

Welcome to Whitstable Junior School Learning today for life tomorrow

## Whitstable Junior School Prospectus



# Welcome to Whitstable Junior School

Welcome to our wonderful school. We are a happy, caring place where everyone is valued and every child is encouraged to achieve their very best within a truly nurturing environment.

We are committed to enabling every child to meet their academic potential – whatever their starting point – whilst also offering a wide range of experiences and opportunities for children to develop their wider skills and abilities.

In our school we prepare children to be lifelong learners with a sense of enquiry and a drive to succeed. We encourage children to work together to enjoy learning and we support them as they aspire to take risks and achieve personal progress.

Our aim is for all children to leave us as well-educated, confident young people, ready to grasp whatever secondary education - and ultimately adult life - has to offer them.

If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact us.

Warm regards, Sarah Kent Headteacher





Our Vision is to be a school that is considered excellent by all the people and groups that have a part to play in helping us to achieve our success.

#### Learning today for life tomorrow

At Whitstable Junior School we believe that all our children can achieve, becoming successful future citizens that contribute positively to a society in which all members are equally valued. High aspirations, high motivation and high outcomes for all, ensure that our children can be the very best version of themselves.

We strive for all our children to be safe, feel valued, develop resilience and continually learn within our nurturing and supportive community.

#### "Learning today for Life tomorrow"

#### **Our Vision**

Our vision is to be a school that is considered excellent by all the people and groups that have a part to play in helping us to achieve our success.

#### **Our Values**

Determination, Trust, Fairness, Respect, Responsibility, Caring

#### **Our Community Code**

Be Safe, Be Kind, Be Responsible





"You, your team and the governors share a clear vision and are ambitious for all the pupils to do well and have a rich range of experiences. The pupils and their well-being are at the heart of everything you do."

(Ofsted June 2019)



#### Our Curriculum

At Whitstable Junior School (WJS) we know that we are responsible for successfully moulding the next generation, no matter what their starting point, so that they can succeed in later life.

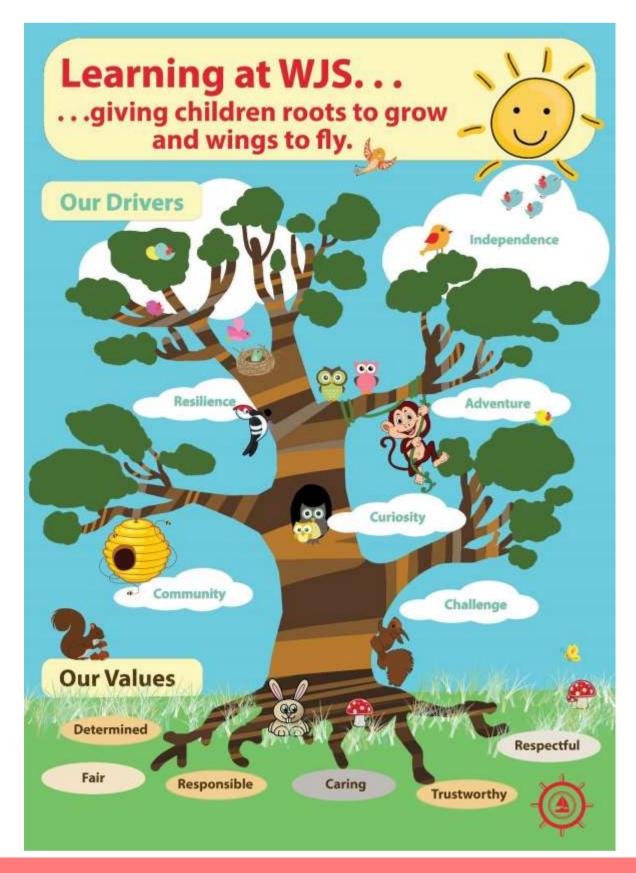
We understand that their experiences in school help form the basis for their life skills, their life choices and how much they love learning.

At WJS, we work together, as a team, with all staff and the community, to ensure that our children's learning experiences are relevant, exciting and help them to become the well-rounded, caring and successful adults that they can be...'Learning today, for life tomorrow.'

We ensure that our curriculum incorporates the statutory requirements of the National Curriculum and other experiences and opportunities which best meet the learning and developmental needs of the all of the children in our school and the community they live in

We have pledged to enable our children to feel safe to take risks; explore concepts in a meaningful and progressive way and to always strive for greatness. This will be seen in the increased confidence, resilience and eloquence of our children and the high standard of learning outcomes evidenced around the school and in their books.

Our curriculum is underpinned by our curriculum drivers; adventure, resilience, community, independence, challenge and curiosity, which we constantly consider, when deciding how and what we teach.



"Pupils have many opportunities to learn through exciting, creative and investigative work. Several parents acknowledge this as being a significant factor in their children's enjoyment of school. One parent echoed the views of several with the comment:

'There's a wonderful creative element to the school which appears to run through many activities and learning, and makes it fun, which I guess is why my son loves it so much.'

(Ofsted June 2019)

#### Our Children







Our aim is for all children to be happy, healthy and achieve to the very best of their abilities. We deliver an education that encourages all of our children to have positive attitudes, a true sense of self, high expectations and to think for themselves.

We encourage our children to participate in school and society and to have a "voice" and be able to share their opinions and ideas with others.

Our children relish responsibility and we ensure they have opportunities to develop these skills. We do this through our elected School Council, Pupil Leadership Team, Eco-council, House Captains, Sports Crew and Buddies.

They are also able to take part in our school citizenship award (The Royal Native Citizenship Award). The award recognises and encourages the children to be respectful, caring, helpful, trustworthy and fair. It is a wonderful way for us to celebrate what wonderful citizens they are.







"This is a happy, calm and orderly school. Pupils are polite and friendly and behave well. They enjoy coming to school. Strong and trusting relationships between staff and pupils mean that pupils want to do well and have positive attitudes to learning. Pupils show resilience as learners, know that their efforts are valued and are proud of their achievements."

(Ofsted June 2019)



#### **Every Child Matters**

Whitstable Junior School is an inclusive school where each child is valued and encouraged to achieve their very best. We have an extremely caring staff team who work hard to ensure that all children receive high quality personalised teaching through excellent targeted classroom teaching. We help each child to develop a love of learning and the confidence to try.

Progress is closely monitored by all staff and detailed guidance is given to each child to help them improve their learning and to know their next steps.

We have an inclusive approach to meeting the needs of all children including those with Special Educational Needs and/or Disabilities (SEND).

At Whitstable Junior School we understand that an important feature of the school is to enable all children to develop emotional resilience and social skills, both indirectly and through direct teaching.

We have a very successful well-being team in place working throughout the school. The aim of the team is to support children in their social and emotional development. We have been awarded SILVER status in the Carnegie Mental Health in Schools Award and we are immensely proud of this.

"We hugely value the school's focus on equality, inclusion and the celebration of each child and their personal potential and achievements."

(Ofsted June 2019- Parent View)

#### Our Learning Environment











Whitstable Junior School is a town school with a difference. We have a fabulous school site which enables our children to learn inside and outside, enjoying extended learning opportunities.

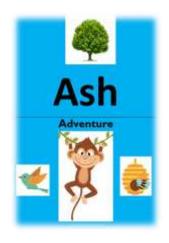
We have our "micro-forest school" area, with outside classroom, pond, timber-trail and "mudlab". We provide opportunities for outdoor learning wherever we can as we know how much this helps to engage children and secure their learning in a memorable way.

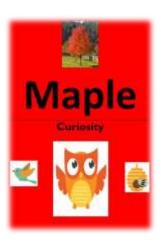
Our outside facilities include a new artificial grass multi-sports pitch, with short tennis courts and full football pitch. Our playground space is also large enough for 2 netball courts and an exciting clamber stack for the children to have adventures on.

We have a well-equipped library and Computing Suite which all of our children use each week, plus a bank of lap-tops, chrome-books and mini devices that are available for classroom use. Each classroom space has an interactive whiteboard to aid teaching and learning.

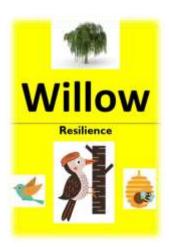
"Parents commented on the good support and care their children receive, the creative lessons and the wide range of extra-curricular opportunities" (Ofsted June 2019)

#### **Our Houses**









We are very proud of the WJS House system which has been chosen by the school community. The children voted to have Ash, Maple, Oak and Willow. We all felt that these reflected the school's desire to acknowledge how important our natural environment is and also closely linked to our curriculum tree and drivers. We have House Captains who promote their House "driver" and the children are awarded leaves throughout the school year for demonstrating these. It is a joy to see the class trees fill with leaves through the year.







#### **Growing Great Learners**





#### **Extra-Curricular Activities**



The children have an opportunity to take part in a wide range of extra-curricular clubs, both at lunch time and after school. Many of these are provided by the school staff but we do have a few offered by groups from our community and external organisations.



Our extra-curricular programme has something for everyone. The activities include; music, sports science, art, film, animation, foreign language, cooking, forest school and even an animal club. We also take part in a range of local sporting competitions throughout the school year.





#### Our Community

All members of our school embrace and celebrate the diversity of our community. We believe in working together with families and the local community to provide the best possible education, with many first-hand experiences for our children.

We have a very supportive Governing Body and a Parent, Friends and Teacher Association (PTFA) who organise fundraising activities for the school. We are always eager to have new members and you would be warmly welcomed.

Parents and carers are encouraged to keep in close communication with school. We have regular newsletters and our school website has a wealth of information on it.





### **Admissions**



Whitstable Junior School admits children into years 3, 4 5 and 6.

We have an admission number of 60 children per year group.

For further information regarding the process of admission to our school please see the school website or contact our school office on manager@whitstable-junior.kent.sch.uk or Telephone 01227 272385



