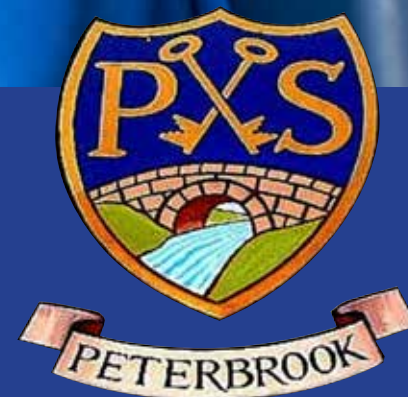




# PETERBROOK PRIMARY SCHOOL

Peterbrook School is an inclusive community of lifelong learners where everyone believes in us and we believe in ourselves.







# Mala and Sanjay have been so happy with Aditya's progress at Peterbrook Primary School

Mala and Sanjay live in Solihull with their three children - Niharika aged 20, Anshika aged 14 and Aditya aged 11.



## WHAT THE CHILD SAYS:

"I love everything about Peterbrook, especially playing with my friends at break time and lunchtime," says Aditya.

## WELCOME TO PETERBROOK PRIMARY SCHOOL

### FOREWORD: MRS L. THORNE, HEADTEACHER, SAYS:

It is my pleasure to welcome you to our vibrant and dynamic school.

#### CARING AND ENCOURAGING

At Peterbrook we are totally committed to providing an inclusive, nurturing environment where everyone in our school feels understood, valued, cared for and appreciated.

*'Pupils are proud to attend Peterbrook Primary School. It is a warm, caring school where pupils feel happy and safe. Pupils enjoy learning and they listen to their teachers.'* Ofsted February 2022.

*'Pupils behave well. Pupils are confident that staff will sort out any poor behaviour.'*

*Attendance has declined during the COVID 19 pandemic and leaders have been swift to act on this. They build positive relationships with families and put help in place to get pupils into school. As a result, persistent absence has decreased.'* Ofsted February 2022.



### DEVELOPING WELL-ROUNDED CHILDREN

We are equally committed to the rounded development of the children we are privileged to educate. We have a strong focus on wellbeing and instilling healthy habits for the body and mind to last a lifetime. We are proud of our 'Healthy School' status, as well as being a 'Gold Status' Youth Sports Trust school.

#### IGNITING AN INTEREST IN THE WORLD

Our teaching is stimulating and creative and encourages our children to continue their education outside of school and become lifelong learners. We want to ignite an interest in the world around them, and for that interest to lead to fulfilling and imaginative lives. Learning should be fun!

#### PASTORAL CARE

Whilst academic achievements are an important part of life at our school, all of our children have the opportunity to enjoy a wide variety of sporting and musical opportunities, as well as regular trips and residential visits. We are also a 'Gold Artsmark' status school, as recognised by the Arts Council for the quality and breadth of arts activities that our pupils engage in to support their learning. Our pastoral care is exceptional, ensuring all children are kept safe and are supported both inside and outside school.

### DEDICATED STAFF

A school is only as effective as the teachers at the heart of it, and we couldn't be more proud of our dedicated staff. We're passionate about giving our teachers the chance to become the very best they can be, and we invest in their professional development. As a result, we're training partners with the University of Warwick, the University of Worcester and Solihull College. The children we teach directly reap the rewards of this continued commitment to professional excellence.

#### PARENTAL PARTNERSHIP

Another very important part of our school is you, the parent! We champion the link between school and parent and work very hard to involve you in every step of your child's time here. We are so proud that Peterbrook parents are such a huge part of the school community and have a profound impact on shaping the school ethos and direction. We welcome Parents to join the PTFA, Parent Council, Parent Reading Volunteer Project and Governing Body.

### HOW PUPILS CONTRIBUTE TO THE RUNNING OF THEIR SCHOOL

The pupils at Peterbrook undertake roles to contribute to the smooth running of the school, these include: elected School Councillors, Eco Councillors, Science Ambassadors, Librarians, Peer Mediators and Reading Buddies. *'Pupils enjoy making democratic decisions'. 'Pupil peer mediators are well trained and proud of their role in school'.* Ofsted Report February 2022.

#### GET IN TOUCH

If you wish to hear more about what we can offer your child, please contact us for further information or an appointment to meet me. **We welcome visits and love to show our school in action.** Telephone the school office on 0121 430 2545 or email [office@peterbrook.solihull.sch.uk](mailto:office@peterbrook.solihull.sch.uk).



Moving schools can be tough for children, and Mala and Sanjay were worried that son Aditya would miss his friends when they moved from Leeds to Solihull when he was in Year 4. In reality, it was a very smooth transition to Peterbrook Primary School.

#### SETTLING IN

"He settled in really quickly. I thought he might miss his old school, and he still talks to his old friends, but within a week he had new friends at Peterbrook! He was already coming out of school, talking to his new friends outside the classroom," says Mala.

The teachers did a great job of quickly integrating Aditya into the classroom and school life. He is a sociable boy, so he quickly built a great circle of friends, but he also really liked his class teachers and the environment.

"When we applied for a place at Peterbrook, and they accepted it, they invited us to a meet and greet before Aditya started," says Mala. "My husband and I met with the headteacher, who is a very nice lady, so humble and welcoming. After meeting her, we had a tour and met his class teacher. They gave him a buddy so he could feel comfortable, so he quickly settled and started loving school."

### EXCELLENT PROGRESS

Aditya has made very good academic progress at Peterbrook Primary School. "Academically, he is good at maths and English and the teachers are very pleased with him. At parent-teacher meetings, they are always really impressed with his progress in all subjects. We are particularly impressed with how much his writing has improved since starting at Peterbrook," explains Mala.

Aditya sat the 11+ last September, and his excellent results secured a place at the local grammar school, where he will start in September after completing his primary schooling.

#### OPPORTUNITIES OUTSIDE THE CLASSROOM

Aditya has taken full advantage of the extracurricular opportunities at Peterbrook Primary School, too. "He enjoys football and cricket and gets very excited when he comes home to tell us he has scored a goal or got a wicket. He is also learning guitar and really enjoys this. He participates in the Solihull cross country race. There are so many sporting opportunities at the school."

### NEW EXPERIENCES

Aditya benefited greatly from a residential school trip last October. "He really enjoyed it. He became so much more independent after this trip; it was so good for him. The school gave us lots of information and we felt so confident the teachers would take good care of him."

#### POSITIVE COMPARISONS

Mala and Sanjay were worried at first that the move from Leeds to Solihull might not be in the best interests of Aditya's schooling.

"In Leeds, our children went to a school with an 'outstanding' Ofsted rating. When we moved to Solihull and took a place at Peterbrook, at first Sanjay and I were worried the school would not be as good," says Mala.

Within a month, they realised just how unfounded those fears were. "The school has been brilliant and there's absolutely no difference to the standard of teaching or his progress. They really challenge him. The teachers praise him a lot, and this is very motivational."







## SCHOOL DAY: SETTLING IN

### SCHOOL HOURS

Nursery 9.00am to 12.00pm with extended hours available until 3.00pm

School 8.55am to 3.15pm

### BREAKFAST CLUB AND AFTER-SCHOOL PROVISION

Paws and Grizzlies wraparound childcare provision is open to all three to eleven-year-olds from 7.30am to 6.00pm each weekday.

The breakfast club is open from 7.30am until 8.45am for planned activities and a healthy breakfast for all children who attend.

The after-school provision is open from 3.15pm until 6.00 pm and includes activities from its own carefully planned curriculum. Accommodating children from all key stages.

### UNIFORM

The Governors and staff believe that school uniform increases the children's pride and ownership of their school, and we insist on children wearing a school uniform. The Peterbrook uniform is a smart royal blue pullover or cardigan and grey trousers or skirts. Our school uniform providers are Monkhouse Uniform available at [www.monkhouse.com](http://www.monkhouse.com) and My Clothing Ltd available at [www.myclothing.com](http://www.myclothing.com).

Parents are also able to purchase non-logo uniform from other outlets.



### SCHOOL MEALS AND SNACKS

#### LUNCH

Our delicious school lunches are provided by Solihull Catering Service. All children eat in the infant hall at lunchtime. The children can request a school meal at register time with the class teacher. Parents can pay for them in advance on ParentPay at the current price of £2.20 per day. Alternatively, children may bring in a healthy packed lunch from home.

#### FREE SCHOOL MEALS

All children in Reception and Years 1 and 2 are entitled to free school meals under the government's Universal Infant Free School Meals funding. If you receive benefits or have a low income, your child may be eligible for Free School Meals in Year 3 and beyond. To register for Universal Infant Free School Meals and/or apply for Free School Meals visit Solihull Metropolitan Borough Council website at [www.solihull.gov.uk/Schools-and-learning/Free-school-meals](http://www.solihull.gov.uk/Schools-and-learning/Free-school-meals).

#### MILK

Children under five are entitled to free milk and other children in school may purchase it. If you wish your child to have milk beyond their fifth birthday, please arrange this via the school office.

#### FRUIT AND SNACKS

Children in Reception, Year 1 and Year 2 have access to free fruit at break-times. Children in Years 3 - 6 may bring in a healthy snack from home.



## Barney Thinks Peterbrook Primary School is “Epic”!

Matthew and Leanne live in Shirley with sons Barney aged eight and Toby aged six.

There's something really special about seeing your children walk their own way down a path you once did. For Matthew, a past Peterbrook Primary School pupil, his fond memories of the school played a part in deciding where to send his sons.

#### AN EARLY START

Barney was enrolled in Peterbrook Primary School's nursery when he was three, and then moved into Reception when he was of school age. Starting school went smoothly thanks to the well-planned induction process, which they found reassuring, supportive and informative for both children and anxious parents.

#### BARNEY'S SEN

Barney is autistic and dyspraxic, and his parents have been so appreciative of the school's support with his Special Educational Needs (SEN). Leanne suspected Barney was autistic from around the age of three. She says, "I work with SEN pupils in a senior school setting, so I informed the nursery staff of my thoughts during their home visit. They listened and supported Barney to make sense of his time at nursery. As he progressed through the school, he was placed on the SEN register and was eventually diagnosed with autism."

#### SUPPORT

"We received superb support. The staff provided appropriate interventions and came up with inventive ideas to keep Barney engaged and feeling rewarded. The TAs are always there in the morning if he has a wobble saying goodbye, and come to the playground to collect him and walk him in. It's clear Barney trusts the staff otherwise he wouldn't go with them," says Leanne.

Barney is in Year 4 now and was recently diagnosed with dyspraxia, a common disorder affecting coordination and movement that often occurs alongside autism. "The school provided Barney with a variety of stationery to aid his handwriting, which is gradually improving," says Leanne.

#### BRILLIANT PROGRESS

Matthew and Leanne's boys have blossomed at Peterbrook Primary School. "Their progress has been brilliant! Both of our boys achieved their full set of reading ribbons well before their expected time. They are really happy with their teachers, talk about their lessons and can recall what they've learnt," says Matthew.

"It's not just academic progress; they're growing in social and emotional skills too," Leanne adds. "Toby loves school, especially the social side. He has lots of friends and enjoys



#### WHAT THE CHILD SAYS:

"School's epic and I'm so excited for my first residential trip!" Barney enthuses.

Toby says, "'I love school and seeing my friends and making things."

#### AN INCLUSIVE, FRIENDLY, SUPPORTIVE SCHOOL

"We have found Peterbrook to be an inclusive, friendly school with supportive staff who help our children to achieve to the best of their abilities. Both of our boys are very happy, positive and get enrichment from their school environment," says Matthew.







## CREATIVE CURRICULUM: FOUNDATIONS FOR SUCCESS

### BROAD AND BALANCED

The underlying principles of our approach to learning at Peterbrook is to know where all children are at, where they need to go and how they will get there. We believe that every child can achieve, and our teachers are primed to enable learning for every child in their class.

### ALL AREAS OF LEARNING

In designing our curriculum, our priority was to ensure there was a clear progression in both the development of skills and knowledge acquisition. Wherever possible we use an approach, where children can make links between different areas of their learning. Children may repeat some topics as they build upon prior knowledge.

### OPPORTUNITIES AND EXPERIENCES

We encourage children to take part in a variety of new opportunities and experiences that are both academic and social to discover new skills and develop a love of learning. We believe our curriculum promotes resilience and independence to enable success and happiness in the wider world.

### 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



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### EARLY YEARS

The Early Years Foundation Stage Curriculum is based on the Government's Early Learning Goals with 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:

- Art.
- Design and Technology.
- English.
- Geography.
- History.
- Computing.
- Maths.
- Modern Foreign Languages.
- Music.
- PE.
- PSHE.
- RE.
- Science.

## ENRICHED CURRICULUM: TRIPS, VISITORS AND OUTDOOR LEARNING

### EDUCATIONAL VISITS AND RESIDENTIAL TRIPS

To further enrich our curriculum, all children are offered a range of visits, both locally and further afield. These include:

- Warwick Castle.
- Birmingham Botanical Gardens.
- St James' Church.
- Black Country Museum.
- Stratford Butterfly Farm
- Attwell Farm
- West Midlands Safari Park



### RESIDENTIAL TRIPS

At Peterbrook, the joy of residential experiences starts for the children in Year 4 with a 3-night trip to St Briavels Castle in the Forest of Dean. Year 6 finish their final year at Peterbrook with a flourish by visiting Arete Activity Centre in Snowdonia from Monday to Friday.

### VISITORS

Recent visitors into school have included:

- Professor McGinty.
- The Animal Man.
- Perry, the Common Wealth Games Mascot
- West Midlands Childrens Theatre
- Dr Jenny Watson, Odgen Trust, Science Week

### ENRICHMENT

We really value giving children the opportunity for rich and varied experiences, and the chance to build a wide range of skills while at school. As well as our extensive range of trips and visits we also have various class and whole school activities throughout the year. These include a creative arts week, a science week and regular balance bike and Bikeability sessions.

Leaders ensure that pupils enjoy a wide range of exciting activities. Pupils really enjoy learning to play instruments. They practise cooking skills and martial arts after school. As one pupil says, these opportunities 'help us lead our lives outside of school'. Ofsted February 2022



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# Peterbrook Primary School brings out the best in your children

Catherine and James live in Shirley, Solihull with their three children - Robin aged 9 and twins Rosie and Elliott aged 7.



## WHAT THE CHILD SAYS:

Robin tells us, "The teachers are brilliant at solving friendship issues, especially the Headteacher Mrs Thorne who is very fair."

Elliott says, "I enjoy the different after-school clubs, especially learning Martial Arts."

"I think that the school is very nice and the teachers are friendly," says Rosie.

## INCLUSION: A CURRICULUM FOR ALL

### SPECIAL EDUCATIONAL NEEDS

At Peterbrook we strive to support all children to enable them to achieve their very best at school. The school aims to ensure that all pupils, including those with learning difficulties, physical problems and the more able child, experience a broad and balanced curriculum at an appropriate level. Through this, all children will acquire the basic skills and attitudes to meet new challenges with confidence. We offer a range of enrichment activities to extend the learning of more able children both in and out of school.



### MONITOR AND ASSESS

Members of the teaching staff actively monitor and assess all pupils to ensure that their individual needs are met and, when necessary, to seek the advice of external agencies. The SEND policy sets out how children with special needs are identified, assessed and supported according to their individual needs.

### INCLUSIVE TEACHING

Inclusion is the responsibility of all teachers at Peterbrook, but our special needs coordinator/inclusion leader is our SENCO Mrs H Burke. Mrs H Burke is responsible for the coordination of specific provisions made for individual children with special educational needs.



### GROWING IN CONFIDENCE

"Elliott's gone from quite shy to a very confident little boy," continues James. "The teachers have been instrumental in this, building him up with positive reinforcement and rewards like 'star writer'. There's a variety of awards at school, and not just for academics but for confidence and trying hard."

Catherine adds, "They do a little talent show in Year 2. All of my children have taken part; they all play the piano outside of school. It's a lovely way to build confidence. Sport-wise, they are all very good runners and the school have a lovely big playing field - it's one of their great assets. They start a PE session with a mile run! And the school offers so many different sports."

### HIGH STANDARDS OF BEHAVIOUR

It's been so refreshing for Catherine to see all friendship issues are dealt with swiftly and taken seriously. It's clear that the school have high standards and hold everyone to account for their behaviour. She says, "They expect respect from everyone. The teachers are quick to deal with issues and everyone feels heard and validated. They have peer-to-peer support available on the playground to resolve issues, too."

### RESPONSIBILITY

Peer-to-peer support is something that is encouraged throughout the school, including giving children the opportunity to be reading buddies for younger peers. "Robin goes and helps Year 1 children with their reading. It's been so fantastic for his confidence and he comes home really proud of the progress his mentees are making. It's made him want to combine his love for geography with the pride he's felt helping others learn and become a geography teacher," explains Catherine.



### PASTORAL CARE

James believes the school's pastoral care is excellent and really helped when Rosie was suffering from post-COVID anxiety. "She was swiftly referred to pastoral support and they just talked to her and did activities with her. Within six weeks she was her normal, happy self again and I put that down to the nurture she was shown by the school."

### GLOWING RECOMMENDATIONS

Catherine says, "We recommend the school a lot to neighbours and friends. We always tell people it's just so nurturing and supportive. It just brings the best out in your kids!"





## CLUBS, SPORT AND MUSIC

### WIDE RANGE OF CLUBS

We run a wide variety of after-school clubs to appeal to every child. Recent examples are:

- Little scientists
- Mindfulness Colouring Club
- Musical theatre
- Cheerleading
- Martial Arts
- Art
- Choir
- Football
- Cricket
- Cookery
- Athletics
- Netball

Additionally, we offer a range of indoor clubs at lunchtime for children who do not always want to be on the playground.

### SPORT

Sport is very important to us at Peterbrook Primary School. For many years in a row, we have achieved a Gold Level achievement from The School Games Mark. This is a government-led award scheme facilitated by the Youth Sport Trust to reward schools for their commitment to the development of sporting competition across their schools and communities. Each academic year Sports Councillors are elected for each year group.

We also have thriving girls and boys football teams, and a netball team which we encourage both boys and girls to participate.

### SWIMMING LESSONS

In addition to PE and sports opportunities, children are offered swimming lessons in Year 3 and Year 5.

### MUSIC

We believe that music is a universal language that can inspire and motivate people. This motivates us to ensure the effective delivery of a music curriculum that can be enjoyed and accessed by all children. In Year 4, the children learn to play a brass or string instrument as part of our free Wider Opportunities Music Programme, culminating in a fantastic concert with other schools in Solihull at Warwick Arts Centre.

### CHARANGA

We use a classroom-based, participatory approach to musical development at Peterbrook called 'Charanga'. This scheme ensures that children are actively involved in using and developing their singing voices, using body percussion and learning to play classroom instruments.

### SPECIALISTS

Class teachers deliver most musical learning opportunities supported by specialists from Solihull Music Service as well as additional opportunities like peripatetic lessons, music residential trips and a thriving school choir. Individual specialist music tuition is also available for children who would like to learn violin, guitar or brass instruments. These lessons are paid for by parents.



## ADMISSIONS AND GETTING INVOLVED

### ADMISSION TO PETERBROOK PRIMARY SCHOOL

We are immensely proud of our wonderful school and all that it has to offer. We strongly recommended that you contact us directly to arrange a visit as we would love to show you around. Simply contact the school on 0121 430 2545 to make an appointment.

### APPLICATIONS

The primary school admissions team at Solihull council is the admissions authority, responsible for the admissions policies and decisions on applications for admission. Telephone 0121 704 6693 or email [admissions@solihull.gov.uk](mailto:admissions@solihull.gov.uk).

### NURSERY ADMISSIONS

Contact Peterbrook Primary School on 0121 430 2545 or email [admissions@peterbrook.solihull.sch.uk](mailto:admissions@peterbrook.solihull.sch.uk). There are three admissions periods for nursery pupils:

**January intake** - closing date for applications is in November prior to the January start date.

**Post-Easter intake** - the closing date for applications is in February prior to an April start date.

**September intake** - the closing date for applications is in March prior to a September start date.

### STARTING SCHOOL FOR THE FIRST TIME

You will need to apply for a place by contacting the schools' admissions team at Solihull Council. Applications are made from November to January in the year before the one in which your child is due to start school. If your application is not successful, you will be invited to join the waiting list. If you are offered a place, your child will be welcomed to the school in September.

### IN-YEAR ADMISSIONS

If you wish to transfer your child into our school during any academic year you are welcome to visit the school and then submit your application to the admissions team. Once this has been processed your child will be able to start with us immediately.

### GETTING INVOLVED

#### PARENT COUNCIL

We have an active, friendly parent council that meets monthly. The parent council is

composed of parent volunteers from across the school who have been an invaluable source of support and decision-making. Their mission is to enhance the partnership between our school, our community and our parents. More than anything, it's an opportunity for the school to involve and consult with parents, listen to the parent voice and develop trust and communication between parents and the school.

#### PTFA

The Parent Teacher Friend Association (PTFA) has been an asset to the school and our families. Their aim is to raise funds to create opportunities and buy resources for the children that would otherwise not be covered by the school's funding. The PTFA have organised events like;

- Uniform Swap
- Halloween Disco
- Bonfire and Firework Event
- Christmas Fayre
- Christmas Parties
- Valentine Disco
- Mothers' Day Gift Sale

- Easter Disco
- Fathers' Day Gift Sale
- Leavers' Disco

The funds raised have meant the children have been able to benefit from things such as the adventure playground, playground equipment and markings, reading books and class beanbags. For more information about joining the PTFA, please contact the school office.

### GOVERNORS

Peterbrook is lucky enough to have a team of experienced, committed and knowledgeable volunteer governors who work closely with the headteacher and senior leadership team to oversee the strategic development of the school. Volunteer governors have been elected, nominated or co-opted from several stakeholder groups including school staff, parents and carers, the local authority and the wider community. If you would like to know more about the governors, or you would like to put yourself forward for a parent governor role, please contact the Headteacher via the school office.



# VISION AND VALUES:

## VISION

Peterbrook School is an inclusive community of lifelong learners where everyone believes in us and we believe in ourselves.

## AMBITION

At Peterbrook School we strive to be at the heart of our local community. We will do this by respecting and celebrating our individual differences in an environment where we can develop the skills and ambition for a lifetime of learning. We will celebrate the success of others and ourselves in equal measure and take pride in everything we do.

## VALUES

- Kindness.
- Resilience.
- Responsibility.
- Communication.
- Safe.

## THE PETERBROOK PRIMARY SCHOOL VISION STATES

Peterbrook Primary School is a special place full of learning, laughter and friendship where all children are happy, feel safe and are valued. We believe that learning should be fun, purposeful and challenging.

As a school, we develop a love of learning that is inspired by quality teaching, which builds upon each pupil's individual strengths and talents. We aim to develop confident learners who take ownership of their learning and are proud of their achievements.

Our vision is that Peterbrook continues to develop as a hub for our community - providing services and activities that help to meet the needs and aspirations of our pupils, their families and the wider community.



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