



New Penshaw Academy

"Working together; ready for anything!"



Ofsted 2019: 'A good school'

Welcome to New Penshaw Academy



Foreword: Mrs S Johnson, Headteacher, says...

Welcome to New Penshaw Academy, where our goal is to inspire everyone to achieve their very best.

A small school with a big heart

New Penshaw Academy is a school where individuals are valued and encouraged to reach their full potential; we are a small school but have a great big heart! Every school has their own distinctive ‘feel’ which makes each one unique. We believe that the ‘special feel’ at New Penshaw comes from our caring, supportive and friendly environment, which I’d encourage you to come and visit to see for yourself. I’m convinced you’ll love it as much as we do!

Above all else New Penshaw is a happy school that we are all very proud of; our pupils are enthusiastic learners, demonstrate good behaviour and feel safe. Our children have high expectations of themselves and of every member of our school community

A rich, creative and exciting curriculum

At New Penshaw, children are supported in becoming confident and independent young people, who thrive on challenge, and are motivated to learn. Our curriculum is exciting, engaging and designed to ensure our pupils are ready for the next step in their journey to Secondary school. Like our school motto says: “Working together; ready for anything.”

Dedicated staff

I am very proud of our dedicated and skilled staff, who ensure that all our children are well supported to achieve their true potential. They aim to support all children to grow in

confidence and academic excellence, whilst nurturing their wellbeing and keeping them safe.

Parent partnership

Another very important part of our school is you, the parent. You and your child are very important to us and we champion the link between school and parents, working very hard to involve you in your child’s learning journey. The staff, as well as myself, are always on hand to discuss any comments or queries you may have.

Get in touch

Our prospectus is designed to give you an insight into our school’s culture and ethos, but this is just a start. We love to share our wonderful learning environment with others and would be so happy to organise a visit for you. Please get in touch with the school office to arrange one.

Academy day: settling in

School hours

We have a ‘soft start’ at New Penshaw, which means that the doors open each morning at 8.45am for all children and remain open for children to arrive up until 9am.

Early Years

- Morning Nursery: 8.45/9am - 12.00pm.
- Reception and full-time Nursery: 8.45/9am - 3.00pm.

Years 1-6

- 8.45/9am - 3.15pm.

Breakfast club

We provide breakfast club which runs daily from 8am. Children enjoy a choice of healthy breakfast options, such as toast, cereal and fruit, and have fun playing with their friends until they’re taken to their classes to begin their day of learning. This is priced at £2.25 a day, per child.

Uniform

A school uniform gives children a sense of belonging and of taking pride in their appearance. It also reminds them we are ready for work! Our uniform consists of grey or black trousers/skirt/pinafore/shorts, white collared school polo shirts and a purple school jumper or cardigan with our school logo. Black school shoes must be worn. Please see our school uniform policy for more information.

PE Kit

For PE, children should wear a white t-shirt with optional school logo, purple New Penshaw Academy shorts and suitable trainers. Children can come to school wearing PE kit on the day of their PE lessons.

All uniform items must be clearly labelled with your child’s name. Logoed items can be purchased from our uniform suppliers The School Outfit, which can be obtained from Little Gems at the Galleries.

School meals and snacks

New Penshaw Academy is passionate about helping children form healthy habits for life. This means lunchtime is a very important part of the school day. School meals are coordinated by Sunderland City Council and cooked and prepared on-site. All food served is fresh, healthy and balanced and designed to give children the energy and nutrition required for the school day. Meals cost £2.30 per day and payments can be made in advance on Sunderland City Council’s website or cash at the office.

All children are provided with toast for breakfast every morning, free of charge, to have in their classrooms before they start their day.

Packed lunches

If your child would prefer a packed lunch, this is fine. We ask that children do not bring in sweets, chocolate or glass bottles and cans. We promote healthy foods for lunches. We are also a nut-free school.

Free school meals

All children in Reception and Years 1 and 2 are provided with a cooked meal free of charge through the Government Universal Free School Meals offer. Children in other year groups may be entitled to Free School Meals if they meet certain criteria. Please enquire with the office if you think you might be entitled to this. It is helpful for us if you register your child as being eligible for free school meals from starting in Reception, even though they receive lunches free until Year 3.

Break-time and drinks

Fruit is provided to be eaten at playtime for every child within Reception and Years 1 and 2. Children in other year groups may bring a piece of fruit from home. Other snacks are only permitted as part of a packed lunch. Children should bring a plastic reusable bottle filled only with water to drink from throughout the day.

Milk

All children under five are entitled to a free portion of milk each day at break time. If you wish for your child to receive milk beyond their fifth birthday, contact the school office.



Parent says: “Every morning my daughter asks if she’s going to school....she would go every day if she could!”

Broad and inspiring curriculum: foundations for success



Enriched curriculum: trips and visitors, P.E and clubs



Accessible to all

Through our carefully planned curriculum, we deliver a broad, balanced and creative learning experience that's accessible to all. All our lessons are delivered by caring teachers who go above and beyond to ensure our children get the most out of their education and themselves. The curriculum is appropriately differentiated to provide a personalised learning experience for all, and to help children embrace challenge and grow into empowered learners and independent thinkers.

Enhancing skills

We aim to develop fully-rounded individuals. This means that we ensure our curriculum enhances skills in all areas of development, including physical, academic, creative, social and emotional.

Coastal School

All Reception children take part in Coastal School, where they visit the beach once every two weeks. On their Coastal School days, they have the opportunity to learn outdoors on our beautiful coastlines. This gives them the opportunity to develop their knowledge of our local area, our world, and build both physical and psychological skills along the way.

The curriculum is divided into three stages :

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

Early Years Foundation Stage

A high-quality early years experience is of vital importance and can have a lasting effect on a child's attitude to education, personal and social skills and attainment. The Early Years Foundation Stage Curriculum is based on seven areas of learning:

1. Personal, Social and Emotional Development.
2. Communication and Language.
3. Physical Development.
4. Literacy.
5. Mathematics.
6. Understanding the World.
7. Expressive Arts and Design.

Phonics

We follow the Read Write Inc phonics programme from Reception. This ensures all children have a solid foundation in literacy on which to build and become fluent readers and strong writers.

Key Stages 1-2

Areas of the curriculum are:

- Mathematics.
- Reading, Writing and Communication.
- Science.
- Design and Technology.
- Geography.
- Music.
- Physical Education.
- Personal Development.
- Relationships, Sex and Health Education
- Computing.
- History.
- Art and Design.
- Modern Foreign Languages.
- Religious Education.

Music

High-quality music education should engage and inspire children to develop a love of music. Musical expression is a key part of the personal development of an individual. Music also enhances cognitive skills and language development and helps them develop their talent as musicians. In doing so, they also improve their self-confidence, creativity and sense of achievement. Our musical education is delivered through the Charanga Music School, which is a progressive curriculum that deepens and broadens knowledge every year. In addition to our music lessons, we always sing in assemblies and our amazing productions.

Trips

We firmly believe that children learn best from their own first-hand experiences and to this end we endeavour to take the children on trips that enhance and enrich topics from the curriculum. Teachers carefully plan trips, which can include visits to working farms, zoos or museums. Examples of our trips include:

- Derwent Hall – a weekend or week long residential for our year 6 pupils
- Seaburn Beach – Early Years pupils go regularly throughout the year for Coastal School
- Stadium of Light / Beacon of Light
- Moor House Adventure Centre.
- Beamish

Local visits too!

Children often participate in local visits too. These could include simple walks around the locality looking at shops, transport and infrastructure, housing and hedgerows.

Each year at Christmas time we all go to a local theatre to see a Pantomime!

Visitors

As well as enriching experiences out of school, we welcome many visitors into our school throughout the year to provide exciting, dynamic learning experiences for the children. These have included:

- Several children's authors
- Beamish – bring historical artefacts
- Wildlife handlers
- Emergency services
- Relax kids
- Music bands
- Sports coaches delivering specialist sessions

Sport and PE

We believe all children should have the opportunity to take part in regular physical activity and develop habits for a long, healthy and active life. This starts in our Early Years provision with free-flow of indoor-outdoor provision, giving young children all the movement they need to develop.

Through their journey at New Penshaw, children will engage in competitive and cooperative physical activities and will

take part in a variety of games, gymnastics and dance activities. We hold cross Trust competitions and also enter into festivals and events with other local Sunderland and Washington schools. By the time children reach Key Stage 2, they will have developed a broad range of skills and ways of communicating, collaborating and competing.

Our Year 5 pupils go swimming in the Autumn term at Washington leisure Centre.

Clubs

Our after school clubs differ each half term so that we can offer a range of different choices. Examples of these include:

- Football
- Girls football
- Change 4 Life
- Computer coding club
- Art Club
- Skipping Club
- Different Sports Clubs

Parent says: "New Penshaw is a lovely school. Both of my boys love it. It's such a fantastic environment for them to learn in and the staff are so caring. They know the kids very well, and also us as a family – what a wonderful team you are!"



Equality of opportunity

We believe that everyone deserves the opportunity to achieve their full potential and that it's our job as educators to overcome challenges and barriers to learning. The governors and staff of New Penshaw Academy work hard to ensure that children with Special Educational Needs & Disabilities (SEND) have access to a fully inclusive curriculum and can take part fully in school activities.

Special Educational Needs and Disabilities (SEND)

Children with SEND will receive specific help from teaching staff and SENCo. Where necessary, the school and parents will consult with and seek advice from various outside agencies. We review and assess the progress of children with additional needs and put appropriate interventions and educational plans in place.

Working individually with children

We aim to ensure that the needs of all children are met and that children have access to all necessary resources to enable them to reach their full potential and overcome all learning and developmental challenges. Most importantly,

our dedicated and caring staff value all students regardless of their ability. The Code of Practice for children with SEND is firmly in place with active Governor involvement and parental support. A policy document explaining in more detail is available on the school website.

Speech and Language

We have a Local Authority resourced Communication Hub for children with language and communication difficulties. This is a 12 week placement for pupils that must be referred in from all schools across Sunderland.

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. Opportunities are sought for such pupils to meet and work with similarly gifted pupils in the area, often at sessions run by local secondary schools.



Admissions arrangements

Nursery admissions

New Penshaw Academy takes children from the age of three. Parents can register their interest in a nursery place with the academy by completing an application form when their child is two years old. To register your child for a nursery place, please visit the academy reception and bring along a copy of their birth certificate.

Reception admissions

An application for a place in Reception must be made online with the Local Authority, www.sunderland.gov.uk/admissionsonline. When you apply for a place online, you will receive a confirmation email to reassure you your application has been received. You can also call 0191 520 5553 to request a paper application form.

In-year admissions

Sometimes children must transfer to New Penshaw from other schools outside of the normal admissions process. To register for a place you must collect a transfer form from your child's current school. The completed form should be handed into your child's current school office, who will then forward the relevant paperwork to Sunderland City Council's Admissions Service for processing.

Getting involved

Voluntary helpers

We always welcome volunteers from our school and wider community to help with activities such as school visits, or supporting with school projects, etc. If you are interested in volunteering at the school, please contact the school office.

Governorship

The governing board at New Penshaw Academy is made up of parents, school staff, representatives from the Multi-Academy Trust and members of the local community who want to make a positive contribution to children's education. They use their diverse knowledge and experience to help the headteacher make the right decisions for the school and oversee the strategic direction and performance of the school and ensure accountability. When a parent governor position becomes available, we will notify you and allow you to apply.



Parent says: "I am extremely pleased with my child's progress and how much his confidence has grown. He really enjoys coming to school. I would recommend this school to others in a heartbeat."

Our ethos, aims and vision

Inspire Multi Academy Trust's vision

At New Penshaw children are at the heart of all that we do. We strive for excellence in teaching and learning to enable children to flourish as individuals, promote resilience, independence and positive attitudes so that all children are able to have success for today and are prepared for tomorrow.

Through an inspiring, personalised, broad and balanced curriculum, we provide opportunities for all pupils to develop the skills, knowledge and understanding that will empower them to be great thinkers who embrace challenge.

Our honest, safe and nurturing environment fosters a culture of mutual respect which supports everyone to become motivated, confident and reflective learners, creating a love of learning to last a lifetime. New Penshaw Academy is proud to be a part of Inspire Multi Academy Trust, alongside Burnside, Plains Farm, Fatfield and Farringdon Academies. Inspire Multi Academy Trust's vision is *'to create a family of outstanding schools with a clear purpose, direction and objectives.'*

Inspire Multi Academy Trust's ethos

We will build a thriving community where challenge and accountability enable us to succeed on behalf of the children and families whom the Trust serves. Enjoyment of learning is fundamental; we will harness enthusiastically the power of a creative and diverse curriculum to raise attainment across the Trust schools. We will put the needs of our children at the heart of all our decision-making.

New Penshaw Academy aims

- We want our children to be happy and safe.
- We want our children to believe in themselves.
- We want our children to be inspired by staff and the curriculum and to achieve whatever they want to in life.

New Penshaw Academy values

We all work, live and learn by our five school values:

- Kindness.
- Readiness.
- Respect.
- Aspiration.
- Contribution.



New Penshaw Academy

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