

Newington CEP School



@newingtonCEP

Realising the God Given Potential in Everyone

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Our Federation Values: respect, honesty, kindness, perseverance

"One of the most sincere forms of respect is actually listening to what another has to say"

Bryant H. McGill



"No legacy is so rich as honesty."

William Shakespeare



"Perseverance, secret of all triumphs."

Victor Hugo



"Kindness in words creates confidence. Kindness in giving creates love"

Lao Tzu



Our Christian Ethos

Newington Church of England School supports our whole community by providing rich and creative learning opportunities to realise the God-given gifts within them; encouraging kindness, forgiveness and a generous heart. Instilling self-worth and value through love, support and experiential learning so that everyone will be equipped to flourish in life.

Welcome from Tara Deevoy, Executive Headteacher

I hope that this prospectus gives you a small flavour of the sort of education you can expect from our schools.



The leadership team and I share a very clear vision for education based on sound academic research, the highest of aspirations for all children and genuine warmth and care. Working together is key and we host termly open evenings for you to look at books and chat to your child's teacher alongside the usual parents' evening.

You'll also get regular invitations to express events and class assemblies, where the children share their work with a wider audience. We aim to ensure that your child leaves us with wonderful memories of their primary years, confident in themselves and with the skills needed to succeed in secondary education and life. High academic expectations are a given and we ask all our parents to reflect this at home by committing to reading regularly and supporting the learning of spellings and tables.

However, this does not mean that our schools are mini-exam factories focused purely on SATs and the Kent Test. Outstanding results come from fantastic teaching and an engaging curriculum. Our successful partnerships with many organisations mean our pupils get opportunities to explore their interests and the world beyond our school gates. If you haven't already, I would urge to visit one of our schools to speak to the staff and pupils about what it means to be part of our learning community.

Welcome from Mr Krafft, Head of School

I am very proud to be the Head of School at Newington CEP.

I believe that this is a great school to learn in and one where your children will truly flourish. We are a friendly, caring and welcoming school and are fortunate to have wonderful school grounds and a building full of amazing displays and inviting classroom environments.



*Our teachers work hard to make the curriculum exciting and engaging and we pride ourselves on preparing children for a bright and joyful future of lifelong learning. Our distinct Christian Values of being **Welcoming, Forgiving, Generous** and **Flourishing** are at the heart of what we do and we ensure that every decision we make is centred on the children. I am fortunate to have a great team of staff and governors who all work towards making every child's time here the best that it can be.*

I would like to thank you for reading our prospectus and taking the time to find out about the work we do to educate and care for your children here at Newington CEP School. Of course, no prospectus can fully portray the warmth and excitement that you feel from visiting a school so feel free to contact the school office and come and see what we are all about. We look forward to welcoming you.

Message from Peter Marshall, Chair of Governors

As chair of governors for the federation it gives me great pleasure to celebrate the fantastic work going on in our schools. The learning environments have been transformed to reflect the aspirations of our communities and the heart and soul of each school. Myself and the governors provide challenge and support for the leadership teams to ensure that we can confidently state that the education provided is of very high quality and that children in our schools are thriving.



Starting School

Transition: If you choose Newington as the school for your child we will invite you and your child to attend a couple of sessions in July where they will enjoy a story with their new class teacher, they can then stay and play in the classroom.

Our staff will also visit your child at their nursery or pre-school setting wherever possible. We also have an evening just for parents where you can try school dinners, buy uniform, find out about our curriculum, meet the team and ask questions. In September all children begin school full-time, however, we operate a 'Flexible Fortnight' where you can choose to send your child to school part-time. We can accommodate part-time requests beyond this date via separate agreement.

Free fruit and milk: The government funds free milk for all under 5s; once your child turns 5 you are welcome to continue paying for the milk. At break times the children will also receive a piece of fruit or a vegetable to eat, this is also funded by the government until the children leave Key Stage 1 (Year 2).

Universal Free School Meals: Until your child reaches the end of Key Stage 1 they will also be entitled to have a funded school meal every day. If they choose to only have it on certain days of the week this can also be arranged.

Buddy System: To help your child settle into school we allocate each child a Year 6 'buddy' who will support them at lunchtime and ensure they know where to go and that they have someone to play with.



Uniform: Our school colour is royal blue. Please see the school uniform flyer for full details of where you can purchase the necessary items. We support an active uniform are committed to keeping costs down and therefore logoed items are not compulsory and we have several suppliers, including supermarkets. Your child will spend a great deal of time outside so please also provide a puddle suit and wellies.



Times of the day

Morning Club: 8.00am

Classrooms open: 8.30am

School starts: 8.45am

Morning Break: 10.15am - 10.30am

Lunch: 12.00pm - 1.00pm

School finishes: 3.15pm

Term Dates

As a local authority school we follow the Kent term dates.

These can be found on the link below

<https://www.kent.gov.uk/education-and-children/schools/term-dates>

We also set 5 staff development days each year when the children do not attend.

These can be found on our website.



Wrap Around Child Care

The school runs a morning activities club each day from 8am. Children should have breakfast before they come to the club. A variety of activities are on offer. During the warmer months, outdoor equipment is used on the MUGA and during the winter months a range of colouring, puzzles, the activall board and smaller scale indoor physical games are offered.

Please book ahead by emailing the school office to ensure that we have sufficient staffing levels. Payment can be made in cash on the day, in the office using our card machine or via bank transfer. Please pay in advance if possible. We do not currently have after school childcare options beyond our daily extra-curricular clubs.

The Curriculum in the Early Years Foundation Stage

Children starting school join our Reception Class (Year R) and follow our Foundation Stage. This framework was updated in 2020.

The Early Years Foundation Stage (EYFS) is mandatory for all schools. It sets the standards for learning, development and care for children from birth to five. It is a principled, play based approach. The seven areas of learning and development are important and inter-connected. Three areas are particularly crucial for igniting children's curiosity and enthusiasm for learning, and building their capacity to learn, form relationships and thrive. The three prime areas are:

- Communication and Language
- Physical Development
- Personal, Social and Emotional Development

Children are also supported in four specific areas. The specific areas are:

- Literacy
- Mathematics
- Understanding the World
- Expressive Arts and Design

A key aspect of our provision is our high child:adult ratios which allow us to teach phonics and maths daily in small groups. The needs of child with an August 31st birthday can vary significantly from a child who is already 5 when starting school so we tailor all teaching to support or stretch those who need it.



Characteristics of effective learning

The Early Years Foundation Stage has always highlighted the importance of how as well as what children learn. Staff reflect on the different ways they learn, and then reflect these in their practice. Learning is delivered through planned, purposeful play with a balance of adult led and child-initiated activities called 'continuous provision'. This approach carries on into Y1 meaning the children have a smooth transition into the national curriculum requirements in an early years style. We have found great success with this approach and higher standards going into more formal learning in Y2.

The different characteristics of effective learning are;

Playing and exploring

- finding out and exploring
- playing with what they know
- being willing to have a go

Active learning

being involved and concentrating

- keeping on trying
- enjoying achieving what they set out to do

Creating and thinking critically

having their own ideas

- making links
- choosing ways to do things and finding new ways



Regular stay and play sessions are held during the year; parents have the opportunity to come into the classroom and learn alongside their child. The curriculum is heavily play based and parental voice is really valued.

Staffing

We currently have a teacher and teaching assistant in every class and additional teaching assistants providing extra support when needed. We also have specialist staff including sports coaches who work across the federation. Please see our website for details on our staff, including their snapshots.

Homework

In the EYFS termly homework is set for the children. A list of practical activities are provided and families can choose which activities they would like to do. We also send home reading books and high frequency words to practise.

Worship/Assemblies

We have a daily worship / assembly. These are generally led by Mr Krafft or Mrs Holton and on a Thursday the children have a visitor from the clergy. We practise singing as well as celebrate learning and individual achievements.

Attendance

Please see our attendance flyer which outlines our expectations, the process for reporting absence, as well as how we can support you with your child's attendance



Parent teacher Association (PFA)

Our PFA work tirelessly to raise funds for the school and provide enriching experiences for the children. This can only be achieved through the support of the wider parent body, with core functions being carried out by a small committee. They provide Christmas and Easter gifts, host discos, BBQs and a range of other events throughout the year. They volunteer, apply for grants, build equipment, organise personalised Christmas cards. You name it the PFA will try it. You can be as involved or not as you wish but we ask that everyone supports their hard work.

Partnership working

Whilst we are a small school with a family ethos we have high aspirations for all our pupils. Each year more pupils than the Kent average progress to grammar schools and we have established partnerships with a range of organisations in order to provide opportunities for our pupils to experience the wider world. Our annual Y6 World of Work careers event is a great example of the extensive business and educational links we have. Other examples include visiting local universities for events, working with national grid engineers to build and race our own go kart in the MEBP eco-challenge, taking part in mastery workshops led by our secondary partners and our science week where the school hall is transformed into a giant laboratory. As part of the federation, we plan together and share staff with Newington which enable us to continually improve and reflect on our practice. We also work closely with other local schools in our 'alliance' partnership, collaborating on joint initiatives to offer the best possible experience for our pupils.



First test run of the go kart before the panels go on

Pupils and staff from Lower Halstow and Newington schools at the University of Kent with Tony Antonelli who piloted space shuttle Discovery!



Visits

As part of our commitment to delivering an active and inspiring curriculum, pupils have the opportunity to go on a range of local visits as well as having visitors, experiences and workshops come into school.

Each class also undertakes one 'larger' visit per year travelling further afield with support from our lovely PTA.

School Website

Please check out our website as you will find a wealth of information and documents about our school, including our Behaviour Policy (using our positive approach) along with other policies such as Anti-Bullying and Sex and Relationships Education.

Our website also contains information on how we support pupils with SEN as well as the local offer. The website address is: www.newington.kent.sch.uk. Check out our Twitter: @NewingtonCEP

Don't just take our word for it, here's what the children say.....

'I love everything that I have done since I have been here! I thank every teacher that has helped me learn all of these things.'
Amy Year 5

'I love school trips because we learn and have fun.'
Maisy Year 2

'You can tell your teachers whatever you are worried about as they can help.' Oliver

'We are kind and hardworking. We are all one big family!' Jackson Year 3

'My teachers help me learn and if I am ever worried both of them help.'
Zak Year 4

'We are a team!'
Nathan Year 1

'The School Values play an important part in our school as they help to create harmony.'
Katy Year 6

'Literacy is my favourite subject because I love writing stories!'
Amelia Year 3

