



Monks Orchard Primary and Nursery School  
Growing and learning together





# Introduction

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We offer a warm welcome to you and thank you for taking an interest in Monks Orchard Primary School.

Our school was built in 1936 on a green field site and is now a thriving school with 560 pupils aged between 3 and 11 years. The Foundation Stage, which includes the Nursery and Reception classes, was judged to be 'outstanding' in the last Ofsted report. The school itself is in the process of expanding and will be a fully integrated three-form entry school by 2018.

We are extremely lucky to have a large site which is dominated by a substantial green space to the rear of our Rainbow Building. This allows ample space for games and learning in the outdoors environment is a feature of all year groups' learning.

**In the most recent Ofsted report, the inspection team were impressed by the:**

"attitude, dedication and determination of all staff throughout the school" and the "High expectations and shared ethos and vision [which] have enabled the school to make excellent progress ... several areas are now outstanding."

At Monks Orchard, staff work together, sharing best practice in order to create a happy school, where the working atmosphere is relaxed and informal. We place great emphasis on teamwork and developing together and provide a wide range of opportunities for teachers to work together and with others. We recognise that this ultimately benefits everybody in the school community.

Our aim is to make children's time at school as successful and enjoyable as possible. We encourage a close working relationship between home and school to support this aim and welcome parents' active interest in both their child's development and the general life of the school.







# Monks Orchard School aims


**Our vision is for all children to become confident, secure, caring individuals who achieve personal success academically, socially and emotionally.**








 For all children at Monks Orchard to reach their full potential and become independent learners through an engaging and creative curriculum.


 To help children to become considerate individuals. To encourage lively, informed, enquiring minds.

 To teach children how to communicate with others in an appropriate manner.

 To develop the skills to learn and a love of putting these learning skills to good use.

 To help children to see patterns in the world around them; to develop understanding of mathematical operations and knowledge of the number skills required in daily life.

 To communicate through drama, mime, movement, music, words and the arts to give opportunities for children to develop healthy bodies and to gain enjoyment through physical exercise and basic recreational skills.

 To teach children to be aware of the past, the present and the future both in our own culture, country and religion and to appreciate the influence and contribution of those of other peoples, countries and religions.

## EQUAL OPPORTUNITIES

Monks Orchard is committed to developing and maintaining the highest standards of respect and justice for all our pupils and their families. Our children, staff and governors come from varied ethnic backgrounds, reflecting the diversity within the local community.

We oppose and challenge discrimination on any basis. We endeavour to ensure that our resources, code of conduct, school organisation and recruitment policies reflect our determination to ensure equal opportunities for all.

## BEHAVIOUR

We strive to develop an environment that supports and nurtures dignity and self-esteem in all members of our school community. We celebrate the efforts and achievements of all children and encourage them to learn that they have a responsibility to behave in a caring and thoughtful way at all times.

Positive behaviour is encouraged through modelling and praise whilst inappropriate behaviour is dealt with promptly and firmly by staff in the school.

We expect staff and parents/carers to provide positive role models for the children so that our school community is one that values and respects others.

Bullying, of any kind, is unacceptable and will not be tolerated. Staff at Monks Orchard School are alert to signs of bullying and will act promptly against it in accordance with school policy. Any reported incidents are investigated in accordance with school policy.



# The School Community

## STAFF

The school is led by the Head Teacher and Deputy Head Teacher who are assisted by a team of senior leaders. In addition, most members of staff hold responsibility for a specialist area of the curriculum. The school has a large number of teaching assistants who work alongside the teachers in the classroom to support the learning of the children. Some teaching assistants work with individual children who have special educational needs. All are well trained to support the needs of the children.

## GOVERNORS

Monks Orchard's governors are representatives of both our school and local community, parents and school staff. They bring a range of interests, knowledge and skills and have responsibility for overseeing the organisation, curriculum and budget of the school. Governors meet each term and more regularly in smaller sub-committees. A list of governors can be found on the website.

## PARENT TEACHER ASSOCIATION

Our Parent Teacher Association (PTA) was formed in 1947 with the aim of assisting the school, primarily by donating additional educational resources. The Association has helped the school continuously for nearly 70 years.

The PTA committee co-ordinates social and fund-raising events during the year, and meets each term to plan school events and to decide where best to target any funds raised. The support of all parents is fundamental to the well-being of the school and all are encouraged to share their skills with us.

## PARTNERSHIP WITH PARENTS

Parents are the first educators of their children and we therefore encourage a close partnership between parents and school from the outset. Before their children start at Monks Orchard School, parents are invited to attend an induction meeting and are requested to complete the Home School Agreement.

Open evenings are held during the school year for more formal contact between parents and teachers to discuss the children's progress.









# Curriculum

Our primary aim is for all children at Monks Orchard to reach their full potential and become independent learners through an engaging and creative curriculum. In order to help us achieve this, we follow the International Primary Curriculum (IPC).





## THE IPC INCLUDES THE FOLLOWING SUBJECT AREAS:

History  
Geography  
Art  
D&T  
ICT

Plus 'International' and 'Society'

Each IPC Unit (topic) features some or all of the subjects in varied amounts.

## IPC MILEPOSTS AND THE SCHOOL ROUTE MAP

The IPC is broken up into three mileposts across Key Stage One and Two:

Milepost 1 = Year 1 and 2

Milepost 2 = Year 3 and 4

Milepost 3 = Year 5 and 6

Within each milepost, the units allocated have been planned to ensure full coverage of the national curriculum for the subjects listed above.

## ENGLISH AND MATHS

Wherever possible, IPC topics are used as a stimulus for English and Maths. The curriculum maps show the writing opportunities which link well with IPC topics. Teachers use the newly-introduced National Curriculum programmes of study, linking at every opportunity with the IPC.

At Monks Orchard, we recognise the need for our children to work in an attractive, interesting and stimulating environment. We understand how the learning environment can scaffold, support and inspire learning. We offer teachers guidance and support to ensure classroom environments are developed to enrich learning and are maintained to a high standard.



# Support & Monitoring

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We believe very strongly in supporting teachers through guidance, modelling and coaching. Working and developing side by side is often more effective than direction and attending training. In order to ensure that our school vision is being met throughout the school and to support all school staff in maintaining and developing high standards of teaching and learning, regular monitoring needs to take place.

We know that the best way to support colleagues and move teaching and learning forward across the school is regular and varied reflection, discussion and support from different members of the leadership team and other colleagues.

We believe that all monitoring should have a purpose and this purpose should be clear to all members of staff taking part and should lead to development opportunities.









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