault them!"

A positive attitude and a proactive approach

Stefanie has been thrilled with the school's proactive approach in ensuring Jake can maintain his independence in school. A lift has been added so that he can get between floors and ramps around the classrooms to ensure they are accessible for Jake's wheelchair. "I knew it was the right school for my children and I really didn't want to send Jake elsewhere. Crestwood Park's attitude is extremely positive and has meant Jake can go to the school I felt was right for him. I couldn't be more grateful!"

Every child is valued

Stefanie adds: "I like the values they teach to the children too, to look beyond any special needs and to value each other as people. They teach them that every child is special. Both Jake and Lauren have grown in confidence and I really think this has a lot to do with the attitudes of the school."

Fulfilling potential

Both children, according to Stefanie are doing very well at Crestwood Park Primary School. "Lauren is in top sets for her classes and is progressing very well. I like how the teachers recognise individual talents and skills and ensure each child is challenged to reach their full potential. Lauren loves school, which is wonderful!"

Best interests of each child

Stefanie adds: "Crestwood Park Primary School is a wonderful school which supports both children and their parents. They value all children and help each one to reach their full potential. They've been incredibly supportive right from the point of application. I really wouldn't want my children to go anywhere else!"

Children say:

Lauren says: "I love the art lessons at Crestwood Park Primary School. They're really good!"

Jake says: "My favourite thing about school is the teachers because they really help me with my learning!"

Clubs

Clubs

We offer a wide variety of clubs which take place during lunch break and after school. These are run by members of staff and outside agencies. These clubs change regularly and include:

- choir
- Make a Difference Club (gardening and looking after the grounds).

Sport

A sport club is run each half term aimed at different ages and at the end of that half term there is some form of celebration or competition with the local cluster of schools. These include:

- football
- rounders
- tag rugby
- a racquetathon (lots of different racquet skills)
- dance,
- multi skills
- tennis.



Kaye and Ian Boyce live in Kingswinford with their children John-Luke, 16 and Kayleigh, 14 and Daniel, 10.

Kaye believes Crestwood Park Primary School's positive outlook and excellent support has encouraged all three of her children to excel

All three of Kaye and Ian's children have attended Crestwood Park Primary School. Their youngest is currently in Year 5. As their local school, it was the obvious choice for them. "It's been brilliant for all three; they've done incredibly well academically. John-Luke has been accepted into Old Swinford Hospital which is one of the best schools in the region," Says Kaye. "We believe our children have all been stretched and challenged to achieve their potential."

Recognising individual talents

According to a delighted Kaye, all three of her children were very able learners at Crestwood Park. "Kayleigh, although a confident child sometimes lacked belief in her abilities, but the school encouraged her to push herself to reach her potential by using her talents to excel in all subjects." With this solid foundation from Crestwood Park, both Kayleigh and John-Luke have gone on to excel at their respective secondary schools. "The discipline and moral guidance provided by the staff has helped them develop into mature and well-rounded individuals."

Encouraged to reach potential

Kaye adds: "Daniel has been participating in some maths booster groups for more able children and they've worked well for him. I think the school is very good at recognising individual strengths. Equally, I believe they're very good at nurturing those children who perhaps need some extra support to boost their confidence."

Feeding back on progress and learning

Kaye and Ian have enjoyed the opportunities the school provides for them to go in and see the children's work and their progression. "At the end of

each term they have a production for parents, 'the Fabulous Finish', based on the learning theme of the term. The children are divided into grouped areas where they put on a performance or show and tell aspects of the term's theme.

"I think all three of our children have really enjoyed that opportunity to 'perform' and, as a parent, it's wonderful to be invited in and to be involved."

Excellent opportunities

Both John-Luke and Kayleigh were elected for the school council; Kayleigh played an active role in helping to choose a new teacher for the school. She also interviewed a local MP. "Having the opportunity to ask potential new staff questions and to be involved in their appointment was something Kayleigh really valued. Being a school councillor is an excellent opportunity and a great way of teaching children important life skills for the future. Both John-Luke and Kayleigh really got a lot from the experience."

No hesitation in recommending

Kaye adds: "Crestwood Park Primary School is an excellent school that we have no hesitation in recommending. It has a very good behaviour policy and a very positive outlook on life. It wants every child to achieve and it teaches them they can be whoever or whatever they want to be! The staff do all they can to ensure that happens."

Children say:

Daniel says: "I love how the lessons are all based around a theme. The teachers make them really fun and interesting."

Admissions

Parents who are thinking of applying for a place at our school are invited to visit and look around at any time. Children start at Crestwood Park Primary School in the Autumn term of the academic year in which they will have their fifth birthday.

Applications

The Local Authority Admission's Office deals with all new admissions to our school. Contact details for Local Authority Admissions are:

Tel: 0300 555 2345

Email: admissions.cs@dudley.gov.uk

Web: <http://www.dudley.gov.uk/resident/learning-school/parental-support/school-admissions/>



Getting involved

Links with Parents

Crestwood Park operates an 'Open Door' policy for parents. There are weekly assemblies to which all parents are invited. There are termly 'Fabulous finishes' where classes work together to celebrate their theme and all parents are invited to his. There are open mornings and an annual open day and parents can sample a normal school day as well as a delicious lunch.

Detailed information available from the school office about the curriculum in every year group as well as leaflets on how to help your children with their reading. Similar helpful hints guides are currently being developed

for both writing and maths. Workshops are held as well to inform parents about national testing such as the Year Two and Six SATs and annual phonic screening in Year One.

We also hold annual events such as Christmas Fayres and Summer Fayres and cannot run these without parental support. These events raise money for all the extras in school and if you want to get involved just ask at the school office.

If you have any concerns we always aim to deal with these as quickly as possible. At the last questionnaire 100% of parents agreed or strongly agreed that staff are friendly, helpful and approachable. 96% said any concerns they had were dealt with swiftly. The 4% (2

parents) included one who commented they didn't know because they had never had any concerns!

Governorship

The Governing Body consists of representatives of parents, teachers and the Local Education Authority. They work closely with the staff and Senior Leadership Team to support the school and plan its strategic developments.

Do you want to be a Governor?

If you want to be a school governor, please contact the school office.



How to find us

Mission statement

We aim to present a model of a caring establishment where children will learn to value not only themselves, but each other, the environment and the community at large.

- For all pupils to develop a lively enquiring mind and to have the ability to question and argue rationally, recognising the importance of individual liberty.
- To listen to, respect and respond to pupil voice.
- For every child to feel safe and secure within a set of rules in which they have ownership.
- To acquire knowledge and skills which will help to equip them for adult life.
- For every child to achieve their full academic potential
- To appreciate human achievements and aspirations, to admire excellence in all things and to strive to achieve such excellence.
- To develop a respect for religious and moral values and a tolerance and understanding of other races, cultures and religions.
- The development to the full of each and every child as a knowledgeable, skilled, caring and well-adjusted person, is their right – and our duty.

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Be the best you can be to achieve all that you deserve

