School Prospectus 20/21



We Learn *We* Grow *We* Shine

Dear Parents/Carers

I am delighted to welcome you to The Avenue Primary School. We are a busy and friendly family school, buzzing with exciting and stimulating learning opportunities. We pride ourselves on providing a caring and friendly environment.

Every child is encouraged to be successful and have high expectations of themselves both academically and socially and to have an understanding of the contribution that they can make to the school and the wider community.

The Avenue Primary School currently has 300 pupils from Reception to Year 6 and a 26 place Nursery on a morning and afternoon. This prospectus aims to give you a taster of our school, as well as providing regular updated information for both parents and pupils. I look forward to welcoming you and your child to The Avenue Primary School.

Mrs E Watson — CEO & Head Teacher

Miss J Booth — Head of School



Head boy and girl and their deputies

Vision and Values

At The Avenue Primary School we pride ourselves on providing a caring and friendly environment. Every child is encouraged to achieve their very best, having high expectations of themselves academically and socially, whilst understanding the contribution they can make to their school and the wider community.

Our School Motto, as created by the pupils and staff is:

We Learn We Grow We Shine

Our Mission Statement

Working in partnership with our children, community, staff, parents, governors we will provide a rich and stimulating school environment that equips all of our children with the necessary skills and knowledge to ensure that they are the best prepared to competently and confidently face their futures.

- To assist each child to enjoy school, aim high and reach their full potential

- To encourage a warm, friendly and safe environment contusive to learning in which all children are valued

- To work together to embed community spirit, an understanding of moral, spiritual and cultural values and the qualities of tolerance, courtesy and mutual respect

- To develop our children as whole people who are educated beyond the classroom and have a thirst for learning outside of the school

The Avenue Staff – 2020/21

Trust CEO & Head Teacher:	Mrs E Watson
Head of School:	Miss J Booth
Foundation Stage:	Mrs L Owens, Miss C Walker and Miss K Hewitt
Year 1:	Miss E Firman and Miss A Grayson
Year 2:	Miss K Jackson and Miss Burnett
Year 3:	Miss O Hunwick and Mr D Joy
Year 4:	Mr D Thomas and Miss T Usher
Year 5:	Miss C Cockerill and Miss L Anderson
Year 6:	Miss S Seaman and Mr S Warriner
EYFS Leader:	Miss E Firman
KS1 Leader:	Miss K Jackson
KS2 Leader:	Mr D Thomas
Finance Manager	Miss J Bytheway
Administration Staff:	Mrs K Palmer
Support Staff:	Mrs B Stone Mrs L McLaren Mrs C Lynch Mrs A Iley Mrs Y Carden-Smith Mrs M Zimmerman (1-1) Mrs L Spry (1-1) Miss J Lowe Mrs J Carter Mrs N Taylor Mrs L Sinclair Miss A Robinson
Caretaker:	Mr. N Woodward
School Cook:	Mrs L Humphrey
Supervisory Assistants:	Mrs G Mann

School Hours

Nursery (*Morning Session*)	8.45 a.m. - 11.45 a.m.
Nursery (*Afternoon Session*)	12.30 p.m. - 3.30 p.m.
Main School (Doors open 8.50 a.m.)	9.00 – 3.15pm

Morning break is between 10.40 and 10.55 a.m. for the whole school. The lower school has an afternoon break at a time when the class teacher feels they need it.

Morning Nursery - We ask that Parents/Carers don't arrive on the playground before 8.45am ready for the doors to open at 8.50am.

Afternoon Nursery - The gates will not be opened until 12.30pm. We ask that Parents/Carers do not come any earlier as you will not be able to come onto the school site to wait until 12.30pm.

Home time - The gates will be opened at 3pm.

Attendance

Our aim is that every child maintains a good level of attendance as this is important in ensuring that children are able to maximise their opportunities and achieve their true potential. As a guide the following figures indicate our expectations:

Above 98% excellent attendance
96% good attendance
+ 90% satisfactory
85-90% poor attendance
(this is equivalent to at least ½ day absent per week)
- 85% unacceptable

Obviously there are times when children are unwell or infectious and cannot come to school. Please keep the school informed; let us know as soon as possible, immediately by telephoning the school office between 09:00 and 09:30.

We have a first day contact system, which means that we will contact you if a child does not arrive at school and where no message has been received. Our first day contact coordinator (Mrs Palmer) monitors attendance and punctuality very closely.

If possible, try to arrange any dental and doctor's appointments outside of school hours. If you do need to remove your child from class, please keep this to as short a period as possible and let us know beforehand. Please provide the office with evidence of any appointments.

The school strongly advises that parents make every attempt not to arrange holidays or to take occasional days leave during school time: amendments to school regulations make it clear that the Head Teacher may not grant any leave of absence during term time unless there are **exceptional circumstances**. If you do intend making a request for an exceptional leave of absence, you need to be aware that the DfE's statutory guidance states that even where leave can be granted, the number of days a child can be away from school should be determined by the Head Teacher.

Middlesbrough LA and The Avenue Primary School have agreed a common practice in defining the criteria for determining exceptional leave and has published a common Request for Exceptional Leave Form. This is obtainable from the office or below and it is important that you give as much information as possible to help us in our decision.

We are working under the Government's new guidelines on attendance and lateness and as always, we want to work with our families to ensure the best for our pupils. However, parents must be aware that unauthorised absences that are not deemed to be 'exceptional circumstances' may be liable to fixed penalty fines by the Local Authority.

We work in partnership with Educational Welfare Limited. They are available every Tuesday to discuss any issues related to attendance.

The Curriculum

At The Avenue we believe that the curriculum should be as exciting and stimulating as possible. We actively seek to promote a love of learning by making school fun and relevant whilst at the same time ensuring standards are high in order to prepare your children for their future.

The Nursery and Reception children follow the National Early Years Foundation Stage Curriculum and works towards the children achieving the Government's desirable outcomes on entering compulsory education. We recognise that young children learn through exploratory play and structured activities. Our EYFS children develop their self-confidence, independence and social skills in a secure and happy environment.

From Year 2 onwards the children are taught National Curriculum. swimming as part of the Swimming is taught in mixed gender classes.

The staff and governors work together to continually develop our school's curriculum content to ensure that the very best provision is made to extend children's skills in every way. In particular we focus on each child's linguistic, scientific, creative, mathematical, technological, physical and social development as well as concerning ourselves deeply with their moral and spiritual growth.









School Meals

The school is committed to encouraging a healthy lifestyle. We have regularly achieved the National Healthy Schools Status. School meals are cooked on the premises and are of a very high standard. Payment is made in advance, on the first day of each half-term or by cheque. Payment may also be made weekly on a Monday. Cash or cheques should be brought to school sealed in an envelope and marked with the child's name, class and the amount contained.

If you wish your child to change from school dinners to packed lunches then we ask for a half terms notice.

How much is a Primary school meal?

The current price of a Primary and Nursery school meal is £2.05 per day. School meals can be paid on the School Gateway App.

All pupils in Reception, Year 1 and Year 2 receive a school meal at no cost to the parent/guardian due to government funding. School meals are healthy, tasty, social and fun and from September 2014 choosing a school lunch for your child/children will help save you up to £400 per year if you take up the offer.

How can I see if I am eligible for Free School Meals?

The Free School Meal section is part of School Support and they can be contacted on 01642 726541. Children whose parents/carers receive Income Support, Job Seekers Allowance, or Child Tax Credit may be entitled to free school meals. Please contact the school office for the necessary forms and confidential advice. You can also go to the Middlesbrough Council website to download an application form and for more information.

Free School Meals and the Pupil Premium

The government has allocated additional funding to schools in the form of '**The Pupil Premium**'. One of the criteria used to calculate this additional funding is the number of pupils at a school who receive Free School Meals (FSMs). In common with most schools it is likely that a number of parents/carers whose children come to The Avenue don't claim FSMs, even though they are entitled to them.

As I am sure you will agree the children at our school can only benefit if we are able to attract additional funding. Not only that, our catering team provides an excellent range of healthy lunch options that are enjoyed daily by a significant number of our pupils. Your child may well be able to access these **free of charge**.

If you are eligible for and claim FSMs, you may also be provided with other services by the school, such as

- Free access to some before and after school provision.
- Access to additional support for your child's learning

My child needs a Special Diet, are you able to feed him/her?

Special diets can be catered for. Examples may include Diabetic, Coeliac and Low Fat diets. The Council now has a Peanut Allergy Policy in place. Please contact Angela Blower on 01642 728030 for more information.

In order for us to provide a child with special dietary requirements, however, we must have written confirmation from the Paediatric Dietician that the child is under. They then forward us the necessary medical dietary information to enable our cooks to provide your child with the appropriate meals.

Packed Lunches

Children may bring a packed lunch and a drink for their midday meal. Drinks should be brought in a plastic container or unbreakable plastic flask. Fizzy drinks, sweets or chocolate are not permitted and lunches should contain no nuts. Please can grapes be cut in half if sent as part of the lunch. Lunches must be brought in a suitable lunch box, clearly labelled on the outside.

Water at School

Children are encouraged to bring bottles of water to school to drink throughout the day. Research has shown that this helps to keep the children more alert and focused during the school day. Bottles should be clearly marked with the child's name and may be refilled from the water fountains in school.



Children enjoying our delicious school meals

School Uniform

We have a range of sweatshirts, polo shirts and T-shirts available, which can be ordered through the school office, which bear the school badge. The sweatshirts are blue; polo shirts and T-shirts are available in white. They are reasonably priced as follows:

Sweatshirts	£8.50
Polo shirts	£6.50
Reversible Jacket	£15.00
V- Neck Sweatshirt Cardigan	£9.50
P.E. set (T-Shirt, Shorts & Bag)	£11.00
Name Tapes (Qty of 10)	£1.00
Book Bag	£4.50
Backpack	£9.00
Document Case	£7.00
Initials on garment	75p (up to 2 letters) £1 (for 3 Letters) £1.25 (for 4 letters)

Lollipops, 20 Norfolk Place, Berwick Hills, Middlesbrough TS3 7PA.
Tel: 01642 225827 (Card payments can be taken over the phone)

It is suggested that these should be worn with black or grey skirts/trousers.

Blue and white checked or striped dresses can be worn for the summer term only.

Pupils to wear black school shoes only. Spare shoes may be brought for playtime and lunchtime.

Uniform provides an identity for the school and encourages a sense of belonging. We hope that parents will fully support our uniform policy.



Sporting Activities



As a school we are constantly promoting the need for a healthy lifestyle to all our pupils.

We are part of Middlesbrough Teaching School Alliance Sporting Partnership and this has afforded us a very wide range of additional activities this year to enhance our existing curriculum. We have been able to offer the following:

- Gymnastics
- Football
- Netball
- Tag rugby
- Tennis
- Cross country
- Swimming
- Tennis
- Bikeability

In addition to the P.E. requirements of the curriculum, we also offer and signpost other out of hours activities as the children progress through the school:

- Multi Sports
- Choir
- Keyboard club
- Guitar
- Gymnastics

Key information

- Marvellous Me is fantastic app for parents/school communication. You can be updated about your child's achievements weekly and find out about their current learning.
- School Comms – receive electronic letters and pay for trips and dinners online.
- Website – this is updated daily.

Most of our information is now sent out electronically. Please ensure you are signed up to our email service via the app. If you have any difficulty accessing or setting up any of the above please contact the school office and they will be happy to help.

www.theavenueprimaryschool.co.uk
@AvenuePrimaryUK

Our twitter feed and website are updated regularly. As well as these you will receive information about events and notices through school letters and newsletters.

Security and the School Site

The security of the children on the school site is of paramount importance at all times. No staff are appointed who do not have full DBS Clearance. Similarly, volunteers are also all checked. Contractors and people who come onto the site to work in school also have to have full clearance before they are allowed in school time. We operate a strict checking and signing in procedure on arrival at the school for all but regular staff.

We have CCTV cameras around the site and there is security on all entry doors. We expect all visitors, including parents, to come to the office. During school hours some of the perimeter and internal gates are locked. Children know that they must not open doors to let people into school even if it is someone they know well. (The nursery operates a similar but slightly different system).

Safeguarding key members of staff
Mrs Emma Watson – CEO &Head Teacher
Miss Jayne Booth – Head of School
Miss J Bytheway - Finance Manager
Miss C Cockerill – Year 5 Teacher
Mrs L Owens – Nursery Teacher

If you have any concerns about safeguarding, please contact school.

Dogs are not allowed on the school site even if they are carried or in a pet buggy.

Thank you for taking the time to read our School Prospectus. This provides only a snapshot of what our school is all about. For further information, please look at our school website.