From tiny acorns mighty oaks grow

Our Prospectus

Croft Primary School
Welcome to our

This prospectus should give you a good idea of what our school is like. We hope that this tells you all you need to know. If not, please just call and ask. We are proud of our school and stand by our motto: ‘From tiny acorns, mighty oaks grow’. I am sure that as you read this prospectus you will get a sense of the warm, caring and committed ethos that makes our school unique and underpins everything that we are trying to achieve for the children.

Don’t simply take our word for it – come and see for yourself. We would be delighted to show you around.

Every member of the school team is strongly committed to ensuring that every child is not only happy and confident, but also achieves to the best of their ability and has their individual talents recognised and developed. This is reflected in the school’s Mission Statement:

“Working together to inspire, achieve and to realise every child’s unique potential.”

Yours sincerely,

Anne Mains

Headteacher

“Working together to inspire, achieve and
to realise every child’s unique potential."
School Aims

All children are entitled to a high quality education which will enhance their self-esteem, skills, knowledge, understanding and which prepares them for their future lives. We believe children learn best in an environment in which they feel safe, cared for and well-supported in their learning. Standards of pupil achievement at Croft are high and improving. However, we are also equally committed to ensuring that every child receives a broad, balanced and stimulating curriculum.

Therefore, at Croft Primary School we aim to:

• Develop the potential of every child so they can achieve to the best of their ability.
• Develop the skills, morals and social values that children need in order to contribute successfully to a constantly changing society.
• Encourage our children to develop lively, imaginative, creative and enquiring minds.
• Help develop a positive attitude to learning and encourage children to become involved in planning and organising their own learning.
• Provide quality teaching that motivates and sustains the children’s attention.
• Provide opportunities for our children to question, discuss and apply themselves to tasks and physical skills.
• Provide learning environments that are warm, welcoming, secure, child centred and intellectually stimulating.
• Encourage the children to value human achievements in all areas including music, sports and the arts.

“Croft Primary School ... ‘has an outstanding positive ethos of care, support and safeguarding that ensures that pupils gain confidence and mature extremely well. As a result, pupils have great confidence that staff will support them if ever they have concerns. Pupil behaviour is exemplary.’”

Ofsted Inspection January 2012
What parents say…

“After a day at this school, your child will not want to go home.”
What pupils say...

“The teachers expect every child to be the best that they can be.”
Teaching and Learning

At Croft Primary School, we aim to ensure that Teaching:

- Is child-centred, taking account of every child’s individual strengths and needs.
- Takes place within a safe, supportive and engaging working environment.
- Challenges, supports and inspires all children in their learning.
- Encourages ‘Active Learning’ where children participate and collaborate and which takes account of children’s different learning styles.
- Makes effective use of assessment – both informal and formal – to plan effectively the next steps in every child’s learning.
- Ensures children are provided with accurate, constructive feedback that supports and encourages them to take the next steps in their learning.
- Encourages pupils’ creativity and thinking skills.
- Takes place within the context of an effective, school-wide system of positive behaviour management.
The Curriculum

Our Curriculum encompasses both the Statutory National Curriculum 2014 as well as all the work the school carries out to ensure the children’s happiness and well-being and to prepare them effectively for their future lives.

Our curriculum will:

- be based on clear, shared values, aims, principles such as caring, empathy and respect that put the learner at the heart of the curriculum and recognise their role in the world.
- provide exciting opportunities to allow every learner to have a range of interests, be enthusiastic, have a thirst for knowledge and be lifelong learners.
- ensure the development of a range of skills to enable every learner to be able to communicate, solve problems and to be literate, numerate and IT literate.
- secure learners’ knowledge, skills and understanding including knowing another language, having a good general knowledge, listening, knowing their own strengths and weaknesses and understanding how they learn.
- excite the imagination, encourage questioning and develop creativity.
- encourage independence of mind and action and the development of individual attitudes such as confidence, self-belief, perseverance, positivity, reliability, flexibility and resilience.
- to allow children to be risk takers and happy in their lives, to stand out.
- to help children to develop personally to be a team player with interpersonal skills and friends.
- provide clear and relevant pathways for learning and the flexibility to respond to developing needs, interests and contexts of the futuocate learning in the context of the learner’s life and local community and also within a national and international dimension.

“Pupils exceed the nationally expected rates of progress in all parts of the school. By the time they leave the school, pupils’ attainment is above the national average.”

Ofsted Inspection January 2012
“The teachers thrive to make their lessons as fun as possible.”
P.E. and Sport

As part of the school’s work to promote healthy lifestyles and children’s personal development and well-being, P.E. and Sport are significant parts of our curriculum. Children are taught using Real PE which focuses on the development of agility, balance and coordination, healthy competition and cooperative learning.

In addition, the school has links with Warrington Wolves (Rugby), Cheshire County Cricket Club and the Birchwood Tennis Centre which provide further opportunities for high quality tuition as part of our P.E. curriculum.

Further opportunities to be involved in sport are also provided by our after-school clubs.
What parents say…

“The standard of teaching is excellent”
Extra-Curricular Activities

At Croft Primary School our teaching staff willingly give up their own time both during their lunch break and outside of school hours to provide a wide range of extra-curricular activities. Where staff cannot provide activities, the provision of peripatetic (external) teaching / coaching is sought. This inevitably incurs a cost to the parents of children who wish to participate in the activities thus provided. At various times throughout the year, the following activities are available:

Football, Rugby, Netball, Multi-skill, Hockey, Dodgeball, Craft club, Drama, Cookery, Keyboard tuition, Guitar tuition, Gardening club, Choir, Puppet Club, Jackanory (Story club), Science club and Judo.

The school also successfully participates in music festivals, local inter-school sports competitions and has a garden as part of the RHS Tatton Flower Show.
“In lessons throughout the school, pupils show great enjoyment of their learning.”

Ofsted Inspection January 2012
What parents say…

“I have no doubt in my mind to recommend Croft to anybody, it is a lovely school”
School Visits / Outdoor and Adventurous Activities

As a school, we value the unique learning opportunities that can be provided outside the classroom. Throughout the school, visits play an important part in enriching the curriculum. We also have regular visits from musicians and theatre groups.

Children derive great benefit from participating in Outdoor and Adventurous Activities. These types of activities build children’s confidence, self-esteem and their ability to collaborate and work as a team. In addition to the school's outdoor P.E. curriculum, children in Years 4, 5 and 6 have the opportunity to participate in residential visits to Outdoor Education centres.
Governors

The Governing Body has a responsibility for the school’s strategic planning and performance. They decide the aims and policies of the school, its budget and staffing levels. They monitor the standards of teaching and learning and work in close partnership with the school. School Governors can be contacted through the school office.

Members of the Governing Body also serve on a number of committees. These committees meet on a termly basis and have specific responsibilities relating to the strategic responsibilities of the Governing Body. These three committees are:

- The Teaching and Learning Committee
- The Resources Committee
“Teachers’ high expectations and very good relationships with pupils effectively motivate pupils of all abilities to try their best.”

Ofsted Inspection January 2012
Our School

We enjoy lots of space at Croft. We have big playing fields, stunning views and a garden and forest area, which we use as an outside classroom. We grow everything from flowers to vegetables. We also have plenty of apparatus to play on in the playgrounds including a wooden train, boat, trim trails and climbing walls.

There are laptops, PC’s and iPads in school. We also have a lovely new library in school with new books. We have interactive white boards in each classroom and a lighting and sound system in our hall that can also act as a computer and DVD projector. We have whole school assemblies, plays and musical performances.
What pupils say…

“The grounds are picturesque because they are full of wild life and trees.”
Diversity

The school recognises that children and their families may come from diverse social and cultural backgrounds and is very strongly committed to ensuring equality of opportunity and fairness of treatment for all. Similarly, the school recognises the importance of ensuring equality for all irrespective of disability or medical needs.

Inclusion

Croft Primary School strives to be fully inclusive of all children and their families. In order to achieve its aim of ensuring every child realises their unique potential, the school is strongly committed to recognising and meeting the individual needs of every child. This includes children with Special Educational Needs and Able, Gifted and Talented Children.

Children have the option of either a school dinner – prepared on site – or a packed lunch. All children from Reception to Year Two will receive a free school lunch.
What parents say...

“Croft is a primary school that genuinely cares for its pupils and has excellent links with the wider school community.”
School Dinners and Snacks

The school operates a cash cafeteria system, meaning children can pay on the day if they would like a school dinner. Please ensure your child brings to school their dinner money in a named envelope or purse. This will be given to the school’s catering staff at lunchtime.

The catering team have worked hard to ensure the school dinners offered are both tasty and healthy – providing an excellent level of nutrition. Children choosing to bring a packed lunch from home also eat their food in the school’s dining hall. Parents also have the option to take their child home for lunch. If this is your wish, please inform the Headteacher in writing.

The school tries hard to promote pupils' healthy lifestyles and we appreciate parents / carers support in ensuring that the contents of children’s packed lunches and any snacks they bring in for break times are consistent with the school’s efforts to promote healthy eating.
Further Information for Parents

For further information please refer to our school website:
www.croftprimary.co.uk
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