

Watton at Stone Primary and Nursery School



Being respectful • Being resilient • Being reflective • Having pride
Being Independent • Showing curiosity • Having high aspirations
Being creative • Showing empathy and kindness • Taking risks



Welcome to Watton at Stone Primary and Nursery School



Nikki Etienne, Headteacher, says...

Welcome to Watton at Stone Primary School
As a school, we are committed to providing the very, very best learning opportunities for your child in a safe, secure and friendly environment.

Opportunities

All pupils at Watton at Stone will have the opportunity to:

- learn to speak a language
- learn to play an instrument
- learn to swim
- ...and to visit many places of interest.

Preparation for modern life

Preparing pupils for life in Modern Britain and the demands of the 21st Century is a key focus. This means that we have a strong emphasis on using technology as a learning tool. We have subscribed to a fantastic resource called Purple Mash and have invested in our IT equipment and devices so that the children from pre-school to Year 6 have more opportunities to use these across the curriculum.

Online safety

In order to prepare the children at Watton for the world outside of the education setting, we also place much importance on educating the children around diversity and online safety.

High expectations

There is no limit on how well all pupils can achieve. We have the highest expectations for all of our children expect them to aim high and to achieve their full potential. I feel it is important that pupils at Watton at Stone achieve academically as well as developing their personal and social skills, both in and out of school.

Nurture Support

At Watton at Stone Primary we want everyone involved with our school to feel well supported. We believe that good pastoral support focuses on nurturing the individual needs of each child. We aim to build trusting and empathic relationships with all our pupils and their families. All our staff model to students how to look after themselves and others; encouraging them to seek help, support or advice whenever they need it.

Awards

We are currently working towards the PSQM (Primary Science Quality Mark) award. PSQM enables confident, knowledgeable, reflective leadership which results in an improvement in the way in which science is strategically planned and taught across the whole school.

We are also working towards the Herts EYQS (Early Years Quality Standard) award. This is a research and development project which ‘makes a difference’ to outcomes for children. The EYQS scheme provides thought provoking challenge, brings fresh perspectives and promotes continuous quality improvement in line with current practice.

Get in touch

If you would like to arrange a visit to our school, please contact the main office on 01920 830233 or email admin@wattonatstone.herts.sch.uk.

School day: *settling in*



School hours

- Nursery am is 08:45am - 11:45am
- Nursery pm is 12:45pm - 3:15pm
- Preschool am is 08:45am - 11:45am
- Preschool pm is 12:30pm - 3:30pm
- School starts at 8:50am and ends at 3:15pm

Attendance and Punctuality

Regular attendance at school is one of the most important factors which will affect a child’s success. Any absence from school will interrupt a child’s learning, and repeated or extended absence also affects the child’s social development. The school’s and Government’s expectation is that the average attendance of all pupils should be at least 95%, which means less than 10 days absent throughout the year. The school must be notified if a child is going to be off ill. The current law does not give any entitlement to parents to take their child on holiday during term time. Any application for leave must be in exceptional circumstances and the Headteacher will check this. Our attendance policy can be found on the school website.



Wraparound care

Breakfast Club

Breakfast Club is available from 7.45am – 8.50am Monday to Friday for children from Reception to Year 6. Children are offered a wide choice of breakfast options including a range of cereals and toasted products such as bagels, crumpets and toast, and every day there is a selection of board games, puzzles, construction toys and colouring for the children to enjoy until the school day starts.

After School Club

After School Club is available from 3.15pm – 5.45pm Monday to Friday for children from Reception to Year 6. Children eat a healthy snack which typically includes a choice of rice cakes, crackers, breadsticks, fruit and yoghurt. At After School Club children can choose from a range of games and activities indoors, and also enjoy lots of time outside playing football and tennis, using the trim trail and playing team games like 40-40 home. We also regularly offer special activities such as bracelet making, biscuit decorating and movie afternoons.

Holiday Club

We work alongside external companies to provide holiday club provision throughout the year. We consult with parents to ensure that there is enough interest in order for the clubs to operate.

Uniform

We have a compulsory school uniform:

- Green jumpers or cardigans (preferably with school logo)
- White shirts or blouses
- Grey trousers, skirts or pinafores
- Black school shoes

All garments should be clearly marked with your child’s name.

Food in school

School meals are provided by Herts Catering Limited, who supply us with high quality, healthy and nutritious food, with an emphasis on local produce and seasonal ingredients. Children have a range of options to choose from, including a vegetarian offer. There is always a salad bar, jacket potatoes with various fillings, and fruit and vegetables. We operate a ‘mix and match’ system, where children can opt for a meal containing their favourite foods. Parents can check their child’s choices through our online ordering system.

Packed lunches

Children may prefer to bring a packed lunch from home. In accordance with our healthy eating policy, we do not allow fizzy drinks, sweets or chocolate in lunch boxes, and we are a strictly nut free school, due to allergies. Alternatively, we can provide a packed lunch from our kitchen on request.

All children sit and eat together, regardless of whether they are having a school meal or a packed lunch.

Drinks and snacks

Children in Key Stage 1 receive a piece of fruit and a drink of milk at breaktime. Water is available to all children throughout the day.

Free school meals

Children in Reception Class, Year 1 and Year 2 are entitled to receive a free school meal under the Universal Free School Meal entitlement.



Curriculum: becoming skilled readers, confident writers, mathematicians, scientists, historians, geographers, musicians, artists, linguists, athletes, computer scientists, designers and technologists

Our school recognises the rights and needs of every child and therefore aims to ensure the highest quality of education and equality of opportunity for each of its pupils. All aspects of the National Curriculum are taught, with much of our work stemming from first hand, practical experiences. Our curriculum is lively and interesting. Interactive teaching methods are used and the use of computing is integrated throughout the curriculum.

No limits

If you DREAM you can do it

We want our children to have no limits to what their ambitions are and want them to embody our core values. We all believe that: “If you can DREAM it, you can do it”. Our curriculum is carefully crafted so that our children develop their academic, social and cultural capital.

A love for learning

Our curriculum promotes curiosity and a love and thirst for learning. It is ambitious and empowers our children to become independent and resilient. We strive for academic excellence and want our children to have high aspirations.

Unforgettable opportunities and experiences

We encourage our children to celebrate success and build on disappointment in order to develop resilience. We want to equip them with not only the minimum statutory requirements of the National Curriculum but to prepare them for the opportunities, responsibilities and experiences of later life.

Respecting and understanding all cultures

We want our children to learn from other cultures, respect diversity, co-operate with one another and appreciate what they have. We achieve this by providing a strong SMSC curriculum, with British Values and our core values placed at the heart of everything we do. We enrich their time in our school with memorable, unforgettable experiences and provide opportunities which are normally out of reach.

Positive learning behaviours

Our school learning behaviours are evident in all that we do at Watton; children are taught about the elements of each learning behaviour and begin to understand the importance that we place on each. Assemblies are used to introduce and explore these in greater depth. By emphasising the importance of these, we aim to embed these learning behaviours within our curriculum, our staff and our pupils.

Early Years

Our Early Years provision is an integral part of our school and builds the foundations for children’s education. We work closely with parents and children to build nurturing environments which enable children to grow socially, emotionally, physically and academically. Children explore the seven areas of learning set out in the Early Years Foundation Stage framework and have the opportunity to flourish in their own way. Our stimulating classrooms encourage independence and the opportunity for children to achieve the ambitions we have created for them at Watton through our bespoke curriculum.



Enriched curriculum: trips, visitors, clubs, music and outdoor learning

Trips

Throughout the year, we organise different visits off site to further enhance our curriculum. Recent trips have included:

- Harvest Festival visit to Church.
- 4 Residential trip to Hudnell Park.
- 6 Residential trip to PGL.
- Choir singing to local residents at Christmas.
- Puppet Theatre trip for children in Rec and KS1.
- Year 3 Development afternoon at Wodson. The children took part in cross curricular orienteering, skipping challenge, Games skills and ABC (ability, balance and coordination).
- Year 6 Tag Rugby Festival.

Visitors

Throughout the school year, we are fortunate to have various visitors to help bring our curriculum to life, including visits from:

- Saltmine theatre company (RE focus).
- Visits from inspirational speakers.
- The Fire Service.
- Theatre company visits.
- Visiting Farm.
- Assemblies led by local Church leaders.



Clubs

Children have the opportunity to take part in a wide range of activities during the mid-day break and after school. These are run voluntarily by staff and may vary each year dependent on the expertise available. Clubs typically include:

- Colouring.
- Football run by Stevenage Borough FC.
- Butterfly Club to support children who need some additional nurture time.
- Lego.
- Eco.
- Digital leaders.
- Drama.
- Tech.
- Quiddich.
- Athletics.
- Choir.
- Nature.
- Cooking.
- Story and craft.
- Science.

Music

In recent years, we have enhanced our music provision so that all children have the chance to learn a musical instrument and the basics of composition. We have a school choir which performs at community events. These are enjoyed by all the children, not only those with a special talent. We also offer one to one tuition for guitar and drumming.

Outdoor learning

We are extremely lucky to have a great outdoor learning facility on our school site. We have developed our curriculum to include as much outdoor learning as possible. The outdoor classroom enables us to keep learning outside whatever the weather too! All class teachers aim to teach 2 - 3 lessons per week outdoors as well as weekly P.E. lessons too.

When visiting the school, you might see children on a minibeast hunt, doing cross curriculum orienteering or many other exciting outdoor activities.

Forest school: a unique educational experience

Forest School is a unique educational experience and process that offers children the opportunity to succeed and develop confidence and self-esteem through hands-on learning experiences in a woodland environment. Children will work with tools, light fires, play, explore, challenge and learn boundaries of behaviour; both physical and social. They will grow in confidence, self-esteem and motivation whilst developing an understanding of the natural world.



Wellbeing

We believe that children’s wellbeing is core to our work and a happy and healthy child will achieve more. We are committed to teaching our children about both physical health and mental wellbeing. Through this we aim to give pupils the tools needed to make good decisions about their own health and mental wellbeing. We consider physical health and mental wellbeing to be interlinked and look to equip our children to understand that both are of equal importance and go hand in hand. When teaching the children about their health and wellbeing, we will cover (at an age appropriate level):

- Mental Wellbeing.
- Internet Safety.
- Physical Health and Fitness.
- Healthy Eating.
- Drugs, Alcohol and Tobacco.
- Health and Prevention.
- Physical Changes.

Our P.E. and Sport Vision

At Watton School we place a high value on P.E. and sport to help our pupils achieve their full potential, from inspiring the more tentative to actively participate in P.E. and clubs, to encouraging competitive sports for the more able. We promote a long-term healthy lifestyle through a broad and balanced curriculum with an aim to raise enjoyment, attainment and make physical activity a staple part of the pupils’ daily routine.

Our P.E. and sport provision aspires to build self-esteem, teamwork, leadership skills and a desire to be the best that they can be.

Competition

Every year, each year group attends a sporting competition, in association with Herts and Ware Sports Association. These events involve every child, whatever their ability, and do not focus on just the most talented. We believe in inclusivity and arrange specific events for children with special educational needs or disabilities.

The Daily Mile

The Daily Mile is a simple but ground-breaking initiative, encouraging primary schools and nurseries to take children outside running for 15 minutes each day. The aim of The Daily Mile is to improve the physical, emotional, social health and wellbeing of children, regardless of age or personal circumstances, to create healthy habits for life.



Special Educational Needs

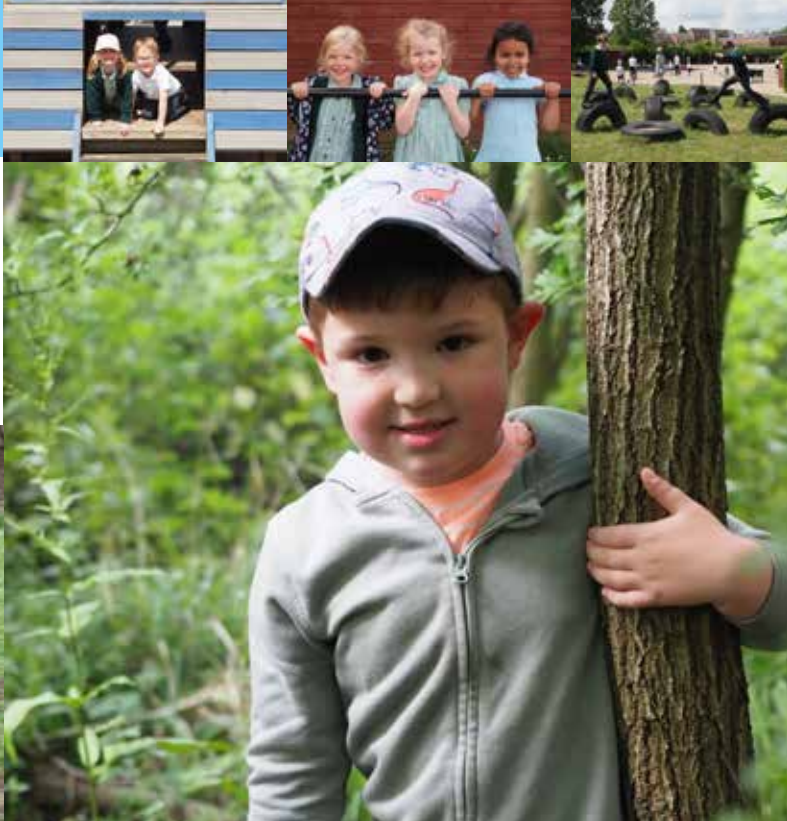
At Watton at Stone, our SEND policy is implemented consistently by all staff. We identify barriers to learning as early as possible and provide appropriately to meet a diversity of needs. We make sure that all pupils have access to a broad and balanced curriculum that is appropriately adapted, and recognise, value and celebrate pupil achievement in all areas.

We work in partnership with parents/carers in supporting their child’s education, and with outside agencies to ensure information is shared promptly and effectively. Importantly, we take into account the feelings and opinions of children with SEND when planning all learning opportunities.

Full details of our SEND provision can be found on our website.

The more able child

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



Admissions and getting involved

Applications

To gain a place you will need to apply through the Hertfordshire admission process. You will need to apply for both Nursery and Reception places, Nursery admission does not guarantee a place in Reception class. Hertfordshire tries to make applying for a school place as easy as possible for parents and carers. It has a dedicated web page to help families through the application process, www.hertfordshire.gov.uk/school. Or email: hertsdirect@hertscc.gov.uk

Please be aware that Watton at Stone Primary and Nursery School do not offer split provision for those children who also attend a Day Nursery. (We do not offer part-week applications).

Friends of Watton School

The Friends of Watton assist the school to deliver the best education for its children by running events that raise money to support curriculum activities and purchase items which would not be available through the school's annual budget. The success of all fundraising events depends entirely on the support of parents, staff and the community. The committee is run by parents of children in the school. The Friends of Watton have contributed towards many facilities that make our school special.

Governors

Governors have an important role which is to ensure high standards of achievement for all children and young people in the school. If you would like to become a governor, please ask about vacancies at the school office.



**If you can
DREAM it,
you can do it**



Watton-at-Stone Primary School

Rectory Lane, Watton-At-Stone, Hertfordshire, SG14 3SG

Tel: 01920 830233

Email: admin@wattonatstone.herts.sch.uk

Website: www.wattonatstone.herts.sch.uk

Ofsted say: "Pupils are taught to respect and treat each other equally. They are well prepared for life in modern Britain."

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