

We strive to be lifelong learners.



Shaw Primary Academy

At Shaw, we take pride in our community by inspiring and empowering every individual to find and unlock their potential.

S H A W
Primary Academy

Safe... Happy... Aiming high... Working together

Welcome to Shaw Primary Academy

Ofsted say: “Outcomes across the school are good...”



Foreword: Dawn Copping, Headteacher, says...

It is a real pleasure to welcome you and your child to our wonderful school. A school where so many exciting learning opportunities are waiting for them.

Safe

We are a safe school, with an environment where it is safe for children to make mistakes, learn and try again. Safe to try new things and safe to ask for help!

Happy

We are also committed to a curriculum that is creative, relevant and enjoyable, so that learning becomes a life skill... allowing all children to become valued and active members of their community. We have happy learners who want to do their very best!

Aiming high

We have highly-dedicated and experienced staff, who ensure all pupils 'aim high'. The proof of that is that all our children are making good to outstanding progress: and as such all pupils' levels of attainment are above the national average by the time they leave school at the end of Key Stage 2.



Working together: 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 further increase your child's enjoyment of learning.

Get in touch

I would urge you to visit our fantastic 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 call the school office on 01708 852367.

Joanne's son has always been quick on the uptake, and at Shaw Primary Academy his talents have been recognised and encouraged

Joanne and Rob Young live in South Okendon with their children Ronnie, 11 and Abbie, five.

There's always a first time ...

Joanne feels fortunate that she and Rob were helped in finding a good school by Ronnie's Nursery School teacher, who recommended Shaw Primary Academy, where he is now in his last term. "I did worry a bit about getting him in to the right school but we've been lucky with Shaw Primary as Ronnie has been very happy there," says Joanne.

Recognising ability

Ronnie has done exceedingly well, being entered at Level 6 for all his SATS tests. "He was reading at three years old, and has always been extremely good at maths, and it is to the credit of Shaw Primary that his teachers recognised his abilities at an early stage. Even when he failed badly in one of his tests they realised that this was a one-off and disregarded the result; all through his time at Shaw he has been supported appropriately and encouraged to achieve his best."

Opportunity to succeed

Having joined Shaw Primary in Nursery, Abbie is now in her second year and also enjoying school. Even if she doesn't turn out to be quite as academic as her brother, Joanne knows that she will have just as good an opportunity to succeed to the best of her own abilities. "All schools are different just as all children are different and what works for one might not for another. However, I know we personally made the right decision for our children when we chose Shaw Primary Academy."

Children say

Ronnie: "The teachers always reward good behaviour."





School hours

Nursery
Mornings 8.45am - 11.45am
Afternoons 12.15pm - 3.15pm

Reception, Key Stage 1 and 2
8.55am – 3.00pm
'Early Birds' Breakfast Club
The breakfast club offers a healthy breakfast with high quality care, provided by Shaw Primary Academy staff. Open 7.45am – 8.50am.

Uniform

A simple uniform is helpful in establishing good standards of appearance in school and by wearing it children quickly feel part of the community. School uniform lists can be obtained by contacting the school office.

School meals and snacks

Hot, nutritious school meals, with a vegetarian option, are available. Children may also bring in a packed lunch.



Morning break
All children in nursery and reception have a snack at morning break. Milk is available free of charge to pupils aged under five years, and water is always available in school.

Healthy eating

As a recognised Healthy School, we promote a healthy lifestyle. This includes:
The Snack Trolley, which stocks a range of cereal bars, healthy snacks and drinks, available to buy before school from the Junior Hall
The '5-a-day fruit scheme' operates for all Key Stage 1 children where each child receives one piece of fruit at afternoon break free of charge.

Ofsted say: "This is a good school. There is high morale amongst staff and pupils are proud to belong to the school community."

At Shaw Primary Academy, severe disability is no barrier to reaching the top of the class

Leanne Stevens lives in South Okendon with her son, Freddie, who is nine years old.

Dealing with disability

Freddie has been a pupil at Shaw Primary Academy since Nursery. He is a popular member of his class, is achieving up to and above his academic targets, and he is physically disabled.

Academic and social needs to...

Leanne says: "I genuinely believe that if Freddie had gone to another school he would not have been where he is now. At Shaw, not only his physical needs have been brilliantly addressed but his academic and social ones, too, and I now feel that he might have been held back in another setting.
"At Shaw, he is gently pushed and encouraged to achieve his very best and he has responded fantastically well. The school has gone above and beyond what is required to make sure Freddie doesn't miss out in any way."

Close relationship

"It is never easy to be a single parent and especially to a child with Freddie's condition, but somehow Shaw Primary become an extended family and has made a big difference to us."

Children say

Freddie: "I love and enjoy going to school. I like all my lessons and spending time with my friends. I don't mind being the only one in a wheelchair because I'm normal anyway! Sometimes if I ask for help my teacher says 'no, you know you can do it yourself' and that encourages me to try my best and do things on my own, and I am getting better."



Curriculum: creative and inspirational



The curriculum is divided into three stages:
Early Years Foundation Stage: from ages 3-5
Key Stage 1: from ages 5-7
Key Stage 2: from ages 7-11



Early Years Foundation Stage: Nursery/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
- Health
- Citizenship
- Personal and Social Education



Ofsted say: “Behaviour is good in lessons, pupils are co-operative and there is a busy, harmonious ethos throughout the school.”

Jill loves working at Shaw Primary Academy, which has brought out the very best in her own children, and in others, too

Jill and Paul Casey live in South Okendon with their children Lois, 11 and Kaelan, nine, both of whom currently attend Shaw Primary Academy.

A great start

Lois was born almost four months prematurely and has had various physical difficulties as a result but, as Jill explains, both Shaw Nursery and, subsequently, Shaw Primary, have played a major role in Lois’s rehabilitation. “Lois has various problems with her movement and balance and needed regular physiotherapy and occupational therapy, both of which Shaw has helped to provide. What I also found impressive was that her nursery teachers realised that she was academically bright and really encouraged her, so that she was reading by the time she started school.”

No hesitation

“If nothing else, the help Lois was given with her physical needs convinced me that Shaw is a great school but the fact that she has achieved so well academically left us with no hesitation in enrolling Kaelan there, too.”

Recognising and encouraging talent

“Kaelan has always loved football and he and Paul often play together. Shaw Primary allows a local club to use its facilities and because of that the school was visited by talent scouts from West Ham, who identified Kaelan as exceptionally skilled. He was signed up for the Club Juniors at the earliest possible age and is now allowed to take a day off school once a week to train.”

Children say

Lois: “The school has helped me boost my confidence in both myself and my work.”
Kaelan: “The school has given me the chance to have extra training with West Ham, which will help me progress and help me achieve my dream of becoming a footballer.”



Extended curriculum: trips and visits

To extend the curriculum, and make learning even more fun, we offer many trips and activities, including:

- Gruffalo Hunt in Thordon Park
- Sleep-over at the science museum
- Sealife centre Southend
- Residential trip to Grosvenor Hall in Ashford,
- Pantomime in Grays
- Tropical Wings
- Royal Opera House to see The Nutcracker (ballet) and Don Pasquale (Opera).



Communicating with parents

Letter of expectation

At the start of each term, a ‘letter of expectation’ is sent home from the class teacher, outlining the work children will do during term.

Termly parent evenings

Every term, children and their teachers have a one-to-one session, where they discuss their progress, targets and what the next steps are to enable them to reach their targets. The outcomes of these meetings are shared with parents at our termly Parent Evenings, so that they can support their child, and the school, in reaching their goals.

School report

Towards the end of the Summer Term, parents will receive a full written report of their child’s progress during the year.

‘Open door’ policy

The school operates an ‘open door’ policy, and it is normally the case that your child’s class teacher, the Head or Deputy Head, will be able to talk to you at the end of the school day should the need arise.



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. Where appropriate a referral to an external agency may be arranged. Children may be added to the Special Education Needs Register, and an Individual Education Plan written to help them reach their potential. 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

The school is all on one level, and access to all areas of the school is good. There is a disabled toilet in the junior building, a disabled toilet and changing area in the infant building, and a disabled toilet and accessible shower in the nursery. The main school office and junior building entrance have been fitted with disabled access doors.

Inclusion manager

If you feel your child may need extra support, please make an appointment to meet with our Inclusion Manager for an informal chat.



Inclusion quality mark

In June 2012 the school was officially recognised by an external assessor as being worthy of the prestigious Inclusion Quality Mark. In October 2013 we also attained the Inclusion Mark Flagship Status... one of only 28 in the country!

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.

Amanda believes that only Shaw Primary Academy could have addressed her son’s special needs so effectively

Amanda and Naveed Chaudhry live in South Okendon with their children Aisha, 13, Kai, ten and Faris, eight.

Simplifying complications

Both Aisha and Kai have been very happy at Shaw Primary Academy and so Amanda had no hesitation in enrolling Faris there too.

Faris has global developmental delay (GDD), learning difficulties and also hypertonia, which affects his mobility and strength, so Amanda needed to be sure he would have appropriate support at school. “The school was a great help in obtaining the SEN as it can be a complicated process. It has made all the difference to Faris being able to make the most of school and get as much out of it as possible.”

Acceptance of difference

“Faris has someone with him at lunchtime to help him to eat and at playtime, the playground staff keep in touch by radio so someone knows where he is at all times. They let him think for himself but make sure he’s safe and the other children are great too – they tend to try and ‘mother’ him, which he absolutely loves! What is so reassuring for me is that even though they all know Faris is a bit different in some ways, he has never been bullied or picked on because of it.”

Recognising need in any form

“Faris gets the help he particularly needs just as the others do, whether it is with a physical issue or with their work. I absolutely cannot fault what Shaw Primary has done for Faris as well as for Aisha and Kai; it has been a brilliant school for them all but I would certainly recommend it for a disabled child.”

Children say

Faris: “I am very happy at school and I like all my friends.”





The school has two large halls, which are both well equipped with large range of apparatus. During their time in Key Stage 2, children are also taken to a local swimming pool, to learn to swim under the supervision of two qualified instructors. There are also a wide variety of clubs that children can join, during class, lunchtime and after school. Options often include:

- Football for Boys
- Football for Girls
- Run-a-bout
- ICT Club
- Netball
- Dance
- Choir
- Spanish
- Fun and Games
- Homework Club
- Recorder
- Cross Country
- Cookery
- Athletics
- Art and Craft
- Drama

Sports tournaments

Children also have the opportunity to take part in inter-school leagues/tournaments in football, netball and cricket. Those who attend the athletics club have the chance to represent the school at the district and area sports.



Dayne’s children had unhappy school experiences, so she is sure that Shaw Primary Academy was the right choice for them

Dayne and Richard Matthieu live in South Okendon with their daughter Kacia, who is 10 and son Kristian, five.

Positive first impression

Dayne and Richard had originally wanted to send their children to a faith school in line with their Christian beliefs but unfortunately, Kacia had other ideas. “For some reason that we never discovered, Kacia was very unhappy at our first choice of school and we had no option but to take her out,” Dayne explains. “As Shaw Primary was very close to where we lived and we had heard very good reports about it we decided we should at least consider it as an option. My first impressions were very positive; it was very welcoming, with a family feel to it...”

Flying start

“Whilst Kacia took a year or so to find her feet academically she absolutely blossomed in Year 3; now she is about to move to secondary school and has been placed in the top groups. “Kristian has done brilliantly from the start, with his literacy and numeracy skills absolutely flying. Every child is different and will come on at their own pace but it is important that they have the right support to begin with. I believe that both Kacia and Kristian have had that support at Shaw Primary.”

No reservations

“I am behind Shaw Primary 100%. Our experience proves that it is worth considering every option to make sure your children have the best possible start in life and in their education, and Shaw Primary Academy has given that to Kacia and Kristian.”





Visit the school

Parents who are thinking of applying for a place at our school are invited to visit and look around at any time. Please contact the school office.

Applications

A copy of the school's Admission Policy is available from the school office, or via the school website. The Local Authority Admission's Office deals with all new admissions to Shaw Primary Academy. Contact details for Local Authority Admissions are:

Tel: 01375 652883
Email: School.Admissions@thurrock.gov.uk
Web: www.thurrock.gov.uk/school-admissions

Children get involved too!

Our children take on a wide range of responsibilities including Play Leaders, School Council, Monitors etc. But, in addition to this, we have a range of other jobs including Office Junior, Library Assistant, Senior Gardener etc. These jobs are gained by application and interview, like jobs in the real world.

Friends of Shaw

'The Friends of Shaw' is a group of parents that organise and run events to engage parents and raise funds to support the work of the school. Events organised have included the Christmas Fayre, children's discos, an Easter draw, Summer Fete, Quiz Night and Race Night.

If you are interested in being a 'Friend of Shaw', please contact the school office.

Volunteers

The school runs a Volunteer Helper Scheme, which encourages parents to help in school. In return for a commitment of two hours a week, the school then gives parents the opportunity to take part in a number of developmental workshops i.e. First Aid or CV writing, and rewards them on a termly basis for the time they have given.

If you are interested in volunteering, please contact the school office.

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. Each Governor serves for a period of four years, after which they can choose stand for re-election.

Do you want to be a Governor?

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

How to find us



Our Aims

- To support each pupil in reaching the highest levels of attainment.
- To develop the self-esteem of each pupil, helping them to grow in maturity, confidence and independence.
- To develop a supportive partnership between home and school with each partner recognising and valuing each other's contribution.
- To promote the spiritual, moral, cultural and physical development of all our pupils.
- At Shaw we want our children to be:

S Safe
H Happy
A Aiming High
W Working Together

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