

Black Horse Hill Infant School

Prospectus

2025 – 2026



**Black Horse Hill Infant School
Saughall Massie Road
West Kirby
Wirral
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School website: www.blackhorsehillinfant.co.uk

Headteacher: Mrs Julie Morris

Chair of Governors: Mrs Corrie Brierley

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Dear Parents/Carers,

Black Horse Hill Infant School has a friendly and hardworking atmosphere, where all children are encouraged to take a pride in their achievements. We have always worked on the basis that close understanding and co-operation between teachers and parents/carers will result in happier, more self-assured children.

The aim of this prospectus is to give an insight into the organisation of our school, our vision, values and beliefs. We hope it will answer some of the questions you may have. If you wish for any further information then do not hesitate to contact our school.

Our Mission Statement

School Vision

Together we will:

Nurture and empower our children to become creative, compassionate and confident citizens, in a diverse and ever-changing world.

School Aims

Our school community will: -

- Have high expectations for all
- Inspire a passion for learning
- Provide an enjoyable, ambitious, coherent curriculum
- Develop positive relationships through collaboration
- Create a safe and happy environment

School Values

All our children, staff and parents/carers will share the same core principles of:

Respect
Honesty
Kindness
Excellence
Resilience
Friendship
Courtesy

Our Admissions Policy and Procedure

Our school complies with Wirral Local Authority's (LA) co-ordinated scheme for primary admissions. The LA deals with admissions to both Black Horse Hill Infant and Black Horse Hill Junior School (from Foundation 2 to Year 6). Parents need to apply online at www.wirral.gov.uk/schooladmissions. Parents/carers are encouraged to visit the school before applying for admission.

Foundation Stage

Foundation 1

Admission to Foundation 1 is managed by the School. Parents/ Carers should contact the school office during the term following their child's second birthday. Children can be admitted in the term following their third birthday.

Foundation 2

Parents/carers who want their child to be educated at Black Horse Hill Infant School must apply for a place through Wirral Local Authority. We then arrange for children to start their full-time education at the beginning of the school year in which their 5th birthday falls. We may stage admissions at the start of the school year to provide an opportunity for the children to make new friends and familiarise themselves with school routines in small groups.

Key Stage 2 / Juniors

Children who are in Year 2 and are on roll at the Infant School are eligible to transfer to the Junior School automatically even if they do not live in the school's catchment area.

Transition to the Junior School

There is a systematic procedure in place which is sensitive to the needs of the children to ensure that the transfer to the Junior School is as smooth as possible. This includes an Open Afternoon as well as visits for both pupils and their parents/carers to the Junior School.

Visiting Arrangements

Before starting school, new children and their parents/carers are invited to visit. Children will be able to familiarise themselves with their new surroundings, meet teachers and socialise with other children. Parents/carers, too, will meet the teachers and discuss how best they might prepare their children for starting school. By

working together in this way, it is hoped staff and parents/carers will make your child's time in our school as enjoyable as possible.

Equal Opportunities and Accessibility

We promote a fully inclusive environment and a curriculum that meets the needs of all pupils, irrespective of age, disability, gender, race, religion or beliefs. Whilst at our school we teach pupils to understand that difference is a positive and that individual characteristics make people unique. Black Horse Hill Infant School is fully accessible.

Code of Conduct

At Black Horse Hill, we have a set of rules that we expect the children to adhere to. They are: Be Kind, Be Safe and Work Hard. We encourage children to make informed choices about their own behaviour based on respect for themselves, others and their environment.

We believe strongly in rewarding children for good behaviour, for example with certificates, celebration assemblies and communal treats.

In the event of children making the wrong choices, an agreed system of sanctions will be consistently followed. We will meet with parents/carers if a child is finding it challenging to follow the school rules. For further information please see our Behaviour Policy which is available on our school website.

The Curriculum

Curriculum Information

The curriculum at Black Horse Hill Infant School is broad and balanced across a full range of subjects and is designed to be ambitious for all pupils including the most disadvantaged and SEND pupils. It equips pupils with the knowledge, skills, understanding and cultural capital they need to be successful both within school and beyond.

Our curriculum has evolved over time and is rooted in our locality and the context of our school. We are committed to providing a first-class education for our pupils and we continue to make changes if they are needed. We promote a growth mind-set culture and develop resilient learners to cope with the increasing demands of the curriculum and society in general.

We believe best infant practice includes a blend of effective subject links and rigorous, discrete subject teaching— both approaches are needed for effective learning. Our teachers know their pupils well, pinpointing contexts that groups of children and individuals find motivating, giving their learning a sense of purpose and direction. We value the development of an enhanced pedagogy that our skilful teachers adopt for the explicit purposes of enhancing teaching and learning.

Our curriculum builds on prior knowledge and skills through regular review of content and sequencing. This is reviewed and monitored based on cohort needs and any external advice. Long-term curriculum mapping is rigorously linked to medium term curriculum planning. Specific vocabulary and knowledge is evidenced in planning, in books and pupil voice. Consequently, pupils demonstrate cumulatively sufficient knowledge and skills to prepare them for their next learning opportunities, year group and key stage.

Our curriculum is successfully adapted to suit the needs of all of our pupils including making it accessible to pupils with special educational needs and disabilities in compliance with our duties in the Equality Act 2010 and the Special Educational Needs and Disability Regulations 2014.

Curriculum Information

The curriculum is divided into two stages:

- The Foundation Stage - delivered in Nursery and Reception (3yrs–5yrs)
- Key Stage 1 - delivered in Year 1 and 2 (5yrs – 7yrs)

For more information about the curriculum, please look at the school website.

Early Years Foundation Stage

In the Infant School, Foundation 1 and Foundation 2 children follow the Early Years Foundation Stage Curriculum.

The National Curriculum

We follow the National Curriculum in Key Stage One. The core subjects of English, Mathematics, Science and Religious Education (R.E.) are taught throughout the schools.

R.E. and collective worship forms part of the school curriculum. Children can be withdrawn from all or part of religious education/ collective worship, at the request of their parents/carers. Alternative provision is detailed in the school policies.

The Foundation Subjects

Information & Communication Technology permeates all areas of the curriculum and the schools have either computer suites or wireless mobile iPad/laptop facilities and full interactive facilities in all classrooms such as projectors and smart boards.

The teaching of the Foundation subjects, which include Art and Design, History, Geography, Design Technology, Music and Physical Education provide the delivery of a broad and balanced curriculum.

Personal, Social, Health and Education, Citizenship (PSHE) and Relationships, Sex and Health Education (RSE)

At Black Horse Hill Infant School, we believe that PSHE is an implicit and integral part of the curriculum. All children need these essential skills in order to flourish and achieve, while at our school and in the future.

From the first day in school turn taking, sharing, how to be a good friend, resolving conflict, and respect for others is modelled throughout the school day and in PSHE lessons.

At Black Horse Hill Infant School, PSHE puts our children on the path to becoming healthy, independent and responsible members of society. It aims to help them understand how they are developing personally and socially, and tackles many of the moral social and cultural issues that are part of growing up. As respectful, responsible citizens, children are encouraged to develop their sense of self-worth by playing a positive role in contributing to school life and the wider community. Children have opportunities to learn about, discuss and appreciate what it means to be a member of a diverse society as they widen their knowledge of their world locally, nationally and globally.

We follow the National and Local Authority guidance on teaching PSHE, Citizenship, Relationships, Sex and Health Education (RSHE) and drug awareness. The Jigsaw scheme is used to deliver key PSHE themes. Other external agencies and advising groups visit to support this provision.

Note: parents/carers have the statutory right to withdraw their child wholly or partly from receiving sex education in school, by informing the Headteacher in writing.

Homework

We strongly believe in a partnership approach between home and school to aid in the further development of each individual. The homework activities are based on skills and knowledge that are taught in school; this is to reinforce their knowledge and understanding in the subjects at hand. We ask that parents/carers read regularly with the child and we “Strive for 5!”

Monitoring Progress

Each child's needs are considered and catered for on an individual basis. To ensure progress the teachers carry out thorough planning and regular assessments of each child's progress.

Pupils' progress will be monitored through the following statutory assessments:

End of Foundation Stage Assessments (End of Foundation 2)

Phonics Screening Check for year 1

End of Key Stage 1 Optional Assessment Tests & End of Key Stage 2 Statutory Assessment Tests (SATs)

Parents will receive an annual report at the end of the year outlining achievements and attainment.

Two parents' evenings during the course of the year.

In addition to the formal systems in place, parents/carers are welcome to discuss their child's progress with the class teacher or Headteacher.

Note: appointments can be made through the school office.

Parent Workshops

We hold curriculum evenings and workshops throughout the year to provide parents/carers with an opportunity to develop their knowledge of the school curriculum.

Special Educational Needs and Inclusion

Specific Educational Needs

At Black Horse Hill Infant School, we provide an inclusive atmosphere. If children are identified as having special educational needs then school will work in partnership with parents and other agencies, if required, to meet the needs of the pupil. We believe that the inclusion of pupils with such needs has a positive benefit for all.

Our school is fully accessible and copies of the school's accessibility plan is available on the school website.

SEN Procedure and Provision

Early identification is vital in the efficient management of SEN matters. Copies of the SEN Information Report are published on the school website. Guidance set out in "The SEN Code of Practice (2014)" is followed at all times.

Should concerns arise, pupil progress will be assessed and monitored. In the event of additional intervention being required parents/carers will be informed and relevant SEN paperwork will be completed.

If concerns continue extra support will be sought from external agencies and other professionals.

School Uniform

Please note that many of the following items can be purchased from school. Please mark all your children's possessions with their names so that we can ensure their safe return to your child.

Winter	Grey Trousers Grey Skirt or Pinafore White Polo Shirt Grey Sweatshirt or Cardigan
Summer	Grey Shorts White Polo Shirt or Purple and White Checked Dress Sun Hat

Also, note that the wearing of jewellery is not permitted in school in the interest of safety. Parents/carers are requested not to allow children to have their ears pierced during term time.

Shoes

We request that children wear formal footwear and not training shoes, boots or high-heeled shoes.

Physical Education

Children should come to school on their allocated PE day dressed in the PE kit with jogging pants and sweatshirt if necessary. Parents are notified when it is their child's PE day via the school newsletter.

Children are not permitted to wear football kits.

School PE kit

Blue/black shorts

Plain white t-shirt/polo shirt /black sweatshirt/zip up

Black pumps or suitable footwear

Rainy Day Bags

We ask parents/carers to provide for children in Foundation 2-Year 2 a small drawstring bag, which has inexpensive table-top toys, books, games etc. which are suitable for children to play with in their classrooms when it is wet.

Attendance

Sickness/Unauthorised Absences

We would request parents/carers inform the school of their child's absence as early as possible on the day of the absence. As part of our safeguarding procedures, if we do not hear from a parent/carer why their child is absent by 9.30am then we will make contact to find out the reason for absence.

If an appointment is unavoidably scheduled for during the school day, an authorised absence pass must be sought from the school office and be returned to the school office when your child returns to school.

All late arrivals must report to the school office, to be marked late, as soon as they arrive. Failure to do this will result in an absence being recorded.

Holidays

Amendments to The Education (Pupil Registration) (England) Regulations 2006 remove references to family holiday and extended leave. The amendments make clear that Headteachers may not grant leave of absence during term time unless there are "special circumstances relating to the application."

Activities

Charges for activities

The Governors have adopted the Wirral Borough Council's Policy, which can be summarised as follows: -

"Children will not be charged for any equipment used in school apart from ingredients or resources used in practical activities. Contributions are required for activities taking place in school time and donations will be asked for to cover transport and admission costs for educational visits.

Extra-Curricular Activities

Over the year, a wide range of extra-curricular activities are available some of which are listed below:

Mini-Olympics, Gymnastics, Dance, Football, Tennis, Judo, Gardening

Black Horse Hill and our Community

Parent Teacher Association & Parent Council

We are fortunate in having an enthusiastic and committed Parent Association which is called Friends of Black Horse Hill Schools (FOBHHS), which not only raises funds, but also organises activities that greatly enhance the ethos of the schools. Note: the FOBHHS committee regularly contacts parents/carers to enlist their support. If you wish to help, you can contact the FOBHHS secretary by writing to, or telephoning, either school.

Community Links

The school believes strongly in fostering and maintaining strong links with the community. This includes inviting visitors into the schools, such as local church representatives, artists in residence and local charities. We also visit a range of places of interest and people in our local community.

School Meals

Both schools offer healthy school meals at lunchtime. Parents/carers also have the opportunity to provide children with their own healthy packed lunch. Fees are applicable in Foundation One at the Infant School but in all other year groups at the Infant school meals are free. Menus are available on the school website.

If your child has any allergies then it is a parent/carer's responsibility to inform school.

Milk and Fruit

We are part of a national initiative and each child at Black Horse Hill Infant School receives a free piece of fruit each day which they usually have in the morning. Children on the free school meals register receive a free bottle of milk to drink in school and parents/carers of children not on the free school meals register can choose to purchase milk for their child.

Other Information

Educational Legislation

Whilst the Governors and Headteachers believe that the schools operate in accordance with current educational legislation, we do have a procedure for any complaints that may arise. Although the Headteachers deal with most complaints efficiently and effectively, parents/carers should note that there are more formal channels that may be used if believed to be necessary.

In accordance with the Freedom of Information Act, copies of all school policies, most recent inspection reports and other Government documentation are available from the schools upon request.

ParentPay

Payments to Black Horse Hill Infant School are to be made through ParentPay only as we are a cashless school. Account details will be provided.

eSchools

Communications via text and letter are sent through eSchools to parents/carers at Black Horse Hill Infant School. Parents evening appointments can be booked on this platform also. Login details will be supplied by school.

Before and After School Club provision

There is a before and after school club which operates from Black Horse Hill Infant School Annexe. Wrap-around care is provided for pupils from Foundation 1 to Year 6. There is a charge for this service.

For more information, please look on the Infant School website or contact the Infant School Office.

Further Reading

We have more information available on some of the following areas, feel free to ask and we will provide you with a copy, or you can download copies from our websites.

<http://www.blackhorsehillinfant.co.uk>

Subjects Covered:

- OFSTED reports
 - Numbers of pupils on roll
 - Attendance data
 - Term dates
 - Out of Hours Club (at Infant site)
 - SEN Information
 - Details of Complaints Procedure
 - Home-School Agreement
 - Behaviour Booklet
 - Sample Lunchtime menu
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