



Eccleston Mere Primary School

Prospectus 2023-24

WELCOME

On behalf of everyone at Eccleston Mere Primary School, I would like to extend a very warm welcome to you and your family. We hope that this prospectus gives you an insight into life at our school and what makes it a very special place to be.

At Eccleston Mere we pride ourselves on our sense of community and the level of care that we afford to each of our children. We believe that every child is special and we aim to create a rich, caring environment in which all children can grow and develop. We are dedicated to enjoyment and excellence in all aspects of school life, with a commitment to delivering the highest standard of education.

Our staff team is committed and passionate about our school, whilst our pupils are exceptional. We are a home to a group of young people who are enthusiastic, energetic, well-mannered and kind. Each day at Eccleston Mere is one packed with interest and intrigue: here children will make memories that will last a lifetime.

No prospectus can fully convey the nature of our lovely school, so I look forward to welcoming you in person, to experience our friendly, dynamic and vibrant learning environment. In the meantime, we welcome any questions or comments and will do our best to answer them as fully as possible.

Yours Sincerely,

Mr R Mugan

Headteacher

OUR SCHOOL VISION

We believe that every child should enjoy a challenging, exciting and motivating education, within a friendly and safe environment. We value all within our kind and caring school community and are committed to delivering a culturally rich, experience led curriculum. Children are encouraged to become resilient, independent citizens, who demonstrate our core values.

All children will be given the opportunity to achieve and excel, academically, socially, spiritually and morally. We believe in effective partnerships with families and the wider community, to ensure that Eccleston Mere is a true centre of learning and support in our locality.

OUR CURRICULUM VISION

At Eccleston Mere, we-

- Cultivate a safe, happy and caring environment for all.
- Deliver memorable learning experiences that are meaningful and engaging.
- Develop independence, resilience and confidence within our pupils.
- Deliver a broad, balanced and carefully designed curriculum.
- Enable children to be creative, embrace challenge, and think differently.
- Prepare our pupils as citizens, by promoting our school values and through the effective delivery of social, moral, spiritual and cultural experiences.

OUR MISSION

At Eccleston Mere Primary School, we recognise that social, moral, spiritual, and cultural development is central to the education of all pupils and as such, permeates the whole curriculum and ethos of the school.

Our broad and challenging curriculum is designed to enable children to develop interpersonal skills and become resilient learners who think creatively and critically.

Provision is bespoke to our pupils and evolves according to the ever- changing local, national and global landscape. The aim of our curriculum is to develop pupils, who are well-equipped to take their place in society, as citizens of the future.

OUR SCHOOL

Eccleston Mere is a community primary school with places for 440 pupils, which has a rich history of providing the highest standards of education. We are a forward-thinking school, who are constantly striving to improve standards.

We are a two-form entry primary school and we also have a school nursery on site. Our school is set within a modern, well-resourced building, with vibrant and eye-catching displays and celebrations of work.

As well as spacious, modern classroom spaces, we are fortunate to have a well-equipped school library, a community room, a dance studio, and a group intervention room.

Beyond our interior, we are extremely proud to boast some quite exceptional school grounds, including a large playing field, two large playgrounds and several wooded spaces.

We take pride in our broad, balanced curriculum, whilst ensuring that each child's primary school life is filled with exciting

experiences, including theatre / museum visits, outdoor excursions, residential visits and themed days.

Our school also provides various sporting opportunities to children, including regular squash, yoga and judo sessions. We have experienced much sporting success in recent years at local and regional tournaments, whilst remaining of the belief that participation and conduct is of foremost importance.

Musically, we are proud of our school choir, our rock bands and our music tuition. Our children have performed in concerts, at care homes and within the local community.

Our school is centred around the idea of community and we base our school around our principles of politeness, respect, independence, determination and empathy.

KEY QUESTIONS

Why should I choose Eccleston Mere?

Eccleston Mere is a caring, nurturing place with a real focus on community. We strive to ensure that all pupils enjoy and excel within their academic life with us.

Recent attainment and progress data shows that children at Eccleston Mere make good progress and attain well with us. We prepare our pupils, not just academically, but as future citizens. Our school is a vibrant, friendly and warm place to be, supported by an ambitious and talented staff team. We are hugely proud of our pupils, who make our school such a wonderful place to be a part of.

How do I apply?

Applications for Reception places are done through the local authority, via the St.Helens Council website. Any applications need to be made in the Autumn prior to your child starting school, with electronic forms needing to be submitted before the January deadline.

If your child is starting in another year group, you are welcome to contact the school to see if we have a place, before referring your request to the local authority.



STAFF AND GOVERNORS

Headteacher

Mr R Mugan

Deputy Head

Mrs S Cain

Leadership Team

Mrs C Davies

Mrs A Noblett (SENCO)

Mrs A Kirkman

Mrs T Devine

Mr S Barber

Office Manager

Mrs E Barrow

Admin Officer

Miss M Lees

Mrs L Benecke

Class Teachers

Mrs A Kirkman

Mr G Helsby

Mrs H Harper

Mrs K Pickthall

Mr L Moore

Mr S Barber

Mrs C Cardiff

Mrs N Jones

Mrs D Wright

Mrs A Noblett

Mrs T Devine

Miss F Kinsey

Mrs C Matthews

Mrs M Cooney

Mrs C Davies

Mrs S Mackenzie

Mrs E.Crook

LSA's

Mrs C Cunliffe

Mrs J Hackett

Mrs H Smith

Mrs M Cummins

Mrs A Roberts

Mrs E Pickering

Mrs K Bibby

Mrs J Sumner

Miss J Tynan

Mrs L Wilson

Mrs L Pollock

Mr M Akehurst

Mrs S Coombe

Mrs B Wilson

Miss M Bromilow

Mrs M Ruddock

Mrs S Kirkham

Mrs P Crooke

Mrs A Murphy

Mrs S Drury

Mrs C Greenall

Kitchen Staff

Mrs K Brown

Mrs S Tomney

Site Staff

Mrs J Kelly

Mrs K Lea

Mrs W Carney

Miss C Spark

Lunchtime Staff

Mrs T Connolly

Mrs L Wilson

Mrs L Pollock

Mrs S Byrom

Mrs W Carney

Mrs M Higginson

Mrs M Jackman

Mrs V Lea

Mrs D Rigby

Miss P Barratt

Governors

Mrs V Atherton (Chair)

Mrs J Burrows

(Vice Chair)

Mr A McLaughlin

Mr M Haw

Mrs N Anderson

Mrs K Houchen

Mrs A Strettle

Mr D Watkins

Miss A Garnett

HOME-SCHOOL COMMUNICATION

School Gateway

As soon as parents have completed their child's information sheet and have returned it to school, we ask that families download the 'School Gateway' app. This app is our primary form of communication: from here, parents can book breakfast / after-school club; choose their child's school meals and send messages directly to our school office.

Newsletters

School newsletters are sent out to parent / carer e-mail addresses on an at least monthly (more often as necessary) basis.

Annual Reports / Parents' Evenings

We report on children's' progress three times per year in the form of parents' evenings – these take place in each academic term. In addition, we also complete school reports for pupils on an annual basis, reporting on progress, attendance, attainment and behaviour.

THE SCHOOL DAY

Breakfast club / after-school club

Our Breakfast Club provision begins from 8:00am. After school club begins immediately after the school day ends and children can be collected at any time. Parents are charged by the hour for after school club provision.

The price breakdown for clubs are as follows:

Breakfast club- 7.50-8.50am - £5.00 (with breakfast)

After school club- 3.30-4.30pm- £5.00

After school club – 3.30-5.30pm- £8.00

School timings

At Eccleston Mere, the school is open from 8:50am, with pupils expected to be in class from 9:00am. Children are collected from school at 3:30pm.

During the school day all children have a morning break, a lunch break and a short afternoon break, as part of our commitment to children's mental health.

School meals

We provide our pupils with a range of meals to suit all preferences and tastes. If your child wishes to change to a school meal, we ask that families give the school office 2 weeks notice.

Our dinner menu operates on a three-week rotation. Sample menus are available on the school website, with menu choices available on our school app when enrolled.

All dinner payments are made via the School Gateway app (as mentioned in the communication section).

Cost: school meals currently cost £2.50 per day, £12.50 per week (subject to change).

WORKING WITH THE COMMUNITY

We have excellent links with local high schools, feeding most commonly to Rainford High School, De La Salle R.C High School and Cowley International College. We also work closely with other local primary schools within our cluster, sharing ideas and best practice.

Children from Eccleston Mere regularly take part in events within our locality, such as concerts and charity events. We also have a very active PTA group, who arrange various fundraising opportunities through the year, such as bingo nights, fayres and discos.



OUR CURRICULUM

The Early Years Foundation Stage (EYFS)

The EYFS education that we offer is based on the characteristics of effective learning, which are: playing and exploring; active learning and creating and thinking critically.

In our Early Years, we shape our learning around the interests of our children and promote independence at the earliest opportunity. We provide a rich and stimulating learning environment, generating excitement and igniting curiosity in our pupils.

Outdoor learning is an integral part of curriculum offer, whilst we ensure that children have a secure grounding in terms of early reading and phonics. We follow the Read Write Inc phonics scheme.

At present, our key focus is to ensure that children effectively transition between Reception and Year 1. We have done much work around this, through shared schemes of work and by aligning planning across these phases.

Key Stage 1

Throughout Key Stage 1 (KS1) we continue to set challenging expectations that meet the needs of our children. We provide our children every opportunity to achieve their best.

In KS1, we focus on:

- Early Reading, using reading schemes tailored to children's phonetic understanding and linguistic development.
- Phonics acquisition, through small group teaching.
- Developing maths skills, through White Rose Maths teaching, using models, images and manipulatives.

We are also very proud of our wider curriculum offer in KS1, as children discover and explore a range of engaging, exciting topics within a curriculum that is sequential and meaningful.

Key Stage 2

In Key Stage 2 we continue to nurture and educate our children using a variety of learning techniques and styles. We help to prepare them for life and aim to foster a love of learning which we hope will remain with them throughout their schooling and beyond. We believe strongly in educating the "whole child" and

place a great deal of importance on personal, social, health and citizenship education as well as securing basic skills.

At the end of Year 6, children are required to sit national SAT tests, whilst we want our children to attain well, we endeavour to make this process as stress-free as possible. The SAT tests are used as a national measure for our school compares to other, similar schools and they are also used as progress indicators as the children move up to Year 7.

Our curriculum provides excellent opportunities for all of our children to make progress and attain. We celebrate all achievements through assemblies, sharing good work through displays so that everyone can enjoy our successes. Throughout school, we work hard to develop children's independence at an age appropriate level. We do this in every way we can. To help us in this, we appreciate where parents can encourage their children to be responsible for their own belongings; book bags, packed lunch and homework.

Educational Visits

We make many links with our immediate locality and beyond whenever we are able to enrich the learning opportunities of our children. We believe that these opportunities give the children a real context for their learning.

To develop each child's Cultural Capital we ensure that children are afforded a variety of visits through their time with us, including visits to galleries, museums, theatres and natural spaces. During their academic life, children will also have the opportunity to attend a residential at Borreaton Park.

Outings and visits are often arranged to support the work that teachers have planned for the classroom. The visits are sometimes subsidised by our school funds to keep the costs as low as possible, whilst we subsidise any visits for children in receipt of pupil premium.

AWARDS AT ECCLESTON MERE

OUR AWARDS

- ✦ Gold Sports Mark
- ✦ Music Mark
- ✦ Tasty Tuck Award
- ✦ Eco Schools Bronze Award

We have a number of national awards which highlight our achievements. This year, we are also aiming to secure the Stonewall award, in support of our work towards equality and diversity in school.

OUR PTA

What is our Parent Teacher Association (PTA)?

Our Parent Teacher Association (PTA) is an organisation of parents and staff. Its role is to encourage closer links between home and school. PTAs are best known for their fundraising work. Fundraising events provide an opportunity for parents, staff and pupils to get together. At present, our events include Easter Bingo; a Reception Parent Welcome Meeting; a Christmas and Summer Fayre and various discos.

How is our PTA organised?

We have an annual general meeting. At this meeting a committee is elected to run the PTA - usually consisting of a chair, a vice-chair, a treasurer, a secretary and ordinary committee members. The PTA committee usually meets twice a term and set up smaller working groups to organise individual events.

How is the money spent?

Funds raised by our PTA are intended to provide 'extras' not already provided by the school's main income - often 'fun things' that make learning more interesting and exciting. The PTA committee and the headteacher decide how to spend PTA funds. Some of our recent acquisitions include the school trim trail; play equipment and various reading resources across school. WE have also funded fun events, such as climbing walls, archery and team building activities.



ATTENDANCE

Good attendance and punctuality are vital for children to achieve the highest standards possible in all aspects of school life. Attendance levels at our school are usually above the national average of 96%. However, this can only remain so with the commitment of every parent in ensuring that their child attends promptly and regularly. DfE guidelines dictate that holidays in term time are not permitted except in exceptional circumstances.

SPECIAL EDUCATIONAL NEEDS

At Eccleston Mere, we are proud of our inclusive nature. We endeavour to treat each child as an individual ensuring that all children reach their full potential. The school has a policy for special needs which is in line with the Special Needs Code of Practice; this is available on our policies area of our website.

When a child is identified to have special educational needs, they are identified by the class teacher who in consultation with the Special Educational Needs Co-ordinator (SENCO) will draw up a Student Support Plan (SSP). This plan outlines the next steps that need to be taken to help the child progress in line with their peers. The plan may involve some extra support at home, as well as in school. Parents of children who have SSPs are informed at every step of the way and are fully involved in the procedure.

These are designed to better meet the needs of the child in order that they can access their full educational right. In some cases, an SSP may involve other agencies working with the child; again parents would be consulted as part of this process.

ANTI-BULLYING

We consider the issue of bullying to be an extremely serious matter to be investigated and acted upon. Whilst we cannot eliminate the possibility of bullying taking place, we always encourage our children to tell an adult or a friend if they feel they are being bullied or intimidated in any way. We always remind the children that the school cannot act if we are not aware there is a problem. Reports of bullying and concerns of parents are taken very seriously to be followed up as soon as possible.

We adopt a problem-solving approach and encourage everybody involved to reflect on their behaviour, consider the consequences, how the behaviour was inappropriate and hurtful. We also make children aware that the school can only act on tackling these matters where we know they are going on, and we reinforce the importance of sharing their problems and speaking to adults about any worries they have.



NURTURE

We believe children's emotional education to be as important as academic education. We run nurture groups for children who may benefit from focussed emotional support. This may be to support them in making friendships, to build empathy or to address behavioural concerns. Our pastoral team provides bespoke support for pupils and families alike, drawing on her range of experiences and training.

EXTRA-CURRICULAR ACTIVITIES

We offer a number of clubs for the children over the school year, which run both at lunchtime and after school. These include; choir, football, judo, squash, dance and gymnastics clubs. Clubs are seasonal and run on a half-termly or termly basis.

UNIFORM

Our school uniform consists of the following-

- Navy blue school sweatshirts, pullover or cardigan
- Pale blue polo shirt
- Grey school trousers, shorts, skirt or pinafore
- Black shoes
- Blue checked summer dress (optional)
- White PE top
- Navy blue or black shorts
- Sports trainers / black pumps

We encourage all children to wear the uniform. Parents can shop for uniform in a variety of places as prices can vary considerably. Parents are reminded that no jewellery (including earrings) are to be worn to school.



CONTACT US

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