



Field Lane Primary School

Learn, Enjoy, Achieve



Welcome to Field Lane Primary School

Foreword: Vanessa Dear, Headteacher says...

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

Igniting an interest in the world

Our teaching is stimulating, vibrant and creative, and encourages our children to continue their education outside of school, and become lifelong learners. 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 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, 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! As you will see, by reading the many parent and pupil stories within this prospectus, 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 increase your child's enjoyment of learning.

Get in touch

We are very proud of our school and aim to give all children a full and rounded education, helping them to fulfil their potential. You are very welcome to come and look at our fantastic school and all that we offer. To arrange a visit please contact admin@fieldlane.calderdale.sch.uk or phone 01484 713792.



Brighter Futures Academy Trust

We are a member of Brighter Futures Academy Trust, an approved DfE Academy sponsor based in Calderdale, West Yorkshire. We are no ordinary family of schools. We have a real drive and belief that our children, and our schools, are outstanding. The vision of Brighter Futures Academy Trust is to achieve excellence in education by establishing a growing family of academies and schools that share core values, principles and aims... and where every child succeeds!



School day



The school gates open for the start of the school day at 8.30am with registration at 8.50am. School finishes at 3.00pm Monday to Thursday and at 3.25pm on a Friday, after our Awards Assembly to which parents are invited.

Wraparound clubs

We have a Breakfast Club which runs from 7.50am until 8.50am each morning. This facility provides a really good start to the day for those parents who have difficulty in balancing home and work arrangements.

Big Family Breakfast

Once a term we have 'The Big Family Breakfast.' Parents are invited to attend with children and bacon butties, sausage sandwiches and a range of vegetarian options are available.

Uniform

We expect to see all children in a school uniform. This ensures the children look smart, which in turn, encourages them to take pride in their school and approach learning in the right frame of mind. A school uniform helps promote a sense of belonging and community.

School meals and snacks

Children may have a packed lunch or a school meal prepared and delivered by an external provider. A salad bar, sandwiches, jacket potatoes and a vegetarian choice are offered alongside a range of hot meals.

Free school meals

Free school meals are available for children up to, and including, Key Stage 1, and to those older children whose parents are in receipt of income support.

Break-time and drinks

Under the Fruit in School scheme Key Stage 1 children are entitled to a piece of fruit each day free of charge. This is given as a playtime snack. Water is available throughout the day. Children are encouraged to bring in to school a named water bottle and we provide a healthy tuck shop.



Candice believes Field Lane Primary School is providing her children with a really strong start

Candice and Quentin Whitaker live in Brighouse with their three children, Serenity, five, in Reception, Imani, six, in Year 1 and Liliana, seven, in Year 3.

Fabulous

Candice and Quentin chose Field Lane Primary School for their girls after they recently moved to the area. "When we looked at the schools available locally, Field Lane looked fabulous! We could see straight away what a stimulating environment the school provides for the children."

Exciting and relevant learning

"We can see how excited our children are about their lessons. One of the key strengths of the school is its ability to stimulate the children and to get them interested and excited by their learning. My children are already undertaking autonomous learning and will come home and discuss something they've learned and go on to explore it further."

Innovative and proactive

Candice adds: "I think the school uses quite novel ways of presenting their lessons; the teachers and support staff take a proactive approach to finding new ways to teach the children, which really appeals to them.

"Field Lane also use a variety of relevant and well-thought out trips to extend the curriculum and enhance learning experiences. My girls really enjoy these and will come back thrilled about the day they've had. There are also various visits into school to support the curriculum further."

Considerate, compassionate and caring children

Aside from the excellent teaching, Candice also believes the teaching team are doing a brilliant job of developing her children's

social and emotional skills. "My girls have become much more considerate during their time at Field Lane; I think this has a lot to do with how good the teachers are at building the children's social and emotional skills through play. The children at Field Lane are very compassionate and caring. Their critical engagement and ability to consider things from the perspective of others is very good. I think the teachers are genuinely very good at encouraging and promoting inclusivity."

Working together

The school uses the carousel method within some of their group work and Candice feels this really helps to develop the children's critical thinking and ability to understand the perspective of others.

"I think it's a very useful technique which involves the children having the opportunity to participate in small group work with children of different ages. It's fantastic; my eldest gets so excited about mixing with the other children. I like it because the older ones will aid the younger ones and potentially accelerate their learning, and it helps the older ones to think about the topic at a deeper level, as they may have to explain it to a younger person. It's a great way of bringing peers together."

Children say:

Serenity says: "I really like the outdoor play area for nursery and reception."

Imani says: "I really enjoy doing lots of cool learning at school!"

Liliana says: "My favourite day is Tuesday as I have my clarinet lesson. It is really cool to be able to learn a musical instrument, because it is important to learn many different things!"

Curriculum: Learn, Enjoy, Achieve



Ready for the 21st century

We believe that all children have the entitlement to a broad, balanced, creative and coherent curriculum which should prepare them for the opportunities and challenges of the 21st Century. In order for children to learn to think for themselves the curriculum should be enquiry based. It is important that children are responsible for their own learning, enabling them to plan and show initiative, persevere and have a commitment to self-improvement.

We use the International Primary Curriculum from Year 1 to Year 6 to teach subjects including art, science, geography, history and technology. It is a topic based approach and each class follows a theme for a number of weeks.

Nursery

We use a play based approach to deliver the Early Years Foundation Statutory Framework. The Early Years Foundation Stage supports an integrated approach to early learning and care and sets standards for the learning, development and care of children from birth to 5 years old.

Reception

We use a play based approach to deliver the Early Years curriculum which focuses on seven areas of learning. Our pupils use the indoor classroom and outdoor areas choosing from a range of activities throughout sessions. Reading, writing and maths are taught using a structured approach with whole class and small group adult led activities.

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.



Moving schools can be a risk, but Kimberley believes that moving to Field Lane Primary School was a risk worth taking

Kimberley and Nick Black live in Rastrick with their daughter, Summer, five in Reception.

Kimberley and Nick felt their initial choice of school wasn't proving to be quite the right school for Summer. "Once we'd made the decision to move Summer, we looked at Field Lane and I knew straight away it was the right school for her. The Headteacher made me feel very comfortable and explained everything that they did in the school and I just knew that Summer would be happy and comfortable and feel encouraged."

Caring and understanding

Kimberley was very pleased with the way the school handled the transition. "The school was very good at understanding how Summer might feel moving to a new school. I was allowed to stay with her for a period of time before leaving her on her own. It was very gradual and I think it worked well for both of us. I think it provided both Summer and I with a good sense of reassurance and helped her to feel secure in the new school environment."

Excellent progress

Since moving across to Field Lane Primary School, her delighted parents have been impressed with Summer's progression. "Her reading has come on so well. She's a bright girl and I think she needed the individual focus that Field Lane is able to provide. She's moved up four reading levels since starting, which we are so impressed with. I think the smaller class sizes mean Summer is receiving the attention she needs and is being pushed appropriately. Importantly she is being encouraged, which she definitely needed."

Strong relationships

Kimberley adds: "The Field Lane environment really seems to suit Summer; she's very content and we can see a number of positive developments which we feel are thanks to

the relationships she has with the teachers. The teachers obviously enjoy their job and spend time getting to know all of the children across the school. At a larger school, I think it would be much more difficult for the teachers to develop such strong relationships with each one."

Rewarding hard work and achievements

Kimberley feels the relationships are also strengthened by the excellent reward systems in place at Field Lane. "I really like how the children are encouraged and motivated by the teachers. Summer has really enjoyed receiving the pin badges they award for hard work, progression and achievements big and small. They have a great scheme in place to encourage reading where children receive bronze, silver and gold badges based on the number of books they have read. It's gone down really well with Summer."

A school where children can thrive

Kimberley would encourage parents to visit Field Lane Primary School to see everything it has to offer. "Field Lane Primary School is a warm, welcoming school and only by visiting will you fully appreciate exactly what it can offer your child."

"As soon as I walked into the school and met the wonderful Headteacher and teaching staff I became instantly aware of its friendly and comfortable atmosphere. I instantly knew that Summer would thrive at this school and be very happy. It's a great school!"

Children say:

Summer says: "I really enjoy the outdoor play area for my class."

Enriched curriculum: trips and visits



Trips

To further enrich our curriculum, all children are offered a range of visits which are connected with work in the classroom. We make visits locally and further afield and invite visitors into school from the wider community. Parents are encouraged to accompany us on these trips and all children should take part in them. Previous trips have included:

- Farms
- Lytham St Annes coastal trip
- Square Chapel, Halifax
- Countryside Life Show
- Yorkshire Wildlife Show.

Holidays and visitors

Older children have the opportunity to go on a residential trip during the school year. These experiences can help to develop qualities of self-reliance and tolerance of others. Children learn independence and develop confidence. Additionally, we arrange visits to the school by theatre groups and those with professional expertise such as singers, artists and musicians.



Suzanne believes parents' opinions are valued at Field Lane Primary School and she welcomes the opportunities available for parental involvement

Suzanne Kerry lives in Lightcliffe with her three children, Chloe, 14, Thomas, 9, in Year 4 and Ben, 8, in Year 3.

The obvious choice

When it came to choosing a primary school, Suzanne had a long connection with Field Lane Primary School through friends, family and work, so it seemed the obvious choice for her family. "Everybody at the school, from the bottom to the top is very friendly."

Fun and interesting lessons

According to Suzanne, when her boys arrive home from school, they are always enthusiastic about their day. "They really enjoy their time at Field Lane. There are many days they come home bursting to share something new that they have learned! "The school blog is a great asset for parents as it is updated regularly and it enables us to see exactly what the children have been doing in school with lots of lovely photos."

Parental involvement

Aside from the teaching, one of the key strengths of Field Lane Primary School for Suzanne is the opportunity for parental involvement. "The school is warm and friendly and they welcome support from parents," explains Suzanne. "I've enjoyed the opportunity to attend a range of different family sessions held out of school hours, including scarecrow making, gardening, bird watching and drum circle. The sessions are always fun and everyone enjoys them. "I also love attending the weekly praise assemblies and class assemblies as it's a great way for the children to show us how hard they have been working."

Working together

"There's often maths and literacy workshops for parents too, which I think are a really great idea. The way subjects are taught has changed so much since parents were at school, so these provide parents with a current understanding of the way children are taught so that we can help the children with their learning and support them further at home."

Listened to and Valued

'Time to Talk' is a monthly event organised by the Headteacher for parents. "It's a parent forum and an opportunity to raise any issues directly with the Headteacher. Parents are invited into school; they are updated on school news and asked for feedback and their opinion, as well as being provided with the opportunity to raise any concerns or ask questions.

"At many schools, you will hear parents grumbling in the playground but doing nothing about it, so this provides the Headteacher with an opportunity to get a good understanding of how parents feel and to be proactive with the opinions she hears. It helps parents to feel involved in the decision making process and I think it's a great way of showing parents that their opinion matters and is valued."

An active Parents, Teachers and Friends Association

As a member of the Parents, Teachers and Friends Association, Suzanne enjoys the opportunity to raise money for the school, which goes towards funding items to support and enhance the children's learning. "It's open to everyone to get involved and provides a really good way to meet other parents, participate with the school and to be able to give something back, both to the school and to the children." Suzanne adds: "Field Lane Primary School is a really good school which offers enthusiastic teaching from a friendly, caring team. The school is excellent at communicating with parents and will welcome and value your opinion and involvement."

Children say:

Ben says: "I really like playing on the school football team as we get to play against other schools and it's fun."

Thomas says: "My favourite subject at school is art because I get to be creative."

Inclusion: a curriculum for all



We value the abilities and achievements of all pupils and are committed to providing, for each pupil, the best possible environment for learning.

Special Educational Needs

We make every effort to achieve maximum inclusion of all pupils whilst meeting individual needs. We try to ensure that any special physical, emotional or intellectual needs are identified as early as possible. Children are assessed in a variety of ways when they join the school and can be supported individually or in small groups. If necessary, professional guidance is sought from other agencies such as Speech Therapy, School Health or an Educational Psychologist.

Parents are involved at every stage. 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

Our building is fully accessible and meets all existing requirements for children and adults with physical disabilities as laid down under the Disability Discrimination Act 1995.

Gifted and talented children

We ensure that children who have been recognised as gifted and talented are given opportunities to follow a curriculum that offers additional breadth, depth and acceleration to the normal curriculum in order to develop their talents.



Biji and Jomy believe all children are considered equal at Field Lane Primary School and quickly become part of the Field Lane family

Biji and Jomy George live in Elland with their children, Joshua, 10 in Year 5 and Joanna, four.

By far the best

Biji and Jomy chose Field Lane Primary School for their son after Biji and Joshua returned to the UK following a year in India. "Our local school was full and after researching other schools, we were impressed with Field Lane. Due to family circumstances we have had some house moves which have meant Joshua has been to four different schools during his primary education, but Field Lane is by far the best and the school at which he's been most happy."

Excellent at managing cultural diversity

Biji and Jomy believe the teachers at Field Lane have helped Joshua to settle quickly and to feel a real part of the school from the very beginning. "After a year in India, I was concerned he would find it difficult to settle into a new school, but he immediately loved it," explains Biji. "There's a very good relationship between Joshua and his teachers and he frequently comments how nice the teachers are. They are warm and friendly and are excellent at managing cultural diversity; he will often comment about how included he feels at Field Lane and this is not something he has always experienced at other schools. They are very good at ensuring children are not made to feel different in any way and that they feel completely comfortable in the school environment," explains Jomy.

Recognising individual strengths and needs

According to his delighted parents, Joshua is thriving at Field Lane. "He's very capable at maths and the teachers have been very good at identifying his talents in this area and ensuring he is stretched to reach his potential. Joshua is doing very well at school and, whilst his interest in maths was always positive, this has increased further because of the way they have been working with him and stretching him. We are very pleased with his progress," says Jomy.

Pleased and proud

Biji adds: "Teachers quickly recognised Joshua's talents in mathematics and chose him to represent the school at an inter-school maths competition. Joshua was thrilled to be selected to represent the school and it was a real boost to his confidence. I think he personally felt very proud and we were pleased that they were giving Joshua the opportunity to participate and to use his love of maths in a school competition. "We feel they have got to know Joshua really well in a very short space of time, which is wonderful; I think this has all contributed to him feeling so welcomed into the school and so settled."

The best school

Field Lane Primary School is not the closest school to the George family's house. Whilst they were waiting for a place at a closer school, they couldn't be happier with Field Lane and have decided it is the school where Joshua should complete his primary education. "We have been so impressed that we have no intention of moving Joshua to a school closer to home. We believe he is being very well looked after by the teachers and that Field Lane is the best school for him."

No hesitation

Biji adds: "We have no hesitation in recommending Field Lane Primary School to other parents. Every single child is considered equal, no matter what their differences. Each child is equally considered part of the Field Lane family."

Children say:

Joshua says: "I really like Field Lane Primary School because the teachers and the Headteacher are so friendly."

Clubs



There are a wide variety of lunchtime and afterschool clubs for children to enjoy. Recent examples include:

- Team Challenge
- Design and Crafts
- Choir
- Homework
- Sign language
- Cookery
- Play Rangers.

Music

In addition to our Choir Club, we offer a broad musical provision, including opportunities to play a variety of instruments such as violin, guitar and piano.

Sport

Our aim with PE and sport is to provide opportunities for physical learning for all pupils. We want all of our pupils to be happy and healthy and enjoy physical activity. As a school we strive to provide new and varied physical activities for children before, during and after the school day. We believe that PE and sport enhances academic learning, and leads to healthier, happier and more productive lives.



Tiffany likes how Field Lane Primary School takes a holistic approach to education, ensuring children thrive as people

Tiffany Davis and Lee Ellis live in Brighouse with their children, Alfie, eight, in Year 3 and Sophia, two.

No looking back

When Tiffany and Lee moved to the area they initially chose a different school for Alfie; they quickly felt that that it was not the right school for Alfie and made the decision to move him to Field Lane Primary School. "We heard some very positive things about Field Lane, it's Headteacher and the great progress they have made with Ofsted outcomes. We decided to move Alfie at that point and we haven't looked back since!" explains Tiffany.

Tailored provision for additional needs

Alfie is on the autism spectrum and has hypermobility disorder, meaning he has a number of needs which are met through a tailored provision. "In terms of his school life, Alfie's main needs are social and physical. He has difficulty understanding the perspective of other children and appreciating how friendships work. He doesn't grasp playground banter and can sometimes misinterpret things."

Approachable and supportive teachers

Tiffany adds: "We've never felt like we can't approach the school and I feel we have good relations with his teacher and the teaching assistant for his class. His hypermobility disorder impacts on his ability to get changed for physical activity, which means he can need more time as well as preferring a quieter environment.

"We've spoken to teachers about allowing Alfie to come out of PE and swimming lessons a little earlier so he has the space and more time in a calmer environment to get changed. Noise can distract him and he has little strength and coordination in his fingers which impacts on his ability to manage things like buttons and shoes."

Team working

Academically, Tiffany feels Alfie is doing well at Field Lane Primary School. "He receives some additional support as he struggles with writing coherently and is being assessed for dysgraphia. His teachers are focusing on his number work and his writing to support him further in these areas.

Quick to respond and meet needs

The school works alongside us and the other agencies involved in Alfie's care very well. Alfie's Occupational Health Therapist recommended a writing slope, which we mentioned to the school. He was given one even before the formal recommendation arrived from his Occupational Health Therapist, which we were very impressed with. He also has an ergonomic pencil to help him with his writing. School has always strived to put in place whatever Alfie needs."

Seeing children as individuals

Tiffany feels the school staff know Alfie well, which enables them to specifically help in meeting his needs on any individual day. "They know Alfie's personality and have got to know his little traits. They will know when something is genuinely causing him a problem, in the same way we do at home, and they will do what they can to support him."

More schools should be like Field Lane

Tiffany adds: "Field Lane Primary School is a warm, welcoming school where the teachers aim to ensure pupils thrive both academically and as people. They place importance on fun and well-being, as well as in each child's individual ability to learn. I think more schools should be like Field Lane!"

Children say:

Alfie says: "I really enjoy Art at my school. It's lots of fun!"

Admissions



Typically we are pleased to offer 27 places in each year group throughout school. We welcome all prospective parents to visit the school and see what we can offer your child. We continually focus on improving the quality of education we provide at Field Lane Primary and we are very much focused on the needs and aspirations of each and every child attending our school.

Admission into Nursery

Children have access to 5 terms of Nursery provision and can be admitted at 3 stages during the school year (September, January and April).

Admission into Reception

Children are admitted into Reception in the September following their fourth birthday. You will need to register and apply for a place for your child.



Admission into other year groups

If you are considering Field Lane Primary School for your child, you may find it helpful to arrange an informal visit to the school. If you have any further questions or would like to arrange a visit to the school, please contact our school administrator on 01484 713792.

Applications

The Admissions Authority for Field Lane Primary School is Brighter Futures Academy Trust. Applications for admission into Nursery should be made directly with the school. Please contact the school administrator on 01484 713792. For all other year groups, Calderdale MBC co-ordinates the authority wide allocations in accordance with the School Admission Code.

Tel: Calderdale School Admissions Team 01422 392617

Email: cyps.admissions@calderdale.gov.uk

Web: <http://www.calderdale.gov.uk/education/schools/admissions/index.html>

Getting involved

Parents, Teachers and Friends Association (PTFA)

We have an active PTFA, which raises additional funds for the children. Every parent is automatically a member of Friends of Field Lane, the function of which is to develop closer links between the parents, teachers and local community and to provide financial support towards educational resources and equipment. The events that are organised vary from year to year.

Do you want to join the PTFA?

We welcome any ideas for fundraising and encourage parents and carers to share these with us. Information about meetings is shared with parents, and you can find more information on the school website. Please come and share your talents with our school!

Voluntary helpers

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 costume making for school plays, reading with our children, helping children to choose a library book, sewing, cooking, and acting as extra pairs of hands on educational visits. We accept all help gratefully. All volunteers must have a DBS check before they commence work in school.



Governors

We have a full and active Governing Body, which includes parent governors as well as representatives from staff, the local authority and the local community. The governing body has a range of duties and powers and a general responsibility for the conduct of the school with a view to promoting high standards of educational achievement including setting targets for pupil achievement, managing the school's finances, making sure the curriculum is balanced and broadly based, appointing staff and reviewing staff performance and pay. Vacancies for Parent Governors are advertised as they arise.

Do you want to be a Governor?

Our Parent Governors give parents a voice in decision making. They are elected by parents through a ballot. If you are interested in becoming a Governor, please contact the school office.

Mission statement

At Brighter Futures Academy Trust, we are committed to improving the life chances of all children. Where we have the capacity to make a difference, we are morally bound to do so. We believe every child deserves the best possible start in life – a world class education aimed at helping the children in Brighter Futures Academy Trust schools become successful learners, confident individuals and responsible citizens. Our mission is to help every young person in our schools to expand their horizons, and build the confidence, talents, interests, skills and qualifications to succeed as they make their way towards a fulfilling and prosperous adulthood. Members of the Trust strive together for excellence in partnership, so that our children, staff and communities benefit from excellent teaching, learning, leadership and opportunities.



Field Lane Primary School

Burnsall Road - Rastrick - Brighouse

West Yorks

HD6 3JT

Tel: 01484 713792

Email: admin@fieldlane.calderdale.sch.uk

Web: <http://www.fieldlaneprimary.org.uk>



Brighter Futures Academy Trust
Backhold Lane
Siddal
Halifax
HX3 9DL

Email: admin@brighterfuturesmat.org.uk
Telephone: 01422 354976

