



Uplands Primary School Prospectus

Be Kind | Be Yourself | Be Part of Our Community

www.uplandsprimarystroud.co.uk





“I am delighted to welcome you to Uplands Community Primary School where we encourage you to join in with every aspect of school life.”

James Powell
Headteacher

Our school motto is:

- Be Kind
- Be Yourself
- Be Part of Our Community

Headteacher's Welcome

I am very pleased to welcome you and your family to Uplands Community Primary School. I hope that you find this prospectus useful in making the important decision as to where your child starts their educational journey, which we understand is not easy to make. Please look at our school website for further information and if you would like to, contact us to arrange a visit to look round our wonderful school.

We are passionate about ensuring that each child in our care develops their self confidence, enabling them to explore their unique strengths and achieve their highest all-round educational potential through the creative and varied curriculum on offer at Uplands. We believe that the whole child should be nurtured as well as aiming for each child in our care to leave Uplands prepared for their next educational chapter.

We feel it is important to get to know, not just the child but their family too and we welcome them to join in with every aspect of school life. Our staff are happy to talk with parents about how their child is settling in and we hold regular meetings to keep parents updated with what their child is learning in school.

I hope that we can welcome you into our school community very soon.

James Powell



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Thompson Rd, Stroud, GL5 1TE



“The school’s imaginative and exciting curriculum is used very well by the teachers to make the lessons interesting. Pupils make rapid and sustained progress due to the outstanding teaching.”

Ofsted
February 2014

The Governors play a key role in helping our school provide the best possible education for all its pupils. There are four parent representatives who serve for 4 years. All parents are eligible to stand for election, nominate and vote. You will receive necessary information for this purpose when appropriate.

Chair of Governors Welcome

On behalf of all governors and staff I would like to welcome your family to Uplands Community Primary School.

It is the objective of the school to provide the best possible education for your child and to encourage your child to achieve their full potential.

The governors work closely with the Headteacher and Senior Leadership Team to ensure we provide support and challenge where needed, as well as ensuring the teaching staff are achieving the school’s objectives. At Uplands, we believe the foundations of a solid education is of the utmost importance for any child and this is always at the forefront of everything we do.

Within this prospectus you will see details of the curriculum we deliver at Uplands. We believe that children’s education is a partnership between the school and home and believe that good relationships between parents and teachers benefits the overall development of the children.

Families are encouraged to take part in all aspects of school life. This can be anything from hearing children read to supporting the Parent Teacher Association (PTA) with one of their events, without whom we would not be able to continually improve the facilities and equipment within the school.

The school continues to have a good reputation for the quality of education and pastoral support it provides and we are confident that your decision to entrust the education of your child to the care of the staff and governors will be fully rewarded.

The governors also value the opinion of parents and regularly seek feedback about how the school is doing. Please feel free to contact me or any other of the school governors if you have any questions you would like to discuss. We look forward to your family joining Uplands.

Yours sincerely,
Glen Millar
Chairs of Governors



Our School Vision

Be Kind - Be Yourself - Be Part of our Community

Our vision and values are at the core of everything we do. They underpin our teaching and learning, and provide an environment which prepares our pupils to be confident, happy citizens.

Our vision is to build a community at Uplands Primary School where children are empowered, through high quality education, to enrich their lives and the lives of those around them, based on the principles of being kind and considerate, valuing the uniqueness of each individual and playing a full part in a wider community.

To achieve this, we aim to:

- ensure that each child comes to learn in an inclusive, happy and safe environment where they are cared for and encouraged to do their best;
- enable each child to explore their unique strengths and achieve their highest all-round educational potential through our creative and varied curriculum;
- Use our own 'big ideas' of *environment, changes, relationships, diversity, similarities and differences* to enable children to grow with a sense of pride in themselves, their school and wider community;
- provide opportunities for each child to acquire the skills, knowledge and resilience to thrive in an ever-changing world;
- work in partnership with each child and their family so that there is a climate of mutual respect and a shared passion for lifelong learning;
- enable each child to shine and ensure that teaching and learning are the best that they can be.

About Uplands

Founded in 1899, Uplands is a small, inclusive primary school of just over 100 children right in the heart of Stroud; a bit like a village school in the town where everyone knows everyone.

As we are centrally located in our catchment area, this enables the vast majority of our families the chance to walk to school each day, encouraging healthy habits.

We are a one form entry primary school, with Reception pupils being taught on their own in Merlins class and other pupils being taught in mixed year groups: Owls (Years 1 & 2), Kestrels (Years 3 & 4) and Eagles (Years 5 & 6).

We have a spacious playground with a designated adventure playground area, sheltered seating and games equipment which is used for break and lunchtimes as well as PE lessons.

Our Reception class has a dedicated outdoor space where pupils can explore nature and develop their learning further.

All classes attend Forest School sessions at Hawkwood College, a short walk from school and this forges links with our local community and environment.

Our dedicated and caring staff team and Governors work closely together to give children the best possible start in life, inspiring them to develop a lifelong love of learning in a warm and welcoming environment.



“Pupils’ behaviour is exemplary, in their classrooms and around the school. They say they feel safe at all times.”

Ofsted
February 2014

Safeguarding

The safety and welfare of children is our number one priority. We have clear guidelines in place to ensure our safeguarding is robust and ensure that all staff, volunteers and visitors have current DBS checks before working with children.

The purpose of our child protection and safeguarding policies are to provide protection for the children and young people at Uplands Primary School and to provide staff and volunteers with guidance on procedures they should adopt in the event that they suspect a child or young person may be experiencing, or be at risk of, harm.

Organisation of the School

Merlins (Reception Class EYFS)

The September after their fourth birthday, children are eligible to start primary school. Please refer to the admissions page on our school website for more information.

We believe that this first year is instrumental in building a thirst for knowledge and learning and are privileged to be a part of it. The Reception staff team are warm and caring and quickly build strong relationships with the children. Teaching and learning in Reception is directed by the Early Years Foundation Stage Framework. It covers seven stages of learning, which are:

- Communication and Language: listening and attention, understanding and speaking
- Physical Development: moving and handling, health and self-care
- Personal and Social Developments: making relationships, self-confidence and self-awareness, managing feelings and behaviours
- Literacy: reading and writing
- Maths: numbers, shape, space and measures
- Understanding the World: people and communities, the world and technology
- Expressive Arts and Design: exploring and using materials, and being imaginative



A Typical Day in EYFS

- Doors open, registration, busy fingers
- Whole class carpet session
- Small group work and child initiated learning
- Snack
- Physical play
- Phonics session
- Lunch
- Whole class carpet session
- Group activities and child initiated learning
- Story/songs
- Home time



In addition to addressing all seven stages of learning, our curriculum is designed to promote the Characteristics of Effective Learning, which are:

- Playing and exploring
- Active learning
- Creating and thinking critically

At Uplands School, we aim to strike a balance between adult directed learning and opportunities for children to explore and learn independently.

Every day we have phonics lessons, following the *Letters and Sounds* programme. We also have a daily literacy session where we take inspiration from a wide variety of texts to inspire our reading and writing. We work with small groups of children to develop specific skills, alongside creating a stimulating learning environment where they can consolidate these skills independently.

Maths also happens daily, with supported and independent activities planned to support the development of mathematical skills and thinking.

In our afternoon sessions we take a topic-based approach to the wider curriculum. Our termly topics are:

- All About Me (Term 1 and 2)
- Brum Brum, Beep, Beep/ We Have Lift Off (Terms 3 and 4)
- Wonderful World (Terms 5 and 6)

During these sessions we ensure that the children have plenty of opportunity to explore ideas practically and to follow their own fascinations and interests.

The learning that takes place in Reception builds a strong foundation for the continued learning in KS1 and KS2.



“The Year 6 pupils ‘buddy up’ with Reception children at lunch to help them play.”

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Reception

The September after their fourth birthday, children are welcome to apply for a place in our lovely Merlins class. For admissions information, please refer to our school website: uplandsprimarystroud.co.uk/admissions

Key Stage 1

Years 1 and 2 make up Key Stage 1 and are in our large Owls classroom. Year 2 have more formal teaching and are taught separately for phonics and maths lessons. All Owls pupils enjoy plenty of group work and a variety of exciting learning opportunities.

Key Stage 2

Year 3, 4, 5 and 6 make up Key Stage 2 and are taught in Kestrels (Year 3 & 4) and Eagles (Years 5 & 6). All year groups are taught separately for English and maths lessons. Teaching in Key Stage 2 continues to build on the knowledge pupils have gained in Key Stage 1.

Times of the Day

School starts: 8.55am

Break: 10.45-11am

Lunch: 12.30-1.30pm

School ends: 3.25pm



Breakfast and After School Clubs

We run a school breakfast club each morning from 8am—8.55am. It is run by our own members of staff and costs £5.00 per day.

The children have a choice for breakfast which includes cereal, toast and fruit. Activities are also provided which include sports and arts and craft.

A variety of after school clubs are run by staff. These change termly but examples are sports, art, Lego, choir and mindfulness.

Assemblies

The school holds daily whole school assemblies. Assembly themes are determined as appropriate each term and include significant religious festivals. Parents are invited into school to celebrate their child's successes during Friday's Celebration Assembly and they are notified by text about this. Reception do not come to assemblies to begin with but as the year progresses, they begin to join in more regularly in preparation for the transition to Year 1.

Assemblies vary during the week and include Singing, Reading and Celebration assemblies. Other topics covered during assemblies include world events and school values. Polls are also taken regularly including whether the school should get a school dog.

School Dog

We are very fortunate to have a reading/therapy dog visit our school once a week. Spending time with a therapy dog can be good for a child's well-being and mental health: it is a gentle, non-intrusive method of working with children who need a little support with their learning or emotional needs.



“Pupils have an exemplary attitude to learning in lessons and they are very ready to help each other learn.”

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Attendance and Punctuality

Good attendance and punctuality helps children to settle in school and not miss out on vital learning and social experiences. It is the parents’ responsibility to ensure that there is good attendance and the Senior Leadership Team monitor attendance and contact parents should they become concerned.

Children need to be in school everyday unless they are ill or there are exceptional circumstances. We expect every child to have a minimum attendance of 95%.

If your child is late to school, please sign them in at the Office. Please also inform the Office of any medical appointments in advance and try to arrange these outside school hours if possible.

Holidays during term time will not be authorised and could result in parental fines.

Trips

School trips are an important learning opportunity and underpin the topics being taught in class. Each year group is taken on a variety of trips both local and further afield and the children really value these experiences.

In Eagle class (Year 5 and 6), we have a bi-annual residential trip. Children take part in a variety of activities, helping them to gain confidence and independence, and have fun, leaving them with lifelong memories.

Music Lessons

We currently offer piano, violin and guitar lessons in school through two independent music teachers. Please contact the Office for more information.

Please note these lessons are chargeable.



“Around the school, pupils are very considerate of each other and respectful to adults.”

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School Lunches

All children in Key Stage 1 (Reception, Year 1 and Year 2) are entitled to a free school meal at school each day. This continues into Key Stage 2 (Years 3 to 6) if your child is entitled to Free School Meals. For all children not entitled, meals are currently charged at £2.85 per meal.

Our school meals are supplied by Caterlink from another local primary school kitchen and we are very lucky to have such good quality food provided by Claire and her team.

School meals and trips can be paid for via ParentPay and we will provide you with login details.



“Behaviour is outstanding. “

Ofsted
February 2014

Uniform

BOYS

White or blue polo t-shirt
Blue school sweatshirt
Grey/navy/black trousers or shorts
Sensible black school shoes

GIRLS

White or blue polo t-shirt
Blue school sweatshirt
Grey/navy/black skirt, pinafore or trousers
Summer dress (blue and white)
Sensible black school shoes

BOYS AND GIRLS

PE T-shirt
Dark shorts
Daps or trainers
PE Bag

Book bag

Sun hat
Wellies

For Sports Day in the Term 6:
House colour T-shirt

Uniform can be purchased from Bateman’s Sports in Stroud. Non-monogrammed items of uniform can be purchased from supermarkets or other clothing stores.