

Graveley

Church of England
Primary School



*“With God, all
things are possible.”
Matthew 19:26*



If you require this information in a more accessible format or different language, please contact the school office and we will be happy to assist you.

CONTACT:

Graveley Primary School

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All the information found in this prospectus, plus much more is available on our school website

Headteacher's Welcome

I would like to welcome you to Graveley School.

I am very proud to be Headteacher of this village school where the children are the heart of all learning. All of the adults within the school work closely together, making the school a special place to learn and create a warm, friendly atmosphere as soon as you walk through the door.

Choosing a school for your child is an important decision and a major event in a child's life. Their memories at primary school last a lifetime. At Graveley Primary School, we can offer your child a unique, top class education based around developing the whole child.

Education matters because it provides building blocks for life now and in the future and we seek to provide the very best for your child. Not simply the important matters of reading, writing and numbers but the Christian values by which we believe and the kind of people we want to be.

We want to inspire children to become confident and inquiring, to recognise their responsibility to care for each other. Through our engaging curriculum, we ensure that children can foster a passion for learning and curiosity that will help to develop high inspirations and a lifetime of memories. We believe in ensuring that children receive a well-rounded curriculum where individual talents can be spotted and nurtured to make sure all children experience success and reach their full potential.

You should find all the information you need about the school on our website or in our prospectus. If, however, we have missed something, please do contact us and we will be happy to help.

I look forward to showing you around our school.



Nicky Hand

Headteacher

Our Vision

Everyone is encouraged to become the BEST version of themselves: following the wisdom and example of Jesus, through life's joys, storms and uncertainties.



“With God, all things are possible.” (Matthew 19:26)

Our core Christian values of Fellowship, Creativity and Harmony shape Graveley Primary School.

We want children to leave with their understanding deepened, minds enriched and hearts inspired.





**“Inclusion and nurture are at
the heart of Graveley
Primary School.**

Admissions Policy

Our catchment area is wide and varied. Although some pupils come from the village, many of our pupils live in Great Ashby, Stevenage Old Town and the Corey's Mill area. We are always pleased to hear from parents who would like to send their child to Graveley and we are happy to show them around.

In September, we admit all the children starting school in that academic year.

The Hertfordshire policy on admissions is adhered to. Our published Admission Number (PAN) is 16. Hertfordshire County Council coordinates our continuing interest list for other year groups. Parents have a right to appeal if they are not allocated Graveley—please contact admissions for more information.



“The Christian values of ‘fellowship, creativity and harmony’ thread through all aspects of school life.”

Ofsted, 2023



Organisation

“Classrooms are calm and pupils work hard. Right from the early years, pupils show positive attitudes towards learning.”

Ofsted 2023



The school is organised into four classes.

Hedgehogs—Reception and Year 1

Squirrels—Year 1 and Year 2

Foxes —Year 3 and Year 4

Badgers—Year 5 and Year 6

Where necessary, Year 1 is split over Hedgehogs and Squirrels Class. Pupils access a similar Year 1 curriculum in both classes. Children move into Squirrels Class based on: Early Years Foundation Stage Profile results; their readiness for a more structured class environment; and their age.

The School Day



The children are welcomed into school at 8.50am (Key-Stage 2) and 8.55m (Key-Stage 1). Across the morning they are taught phonics or spelling, followed by guided reading. We teach maths and English, including a daily maths fluency session. Reception pupils access the EYFS curriculum across the morning.

School lunch is cooked on the premises. There is a choice of a hot meal, a vegetarian hot meal, jacket potato or pasta and a packed lunch. All children up to the end of year 2, are entitled to a free lunch each day. Children in years 3-6 can be book and pay for a school lunch in advance. All children have an hours lunch break, where they eat, socialise and then play outside.

After lunch, pupils are taught a broad and balanced curriculum covering all of the foundation subjects, using a creative topic-based approach. The day ends with Collective Worship, delivered by staff, the local vicar and the children themselves!

School Uniform

All pupils are required to wear a school uniform:

- Royal blue jumper (preferably with the school logo)
- Grey trousers, skirt or pinafore dress
- A white shirt and school tie

For PE:

- Royal blue school t-shirt
- Royal blue school tracksuit top
- Black shorts
- Black tracksuit bottoms



All school uniform is available from our supplier
Kids Connection (www.kidsconnection.co.uk).

Bookbags, PE bags and ties can also be purchased
directly from the school office.



“Right from the early years, pupils show positive attitudes towards learning.”

Behaviour

Ofsted 2023



We take a positive and pro-active approach to behaviour management. Both pupils and staff have the right to work in an environment that is safe, friendly, peaceful and fair. We believe that when a child demonstrates unacceptable behaviour, it is the behaviour that is unacceptable, not the child and we believe that it is our role to help our pupils learn how to behave correctly and treat others with respect. Our Behaviour Policy and strategy is aimed at promoting and supporting their engagement in education.

Curriculum



The Early Years

We aim to make the transition from home to school a smooth and enjoyable experience for all children. We work in partnership with parents to develop healthy, happy children who feel confident, safe and have a love for learning.

The Early Years at Graveley encompasses all seven areas of the curriculum. Through continuous observation our experienced practitioners are able to identify learning opportunities within play, alongside adult-directed tasks and make decisions regarding a child's next step in learning.

Our school recognises the individual needs and rights of each of our pupils and aims to ensure the highest quality of education and equality of opportunity for them all. We teach all aspects of the National Curriculum, through engaging, lively and creative topics, ensuring progression year on year.

We are lucky to have a beautiful outside environment and our children are able to undertake a wide range of practical activities to support and enhance learning across the curriculum. Regular use of the pond, outdoor classrooms and gardens provide exciting experiences to inspire and motivate.

Teachers and support staff work together to provide work that is appropriate and challenging for each child. They use highly effective questioning and ongoing assessment to ensure our pupils achieve and progress. More details of our curriculum are available on the school website.



“The curriculum is tailored for all pupils in order to motivate and inspire.”

Childcare and Extra-Curricular



Breakfast Club

We offer a Breakfast Club, for all pupils, which runs from 8.00am. Each session costs £3.50 and includes breakfast.

Spaces are limited.

After-School Clubs

We also offer a range of afterschool clubs e.g. cookery, arts and crafts, sports. These run from 3.15-4.15pm and vary each half-term, dependant on uptake and demand.



Information and Communication

We like to keep you informed and hear your views. This is achieved through:

- Daily contact with your child's class teacher and communication through the class email addresses
- Half-termly newsletter and weekly Friday Flyer
- Our school website and Facebook page
- Twice yearly parents evenings
- Annual written report
- Questionnaires and consultation with parents

Parents are also invited into school at least once a term for an Open Afternoon to celebrate their child's learning or take part in special assemblies, concerts and festivals alongside annual events such as Sports Day and the school Fun Run. Volunteer parent helpers are welcome to support in school. Help with cooking, sports, computer work, reading and numerous other activities, is of great value to children and staff.

Friends of Graveley (FOG)

When a child joins the school, their parents automatically become a member of FOG. A small committee meets regularly to organise fundraising events and social activities such as film and quiz nights, discos and fetes. Their efforts have been invaluable in recent years in purchasing new i-Pads, laptops and contributing to the development of the playground and outside area. If you have any ideas or would like to get involved, we would love to hear from you: fogadmin@graveley.herts.sch.uk

Parental Engagement

“Families feel very welcome in the school and there are many opportunities for them to visit”

SIAMS 2019



Inclusion and SEND



If you have any questions about your child's special educational needs or disability please contact our SENCo, via the school office .

At Graveley School, we believe in offering our pupils a fully-inclusive learning experience. We are committed to providing educational opportunities which will help our pupils to reach their full potential. We ensure all pupils receive appropriate provision through a broad and balanced curriculum, focussing on high quality teaching and appropriate challenge. Some pupils may have special educational needs or disabilities (SEND). Some may require specialist support to succeed at school, whilst others a targeted period of intervention to overcome a barrier or close a gap in their learning.

We work alongside the local authority's SEN teams to access support and further expertise where required.

We pride ourselves on knowing everyone of our pupils inside and out and aim to meet their social, emotional, physical and academic needs to enable them to thrive every day!

“Graveley is a highly inclusive and welcoming school. All pupils and adults feel valued”

Wellbeing and Nurture

SIAMS 2019

At Graveley we are dedicated to developing the whole child. We teach our children about both physical health and mental wellbeing. We use the Jigsaw scheme of work to ensure full coverage, at an age-appropriate level, of the statutory curriculum for Personal, Social, Health and Relationships Education (PSHRE).

However, we don't stop there! We use the 'Zones of Regulation' curriculum to help children develop skills in the area of self regulation: encompassing self-control; resilience; self-management; anger management; impulse control; and sensory regulation.

Alongside the above, our pupils have the opportunity to take part in many extra-curricular activities... trips, festivals, cookery, gardening, pupil parliament, charitable work, mindfulness, yoga, plays, choirs, den building days and much more .

All pupils are a unique part of our very special school community and are known and valued as individuals. Everyone knows and cares for each other in our small, village school.



“Children are important at our school. They are allowed to say their ideas”

YEAR 1 PUPIL 2019



Headteacher: Mrs Nicky Hand

Deputy Headteacher and SENCo: Mrs Laura Forster

Teachers

Hedgehogs Class: Miss Lucy Huffer
Squirrels Class: Mrs Jenny Stead/Mrs Tierney
Foxes Class : Mrs Katie Adams
Badgers Class: Miss Emma Potter

Learning Support Assistants:

Mrs Tina D'Arcy
Miss Charlotte Hammond
Mrs Jenny Huggill
Ms Sheena Leonard
Mrs Michelle Lingwood
Mrs Jane Morgan
Mrs Louise Pilgrim
Mrs Tracey Tooley
Ms Leanne White

School Secretary

Ms Nancy Yuen
(and Clerk to Governing Board)

Administrative Assistants

Mrs Karen Reah
Mrs Caroline Gray

School Cook:

Mrs Gemma Downham

Kitchen Assistant:

Mrs Heather Adkins

Caretaker (part-time)

Mr Phil Goater

Staff



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Please don't hesitate to get in touch—we'd love to show you around our school!