



"I like the lovely teachers and ladies at breakfast club."

"I like having a treehouse in my classroom."

# Eggbuckland Vale Primary School

*Thinkers and learners*





# Welcome to Eggbuckland Vale Primary School

## Wendy Cording, Headteacher, says:

It is with great pride that I welcome you to our wonderful school.

### Friendly and caring

Eggbuckland Vale has a tradition of combining a friendly and caring approach with high academic standards. It is our aim to treat every child as an individual and not only promote their academic skills but also develop a well-rounded individual who has an inquisitive mind, is tolerant and understanding of others' points of view and will make a positive contribution to the society they are in both now and in the future.

### No barriers to learning

Our fundamental and guiding principle is to ensure the all-round welfare of the children at our school. We invest in highly-skilled staff and practise the Thrive Approach, that helps teachers and adults interpret the behaviour and meet the emotional and social needs of children and young people.

### Inclusive

We are an inclusive school, where there are no barriers to learning and where every child is nurtured and supported appropriately according to their individual needs.

### Curiosity

Our creative, broad and balanced curriculum encourages questioning and curiosity in the children, whilst promoting the acquisition of basic skills.

### Fostering good relations

Relationships are the cornerstone of our approach – between the children, the children and staff and the school and home. We greatly value the relationships between home and school as a way of promoting the very best for your child.

### Parent partnership

Another very important part of our school is you, the parent! As you will see, by reading the many parent and pupil stories within this prospectus, 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

If you would like to know more about what we can offer your child, please get in touch and make an appointment to come and see our wonderful school for yourselves. Telephone: 01752 703656 or Email: [admin@eggbucklandvale.plymouth.sch.uk](mailto:admin@eggbucklandvale.plymouth.sch.uk)



## Cole and Dylan are both thriving in the inclusive atmosphere at Eggbuckland Vale Primary School

Jason and Mary live in Plymouth with their sons, Cole, aged ten, and Dylan, aged eight.



### Full participation

Jason and Mary are delighted that both Cole and Dylan are happy and doing well at Eggbuckland Vale and that, even though Dylan is in a wheelchair, he is able to participate in all the school activities with his classmates. Mary says: "Dylan has never been diagnosed with a specific condition but he was very ill and now he cannot stand or walk unaided and uses either a wheelchair or a walking frame to get about."

### Friendly staff

Jason and Mary had looked at two schools before Cole was due to start but preferred Eggbuckland Vale over the other one and thought the teachers were nice and friendly. Mary says: "After Cole started in Foundation at Eggbuckland Vale he never looked back and now has a network of lovely friends. He has enjoyed every single year at the school and has done well academically, performing well above average all the way through.

### Helpful suggestion

"One of his teachers suggested he joined the Young Carers Group at school because he helps us take care of his younger brother, Dylan. They meet in a group at the school and discuss different topics. It had never occurred to us for him to join something like that, but it was suggested he could attend meetings where there is an opportunity to speak to someone privately and access support if he needed it.

### Excellent progress

"Cole has come on in leaps and bounds while he has been at Eggbuckland Vale and, now he is in Year Six, he is being well prepared for moving up to secondary school. Any minor issues have been addressed quickly. He had a brief period where he was struggling with Maths but this was soon put right and he has now mastered the subject.

### Good SEN provision

"Dylan is very bright and we wanted him to go to Eggbuckland Vale like his brother. We knew Eggbuckland Vale was very inclusive and that there was another child at the school who is a wheelchair user.

There are also some deaf children and the school is known to have a very good SEN provision.

### Issues soon sorted

"Dylan is now in Year Four and is thriving at school and is involved in everything. We work with the school to deal with any issues that occur and all the staff are very good. Recently Dylan started doing football at school and pointed out he couldn't kick the ball, so they divided the class into groups so that some of them could practice catching the ball, as well as kicking it, and this made him feel included.

### Access made easy

"The school adapted his classroom for his wheelchair so that he can get in and out easily and they installed a stair lift so he can manage the few steps to access the disabled toilet. Thankfully he is able to go to the toilet unaided.

### Enjoying trips

"Dylan is really happy at school and also has a good network of friends. He is doing well in everything. He is able to go on all the trips, as I go along with the class as well. Some trips are more difficult for us than others, but we are still able to do them. He is getting exactly the same experiences at school as the other children," Mary says.

### Keeping in touch

"Everyone at the school has been marvellous to him. When he has had to go to hospital to have operations, the class send him pictures and his teacher comes to visit him. There have been no barriers to stop him doing everything the other children do and he continues to make good progress at the school."

### Children say

**Cole says:** "I like the kind teachers and how they help."

**Dylan says:** "Everyone seems like a big family."



# School day: settling in

## Our school times

### Key Stage 1

Morning 8.55 am—12.30 pm  
Afternoon 1.35 pm—3.10 pm

### Key Stage 2

Morning 8.55 am—12.40 pm  
Afternoon 1.35 pm—3.10 pm

## Wraparound

The school runs a breakfast and after school club called the Rock Pool Club. Breakfast starts at 7.30am each morning and costs £3.50 per session. The club closes at 8.45am but no breakfasts are served after 8.30am.

After school there are 3 sessions. The first is up to 4.30 pm and costs £4.50. The second is up to 5.15pm and costs £5.50. The third is up to 6pm and costs £6.50. We have tried to ensure that parents have a choice in order to keep costs to a minimum to support working parents.

## Uniform

We believe that our school uniform looks smart, is economical, wears well and helps children feel that they belong in school. Our pullovers and cardigans are royal blue, with dark grey trousers and skirts or pinafores. In summer, girls may wear a blue gingham dress, if preferred. We have a simple PE Kit of blue t-shirt and shorts. Black jogging trousers/leggings for the winter and an optional fleece. Children wear PE kits to school on their PE days to save changing times in school.

## Food in school

We are proud to hold the Soil Associations Gold Catering Mark for our menus which recognises the fresh, local, seasonal and organic ingredients we use to cook 86% of our menu from scratch.

We use:

- Locally caught and landed pollock.
- Free range eggs (including in our mayonnaise).
- Organic milk (EU subsidised).
- Organic yoghurts.
- Organic herbs.
- MSC salmon.
- Fairtrade apple juice.
- Organic wholemeal flour.
- Seasonal fresh vegetables and fruit (which may vary due to availability).

We hold many different lunchtime promotions at Eggbuckland Vale Primary School; we want the children to enjoy lunch socially with friends, whilst providing them with a good healthy enjoyable meal.

- We now make our own fresh natural yoghurt, we add vanilla, peach, strawberry or raspberry compote to this which the children really enjoy.
- Our natural yoghurt is also used in our chicken curry and strawberry and lemon mousse.
- Available daily are, organic milk and yoghurts, fresh fruit and Fairtrade apple juice.
- The Salad Bar is available daily for the children to help themselves, and contains a selection of fresh salad, fruit and wholemeal bread.

### Free school meals

Free meals are provided for all children in Reception, Year 1 and Year 2. Older children whose family is in receipt of certain benefits may also qualify. Plymouth City Council has developed an online Free School Meals form for parents and carers to apply for free school meals in Plymouth. The benefits of the online application are that the parent can apply in the comfort of their own home, at a time that suits them. Parents / Carers can access the Free School Meals web page by going to [www.plymouth.gov.uk/schoolseducationchildcareskillsandemployability/freeschoolmeals](http://www.plymouth.gov.uk/schoolseducationchildcareskillsandemployability/freeschoolmeals)



Our Aim is to create a happy school in which we can all be proud and in which all children can develop their full potential.



## Faith and Lydia have both made good progress in the friendly surroundings of Eggbuckland Vale Primary School

Emma and James live in Plymouth with their daughters, Faith, aged 11, and Lydia, aged six.



### Enjoying school

Emma and James are delighted that they chose Eggbuckland Vale Primary School for their daughters when they moved from a small village to live in Plymouth. Emma says: "Faith has enjoyed her time at Eggbuckland Vale and was very well prepared for moving up to secondary school this year and Lydia is now thriving in Year Two at the school."

### Settling well

Emma says Faith joined Eggbuckland Vale towards the end of Year Three. "Before we moved to Plymouth, we had looked at a few schools and we let Faith make the choice. She chose Eggbuckland Vale because she said it felt friendly. The week she started they held the sports day and she took part in it. She adapted well, considering she had come from a small village school.

### Becoming independent

"Faith has done well in all subjects across the board at Eggbuckland Vale. She is particularly good at Maths and Science because they are subjects she really enjoys. She loved the residential trip they went on in Year Six, which helped prepare her for moving up to Eggbuckland Vale Community College by giving her some independence and experience of being away from home.

### Fun outdoors

"We think the school did well to put the residential trip on, as a lot of other schools had to cancel their trips because of Covid 19. We found out later that the original venue chosen wanted to take a smaller number of pupils, which meant not everyone could have gone, but the Headteacher, Mrs Cording, managed to rearrange it for the same dates somewhere else, which was amazing. They went to Skern Lodge in Bideford in north Devon and were able to paddle down the river in kayaks and surf in the sea. Faith thoroughly enjoyed it, although it was the first time she had been away from us for two nights.

### Moving up

"Faith was well prepared for secondary school, even though there were no transition days because of Covid 19. However, the new children were able to spend a week at Eggbuckland Community College during the summer holidays with none of the other children in there, so they learnt where everything was before moving up.

### Growing up

"She has settled in well at Eggbuckland Community College and has ten children who were with her at Eggbuckland Vale in her tutor group. Faith is quiet by nature and we thought she might lack confidence. In the first week, she forgot to take her Geography homework to school, but when she realised, she dealt with the situation herself, by seeking the teacher out before the lesson and explaining. She was fine about it and we thought it was a grown-up way of dealing with it."

### Confident start

Lydia started in the nursery at Eggbuckland Vale after we moved to Plymouth. She spent a whole year there before moving up to Foundation. It was a big deal for us dropping her off in her school uniform on her first day, but for her it was probably less strange as she had spent time with the Foundation teachers while she was still in nursery to get her used to them and she has always been confident.

### Approachable teacher

"Now she is in Year Two she is excelling in some areas and achieving her targets in others. She has made lots of friends and has liked all her teachers so far. Her teacher this year is very friendly and approachable. We are confident she is being well looked after. For us, as working parents, another very strong point in the school's favour is the excellent wraparound care they offer, which has been an enormous help to us."

### Children say

**Lydia says:** "I like learning outside with my friends."



# Curriculum: independent thinkers and learners

## Lifelong learners and achievers

The main aim in school is to make the children independent thinkers and learners. We believe that, in partnership between school and home, we can create the right environment for our children to flourish with skills that will enable them to learn - not just at our school - but set them as lifelong learners and achievers.

At school we encourage children to:

- Think for themselves: use initiative and not expect adults to do everything for them.
- Challenge themselves: try tasks which take them out of their learning 'Comfort Zone' and help them aspire to greater achievements by being in the 'Challenge Zone' of learning.
- Organise themselves: be responsible for their belongings.
- Give their best effort in everything they do.
- Work with determination and be well motivated.

## Five Key Drivers

The curriculum is driven by five key drivers of:

1. Oracy.
2. Diversity.
3. The ocean.
4. TSL (Towards Successful learning).
5. Curiosity.

## Music

Music is regarded as an important group activity involving singing, percussion and rhythm work. Children are encouraged to enjoy making musical sounds of various types and the school puts some emphasis on the use of the voice.

There are arrangements for instrumental tutoring via Plymouth Youth Music Services. Children are usually able to start in Year 2, depending on the instrument and child.

## P.E. and sport

Each week, a long outdoor games session and a session in the hall (with gymnastic equipment) are provided. The physical education programme covers two main aspects:

- Learning the body management skills associated with well co-ordinated movement and gymnastics. The gymnastic apparatus in the hall is used and children are encouraged to balance, climb and move with increasing precision.
- Skills for games. Again, balance and co-ordination are important but here the use of bats, balls racquets etc. are introduced along with team elements and tactics. Major team games such as football, rugby and netball are catered for in our extra-curricular programme, where children compete for places in the team and play in competitions against other schools.



## Dominic and Sophia are both flourishing with strong support from the staff at Eggbuckland Vale Primary School

**Katy and Samuel Law live in Plymouth with their children, Dominic, aged seven, and Sophia, aged four.**

## The Importance of Early Years

At Eggbuckland Vale we place enormous value on giving children the best start to school life possible. We recognise that when children are successful and happy in their first years of education, it lays the foundations for them to go on from strength to strength.

### Incredible experiences, nurturing support

In our Nursery and Foundation classrooms our skilful team of staff provide incredible experiences and nurturing support for children, providing an environment in which they can thrive and make great progress. Our teams work closely with families, using Tapestry as an online learning journal to ensure great sharing of information, and in this way we are able to make sure that everything is in place to give children the best and happiest time in school.

### Class on board

Katy and Samuel are grateful for the support their family has received from staff at Eggbuckland Vale since Dominic joined in Year One. Katy says: "Samuel is in the Navy and is often away at sea and I am a full-time key worker for the NHS. The school have been absolutely fantastic to us as a family. While my husband has been away on his ship on the other side of the world, Dominic's class has followed its progress and my husband sent photos and emails to the class and showed them around the bridge of the ship virtually. Dominic is very proud of his dad, and his class being involved made it easier for him to cope with him being away."

### Helpful suggestion

Katy says Mrs. Cording, the Headteacher, and the rest of the staff, have always been very supportive because of the demands she has faced working full-time and looking after the children on her own. "I was unhappy with the previous nursery that Sophia was attending but needed her to be looked after all day while I was working. One of the staff at Eggbuckland Vale suggested Sophia moved to the nursery there and reassured me that they could offer wraparound care to nursery children. This was very helpful, as I had no idea that they would be able to offer Sophia enough hours of care."

### Military recommendation

"We moved to Plymouth so I could start a new job with the NHS. I was in a military wives Facebook group and when I asked other wives to recommend good schools, Eggbuckland Vale was mentioned repeatedly. It was important to us that there were other military children at the school so that Dominic and Sophia would get the understanding and support they needed."

### Visible Headteacher

"Mrs. Cording showed us round personally and we liked her very much. Dominic joined the school in Year One and settled in straight away. Mrs. Cording is usually very visible in the school. She greets the children at 7.30 when they come to Breakfast Club and is often still there when you pick them up from the after-school club. She walks around with her dog, Tilly, during the

day and is always very approachable. Dominic had been anxious about starting a new school, but liked Eggbuckland Vale immediately. The teachers welcomed him and he got on well with his classmates. He is doing well academically and his reading and Maths are above the level expected for his age.

### Unstinting support

"We like the way the staff encourage able children to progress by giving them more challenging work and access to a wide range of books. I have had to work full time throughout the pandemic, with my husband consistently working away from home during the week. As we are both Key Workers, Dominic was able to attend school and access the wraparound care at all times, which has been vital for me. He enjoys doing the topics about history and science, likes art and music and is having keyboard lessons at school."

### Great staff

"Sophia absolutely loved her time in the nursery and made lots of friends. She was already familiar with the breakfast club and after-school club because of dropping off and picking up Dominic. She was excited about starting at Eggbuckland Vale and went straight in happily. In Foundation, she is enjoying Phonics and loves bringing a book home and reading it to me. She enjoys writing and likes doing water play outdoors and loves going on a wellie walk round the school. The children have been taught to sign with the deaf children at the school and Sophia has now taught me some sign language. We have always found the school to be warm and friendly and we have great relationships with the staff, who have always been very understanding."

### Children say

**Dominic says:** "I like the lovely teachers and ladies at breakfast club."

**Sophia says:** "I like having a treehouse in my classroom."





# Enriched curriculum: trips, visitors and clubs

## Trips and visitors

We aim to offer the children as many experiences as possible during their time at Egguckland, such as:

- Residential trip to Skern Lodge in Year 6.
- Overnight sleepover in school in Year 4.
- Year 5 overnight trip, e.g. Cornwall, sleeping with the Sharks at the National Marine Aquarium.
- Authors/Poets/Illustrators.
- Trips to support the curriculum e.g. Wembury Beach, the Aquarium, Escot, Morwellham Quay, Dartmoor, local walks to the woods, Pennywell Farm.
- Sailing trips for the disabled.
- Theatre Groups in school.
- Travelling Tuba music group.
- Planetarium visit to school in Year 5.
- Pop up concert.
- Bikeability, Balanceability, rowing competition city wide, athletics and cross-country competitions

## Clubs

We run a very wide selection of lunchtime and after-school clubs, with something to appeal to every child. This is just a short list of what we offer:

- Sports Clubs: netball, basketball, hockey, football, cricket, tag rugby, multi sports, cross country, half marathon club.
- Choir – Key Stage 2.
- Lego Engineer Club – Year 6.
- Signing Clubs (BSL) for all year groups.
- Peripatetic music lessons – guitars, keyboards.
- Board games.
- Tennis.
- Cross stitch.
- Signing.
- Balance bike.
- Coding.
- Reading.



# Inclusion: a curriculum for all

## Equality of opportunity

It is our aim to treat every child as an individual and develop inquisitive minds, tolerance and understanding of others' points of view. Our policy for children with SEND is therefore an integral part of the whole school's ethos. In implementing this policy, we strive to ensure that all children are fully included within the school community, can access a broad and balanced curriculum which is accessible and exciting to them, and can reach their individual potential as learners.

At Egguckland Vale Primary School, the progress and attainment of all pupils is reviewed termly by the Teachers and the Senior Leadership Team at which time support may be changed to meet identified needs.

## Support for children with SEND

Informal contact from your child's class teacher, and possibly Assistant Headteacher for Inclusion, at school or by telephone will be made to parents if there are Special Educational Needs concerns. In this case, it may be that a Record of Concern (ROC) is written to support your child. If the support put in place on the Record of Concern does not enable your child to make progress it may be that they need to be moved onto the Special Educational Needs register.

You will be informed about your child's general progress and targets through the twice yearly Parent's Evenings and Annual Report. At times it may be useful to hold multi-agency meetings with a range of professionals in order to ensure we can access the best possible support for your child.





# Behaviour and self-development

## Focus on positive behaviour

At Egguckland Vale we believe that the key to maintaining great behaviour is to develop trusting relationships. We have a positive behaviour management strategy that builds on those relationships. We have three key rules that all children are guided to refer back to when discussing behaviour choices. These are:

- 1. Be Safe.
- 2. Be Respectful.
- 3. Be Ready.

## Celebrating achievements

We focus on positive behaviour and every class has a recognition board for those children who are meeting the expectations and beyond. We have a weekly assembly where a child from every class is celebrated for going 'over and above'; they receive a certificate and come to the Above and Beyond Club (ABC) with the Headteacher. We encourage pupils to take responsibility for their actions by ensuring a restorative approach is taken when a child's behaviour falls short of the standards we expect. Sanctions are a natural part of that process.



## Fostering resilience

We believe that children need to develop effective learning habits which fosters in them an innate curiosity about the world around them. We endeavour to provide opportunities that develop resilience and a willingness to tackle challenges with a positive mindset.

# Admissions and getting involved

## Admissions

Connect Multi Academy Trust is the admission authority for Egguckland Vale Primary School. The admission authority will comply with provisions within the School Admissions Code and the School Appeals Code available at [www.gov.uk/government/publications/school-admissions-code-2](http://www.gov.uk/government/publications/school-admissions-code-2)

### Reception/Foundation admissions (normal point of entry)

The admission authority follows Plymouth City Council's coordinated primary admissions scheme available at [www.plymouth.gov.uk/schooladmissions](http://www.plymouth.gov.uk/schooladmissions). Application should be made via Plymouth City Council at [www.plymouth.gov.uk/schooladmissions](http://www.plymouth.gov.uk/schooladmissions).

### In-year admissions

An In-Year admission is any entry to school other than at the normal point, for example, transferring school due to a house move or for other personal reason. Requests for admission to Reception made after the normal round of admissions – after 31 August 2021 – and requests for places in other year groups should be made direct to Plymouth City Council.

## Getting involved

### PTA

We are a group of Parents and Teachers who volunteer to raise money for Children of Egguckland Vale Primary School, by hosting various events throughout the year. We are always looking for more volunteers, so if you would like to know more about the PTA or have any suggestions don't hesitate to ask. Our email address is: [pta@eggucklandvale.plymouth.sch.uk](mailto:pta@eggucklandvale.plymouth.sch.uk)

### Governors

The Governors are a small group of dedicated individuals who work closely with the school so that all children get the very best opportunities. They regularly visit the school and meet with the leadership team to offer challenge and support. The Directors of the Trust have delegated responsibility to the Governors to ensure the curriculum and the educational opportunities provided at the school both meet the National Curriculum requirements and the specific needs of different groups of pupils. They are an important part of our school community.

Egguckland Vale Primary School are looking to recruit new governors. If you are interested in becoming a governor, please ask at the school office.

### Volunteering in school

We welcome volunteers to help with reading, accompanying school trips etc.

### Return to work support

We have actively supported parents seeking to return to the workplace by having work placements here for people undertaking NVQ training.







## Our values

Our Aim is to create a happy school in which we can all be proud and in which all children can develop their full potential.

### We want our school to be one in which children are able to:

- Feel secure and comfortable.
- Develop confidence.
- Become independent learners and thinkers.

### We will help the children to do the best they can through:

- Encouraging self-motivation.
- Harnessing enthusiasm.
- Having high expectations of everything they do.

### We will encourage shared values by:

- Showing mutual respect and tolerance towards others.
- Caring for the world in which we live.
- Preparing for future good citizenship.

### We will develop an approach to learning that strives for the highest standards in:

- Academic.
- Social.
- Cultural.
- Moral.
- Spiritual.
- Physical Aspects.



### Eggbuckland Vale Primary School & Nursery

Charfield Drive, Eggbuckland, Plymouth, Devon, PL6 5PS

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