

Curriculum

The EYFS Framework explains how and what your child will be learning to support their healthy development. Your child will be learning skills, acquiring new knowledge and demonstrating their understanding through seven areas of learning – all are important and interconnected. Three areas are particularly important for igniting children's curiosity and enthusiasm for learning, forming relationships and thriving.

These are the prime areas:

- Communication and language;
- Physical development;
- Personal, social and emotional development.

We also support children's learning in four specific areas, through which the three prime areas are strengthened and applied.

These are:

- Literacy;
- Mathematics;
- Understanding the world;
- Expressive arts and design.

These 7 areas are used to plan your child's learning and activities. The professionals teaching and supporting your child will make sure that the activities are suited to your child's unique needs. This is a little bit like a curriculum in primary and secondary schools, but it's suitable for very young children, and it's designed to be really flexible so that staff can follow your child's unique needs and interests. Children in the EYFS learn by playing and exploring, being active, and through creative and critical thinking which takes place both indoors and outside.

Open Days; Stay & Play; Come Dine with Us; Home Visits and Parent Information Meetings

We think that it is really important to build relationships with our parents/families, so that they become familiar to staff and our school. We have an open morning and evening during the Autumn term. Also, during the Autumn term, the Headteacher and staff make visits to some nurseries to meet and greet parents. We have also started conducting home visits during the Summer term, before your child starts their Reception year. Parents will have the opportunity to share all the important details about their child with our staff. During the Summer term, we host plenty of stay and play sessions for your child to come to and interact in learning, as well as getting a feel for the environment. Additionally, we invite pupils and parents to come and have lunch with us during the Summer term. The Headteacher and class 1 staff invite parents for an Introduction Meeting in July, to ensure that parents have all the information they need and that we can hand them their Summer Time Learning Packs for their child to have during the Summer holidays.



Uniform

Trousers	Navy Blue	
Shorts	Navy Blue (Smart)	
Skirts	Navy Blue	
Pinafore	Navy Blue	
Polo Shirt	Light Blue	
Jumpers	Navy Blue	
Cardigans	Navy Blue	
Sweatshirt	Navy Blue	
Summer Dress	Blue & White Check	
School Shoes	Black (No Trainers)	
P. E. Kit Winter	Navy Sweatshirt & Tracksuit Bottoms	
P. E. Kit Summer	Navy Polo Shirt and Navy Blue Shorts	
P. E. Shoes	Black Plimsolls or Black Trainers	
Swimming Kit	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Swimsuit (girls) • Swimming Trunks (boys) • Swimming Hat • Pool will not allow boys to wear long swimming trunks • Towel 	

Wrap Around Care

'Kidz Active' provides our wrap around care. They lead our breakfast club every morning from 08:00-08:50, where children are provided with a breakfast and can take part in various activities. They also lead after-school clubs from 15:30-17:30 every day, focusing on a selection of activities! The children are provided with a snack during after-school clubs. <https://www.ashdon.essex.sch.uk/breakfast-and-after-school-clubs/> and <https://www.kidzactive.co.uk/contact-us/>

Story Time

We are setting up visits with all the surrounding nurseries in and around Ashdon, Linton, Saffron Walden etc. Staff from Ashdon will visit the nurseries and read the pupils a story just before their parents collect them at the end of their session.



Address: Bartlow Road, Ashdon, Essex CB10 2HB
Tel: 01799 584219
Email: admin@ashdon.essex.sch.uk

Ashdon Primary School

Information for New Reception Parents!



Welcome

Welcome to Ashdon Primary School. We are a proud village school that opened its doors in 1900! We can take up to 105 pupils, 15 in each year group. We are privileged to have some parts of our school that date from the Victorian era but, as time moved on, we also have some external buildings, one of which is a classroom. We currently have three classes with mixed year groups. We have dedicated staff, supportive parents and wonderful pupils. We were graded a 'Good school' by Ofsted in December 2022. Please see the link to more information on the back of this leaflet.



Please scan the QR code to listen to Mrs. Reynecke-Raybould's personal message to new parents.

Our Vision & Values

At Ashdon we recognise and celebrate that everyone is an individual and we value and respect them as such. As a community, we welcome the work and support of our families, other professionals and services so that we can nurture and educate our pupils in a rounded way, ensuring a combination of academic, social and emotional learning. We enable our pupils to be confident, independent, happy and successful young people, prepared and ready to embark upon the next stage of their learning journey.

Through our values we **challenge, celebrate and care** for our pupils!

Challenge:

We aim to provide an enriched curriculum and environment that excites and stimulates our pupils in their learning, as well as challenges them in their thinking. Through additional exposure to experiences in life and learning, we challenge them for their futures, gaining the skills and knowledge to attend any university of their choice or pursue any career of their dreams.

Celebrate:

We welcome and celebrate every pupil as an individual that will learn skills and gain knowledge through appropriate support. We celebrate achievements based on individual progress - which is most important. We celebrate a variety of aspects in and out of school and enjoy our pupils showing off their skills and achievements, may it be academic or otherwise.

Care:

Even though all three of our values are the foundation of our vision, we, at Ashdon know that caring is the most important. If pupils feel cared for, they will be tenacious, aspirational, seek challenge and celebrate their individual achievements.



Meet Our Staff



Our Environment



Attendance

At Ashdon, we expect all pupils to have an attendance rate of 96% or above. Attendance below this affects pupils' learning. We understand that families have unavoidable circumstances, and this will be reviewed at the request of school absence.

The Headteacher will, however, grant holiday requests as unauthorised. Persistent absence (PA) is defined as an attendance rate of 90% or below.

Benefits of Mixed Classes!

Evidence based research conducted by Dr. Montessori, Simon Veenman and many more suggests that there are more benefits than not when it comes to mixed ability/age groups.

Research confirms that pupils in mixed age classes scored academically in line with pupils in single aged classes. In fact, pupils in mixed classes scored higher in attitudes towards school, personal flexibility/regulation and how they perceive themselves. They also highlighted that age is not always an accurate measure for every pupil when we consider emotional, social, physical and cognitive development.

At Ashdon, we have the opportunity to stream our pupils into the relevant groups they fit in to ensure that we support them in a more bespoke manner, which is more beneficial for making progress. We create leaders from a young age with our buddy up system, where some of the older/more confident pupils also support some of the younger/less confident pupils during some activities e.g. playtime, lunchtime, reading buddies etc.

We know that pupils learn from their teachers but also from their peers which is a huge benefit for social and oral development for such young children.

We believe, not just from extensive research, that mixed classes create a diverse environment for our pupils that fosters a 'growth mind-set' where pupils feel that they can learn skills and gain knowledge and these aspects can be learned and developed.

We have a huge benefit having our Reception pupils with our Year 1 and Year 2 pupils as we can closely manage a much more supportive and bespoke transition for our pupils when they go into KS1. Our teachers are fully equipped to support even our most vulnerable pupils through this as they understand the development from the EYFS curriculum leading into the KS1 National Curriculum. This is one of the most daunting aspects in single aged schools as the pupils move to another teacher and another year group and it can be an emotional and an academic challenge for some. This is a great benefit for both pupils and parents.

We believe that our pupils have the opportunity to be learners, observers and mentors in mixed age classes.

A Day at Ashdon

- 08:50 – School gates open, members of teaching staff available on playground
- 09:00 – Whistle blown, pupils line up and are taken into the school and the school day begins
- 10:45 – Break time for all pupils
- 11:00 – End of break / beginning of 2nd morning session
- 12:15 – Early Years and Key Stage 1 lunch begins
- 13:25 – End of lunch for all pupils. Afternoon session begins
- 15:30 – End of the school day