



New Milton Infant School



Making a difference

Welcome to New Milton Infant School



Foreword: Mrs Kate Stanton, Headteacher, says

On behalf of all children, staff and governors I would like to warmly welcome you to New Milton Infant School. We are a friendly school and work hard to make a positive difference to every child during their learning journey with us.

Warm, welcoming and caring

Our 3 form entry school is a warm and welcoming place with a caring ethos. We are a busy and vibrant school, with lots going on. We are very lucky to be situated on the south coast, with both the seaside and the New Forest right on our doorstep!

Valued and respected

We actively promote an environment where children feel valued, respected, safe and secure. We treat every child as an individual and provide them with a range of opportunities to develop their potential, regardless of ability, within a happy and stimulating environment.

Igniting an interest in the world

Our teaching is inspiring and creative, and encourages our children to continue their education outside of school to 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!

Our vision and values

At New Milton infant School, the children are at the heart of everything we do. We aim to make a difference by developing and educating the whole child through a range of skills and attributes in order for them to become confident, successful and happy learners.

We have high expectations of all children regardless of their background and provide a creative curriculum which challenges and engages pupils, promoting a thirst for knowledge and understanding and ultimately a love of learning. Running through all subjects are the lifelong skills of independence, thinking, perseverance and team work which are known as our starfish skills.

We also actively and explicitly promote the values of:

- confidence
- honesty
- kindness
- respect
- diversity
- pride/self-esteem
- tolerance
- empathy



We cultivate a 'can do' attitude by boosting self-esteem with constant praise and positivity for effort as well as achievement. We take pride in ourselves and our school, always endeavouring to build on what we create. Working in partnership with parents and carers is a priority so that children receive the very best start as they set out on their journey to become life-long learners and well- rounded individuals who make a positive contribution to our world.

Pastoral care

We are very proud of our academic achievements and we consistently attain above national expectations in Reading, Writing and Maths. However, we place as much emphasis on developing the holistic child. Our pastoral care is exceptional, ensuring all children are kept and feel safe and are supported both inside and outside school. We have a dedicated nurture room and trained staff to offer support with social skills and emotional difficulties.

Dedicated staff

I am very proud of our exceptionally experienced and dedicated staff and governors, who ensure that all our children are well supported to achieve their true potential. We work together with families to overcome any barriers to learning and have a Family Support Worker available who offers parenting courses and advice. We always work in partnership with parents to put the best interests of our children first.

Get in touch

If you wish to hear more about what we can offer your child please contact us for more information or an appointment to meet me. We welcome visits and love to show our school 'in action'. Telephone 01425 610568 or email office@nmis.hants.sch.uk.

Foundations for future learning



EYFS curriculum – Early Years

When children start school they will be in the Reception Year where learning will take place through The Early Years Foundation Stage (EYFS) Curriculum. This is based on the Government's Early Learning Goals.

There are seven areas of learning:

- Personal, Social and Emotional Development
- Communication and Language
- Physical Development
- Literacy
- Mathematics
- Understanding the World
- Expressive Arts and Design

Learning takes place through play and practical experiences, where children develop language skills, their emotions, creativity, social and intellectual skills. The topic based curriculum is designed to be flexible so that staff can respond to your child's unique needs and interests. The large outdoor areas are very well resourced and conducive to social and role play. Learning flows seamlessly between the indoor and outdoor environments to ensure the children access a range of experiences.



Transition arrangements

Prior to children joining our school, we arrange visits to enable a smooth and happy transition. Our school team liaise with your child's pre-school setting and visit your child there, talking with the key worker. We hold information evenings where parents meet staff who are on hand to share all the relevant information and answer questions. Your child will also stay and play on several occasions during June and July to familiarise themselves with the environment and adults. At the beginning of September, your child's class teacher and Learning Support Assistant will carry out a home visit prior to your child starting school.



Key Stage One

Key Stage One (KS1)

After their Reception year, children move into Year 1 and then Year 2 which completes Infant education. In these years, children are working within the KS1 National Curriculum.

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.

Our curriculum is delivered through half termly topics such as Superheroes, To Infinity and Beyond and Amazing Africa. The theme is integrated across the subjects where possible in order for learning to have cohesion, meaning and purpose.



Learning on the upstairs of our bus



Learn to read, read to learn

At New Milton Infant School, we aim to teach all our pupils to 'learn to read' in order that they can 'read to learn' in other subjects. We also aim to promote a love of reading which will stay with the children for life. Our Library Bus is just one example of how we try to create a buzz of excitement about books. Children can join the well-stocked library to borrow books and are welcome to jump on board to read before and after school. The children love our library bus!

Writing

Children are taught the cursive letter formation from Reception which then helps them as they learn to 'join up' their handwriting in Years 1 and 2. Writing is purposeful and 'hooks' stimulate and engage the children in the writing process. In school research has revealed that children are confident to write when they know the subject matter well, so we use story making, drama and oral rehearsal to ensure children have plenty of pre writing experiences.

Speaking and Listening

Acquiring a good standard of spoken English will underpin the development of reading and writing and is essential to communication as a whole. We value the use of drama across the whole curriculum to help children improve their speaking and listening skills. The story-making approach, where children learn to retell a story by heart, is also embedded in our school. It is a powerful tool to help children internalise the vocabulary and narrative patterns of stories. The words and phrases then become a natural part of the children's own speech and writing, leading to children confidently inventing stories of their own.

Maths

In Maths we build essential mathematical knowledge by developing and embedding key skills to extend the children's thinking. We use an approach where all children carry out practical application, then pictorial representation followed by the written method. We provide open-ended problems for the children to solve, which help to foster an enquiring mind where Maths is seen as a challenge rather than a chore.



Special educational needs

New Milton Infant School is committed to providing a rich, inclusive, personalised and challenging curriculum for all its learners. To ensure that this happens we aim to consistently provide learning opportunities for our able children and closely monitor teaching and learning to ensure it offers challenge, intellectual stimulation and enrichment appropriate to their needs. We believe that the able child needs just as much support, guidance and encouragement as the less able.

Skilled staff

We invest in our staff, training them in a wide range of inclusive approaches to learning. We also maintain high levels of support staff in classrooms to maximise the adult to child ratio. Our full SEND policy can be found on our website.

Access

The school is accessible by a wheelchair, with some modifications to a few areas around school. There is a disabled toilet which is fully wheelchair accessible. We work in partnership with occupational therapists and physiotherapists to make sure that the physical environment is safe so that children can access their learning. We also seek support for families where necessary. There is a dedicated disabled parking bay and a portable ramp is available if required.



The Acorn Room

The purpose of the Acorn Group is to support children to develop their social and emotional skills within a small group setting. The nurturing and caring environment is led under the supervision of adults who are trained to meet children's needs. Reasons for attending are varied and include:

- the development of play skills
- emotional support with difficulties at home such as a bereavement or marriage breakdown
- self-regulation skills to develop appropriate and acceptable behaviour

Speech and Language

We have a specialist morning pre-school on site, the Early Learning Group, for children with a speech and language need. We are fortunate to have the trained staff available during the afternoons to support our infant pupils who may need additional language support.

Most able child policy

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Feedback, assessment and planning

When children join in Reception we carry out a baseline assessment to ascertain which stage your child is at in the Early Years Foundation Stage Curriculum. We use an online learning journal to track progress which you can access at home and contribute to during your child's time in Reception. Children in Reception are assessed against the Early Learning Goals.

Next steps in children's learning

Assessments and observations of children's learning take place throughout the year in all year groups. Teachers use ongoing assessments to plan the next steps in children's learning. Year 1 pupils undertake a national phonics screening check during the month of June. At the end of Year 2, attainment results in the core subjects are collected by the Department for Education.

School reports and parent's evenings

There is an opportunity to meet with your child's teacher each term to discuss their progress and achievement. All parents receive an annual written report from the class teacher towards the end of the summer term which provides information about your child's academic achievement and summarises their personal and social development.





Rewards and sanctions

The ethos behind our Behaviour Policy is:

- Don't hurt anyone on the outside.
- Don't hurt anyone on the inside.

We have high expectations of behaviour and a consistent approach is applied by all staff. We will always try to maintain pupils' self-esteem by showing them that we respect the child but reject poor behaviour. The emphasis at our school is always on good behaviour which is valued and rewarded through role model tea parties, whole class rewards and peer and individual recognition. Our behaviour procedures are explicit and shared with parents and children so they know and understand that sanctions will occur if good behaviour is not maintained.



Educational visits and visitors

To enhance learning, the children go on external visits during their time at our school. These are currently subsidised by 'FRIENDS', our group of dedicated parents who voluntarily give their time to raise funds. The visits are linked to a current learning topic, recent examples have included:

- Beaulieu Motor Museum
- Testwood Lakes
- Winchester Science Centre and Planetarium

We also welcome visitors in school, again linked to our topics, which has recently included:

- The RNLI
- A poet
- A Community Support Officer
- A nurse
- Guide Dogs for the Blind
- African drumming
- Owls
- Visiting farm

Enrichment events

Additionally, we arrange enrichment weeks/days which can relate to national events or have a specific focus such as health, sport, culture or art.



Clubs and activities



We run lunchtime story clubs on the bus for all year groups, and when children enter Year 1, they can join after school clubs. These vary from year to year due to supply and demand and currently include:

- Street dance.
- French
- Karate
- Lego
- Drama
- Tennis
- Well being
- Choir (Y2)



Sport and Music



A music specialist teaches the music curriculum to all children across the school each week. When children reach Year 2, they have the option to join the choir, learn the keyboard and recorder.

The PE curriculum is delivered by the class teacher with the exception of Dance which is taught by a specialist. In addition to the curriculum, all Year 2 children learn tennis with a specialist coach and have swimming lessons.





Admission to New Milton Infant School

We are very proud of our wonderful school and all that it has to offer. We strongly recommend that you contact us directly to arrange a visit as we would love to show you around. During the visit, you will have the opportunity to speak to the Deputy or Headteacher. Please ring the school office on 01425 610568 to make a mutually convenient appointment.

Open Days

We will also be holding Open Days on the 8th and 9th November, where prospective parents are welcome to visit the school for a tour. Please contact the school for timings and to book your place.

Applications

The admissions process reopens in November. Applications should be made online at www.hants.gov.uk/admissions.



Friends of New Milton Infant School

The 'Friends of New Milton Infant School' are an important part of our school. They are a team of mums, dads and grandparents who raise money through the Summer and Christmas fairs, cake stalls and other activities throughout the year. The money they raise enables the school to be able to buy additional resources or fund special events to enhance children's learning and school experiences.



Making a difference

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