



Lakenham Primary School

Loving to learn, learning for life



Welcome to Lakenham Primary School



Learning is fun!

Foreword: Mrs Oriana Dalton, Headteacher, says...

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

Happy environment

We provide an inspiring, happy and stimulating environment. We want to ignite a love of learning within our pupils, and for them to benefit from becoming lifelong learners.

Respect

Our school is organised around the belief that all members of our community have:

- the right to learn
- the right to feel safe physically and emotionally
- the right to be treated with respect.

With these rights, comes the responsibility to ensure that, as a member of our community, we respect these rights and demonstrate and model them in our policies, practices and daily lives.

Dedicated staff

Part of our learning community is our staff. I am very proud of our highly experienced and dedicated staff, who work hard to ensure the highest possible academic standards for your children. By promoting positive attitudes, we can move forward with confidence, preparing our pupils for their future lives in and out of school. They are an integral part of your child's learning journey.

Parent partnership

Another important part of your child's learning journey is you, the parent. We believe that when parents are actively involved in their children's learning, take an interest in what they are studying at school, and support them in completing their homework and reading, their children will do better at school. We provide frequent opportunities for parents and carers to get involved on the use of the school and support learning.

Get in touch

Choosing the right school for a child is one of the most important decisions that a parent can make. For more information please visit the school website and check out the "Happiness" video, which celebrates our OFSTED rating! Parents and carers are always very welcome to visit the school and see for themselves what a fantastic facility we have. To make an appointment simply email: office@lakenham.norfolk.sch.uk or telephone 01603 877780.

Learning without limits

The art of outstanding teaching is the ability to ensure that all children are able to make good progress, and the ability to challenge and stretch all the children in a class. At Lakenham, we avoid pigeon holing children or deciding which differentiated task a child should take part in. Instead, we encourage children to make decisions about the level of challenge they think they should choose.

Learning tasks are identified as:

- mild
- medium
- hot
- seriously hot...

...and children are then invited to choose the level of difficulty they would like to try. Children are taught how to identify when a task is too easy, too hard, and to make careful choices around their next learning steps. As a result of this initiative, we have seen a real buzz around learning and thoughtful discussions about learning being had by children.



School day



School hours

- 8.50 am: Doors open
- 9.00 am: Back doors close and children are now late
- 9.10 am: Registers close
- 3.30 pm: School day ends

Wraparound care

We recognise that working parents often need to make use of wraparound care for their children. We provide a Breakfast Club from 8.00am to 8.50am, and an After School Club until 6pm. Please make sure you book places in advance with the office.

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 or by consulting our Parent Handbook. Children throughout the school wear a navy sweatshirt, fleece, cardigan or jumper with the Lakenham Primary School logo, a white shirt or navy or white polo shirt, grey trousers, skirt, shorts or pinafore dress and plain black shoes. During the summer term a navy dress can be worn. If headscarves are worn, these should be plain navy blue in colour. Uniform with logos can be bought either from the Schoolwear Centre in Ber Street or online from a link on our website from Goodies. The grey trousers/skirts and white/blue shirts can be bought from any chain store.



School meals and snacks

All of our school dinners are freshly cooked on the school premises. Children in Reception, Years 1 and 2 can receive a free hot school meal. Some parents worry that their children will not like the food choices available, but if you are concerned, we advise providing a packed lunch just in case, whilst allowing your child to try a hot school meal. We ask that parents who pay for school meals order them and pay for them at the beginning of the week. We are hoping to soon have an online payment scheme for meals which will make it easier for parents and administration.

Break-time and drinks

Under the Fruit in School scheme, children in Nursery, Reception and Years 1 and 2 are entitled to a free piece of fruit each day. Water is always available during the day. Milk is available for all children up to the year in which they are seven (Year 2). Those children who are entitled to free school meals will also be entitled to milk free of charge.

Lakenham Primary is part of the Healthy Schools programme, and we therefore operate a no nuts policy and chocolate bars and chocolate biscuits are not permitted on the school premises.



Curriculum



The curriculum is divided into three stages:

1. Early Years Foundation Stage: from ages 0-5
2. Key Stage 1: from ages 5-7
3. Key Stage 2: from ages 7-11

Reception

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

- Personal, Social and Emotional Development
- Communication and Language
- Physical Development

- Literacy
- Mathematics
- Understanding the World
- Expressive Arts and Design

Key Stages 1-2

Areas of the curriculum are:

- Mathematics
- Literacy
- Science
- Information and Design Technology

- History
- Geography
- Art
- Music
- Physical Education
- Religious Education
- Health
- Citizenship
- Personal and Social Education.

Sport

Children love Physical Education at Lakenham, which is taught by a trained PE Coach. As well

as following the PE programme of work as set out in the National Curriculum, there are many opportunities for children to engage in extracurricular sport and team games and to learn how to lead healthy, active lives.

Moving on to Higher Education

When our pupils move to secondary school we make the process as smooth as possible. We have strong links with local secondary schools. We arrange visits to these schools and also invite staff from these schools to our autumn opening evenings.

Learning Environment



Facilities

Learning doesn't just happen in the classroom, it happens:

- at home
- on the journey to school
- ...and through the environment we grow up in.

Enthusiastic and engaged learners

We believe a positive learning environment is essential to developing enthusiastic and engaged learners. Our school building has

all the facilities you would expect of a school built for 21st Century learning. The open plan foundation stage incorporates the nursery and two reception classes. It offers a superb well-resourced indoor and outdoor learning environment ensuring our children get off to the best possible start on the learning journey at Lakenham.

Atrium

All classes are centred around our large central atrium. The atrium is the heart of our school, where our library is situated, along with an interactive learning zone, which children and staff use during the day. All classes are equipped with a wide range of ICT to support learning across the curriculum and in Key Stage 2 all pupils have access to their own mini-laptops.

Forest school and outdoor learning

Forest School is all about learning through practical real-life experience, valuing our environment and actively participating in teamwork, using and applying skills and taking pleasure from learning outdoors... and getting active and dirty! The opportunity to sit round a campfire and toast marshmallows should be part of every child's curriculum! We have made it part of ours.



From TESCO to Nelson... and beyond!

To extend the curriculum, and make learning even more fun, we offer many trips and activities. Recent educational trips have included many exciting outings!

- Reception and nursery visit to Wroxham Barns.
- Year 1 cinema visit.

- Year 2 visit to the Nelson Museum in Great Yarmouth.
- Year 5 Fork to Farm Tesco Visit.
- Year 5 visit to Castle Museum.
- Year 3 visit to the National History Museum.
- House visit to High Lodge at Thetford Forest.
- Year 6 Kingswood Residential stay.

Celebration days

The school supports all kinds of national events such as World Book Day and Red Nose Day and arranges for fun and interesting visits from entertainers and educational experts.



Be inspired

At Lakenham Primary School we aim to develop confident, enthusiastic and motivated learners who are ambitious, resilient, articulate and talented. We want members of our community to:

- be inspired to dream
- try their best in all that they do
- be responsible citizens of today and the future.

Safe, stimulating, vibrant and challenging

We aim to provide a happy and thought-provoking environment that is safe, stimulating, vibrant and challenging, and where the individual needs of our community are met and valued. We aim to achieve this by:

- involving parents, carers and the wider community

- providing the highest quality learning, teaching and support
- creating a culture where co-operation and team work is valued and appreciated
- celebrating good work, and the small steps and positive achievements that every member of our community makes on their learning journey
- making learning fun and exciting.



Inclusion: a curriculum for all



Special Educational Needs

We are committed to providing a broad and balanced curriculum for all our pupils. At some point in their education many children will experience a special educational need and we have experience of supporting pupils with a wide range of social, emotional, behavioural and specific learning difficulties.

We work with a wide range of agencies and commission and outsource a range of specialist

support and training to enable us to meet the needs of all learners. Please take a look at the school's SEND policy on our website or speak to your child's class teacher for further information.

Access

The school was a new build and complies with regulations so that children with a physical disability are fully supported in accessing all parts of its facilities. Staff are fully committed to challenging attitudes about disability and accessibility and to developing a culture of

awareness, tolerance and inclusion within the school.

Gifted and talented children

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

Tapestry

All children in nursery and reception have an on line learning journey, Tapestry, in which we record the progress and achievements that children make through photographs, videos and observations. Parents have access to their child's learning journey and we encourage you to contribute to and add to this, identifying achievements and progress at home as well as at school.

Communicating with parents



Family evenings

Family evenings are held three times a year for parents to come in and find out specific information about their children's progress. Regular invites to participate and support in school trips, assemblies, presentation assemblies, and school events occur throughout the year.

Pastoral care

At Lakenham Primary School we have two Pastoral Support Workers; Ali Pownall and Katie Pelling. They are in the atrium most mornings, as well as after school and are happy to talk to parents about any concerns they may have regarding their children. We operate an open door policy at the school, and if you have a concern about your child, however small, we want to know about it.

Your child's achievements

We let you know how your child is progressing at regular intervals. We also invite parents and children each term to come into to school talk to teachers to discuss pupil's progress.

School News

Parents are updated with school news via the school website and regular newsletters.

Parenting courses

Throughout the year we run free Family Matters parenting courses to help support parents with some of the difficulties the role brings and to improve well-being. These are also a great way of meeting other parents and praising the great work that all parents do. You will find information about these fantastic workshops in the school newsletter.



Children can enjoy a wide range of lunchtime and after school clubs. These include:

- multiskills
- beatboxing
- songwriting
- singing
- junior bakers
- football
- orchestra
- art

All children in Years 3, 4, 5 and 6 are offered the chance at the beginning of each year, to learn to play an instrument, free of charge. Lessons are from 3.30pm for two hours.



Our School Vision

At Lakenham Primary School we aim to develop confident, enthusiastic and motivated learners who are, forward thinking, articulate and talented.

We want members of our community to:

- Be inspired to dream.
- Try their best in all that they do.
- Be responsible citizens of today and the future.

We aim to provide an environment which is:

- Safe
- Stimulating
- Vibrant
- Challenging
- Happy and
- Thought provoking

Where the individual needs of members of our community are met and valued.

We aim to achieve this by:

- Involving parents, carers and the wider community
- Providing the highest quality learning, teaching and support
- Creating a culture where co-operation and team work is valued and appreciated
- Celebrating good work, and the small steps and positive achievements that every member of our community makes on their learning journey
- Making learning fun and exciting

Our Aims for Teaching and Learning

- We want all members of our community to:
- Become independent, responsible and critical learners.
- Develop the knowledge, skills and concepts needed to achieve academically, and socially.
- Develop qualities of mind, spirit, feeling and imagination.
- Foster self-esteem and personal responsibility.
- Be aware of their roles as future citizens.

• Develop positive values and standards by which to live and respect each other.

We want Lakenham children to have:

- Resilience,
- Resourcefulness,
- Reciprocity,
- Independence,
- The ability to communicate effectively
- Imagination,
- Creativity,
- The ability to reflect,
- Respect for themselves and each other,
- Self-confidence,
- The ability to work effectively as part of a team, group, pair
- High aspirations,
- Positive attitudes,
- Motivation,
- Ambition,
- Enthusiasm,
- A love of learning.
- High rates of success



Admissions



Nursery

Parents who are thinking of applying for a place at our nursery are invited to visit and look around at any time, by appointment, although we do have an open day in the Summer Term too. Admission to our nursery is managed by our school. When the school is oversubscribed, we apply the NCC Admissions Policy to Primary School procedures.

School

Children start at Lakenham Primary School in the Autumn term of the academic year in which they will have their fifth birthday. Parents new to the area are welcome to look around the school but will still need to then apply to County Hall for admission.

Applications

Norfolk County Council deals with all new admissions to Lakenham Primary School. Contact details for the School Admissions Team:

Tel: 0344 800 8020

Email: information@norfolk.gov.uk

Web: http://www.norfolk.gov.uk/Childrens_services/Schools/School_admissions/index.htm



Getting involved



The Friends of Lakenham

All parents and carers automatically become a member of the Friends of Lakenham when their children start at school. Regular coffee mornings are held for Friends to drop in and share ideas and support our school.

The Friends run a wide range of events throughout the school year to raise funds and provide additional extra curricular opportunities for our children such as the annual school pantomime. Funds raised through discos and fairs help to raise funds to pay for additional resources that the school's budget would not be able to provide. Parents are under no obligation to attend meetings, but will be very welcome to come along and help out at events if and when they have the time.

Voluntary helpers

We are always looking for volunteers in school. If you have a skill to share, or some spare time, or are considering a career in education we are eager for you to come into school and volunteer. A number of the teaching assistants and support staff at Lakenham began their careers by volunteering. Volunteers in school will need to complete the appropriate DBS and safeguarding checks. We discourage parents from working in their own child's class.

Governorship

We have an active and challenging governing body that constantly review outcomes and expects our school to do better. Our governing body is comprised of six parent governors who ensure that the views of parents and carers are considered in all the major decisions made around the organisation of the curriculum and future direction of our school.

As well as parent representation, governors come from a wide range of backgrounds including education, law, financial management and community groups. The governing body has responsibility for ensuring the good conduct and high standards of educational achievement in the school. They regularly review the performance and outcomes of pupils at

the school and challenge and encourage us to improve our provision. Full governing body and encourage us to improve our provision. Full governing body meetings are held once a half term and parents can request to see or receive copies of minutes of meetings through the school office. Mr Richard Allen is our Chair of Governors and he can be contacted through the school office.

Do you want to be a Governor?

Our parent governors give parents a voice in decision-making and when a vacancy arises we will inform everyone via the school newsletter. Parent governors are elected via a ballot system and if you would like further information please contact the school office.



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Headteacher: Mrs Oriana Dalton
Lakenham Primary School, City Road, Norwich, Norfolk NR1 2HL

Telephone: 01603 877780
Fax: 01603 877781
Email: office@lakenham.norfolk.sch.uk