



Sherwood Park Primary School

Learning for Life Together





Welcome to Sherwood Park Primary School

Foreword: Miss Natasha Trayers, Headteacher says

I am very proud to welcome you to our wonderful school.

Warm and friendly

Sherwood Park Primary School is a warm, friendly, learning environment where everyone is caring, thoughtful and welcoming.

Sherwood Park is a two-form entry primary school, with a nursery class, and forms part of the Penhill Academy Trust (PAT) comprising of Bexley Grammar School, Blackfen Girls School, Chislehurst and Sidcup Grammar School, and Hurstmere School for Boys. This puts us in the enviable position as a primary school of not only having access to some excellent secondary school resources and facilities, but also guaranteed secondary school places for all our pupils at the two non-selective schools, Blackfen Girls School and Hurstmere School for Boys.

Inspiring learning opportunities

There is a lovely, friendly community feel here and everyone (parents/carers, teachers and families) works together to ensure the best possible outcomes for the children. We provide our children with inspiring learning opportunities, and we ensure that our children are encouraged, supported and challenged so that they develop a love of learning.

Inclusive

We are an inclusive school with a limited number of specialist places for children diagnosed with ASD with an Educational Health and Care Plan.

Fantastic provision and resources

We are fortunate to have amazing grounds for all our children to access that includes two playing fields, three large playgrounds, an allotment, Forest School, a wildlife area with a pond and specialist rooms for music, art and computing.

New facilities

We have recently installed a brand new EYFS playground, KS1 trim trail, outdoor gym in KS2, updated our Year 5 classrooms, fully refurbished our lower school hall and are developing our Forest School area to include a new Willow Dome classroom.

Empowering children to reach their potential

We provide a nurturing environment to help children strive and achieve in a creative learning atmosphere that focuses on academic excellence. Our broad curriculum is inspirational and exciting. We aim for all of our children to have an enquiring mind about the world and their place in it, equipping them with the skills to enjoy, succeed and have choices in their adult lives. We empower every child to reach their potential.

Visit our school

We would be delighted to show you around our amazing school. To book a visit, call the school office on 0208 303 6300, or send an email to admin@sherwood.bexley.sch.uk.

School day: settling in

School hours

- Gates open 8.30am, with school starting at 8.45pm.
- School finishes at 3.15pm.

Wraparound clubs

Breakfast Club

We offer a daily Breakfast Club for children, which runs from 7.30 am to 8.30 am in our large activity room. We believe that it is important for children to have a good start to their day and we provide a nutritious meal in a stimulating, fun and safe environment. A fee is charged. For more details contact the school office.

After School Club

We run an after school club starting at the end of the school day. Children are offered a snack and a drink and can take part in a range of activities. From Monday to Thursday parents can pick up their children at either 4.30 pm or 5.45 pm. On Fridays, all children have to be collected by 4.30 pm. A fee is charged. For more details contact the school office.

Uniform

Our uniform has been selected with the needs of both the children and parents in mind. Children wear a green Sherwood Park sweatshirt or cardigan, a white polo shirt, grey trousers, shorts, skirt or pinafore dress, grey or white socks and black shoes, without any logos. Year 6 wear a grey varsity jacket. In the Summer term children can wear a green gingham dress or grey shorts.

Please make sure that every piece of uniform is named with a permanent pen or label. Garments can be bought from any shops selling school uniform items. Sweatshirts and other items of clothing that carry the school logo can be bought from Caseys Schoolwear on Blackfen Road in Sidcup.

School meals and snacks

Children have the choice of either a school meal or packed lunch at lunchtimes. Pabulum is the school caterer and our school meals are made on site at Blackfen Girls School and delivered to us.

Free school meals

Your child will be entitled to a free school meal while in Reception, Year 1 and Year 2 under the Government's universal free school meals scheme. Children in Year 3 and above are entitled to a free school meal if their family is receiving government financial support.

Packed lunch from home

Children from Reception up to Year 6 may bring a healthy packed lunch to school with them. This should include a non-fizzy drink, preferably water, sandwiches, or a wrap or similar item, a piece of fruit and a yoghurt. The lunch box can contain one treat, such as a biscuit bar or cereal bar, but no chocolate.

As we have a number of children with nut allergies in our school, we ask that lunch boxes do not contain chocolate spread or peanut spread. We also ask that you do not send biscuit bars or cereal bars that contain nuts.

Break-time and drinks

Children can bring their own water bottle to school to drink from during the day. At morning break, children in KS1 are offered a piece of fruit. Milk is free for children up to the age of five. Parents who wish their children to continue to have milk can sign up to the Milk Scheme.

Inspiring and creative curriculum: foundation for success

Music

A love of music

Our music curriculum aims to engage and inspire pupils to develop a love of music and fulfil their own talent as musicians, increasing their self-confidence, creativity and sense of achievement. We provide all children with opportunities to create, play, perform and enjoy music.

Singing

Singing is valued at Sherwood Park Primary School and practiced in lessons, singing assemblies and choir practice.

By the end of Key Stage 1

We aim for pupils to be able to sing expressively and creatively, play instruments musically, concentrate while listening to music and create original music.

By the end of Key Stage 2

Pupils should be able to play and perform individually and as part of a group, improvise and compose music, use and understand a variety of musical notations, listen and appreciate a range of music and develop an understanding of the history of music.

Music Mark School

Sherwood Park Primary School has become a Music Mark School in recognition of our commitment to provide high quality music provision and because of the value we place on music education as part of a broad and balanced curriculum.

Enriched curriculum: Learning for Life together

At Sherwood Park Primary School, we offer pupils a rich and varied curriculum, which serves the needs of our children and community. Our intention is for every child at Sherwood Park Primary School to develop an enquiring mind about the world and their place in it through knowledge, experience, skills and understanding.

EYFS

In the EYFS at Sherwood Park, the curriculum is designed to provide first-hand, meaningful, learning experiences, allowing the children to build confidence, resilience and independence while recognising their different starting points. Every child is recognised as a unique individual and we celebrate and welcome differences within our school community. We provide engaging learning opportunities and believe that the first experiences of school should be happy and positive, enabling us to develop children who are excited learners with enquiring minds. We plan our fantastic indoor and outdoor environments with a balance of child-initiated and adult-led learning using continuous play and small group activities. Our enabling, learning environments and warm, skilful adult interactions support the children as they begin to link learning to their play and exploration right from the start.

By the end of the Reception year our intent is to ensure that all children make at least good progress from their starting points and are equipped with the skills and knowledge to have a smooth transition into Year 1 and the KS1 curriculum.

Key Stage 1 and 2

Sherwood Park's curriculum has been designed to take account of the statutory requirements of the Early Years Foundation Stage Curriculum and the Primary National Curriculum. The full range of core and foundation subjects have been carefully mapped out across the school in clear progression frameworks, so that knowledge, understanding, skills and concepts build over time.

Our curriculum is broad, balanced and ambitious for all. Curriculum themes are driven by 'big questions' which the children explore through exciting, relevant and meaningful learning experiences that respond to the individual needs of the children. This enquiry driven curriculum allows children to shine academically and flourish socially, emotionally, morally and culturally.

Sport and PE

From Year 1 to Year 6, pupils participate in two hours of PE every week. The aim is to give pupils the opportunity to take part in safe physical activity to improve their health and fitness, develop an understanding of competing and encourage them to continue to be involved in sport throughout their lives.

During the school day pupils are involved in the following activities:

- PE.
- Forest School sessions.
- Daily Mile.
- Swimming.
- Lunchtime clubs involving multi-sport.
- Access to our Key Stage 1 and 2 trim trails.
- Outdoor fitness gym.
- House sport competition.

After school, pupils have the opportunity to be involved in the following sessions:

- Football.
- Netball.
- Hockey.
- Rugby.
- Bexley Schools Sports Competitions.

Our aim for Physical Education and Sport at Sherwood Park Primary is for all pupils to be happy and healthy and enjoy physical activity. We believe that PE and Sport enhances academic learning and leads to healthier and happier children. Through engaging in Sport children will develop their resilience and confidence.



Enriched curriculum: trips and visitors, PE and clubs

Trips and visitors

We often invite visitors into school and take the children out on field trips, to enhance their learning and give them access to resources and places not available in school.

Examples of trips include:

- Year 4 and Year 6 trips for sports activities.
- Visiting Hall Place in Bexley to add value to history topics.
- Visiting Danson Park for water sports.
- Attending music concerts in Bexley and London.

Examples of visitors to the school include:

- Visits from The Science Dome so that the children can become immersed in topics such as dinosaurs, volcanoes or the stars.
- Visits from theatre groups who perform pantomimes and plays and engage children in drama activities.
- Workshops to teach children to become sports leaders.

Outdoor Learning and Residential Trips

We are committed to providing a further enrichment of the curriculum through our outdoor learning and residential activities.

Our current residential trips involve Year 4 attending Sayers Croft and Year 6 attending Norfolk Lakes. Through these experiences, children learn to participate more and enhance skills such as confidence and resilience. Residential trips lead to improved engagement and confidence in learning.

Additionally, all children have the opportunity to attend Forest School and learn to understand how we grow and harvest food from the school garden.

Clubs

Pupils have the opportunity to attend a wide range of lunchtime and after school clubs, including the following activities:

- ICT.
- Mindfulness.
- Clarinet.
- Board games.
- Bananagrams.
- Gymnastics.
- Hockey.
- Dance.
- Irish dancing.
- Choir.
- Special Branch
- Multi-sport.
- Gardening.
- Recorders.
- Chill and Chat.
- Lego.
- Football.
- Netball.
- Drama.
- Orchestra.
- Instrumental lessons.





Dear Parent / Carer

I am writing on behalf of the Sherwood Park Governing Body to say 'Hello' to Sherwood Park Primary Academy.

Whether you are new to the school or have been part of our community in the past, you are very welcome.

During your visit we hope that you will find out about our school and have the opportunity to ask lots of questions. The Headteacher and staff at Sherwood Park really do value any points that are made. They use your experiences of the school and the questions that you ask to ensure that those things that make the school such a happy and successful place continue and that further improvements are made.

We are a very 'hands on' governing body and like to visit regularly. It is always a pleasure to spend time with the children, looking at how they work and play, so that we can fulfil our role of checking and challenging the work that staff do.

A Sherwood Park child is a happy child, inquisitive and curious about the world around them. Their learning is active and engaging and they do all they can to support one another and the wider school community.

We see our role with the school as a privilege and a pleasure and hope to have many opportunities to meet with you if you choose to join our community.

With very best wishes

Natalie Willbourn
Chair of Governors

Inclusion: a curriculum for all

Inclusion

Inclusion is at the heart of everything we do, and we ensure that every pupil has access to a broad, balanced curriculum delivered through high quality teaching, which meets individual needs and abilities. We are passionate about every child reaching their full potential at every stage of their learning.

Special educational needs

We are an inclusive school with a limited number of specialist places for children diagnosed with ASD with an Educational Health and Care Plan. Our SENCO, Miss Lauren Irwin, says: "We aim to identify barriers to learning as early as possible so that we can provide evidence-based interventions to support and overcome additional needs. Where necessary, external agencies provide us with further strategies to allow our children to make progress towards their desired learning and

developmental outcomes. Successful inclusive provision at Sherwood Park Primary School is seen as the responsibility of the whole school community, permeating all aspects of school life and applicable to all our children."

Sherwood Park will:

- Make reasonable adjustments for those with SEND to increase access to the curriculum.
- Ensure children with SEND are included and are valued members of their mainstream class.
- Reduce barriers to learning.
- Seek to secure special educational provision for pupils who require it.
- Listen to and work with parents, carers and pupils.
- Ensure there is a high level of training to enable staff to target children's needs.

- Support children with medical conditions to achieve full inclusion in all school activities.
- Work in partnership with external agencies to ensure a multi-professional approach to meeting the needs of vulnerable learners.

UNICEF Rights Respecting School Award

Sherwood Park Primary has signed up to become a UNICEF UK 'Rights Respecting School'. Sherwood Park strives to be a school where children's rights are at the heart of our culture and ethos. We want to improve our children's emotional well-being and develop every child's talents and abilities so that they can reach their full potential. As part of this work we are working towards recognition as a Silver 'Rights Respecting School', an award given to schools on behalf of UNICEF UK.

Admissions and getting involved

Admissions arrangements

Sherwood Park Primary School obtained Academy status in 2014 and therefore the Governing Body is the school's admissions authority. The London Borough of Bexley admissions team process admissions. The school's admissions policy is on the Sherwood Park Primary School website under Key Information.

We strongly recommend that parents arrange a visit to our school before completing their application form to make sure it is the right choice for their child. Regular tours will take place on Tuesday mornings. Please telephone the school office on 0208 3036 300 to book a place on a tour.

Nursery

We have a lovely 26 place Nursery class and accept applications through Bexley admissions. Please contact the school office to arrange a tour of our Nursery and have a chat with our Headteacher and EYFS lead.

Transfer during the academic year

If you need to apply for a place for your child after the start of the academic year, contact Bexley School Admissions team who will be able to advise you on available places. If there are places available in the relevant year group, contact the school office to arrange a visit to the school. Office staff will be able to advise you on the application process.

Getting involved

Voluntary helpers

Please speak to the school office for more information about volunteering to help with activities at Sherwood Park Primary School.

Friends of Sherwood Park

Join Friends of Sherwood Park Primary where parents, carers and the school are working together to plan and organise fun events to raise funds for the school.

Governing Body

Governors work closely with the Headteacher and Senior Leadership Team to support the ongoing development and improvement of the school. They analyse pupil performance data, review policies and visit the school to see teaching and learning in action. Governors act as a 'critical friend' offering advice and challenging where necessary. Becoming a governor is a serious commitment but can be extremely rewarding.

To contact the governors, address your email to the Chair of Governors via the school email address: admin@sherwood.bexley.sch.uk.

Our Values, Ethos and Vision

At Sherwood Park Primary School, we develop and promote British Values, such as: The Rule of Law, Democracy, Individual Liberty, Mutual Respect and Tolerance for those of different faiths and beliefs. Our children will develop:

- An understanding of how citizens can influence decision-making through the democratic process.
- An understanding that the freedom to hold other faiths and beliefs is protected in law.
- An acceptance that people having different faiths and beliefs to oneself (or having none) should be accepted and tolerated and should not be the cause of discriminatory behaviour.
- An understanding of the importance of identifying and combating discrimination.

Our motto, 'Learning for Life Together', underpins our commitment to working in partnership with children, parents and governors to ensure the very best outcomes for every child.

It is our responsibility to support every young person to reach his or her potential, regardless of background. This is underpinned by three goals:

1. Safety and wellbeing.
2. Educational excellence everywhere.
3. Preparation for secondary transition and the journey into adult life.

At Sherwood Park Primary School, we promote the following values:

Courage

Happiness

Resilience

Honesty

Safety

Excellence

Partnership

Understanding

Responsibility

Respect



Sherwood Park Primary School

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