



# Falcons Primary School

"To be the best we can be"



**FALCONS**  
PRIMARY SCHOOL



# Welcome to Falcons Primary School



## Quotes from our parents

*"The school is in a fantastic setting and the ethos of the school is fabulous. The school is headed by great leadership and I am sure the school will go from strength to strength! The new block is a brilliant addition to the school that will provide the required facilities for the school's expansion."*

*"I feel truly humbled at seeing this school flourish. You carry the hopes and dreams of a community."*

*"The Diwali play was amazing, the confidence in all of the children made me proud to be part of Falcons Primary School."*

## Foreword: Jasbir Mann, Headteacher, says:

I am delighted to welcome you to our wonderful school. The school opened in 2014 in the grade II listed building 'George Hine House', and following a twelve month building programme our additional new building opened in 2016.

## Aiming high

At Falcons Primary School we have a clear understanding of how children need the best possible conditions to learn. We acknowledge that we live in a changing world, and that we need to prepare our children for tomorrow's needs... and aim high to achieve aspirational goals!

## A caring and stimulating environment

We place great importance on developing a caring and stimulating environment where children's high self-esteem enables them to take risks in learning, and to learn confidently through their mistakes. We teach children that getting 'stuck' is not a sign of failure, and help them to develop strategies for independence. We encourage children to ask questions and for them to learn how to solve challenges and problems.

## Strive for excellence

We make it our business to strive for excellence, empowering children to be happy and responsive.

## Inclusive

We are an inclusive school that develops independence, responsibility, kindness and good manners. The school draws on the teachings of the Sikh faith and is committed to providing not only an academic education, but one that will also encompass an underlying message of unity, equality and respect as well as high morals, discipline, love, compassion and selfless service towards all regardless of faith, gender or colour.

Whilst 50% of places at Falcon's are allocated to Sikh children, the remainder are available to those of other faiths or none.

## Igniting an interest in the world

Within our pupils, 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 our children also have the opportunity to also enjoy a wide variety of sporting and musical opportunities, as well as regular trips and residential visits. Our pastoral care is exceptional, ensuring all children are kept safe and are supported both inside and outside school.

## Dedicated staff

I am also very proud of our exceptionally experienced and dedicated staff and Governors, who ensure that all our children are well supported to achieve their true potential, and work hard with families to overcome any barriers to learning.

## Parent partnership

Another very important part of our school is you, the parent! We value the link between school and parent and work very hard to involve you in every step of your child's time here. We hope that your association with us will bring both happiness and success for your child. We have an open-door policy, and encourage parents to come in, as their input is always greatly valued.

## Get in touch

The best way to understand our school's aims and values is to make an appointment and visit the school 'in action'. This would give first-hand knowledge and understanding of what we are aiming for and achieving and of the many facilities on offer. To contact us to arrange a visit please call on 0116 451 0050 or email: [office@falconsprimary.org](mailto:office@falconsprimary.org).

Jasbir Mann, Headteacher





# School day: settling in



## School hours

School commences at 8.30am for registration and ends at 3.00pm, except for children attending after-school club and activities.

## Breakfast Club and after-school provision

The Breakfast Club runs daily and is available for all pupils from 7.30am to 8.30am. Milk, orange juice, toast, yoghurt and fruit are available. Parents are welcome to join their children.

After School care is provided from 3pm to 4 or 5pm Monday to Friday, which must be booked and paid for in advance.

## Uniform

School uniform plays a valuable role in contributing to the ethos of a school and setting an appropriate tone. The wearing of school uniform is a key school rule and our uniform code is strongly enforced. The children in our Reception classes wear a slightly modified version of the uniform to the rest of the school. Reception children do not wear a tie or blazer; they can begin wearing these from Year 1. Boys' trousers may be grey or dark grey, but not black.

Our school colours are navy and grey and a full list of items can be obtained from the school office, together with prices.

## Healthy school meals and snacks

Falcons Primary School offers nutritionally balanced vegetarian meals which are egg and nut free. The menu is exciting yet carefully planned to encourage positive healthy eating habits. Vegetarian meals lead to many benefits including dramatically reducing an individual's carbon footprint, significant improvement in long-term health, as well as fulfilling one of our core values of compassion.

## Free school dinners

School dinners are free for children in Reception, Year 1 and Year 2. Children in KS2 need to pay for school dinners at £2.00 per day, paid termly in advance to the school office. School dinners are free for children whose families are in receipt of



certain benefits; if you think your child might be eligible for free school meals, please contact the school office in confidence.

## Packed lunches

Children are welcome to bring in a packed lunch from home but this must be vegetarian in content, in line with our school ethos. We also request that food is healthy and nutritious and must not contain sweets, chocolate bars or fizzy drinks.

## Drinks

School milk is offered free to children under five. Children may bring a bottle of water in a non-breakable container which can be filled from the water coolers during the day.

# Behaviour and self-development: Encouragement and inspiration



## Secure and respected

We consider it is vitally important to promote a caring and supportive environment, which enables all members of the school community to feel secure and respected, and therefore promote good behaviour in others. We aim to encourage and inspire our pupils to show:

1. Compassion – for each other and for the environment.
2. Faith – in their ability and chosen way of life.
3. Determination – strength of conviction to succeed in all their endeavours.
4. Resolve – to see it through.
5. Mastery – to be the best we can in all areas (physical, spiritual, mental and emotional).

These five virtues are key to the Sikh faith. They will empower all of our learners to become outstanding individuals and great humanitarians with a lifelong passion for learning and selfless service.

## School expectations

- We will show respect for others and our environment.
- We will always try our best in school.
- We will be polite and kind to each other.
- We will look after other people's property.
- We will walk quietly and safely around the school.

## Improving the learning experience

Effective learning will take place if there is a sound behaviour policy, both throughout the school generally and in individual classrooms. Learning not only takes place within the subject based curriculum but also through a hidden curriculum of socialising and the development of values, beliefs and attitudes which permeate the ethos of the school.

Good behaviour is also necessary to ensure pupils safety and well-being.

## Rewards and sanctions

We praise and reward children for good behaviour in a variety of ways, such as with merit stickers and certificates, and we employ a number of sanctions to enforce the school rules, and to ensure a safe and positive learning environment. We employ each sanction appropriately to each individual situation.



# Curriculum: promoting academic, social, emotional and personal success



## Cornerstones Curriculum and outstanding learning opportunities

With the new National Curriculum being introduced by the Government in 2014-15, we have been working hard on our school approach and provision for pupils. As part of this work we have decided to implement the new Cornerstones Curriculum, a nationally recognised approach for delivering outstanding learning opportunities for children.

## What is the Cornerstones Curriculum?

The Cornerstones Curriculum is a creative and thematic approach to learning that is mapped to the new 2014 Primary National Curriculum to ensure comprehensive coverage of national expectations.

Our new curriculum will be delivered through Imaginative Learning Projects which will provide a rich menu of exciting and motivating learning activities that make creative links between all aspects of our children's learning.

## Imagination

We believe children learn better when they are encouraged to use their imagination and apply their learning to engaging contexts.

## Knowledge and understanding

Our new curriculum will provide lots of learning challenges throughout the academic year that will require children to solve problems, apply themselves creatively and express their knowledge and understanding effectively across the curriculum.

## Essential skills framework

Cornerstones also provides a rigorous essential skills framework that outlines the end of year expectations in all subjects. These essential skills are tied to activities and are age related so that staff can track children's progress and identify their individual learning needs.

## Check it out!

For more information on the Cornerstones Learning Philosophy please visit our website [www.falconsprimary.org](http://www.falconsprimary.org) and look for 'Cornerstone Curriculum' under the 'Curriculum' drop-down menu.



# Facilities



## Supporting learning

We are very fortunate to have some excellent facilities to benefit the children, and further support their learning and school experience. These include:

- Recent extensive refurbishment to existing buildings, as well as new-build accommodation
- High quality computer equipment
- A school radio station
- Library
- Performance and studio spaces
- New hall with state of the art multimedia system

## Outdoor learning

We have a lovely outdoor space with trees and shrubs, a wildlife pond, bird feeding station and a Peace Garden.

## Outdoor Classroom

Outdoor Classroom encourages and inspires individuals through positive outdoor experiences.

## Emotional and social skills

By participating in engaging, motivating and achievable tasks in a woodland environment, each participant has an opportunity to improve their emotional and social skills.

## Play Champions

Our new playgrounds are being developed with input from our pupil Play Champions. They are working hard to ensure that our playgrounds are a safe and fair place by helping other pupils, looking after equipment and thinking of new games and activities.

## School meals

Our vegetarian school meals are cooked on site by our catering team in our newly built kitchen. Favourites include vegan quorn nuggets, aloo jeera and lentil dahl, jacket potatoes and chilli paneer curry. Our pupils have a regular input into the development of our school menus





# Enriched curriculum: trips and visits



## Educational visits

We believe that educational visits are an integral part of the entitlement of every pupil to an effective and balanced curriculum. Appropriately planned visits are known to enhance learning and improve attainment, and so form a key part of what makes Falcons Primary School a supportive and effective learning environment. There are many benefits to pupils learning outside the classroom, and recent examples have included visits to Places of Worship such as Mandirs, Gurdwaras, Mosques and Churches as well as museums, libraries and local walks.

## Family Challenges

We encourage our families to take part in regular family challenges. Past family challenges have been to:

- The City Mayor, MPs, Councillors and Ministers
- Design and make a clock
- Design and make cards for religious festivals
- Design and make multi-lingual welcome messages to the school

## Visitors

We arrange visits to the school by theatre groups and those with professional expertise such as singers, artists and musicians etc, as well as religious leaders to speak in our assemblies. Recent visitors have included:

- The City Mayor, MPs, Councillors and Ministers
- Rotary Club of Leicester Novus
- The Spark Arts for Children
- Science in a Suitcase
- Coaches from Leicester City Football Club
- Leicester City Road Safety Officers
- Guide Dogs for the Blind
- Representatives from local Gurdwaras
- The School Nurse



# Your child's achievements: celebrating success



## Aims and objectives

The aims and objectives of assessment in our school are:

- To enable our children to demonstrate what they know, understand and can do in their work.
- To help our children understand what they need to do next to improve their work.
- To allow teachers to plan work that accurately reflects the needs of each child.
- To provide regular information for parents that enables them to support their child's learning.
- To provide the headteacher and governors with information that allows them to make judgements about the effectiveness of the school.

## School reports and parent evenings

Home-school communication and the support of parents is fundamental to pupils' progress and attainment. We give parents a report at the end of the academic year, outlining targets and their child's progress so that teachers, children and parents are all working together to raise standards for all our children. Parents are also invited to two open evenings per year.



"To be the best we can be"



# Inclusion: a curriculum for all



## Different needs

Different interventions and approaches are used to address specific areas. Your child's class teacher and SENCO will look carefully at your child's individual needs before deciding which interventions your child will receive. The impact of each intervention is reviewed regularly in school as part of our Pupil Progress reviews. All interventions and approaches have been shown to have a positive impact on pupils' learning. If you have any queries relating to the type of support we use in school please contact the Headteacher/SENCo.

## More-able 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. Opportunities are sought for such pupils to meet and work with similarly able pupils in the area.



## Sikh Ethos

The school draws on the teachings of the Sikh faith and is committed to providing not only an academic education, but one that will also encompass an underlying message of unity, equality and respect as well as high morals, discipline, love, compassion and selfless service towards all regardless of faith, gender or colour. Falcon School will embrace a universal, inclusive approach to spirituality.



## Aims

- To achieve our vision, we aim for all pupils, staff, governors and parents to:
  - Work in unity to make Falcons School a welcoming, stimulating and successful school. Encourage good manners, self-discipline and the desire to be enthusiastic learners who grow into forward thinking responsible citizens who respect, value and care for themselves and others.
  - Provide an ethos with clear boundaries and expectations, enabling all children to succeed and to reach their full potential confidently, in a safe and supportive environment.
  - Become excellent lifelong learners who are independent and prepared for the wider world and aim high to achieve aspirational goals.



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# Clubs



## Wide range

Our school is proud to offer a range of activities to complement and enrich our curriculum. We offer a range of after school activities, including:

- Santhea
- Punjabi
- Football
- Kirtan
- Hockey
- Singing Gurbani/Classical
- Sitar
- Abacus
- Tae Kwon Do
- Youth Theatre

## Eco Club

Our school Eco Club discusses important environmental issues, and works hard to educate the school and other pupils on how to make wiser choices. The Eco Club have recently attended the Eco School Roadshow held by Leicester City Council and discussed topics from reducing water wastage to how food is transported around the world.



# Sports and arts



## SAQ (Speed,Agility and Quickness) programme

Although many children develop good physical skills on their own, there are many who do not. Physically skilled children often enjoy vigorous healthy play, while the less skilled are often left out. This can lead to decreased effort and eventual withdrawal from physical activities. For this reason we have invested in the SAQ (Speed,Agility and Quickness) programme, a system of progressive exercise and instruction, aimed at developing fundamental motor abilities, balance, co-ordination and ultimately, complete control of body movement.

## SAQ trainer

Staff and children have been working alongside a SAQ trainer to develop fundamental movement skills, which create firm foundations for successful involvement in physical activity. The programme is designed to help the children become physically literate, lead active healthy lifestyles and have higher levels of self-esteem.

## Music

All children have the opportunity to join our kirtan club and to learn traditional Sikh instruments such as the sitar, harmonium and tabla. There are opportunities for the children to share their performances throughout the year within school and at various events.

## Arts Award

As an Arts Award Centre, we offer the opportunity for our pupils to work towards, and receive Arts Award qualifications at Discover and Explore levels accredited by Trinity College London. Arts Award gives the pupils an opportunity to grow their arts and leadership talents through exploring the arts, creating pieces of art and sharing their creative skills.





# Admissions



## Admission to Falcons Primary School

We are very 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. During the visit you will have the opportunity to speak with the Headteacher and other staff. Please ring the school office on 0116 451 0050 to make a mutually convenient appointment.

## Applications

Falcons Primary School adheres to the Leicester City Council's primary coordinated admissions scheme for first time admissions and in-year (mid-term) admissions. The school does not have a designated catchment area. Application forms are available from the school office and when completed, should be submitted to the local authority [www.leicester.gov.uk](http://www.leicester.gov.uk).



# Getting involved



## Volunteers

We value the contribution of parents and family and we actively encourage your help during the school day. Parents and family help with a variety of activities which include reading with our children, helping children in the library, gardening, cooking, and acting as extra pair of hands in class. We accept all help gratefully, subject to DBS checks and references.

## Governors

The Governing Body of Falcons Primary School is responsible for setting the strategic direction of the school, monitoring progress and holding the Headteacher and senior leadership team to account. The Governing Body consists of governors appointed by the Akaal Education Trust Members as well as Parent Governors elected from amongst the parents of children at the school and a Staff Governor elected from amongst the staff at the school. The Governing Body operates Sub Committees and Task Groups as necessary and may co-opt individuals with specific skills, experiences or knowledge to attend specific meetings.

The Governors can be contacted via the school office.



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## Quotes from our parents

*"Fantastic Nativity performance! I was very impressed with the children and all the hard work from the staff. We are Sikh but we are very grateful that the school covers Christmas and the English/Christian culture."*

*"I am so extremely proud of the children from their Vaisakhi performance, and I am shocked at their confidence. I was so overwhelmed and touched that I had to fight back the tears."*

*"We're extremely proud of the school's achievement."*

*"An excellent production. It was lovely to see that all of the year groups were involved and that there were so many different elements put together. A big thank you to everybody involved."*



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