



# Summerfields Primary Academy

*Smile and Learn*





# Welcome to Summerfields Primary Academy



## Foreword: Head of Academy says...

On behalf of the Governors, staff and myself, I am very proud to introduce you to our wonderful school.

### ‘Smile and Learn’

In our school we take pride in providing a safe, happy and secure environment where our children enjoy their learning. A culture of understanding, respect and equality are values we uphold to celebrate the unique nature of every child.

The ethos in our academy is to develop in our children the knowledge that they can achieve the best they can be, to encourage them to have high expectations of themselves and to work hard to fulfil their potential.

At Summerfields, learning is exciting. Our broad, balanced and rich curriculum ignites a love of learning for our children and offers opportunities that develop a curiosity and interest in the world that expands their

horizons. This involves experiences inside and outside of school and involves strong links with a wide range of learning establishments, trips, visitors into school and residential visits.

### Dedicated Staff

Our highly motivated and successful staff team provide quality teaching that supports children to make very good progress and meet the highest standards academically and personally. Together with the focused attitude from our pupils, this combined approach to learning enables the best environment for our children to thrive and achieve well during their time at Summerfields.

### Pastoral Care

The pastoral care of our children is our first priority; to ensure our children are kept safe and supported both within and outside of school.

Our pastoral staff team dedicate time to support

families through an ‘open door’ approach. At Summerfields we celebrate the unique nature of every child and through working in partnerships with families and professional agencies, ensure that the individual needs of all pupils are met.

We take great care to nurture our children, enabling them to grow to become confident, assured individuals who become good citizens.

### Parent Partnership

A very important part of our school is you, our families. We have established strong links with our families, work hard to communicate between home and school and welcome your involvement in all aspects of school life. We value the support you offer your child and working together in partnership enables us to achieve the best outcomes for our pupils.

A great education is every child’s entitlement and together we can deliver the best opportunities to ensure both happiness and success for your child.



## Amanda has found exactly what she was looking for in Summerfields Primary Academy – a school where children are valued and always come first

Amanda and Stephen Foster live in Royston with their children Alex, Toni, Jayden and Troy who are 16, 13, six and five years old respectively.

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### Neighbours know best

The Fosters moved to Barnsley from Ireland when Alex was five years old and one of their main priorities was to find a school for him before the end of the summer holidays. Knowing virtually nothing about the area they had little choice but to rely on the advice of their new neighbours, many of whom highly recommended Summerfields Primary Academy. “Based on what local people told us, we applied for a place and when we went to look round we were struck by how friendly everyone was,” says Amanda. “We were given a tour around and the staff made a point of talking to Alex, explaining where everything was and that he’d be having his lunch at school for the first time – In Ireland, first-year children finish at 1.30pm, so this was a very different proposition for Alex!”

### Exactly right

Because of the different education system in Ireland, Alex was slightly behind his peers at first but within a very short time had caught up. He has recently passed his GCSEs with grades of A\*, A and B. “I really cannot fault Summerfields in what it has done for all my children,” Amanda says. “They have all loved the school and academically achieved really well. It’s exactly the small, welcoming village school that I wanted for them, where they have a great education and have made good friends – in fact, Alex is now going to college with children he met in Year 1, and that is lovely.”

### Moral support and practical help

Amanda particularly likes the way the teachers and support staff genuinely

care about the children and make every effort to help them maximise their potential. She was gratified to be told by one of Toni’s teachers how proud he was of her achievements. “At a parent’s evening, it was mentioned that she was capable of getting better marks if she worked a bit harder and that comment made a real impression on her; the teacher was proved right and she did excellently in her SATS as a result. That sort of moral support as well as practical help such as the after-school Homework Club and Breakfast Revision sessions goes a long way.”

### Children say

Troy: “I like the teachers, all my friends and the sports leaders.”

Jayden: “I love doing maths because we went outside with chalk and we did our tens and units counting.”

Toni: “I feel that during my time at Summerfields both students and teachers helped in teaching. They made sure that all students were actively involved throughout each year group, the system of the Student Council and Sport Leaders was to me the most helpful as it allowed students from each year to do what they enjoyed and voice their opinion and their peers’ opinions to teachers.”

Alex: “I was made to feel welcome and settled into school very quickly with the help of teachers and students. The teachers made it engaging for us, which always encouraged us to be more enthusiastic about learning. Another point that made it interesting was the awards we were given like ‘smiles’ or ‘special mentions’, they made school more interesting and encouraged good behaviour, which meant there were more productive and enjoyable lessons.”



# School day: settling in



## School Times

The start of the school day is at 8.45am. School finishes at 3.00pm.

## Uniform

At Summerfields Primary Academy all children are expected to wear our school uniform. It helps our children to feel a sense of identity and pride for our school community. Our uniform consists of:

- Grey or Black trousers/skirt/pinafore dress.
- White or Red polo shirt/blouse.
- Red jumper or cardigan.
- Black shoes.
- Black indoor pumps.

Girls may wear a red and white gingham checked dress in the summer.

Uniform with the school logo can be ordered from the school office.

Our '2 Good 2 Go' uniform sale is run by parents from Friends of Summerfields every month. It offers excellent quality uniform at very reasonable prices.

## School meals and snacks

At Summerfields, we promote healthy eating and physical and emotional well-being. Meals are cooked on the premises and served cafeteria style in the academy hall. The academy kitchen staff prepare meals which are nutritious, balanced and healthy. There is a wide choice of options including fresh salads and fruit.

### National Healthy School Award

We have the National Healthy School Award.

### Free school meals

Free school meals are available to Key Stage 1 children and to those 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. Key Stage 2 children organise and run a Healthy Tuck Shop every morning where they sell, for a minimal price, fruit and vegetables. Some of which are harvested from our own allotment and orchard. Water is available throughout the day. Milk is provided free to pupils who are eligible to receive free school meals. Children up to the term of their fifth birthday are also entitled to milk free of charge. Milk is available to other pupils through the Milk in Schools Scheme for a small charge.

# Behaviour and self-development



## High standards

Good behaviour is central to all we do at Summerfields.

Children are encouraged and expected to be polite, kind and helpful to everyone and to develop this attitude to become good citizens.

High standards of behaviour are expected and promoted at all times in lessons, and throughout every aspect of the academy's day. All members of staff set high standards and learners are given clear guidance on what is expected of them.

Our high standards of behaviour are based upon the values of honesty, respect for all, democracy, solidarity, citizenship, self and social responsibility.

### School rules and rewards

We have a few school rules, which are made clear to all the children and referred to in class and in assemblies. We have a positive behaviour management code and good behaviour is encouraged, recognised and rewarded. Good effort and achievements are rewarded publicly through our 'Smile'cards and Special Mentions celebrations assembly.

### Ambassadors

Our high standards of behaviour are based upon the values of honesty, respect, equality, solidarity, democracy and a self and social responsibility. Summerfields children uphold these high standards of manners and behaviour within school and are ambassadors for our school in the wider community.





## Curriculum – broad, balanced and rich.

At Summerfields we believe in providing children with a broad, balanced and rich curriculum based on 'real' and relevant learning experiences. Our enhanced curriculum provides first hand opportunities that build upon and extend children's learning.

## Happy Children

The staff team plan together to deliver creative and enriched opportunities that ensure your child is happy and excited to come to school. Stimulating teaching develops inquisitive, confident children who challenge themselves to progress their knowledge,

skills and understanding. Teachers assess your child's progress to ensure work is matched to their stage of development and individual needs are supported and challenged to ensure successful learning.

We offer a wide range of experiences which allows our children to learn within and beyond the classroom to develop a good understanding of the world around them.

## Learning Together

Home learning challenges are sent home weekly and this work allows you to be involved in your child's school life by informing you of what they have been learning in class and how you can best support their understanding and progress.

The class 'Dojo' rewards and Bug Club reading scheme are interactive ways to support your child's learning from home. Children without internet access at home are supported in school to learn using these facilities.

## Early Years

The Early Years Foundation Stage Curriculum is based on seven areas of learning:

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

## 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.

## Facilities

We are very fortunate to have some excellent facilities to benefit the children and support their learning and school experience whilst at Summerfields Primary Academy. We have a wide range of IT equipment that supports our children's learning.

### Outdoor learning

Outdoor learning consists of a 'Mud Kitchen', Forest School' wildlife area, outdoor classroom, orchard and an allotment all of which are frequently accessed by the children. We have links with many community groups who support us in cultivating a diverse learning environment.

### Community Room

Our community room whilst providing a Library area where our children can develop their love of reading also offers a valuable space for:

- music sessions
- arts and craft workshops
- cookery sessions
- after school clubs
- meetings for 'Friends of Summerfields', community groups and external educational and health organisations.

## Moving on to secondary school

When our pupils move to local High Schools we make the process as smooth as possible. We work closely with local schools and support families through the application process. Children make visits to their new schools during the summer term. In addition to this the staff are always available to listen to any concerns.

We have strong links with our local high schools which ensures a smooth transition process for our children. Shared learning days and visits take place throughout the year to ensure our pupils are ready for the next stage of their education.



# Enriched curriculum



## Trips

To further enrich our curriculum, all children are offered a range of visits which complement their classroom learning. We make visits locally and further afield and regularly invite and welcome visitors from our wider community into school. Parents are invited to accompany us on trips and all children benefit for taking part in them. Previous trips have included:

- The Seaside.
- Cannon Hall Farm.
- Alton Towers.
- Local library visits.
- The Hepworth and Cooper Galleries
- Thorpe Park Arboretum
- Murton Park – historical village, York

## Residential

Our Key stage 2 children have the opportunity to go on a residential trip in Year 4 and Year 6. These visits

are to Cober Hill near Whitby and Hollowford in the Yorkshire Dales. These experiences help to develop qualities of self-reliance and tolerance of others. Children learn independence and develop confidence. These opportunities offer our children valuable experiences and treasured memories that will last a lifetime.

## Visitors

Additionally, we arrange visits to the school by theatre groups and those with professional expertise such as singers, artists, musicians and so on. Through 'Link Ethiopia' our children share their learning with children from different cultures.

## Themed Days

As part of our enriched curriculum we organise themed days which bring learning to life for our children.

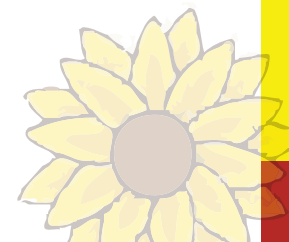
These include:

- Science Investigation
- Healthy Lifestyles and Fitness
- 'One World' - celebrating diversity and different cultures

## Links with Learning Organisations

In enhancing our curriculum we have developed strong links with many learning organisations. These include:

- Royston St.John's Church and Father Matt
- The Bethel church group
- Barnsley Art on Your Doorstep (BAYD)
- Royston Library
- Royston Local History Group
- Barnsley Biodiversity Trust
- The Albert Shepherd VC Civic Centre
- The Groundwork Trust – Rabbit Ings
- 'Love Where You Live'



**Polly's children have discovered an exciting new life in the Old Country with the help of Summerfields Primary Academy**

## Happy co-incidence

The Barden family moved back to the UK three years ago after twelve years living in New Zealand. The timing of their return was designed to fit in with when the girls were due to start formal education so looking for a primary school was at the top of their list.

Co-incidentally, friends in New Zealand had previously lived in Royston and had sent their own children to Summerfields Primary Academy and for Polly that was recommendation enough. "I took their advice on trust and now I am absolutely thrilled that we did so," says Polly. "It was always going to be something of a culture shock for my son, who had already spent three years at a tiny school, but apart from a few wobbles at the start he adapted quickly and well. His teachers were aware of the fact that he might find some things a bit strange at first but they helped him to integrate and feel at home."

## The right results

There are many things that Polly especially likes about Summerfields, not least amongst which are the welcoming atmosphere and the child-focused approach which, she believes, helps the children to engage so well with learning.

## The great outdoors

Having been used to a fairly rural outdoor life, Polly's two youngest children thoroughly enjoy the chance to take advantage of the grounds at Summerfields, where they can play in the mud kitchen and woodland and even have lessons in the 'outdoor

classroom'. "The school likes to get the children outside as much as possible and even provides protective clothing for them so they don't come home dirty. The allotment is a lovely idea and the fruit and vegetables the children help to cultivate. My daughter was very proud of the potato she brought home – unfortunately it wasn't quite enough for a family!"

## Little things that make a big difference

Polly believes that it is the little extra things that make a school special; whether it's involving the children in events such as the Harvest Festival, making decorations for the Christmas Tree, or practical issues such as finding ways to help parents. "The Too Good To Go scheme is a brilliant idea," she says. "Parents donate items of uniform they no longer need and they are sold to other parents to raise money for the annual pantomime. A lot of thought goes into these projects and it all helps to bring the school together as a community."

## Children say

"I enjoy writing, painting and going into the allotment. In the allotment we made birdfeeders that we put in the wildlife area to help feed the birds this winter."

"I have made lots of friends at school and I like playing with them. I enjoy doing creative activities in class such as salt dough skeletons. The best thing is having ipads to help us in our lessons."



# Inclusion: a curriculum for all

## Inclusion

At Summerfields, all staff are committed to maximising the potential and achievements of the children in a secure and happy environment.

### Working Together

The staff work together as a team to ensure the provision for the children is of the highest standard. The children are encouraged to work collaboratively to share and deepen their learning. This includes, appreciating one another's opinions and ideas, to develop children's understanding and awareness of the importance of democracy.

## Children with Additional Educational Needs

Children progress at different rates and have different needs. Teaching staff ensure every effort is made to cater for the needs of all children. Every child's access to the curriculum is planned according to their individual needs in order that they are supported and challenged appropriately. Where necessary, additional professional advice and support is sought.



**Heidi wanted a school where her daughters would be recognised for the people they are, not just how they look, and Summerfields Primary Academy has answered all her wishes**

Heidi and Lee Riley live in Royston and have two daughters, Evie and Ella, who are identical six-year-old twins.

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## First day nerves

The first day at school can be an emotional occasion not just for a young child but for a parent, too, and Heidi freely admits she felt rather tearful herself. "The girls had hardly ever been looked after by anyone but me and Lee and of course I was worried that they would find it very difficult to be away from me all day," she says "but because I'd had a really good feeling about Summerfields when we first went to look around I knew they would be looked after. The teachers were attentive and very welcoming, the classrooms were bright and cheerful and everyone seemed happy and in fact the girls hardly gave me a backward glance!"

## The child behind the face

From the outset, Heidi had expressed a wish that Ella and Evie should wherever possible be seated separately in class to minimise the risk that they might stick too closely together as they were used to doing. She was reassured to be told that this was something the school completely agreed upon. "I wanted to make sure they had the chance to make their own friends and be independent and it's worked well," she says. "What I love about Summerfields is the way the girls' teachers recognise their differences and see beyond their physical similarity – which is not always easy! Their personalities are very different and they are treated as such."

## Enrichment opportunities

Now the girls are in Year 2 they can start to look forward to taking part in the After-School clubs and have already signed up for Street Dance but it's not only the extra-curricular provision that makes life at Summerfields fun. "As part of their school topics they have been to an owl sanctuary, Butterfly World and to the seaside, and getting there by coach was an exciting bonus! There always seems to be something to look forward to, like the Halloween event, fetes or Harvest Festival, or just the lovely outside space at playtime. Evie even had afternoon tea with the Headteacher, which was very exciting!"

## Flexible hours

As she works three days a week, Heidi does not have as much opportunity as she would wish to help with organising events or fundraising but she is arranging to run the upcoming second-hand uniform sale. Demands on her time also mean she appreciates the accommodating support school offers the family.

## Children say

Ella: "The best thing is school assembly where all the children get together and you may get a special mention. It could be recognised for hardworking or helping others."

Evie: "The best part of Summerfields for me is the teachers, because they are all very kind & helpful."



# Clubs

## Opportunities

We offer a wide variety of extra-curricular clubs for our children to enjoy enhancing their skills and knowledge.

These include

- Choir.
- Football.
- Netball.
- Cricket.
- Tag rugby.
- Art.
- Cookery.
- Gardening in the allotment.
- Dance.
- Arts and Crafts.
- School Council.
- Eco Council.
- IT Technical Support Assistants.

# Sport, Art and Music

## Sports Leaders

We have a long established tradition of children taking responsibility for organising team games for their peers at lunchtimes. Our Sports Leader scheme celebrates children's efforts with a programme of recognition and rewards that are included in our celebration assemblies.

## Art

Summerfields is an Arts Centre for Trinity College London. As such we actively promote participation and develop awareness of art in all its forms. Our children have the opportunity to take nationally accredited Arts Awards in KS1 and KS2. We visit venues that stimulate interest in these areas including the Hepworth Gallery and the Yorkshire Sculpture Park and regularly invite artists into school.

## Music

We place great importance on the role of music throughout school and beyond. The opportunities we provide and sponsor are:

- Introductory recorder session in KS1
- Participation in choir – attending the annual 'Young Voices' concert at Sheffield arena
- Performing at local community events
- Ukulele lessons for all KS2 children
- Weekly brass tuition for all Year 4 children
- Private music tuition for guitars and woodwind

We hold many concerts throughout the year and encourage children to take part in class, whole school assemblies and productions. Our year 4 children enjoy taking part in the annual Elsecar Music Festival in Barnsley.

## Sport

At Summerfields, we believe that P.E. and sport enhances academic learning and leads to healthier, happier and more productive lives.

Our pupils are offered a range of opportunities to adopt and enjoy a variety of physical activities. We provide new and varied activities for children before, during and after the school day.

Our sports provision includes competitive games including athletics, football, netball, tag rugby, basketball, rounders, cricket and other adapted team games designed to develop specific skills. We also encourage individual pursuits such as gymnastics, street dance and yoga. Children in Key Stage 2, as part of the curriculum, are given the opportunity to have professional tuition at the local swimming pool. We believe physical education takes place in a variety of ways in every-day life. Some examples of how we promote this are by encouraging our children to participate in the 'Walk to School' initiative, 'Bikeability' lessons and by taking part in Outdoor Learning such as our allotment and Forest School activities.

## Smile and Learn



# Admissions



## Admission into Early Years

Children are admitted into Reception in the September following their fourth birthday. Admission is through the local authority.

## Admission into other year groups

Parents who are thinking of applying for a place at Summerfields are welcome and encouraged to look around school at any time. Please contact the school office to arrange a visit.

## Applications

For further information, please ask about applications at the school office. Forms can be downloaded via the Barnsley Council website.

<https://www.barnsley.gov.uk/>

Tel: 01226 773689 / 773588 / 773677 / 773506

Email: [schooladmissions@barnsley.gov.uk](mailto:schooladmissions@barnsley.gov.uk)

Web: <https://www.barnsley.gov.uk/services/children-families-and-education/schools-and-learning/school-admissions-and-transfers/primary-school-places/>



# Getting involved



## Parent Partnerships

We take great pride in our partnerships with parents and carers and believe that working together is essential to your child's education. We greatly value your support and contributions to Summerfields and welcome your participation in school life.

## 'Friends of Summerfields'

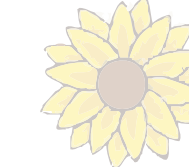
### Parent Teacher Association

At our academy we have a group of dedicated parents and friends who work tirelessly to support our children and staff team. Some of the things they organise include: celebration discos, shopping afternoons, coffee mornings, 2 Good 2 Go uniform sales,

Christmas and summer fayres, bingo evenings, raffles, cake stalls, copper ring around school, sponsored events, the list is endless!

Over recent years the funds raised by our friends have purchased a number of resources to support our pupils in their learning and enhance their life at Summerfields.

This includes the provision of the outdoor classroom, all weather clothing and the enhancement of the outdoor learning environment.



## Governorship

We have a full and active Governing body which includes parent governors as well as representatives from staff and the local community. The Governing body has a range of responsibilities for the conduct of the school. They promote high standards of educational achievement through monitoring pupils' progress and attainment and ensuring the curriculum is balanced and relevant. They are also responsible for managing the schools finances and appointing staff.

Vacancies for Governors are advertised as they arise.







## Pioneer Academies Community Trust Vision and Values

Our Academy belongs to the family of schools that make up the Pioneer Academies Community Trust (PACT), a multi-academy trust in the Barnsley area.

Our ethos is simple. Children are at the centre of everything we do. We provide them with an academically challenging curriculum, outstanding pastoral care and enriching experiences in sport, music and drama. During their time in our Trust, all pupils will learn to play a musical instrument, have the opportunity to visit our Capital city, take part in sporting competitions and experience residential outdoor, adventure learning.

All the academies in the Trust share common values and work collaboratively to celebrate the distinctiveness of each academy's individual ethos. Through mutual support, sharing of best practice and shared professional development, we create autonomous, outstanding academies within the MAT framework.

We are fully inclusive, celebrating the diversity of all pupils and focused on the development of the whole person – supporting each child to flourish, succeed and make a positive contribution.

We believe every young person deserves the best possible start in life, - world class education. We are committed to raising the aspirations and attainment of all pupils and improving their future life chances.

'Children are the centre of everything we do, and everything we do is about improving their life chances'

**Jayne Everett**

**Executive Principal**



## How to find us

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