

# Welcome



## TO WIGGINTON PRIMARY SCHOOL



At Wigginton Primary School, we believe every child is entitled to the very best education that we can provide. We are proud of our broad, enriched curriculum and high quality learning experiences, which lead to a high level of achievement, a well developed emotional and spiritual awareness and an appreciation of the broader aspects of life. In close partnership with our parents, carers and our community, we prepare our children for the next stage of education and the challenges of growing up into happy, responsible and valued members of society.

We hope that this brochure gives you a good insight into the school and how your child will be encouraged to develop not only his/her academic abilities to the full, but also any special interests in music, drama, sport, art and much more. Alongside this brochure, we have our School Year Book which gives more detailed information about our policies and procedures. You are, of course, most welcome to contact the school at any time for further advice or to arrange a visit.

# Our *Vision*



*At Wigginton School we aim to develop open and enquiring minds and above all a love of learning that will last a lifetime.*

**Building a lifelong love of learning**

**WIGGINTON SCHOOL**

- Creative** A vibrant curriculum enriching learning and providing opportunities for all
- Respectful** A culture of mutual respect and teamwork valuing everyone
- Independent** Encouraging everyone to solve problems, reflect on learning and make confident choices
- Enthusiastic** Motivating and relevant experiences to inspire a lifelong love of learning
- Successful** High quality teaching and high expectations to support everyone to achieve their best
- Resilient** Developing confident, active learners who go on to discover what it takes to succeed

Our school values underpin everything that we do in school. They permeate our curriculum and are crucial in helping children develop into happy, responsible and valued members of the community. We focus on one value each half term through our assemblies and lessons. Pupils are rewarded for demonstrating the values and can collect stickers in recognition of this.



# Teaching and Learning



At Wigginton Primary School, we believe children learn best when the learning has a high degree of relevance and is presented within a strong context. To that end, we arrange each half term around a theme, and where possible, we relate our teaching to that theme. This allows us to enhance our curriculum with regular visits to places of interest, themed days or weeks or to



invite visitors and experts in. Each half term begins with a launch day to excite pupils about their new theme and ends with a celebration of what pupils have learnt and achieved. Living within the historic city of York, we are fortunate to have such

a rich resource on our doorstep and we make full use of the opportunities it affords us. We also take our children a little further afield to study the Yorkshire Dales, and other places that enhance pupils' experiences and enthusiasm.





Clearly, good English and maths skills are of paramount importance. Our staff are highly trained and work collaboratively to ensure the best possible outcomes for all pupils. We make full use of Computing in our teaching, with each classroom equipped with interactive boards and trolleys of Chromebooks and iPads available for use within the class. Technology also provides us with a vital communication link with parents through Tapestry,

Seesaw and Google Classroom. We believe in the importance of the Creative Arts and Physical Education. Children are encouraged to become involved in the many musical, dramatic and artistic opportunities provided.



We are committed to providing a wide range of opportunities for Physical Education, both within and beyond the school day.



Within our own school grounds, we have a wildlife area with a pond, raised planting beds and outdoor classroom for Forest School. We also have four playgrounds, one of which is an enclosed Early Years outdoor play area, and a large school field.



As well as our many day trips we run two residential trips for our children in Years 5 and 6. We strongly believe these trips offer our children valuable experiences and help to develop them socially and emotionally as well as academically. One of the visits is curriculum-based; led and organised by our staff in the Yorkshire Dales, which provides an invaluable opportunity to explore and learn in a contrasting locality. The second visit is to an activity centre, specialising in working with primary aged children. Here, the children are given the opportunity, within a safe and supportive environment, to try a range of activities for the first time. The children really learn the value of teamwork and leave with a real sense of fulfilment.

We recognise that every child is an individual and that each has strengths and weaknesses. We use a range of teaching and learning styles as appropriate. We also use a mix of whole class, group and individual teaching. Our team of teaching assistants ably support our class teachers, and we also have a designated Special Educational Needs Co-ordinator to oversee the work and progress of those children requiring additional support.

# *Inclusion and Special Educational Needs*



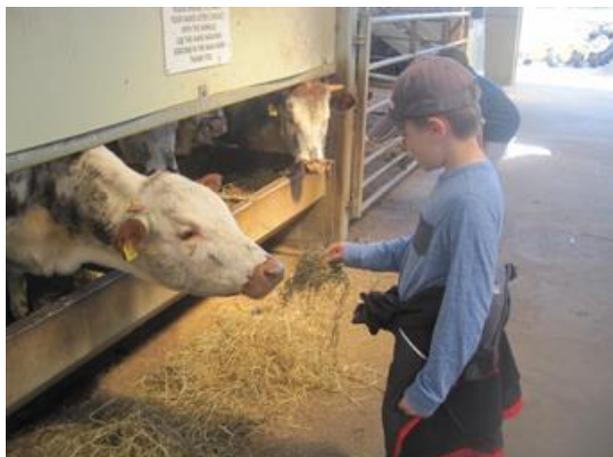
We value and welcome all children whatever their background, and aim to provide a welcoming inclusive environment that does not discriminate on the grounds of gender, ethnicity, culture, religion or ability.



We employ a SENCO (Special educational needs co-ordinator) for two days of the week. She coordinates the provision for all our SEN, supporting staff in meeting an individual child's needs and in providing some small group or individual teaching as appropriate. Children with

Special Educational Needs are provided with an Individual Educational Programme, which identifies appropriate learning objectives, and the necessary support. Children's needs are met through carefully differentiated work, in-class support, and some small group teaching outside the classroom where necessary.

We aim to support all children to achieve to the best of their ability. Through our rich and varied curriculum, we give children the opportunity to display and develop their talents in any area, whether it be in the academic, creative or sporting field. Our programme of extra-curricular clubs offers pupils further opportunities to develop their interests.



# The *Home-School* Partnership



Children will thrive most when home and school work closely together, and as such, we truly value the partnership forged between us.

We regularly send home links to our teaching programme in school newsletters, and use online platforms to aid communication. In Reception, each child has a Tapestry account so that together we can share their learning experiences through photos and messages. Seesaw provides this link for the rest of their journey through school with Google Classroom enabling older pupils to share online learning and complete set tasks. Your child will also have a reading diary to log home reading, which can be used to support home-school communication. We have two formal parent consultation evenings a year and send home a written report at the end of the year. Staff are available before and after school and will willingly make an appointment for more detailed discussions.



Parents are warmly welcomed into the life of the school, whether it is helping with a visit, sharing your child's class assembly with us or watching one of our Christmas performances. Many parents offer regular help in the classroom and we are also fortunate to have a number of parents who help with extra-curricular clubs. Your contribution is invaluable and helps foster a positive attitude towards learning in your child. Parents also help by supporting the work of our Parent Teacher Association, whether as a regular committee member, a helper at events or by coming along and supporting the events taking place.



# The Wider *Community*



We are pleased to be part of such a supportive community and look to foster those links wherever possible. We regularly take part in community events and invite local groups to be part of our annual Summer Fair. We offer our facilities for hire, with favourable rates for community groups.



We have developed a Wigginton Shared Foundation Community Partnership to offer quality care and education of children from birth upwards. The partnership incorporates a range of settings and providers to contribute to the well-being of children and their families. We have the Wonder Years pre-school and extended (Out of School and Holiday Club) school on site.

At the end of the primary stage, most of our children transfer to The Joseph Rowntree School. The close link we have with both our pre-school providers and our local secondary schools enable us to provide a comprehensive transition programme for our children, ensuring that they have the best of possible starts at each phase of the education process.

We are a member of the Jorvik School Sports Partnership, co-ordinated by Joseph Rowntree School. As a group of schools we have been able to provide children with a wider range of physical activity both within and beyond the school day, as well as accessing high quality training for our staff.

# Admissions



The school follows the City of York Council policy for admissions.

Pupils will start full time in the academic year they turn five. All children are offered a full-time place from September. If they prefer, parents can opt for a part-time place in the autumn term.

The school offers the option of 'deferred entry'. This means that parents may secure a place at the school under the normal admissions arrangements but choose to postpone their child's admission to the school until the term after the child turns five. It is a legal requirement that all children must enter formal full time education by the start of the term after their fifth birthday.

To apply for admission to the Reception year at school, there is a set timetable and a standard form known as the common application form.



Parents are notified of their place in late March, early April. We then begin on our transition programme when we give both you and your child several opportunities to visit us in school. In turn, we will come and meet your child in either the home setting or in their preschool provision.

Parents wanting a place for children in any year group other than Reception apply to the Council Admissions Team. All admissions have to be agreed by the Admissions Team. The headteacher is always very willing to show parents and children around the school at any time.

# Organisation



Any school's resources, such as teachers and classrooms, have to be used carefully to ensure the best possible standards of education and a safe environment. To support this, the school has an admissions limit, which the Governors set in consultation with the Local Authority. The admissions limit is currently set at 40 pupils per year.

With year groups of around 40, we organise our children into mixed aged classes. Each phase works very closely together, following the same curriculum, planning and organisation of trips and events.

The school day formally starts at 9am. Children are allowed into school from 8.50. We see these first ten minutes as an important part of establishing children's independence and organisational skills. It is an ideal time to change reading books and for older children to establish that they have all their materials ready for the lesson ahead.



We have a 15 minute morning break at 10.20 and a lunch hour between 12 and 1. Key Stage 1 children finish at 3.05 and Key Stage 2 children finish at 3.15.

# Health and Well-Being

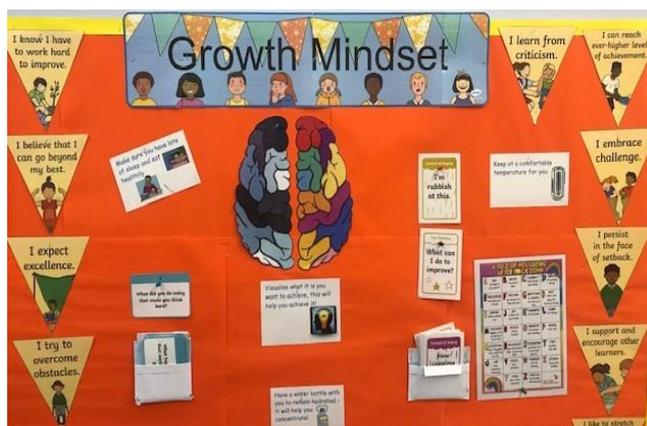


Good health and a sense of well-being are so important to your child that we are rightly proud of our recognition as a 'Healthy School.'

We reinforce our children's understanding of what it is to be healthy through our curriculum. We provide our Key Stage 1 children with a piece of fruit or vegetables for their mid-morning snack. You can also order milk to drink.

Key Stage 2 children are able to bring a small snack to eat at morning break. We encourage them to bring a healthy snack; chocolate or sweets are not allowed.

We recognise the importance of children being hydrated and we have water fountains in the three areas of school. All children are encouraged to bring named water bottles. Water is also provided during lunchtimes.



Mental health has always been important to Wigginton Primary School. Pupils are supported through PSHE lessons, Circle Time and use classroom support systems to help them recognise and manage their emotions. Growth Mindset is fundamental to classroom

practice and developing our school ethos within each child. For children who need more support emotionally, we have a highly-trained ELSA (Emotional Literacy Support Assistant) who helps pupils in times of challenge.

# Governors



The Governing Body is made up of representatives of the school staff, parents, the Local Authority and members of the local community. They have general responsibility for the management of the school, acting within the framework set by national legislation and the agreed policies of the school. They work in partnership with the Headteacher to make decisions about how the school is run in order to improve the quality of education and ensure pupil progress.

The Governors have a main meeting at least once a term and also work on formal sub-committees, covering finance, staffing, premises, safeguarding, and curriculum.



Governor's duties include:

- Setting school improvement targets and ensuring that the National Curriculum is taught
- Deciding how the school budget should be spent
- Ensuring that the buildings and furnishings are kept in good order
- Interviewing and appointing staff.

If you have any questions concerning the role of the governors then you are most welcome to contact the Chair of Governors.

A list of current governors can be found in the School Yearbook.

# The P.T.A.



A committee of willing parents and staff runs our Parent Teacher Association and they form a really important part of our school 'family'. It organises a busy programme of social and fund raising events. Our Summer Fair is a real community event and our major fundraiser of the year.

All parents are automatically members of the P.T.A. for as long as they have a child in school. The committee is very grateful for all kinds of support. Some people join the committee, others regularly help with social events and others take responsibility for a specific task once a year. Needless to say, your support by attending the events is also invaluable. In addition, new ideas are always welcome.

As well as raising money for specific projects, the P.T.A does much to underpin the annual programme of events for school, making a significant contribution to the atmosphere and ethos of the school. For example, they fund the Christmas parties, a visiting Christmas production, drinks on Sports Days and they subsidise the many school trips and specialist visitors into school. In this way, every child really benefits from the work of the P.T.A.

We hope that this brochure has been of some help. Naturally we cannot convey the life and work of a school in just a few pages and we warmly invite you to come and look round the school at any time. If you ring for an appointment, a member of staff would be only too pleased to show you round.

We also produce a School Year Book, which gives more detail of curriculum plans, policies and practices along with the staffing arrangements and latest assessment results.

This brochure and the School Year Book are available on our school website: [www.wiggintonprimary.co.uk](http://www.wiggintonprimary.co.uk)

