

# Hillmorton Primary School



Aiming High

# Hillmorton Primary School

## Welcome to Hillmorton Primary School

I am delighted to welcome you and your child to Hillmorton Primary School.

We are a friendly, welcoming school with a dedicated staff and governing body committed to ensuring that every pupil has the opportunity to achieve their full potential.

We are fortunate in having excellent facilities which support us in providing the highest standards of education for your child. In partnership with parents and the community we strive to ensure continued academic success and develop personal qualities in pupils.

We look forward to being part of your child's development both intellectually and socially and we hope that you and your child will enjoy a happy, stimulating and fulfilling time at Hillmorton Primary School.

You are most welcome to arrange a visit to experience the school for yourself and meet the staff and pupils.

I look forward to meeting you.

**Catherine Crisp**  
Headteacher



Aiming High

## Quality Education – Quality Care

The SHAPE of the future for your child's education at Hillmorton:

### What do we want for every one of our children?

- We want them to be **Safe**
- We want them to be **Healthy**
- We want them to **Achieve**
- To make a **Positive contribution to their community**
- We want them to **Enjoy life and learning**

(2004 Education Act: Every Child Matters)

### A message from the Governors

Our governors and experienced staff, in partnership with parents and children, strive to obtain the very best education for each and every child. Together we make sure that each child feels valued, happy and successful in school.

**Eddie Fallon**  
Chair of Governors



## At Hillmorton we aim high to ensure that every child is.....

### SAFE

Our school building and site are well maintained and modern. We aim to work hard to continually improve them to make our school one to be truly proud of.

We want every child to enjoy school and have a sense of belonging in a safe and secure environment.

#### Our Facilities

We offer;

- a secure, safe classroom for each year group with its own external door and cloaks area;
- close access to toilets for all age groups;
- an outdoor classroom for our Foundation stage;
- playgrounds dedicated to different age groups for safer play;
- ramped access to many areas of the school;
- a lift to our assembly hall;
- security fencing around each playground;
- all visitors report to our office and sign in; from here we control access to the school via security doors;
- a breakfast club that operates within the school building for children from 3 to 11 years. Children may be handed over to a qualified member of staff at 8.00am;
- our policies are rigorous in the protection of children's rights and safety.

#### Attendance

Regular school attendance is an essential part of a good education and we place a high priority on encouraging this good practice. We aim for 95% attendance as a minimum for each child.

If your child is going to be absent from school, it is vital that you inform the school either by letter or telephone as we have a legal and moral obligation to discover if a child is safely at home with you and to report absence figures. Any anticipated long term absence should be discussed with either the class teacher, or the Headteacher. If it is unavoidable for your child to take a holiday during school term time we can only allow a maximum of ten school days in any academic year. In these circumstances please ask at the office for a 'holiday' form.

#### Behaviour

Most children settle easily into school. They make friends, are happy and work hard. There is a consistent whole school approach to behaviour in the school which promotes a secure, safe environment with clear boundaries, so everyone knows what is expected of them. Our behaviour policy underpins our equal opportunities policy and states clearly that at Hillmorton we will not tolerate bullying. The school expects a high degree of self-discipline from all the children attending. To help them we have a system of positive rewards and incentives in place. We encourage good manners and behaviour which will enable all pupils to work in harmony for the common good and help them to become responsible, caring citizens. If a child is having problems of any kind at school, early contact is made with parents or carers.

#### Medicines

Medicines cannot be administered by staff at school for obvious safety reasons but on the rare occasions when this is necessary we ask parents to meet with the Headteacher and complete a parental consent form. Inhalers for asthma or any similar condition where there is a need for immediate action are obviously treated differently.

If a child has an accident or is ill during the school day, every effort is made to contact you. It is therefore essential that we have an up to date contact number for you and also a number which we can contact in the case of an emergency.



## At Hillmorton we aim high to ensure that every child

### HEALTHY

We are committed to the education of the whole child beyond the narrow academic definition of education. Our school plays an important part in shaping attitudes towards a healthy lifestyle. We teach children about the food they eat, and the effects of it, and exercise, on their bodies. The range of physical activities available to our pupils through lessons and additional clubs, is broad and inclusive

Hillmorton participates in the national Healthy School scheme and is a registered Eco-School. We work hard to create a pleasant, health-conscious environment. We offer a curriculum that is enriched with opportunities for children to learn social, emotional and behavioural skills that will serve them well, now and in their adult lives.

We ask all parents to support our efforts by providing their child with healthy snacks of fruit, healthy lunch boxes and to ensure that their child brings their water bottle to school each day.

#### Healthy School Meals

Healthy, well-balanced school meals are cooked in our own kitchen. They are nutritious and good value for money.

The children are able to choose from our daily menu and there is always a vegetarian option. Dinner money for the week is usually paid each Monday morning in a named envelope. However, you may wish your child to have dinners on an occasional basis and this is easily accommodated. Children may bring their own lunch-box. For safety reasons cans and bottles are not acceptable.

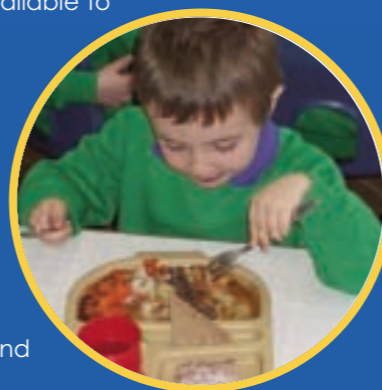
#### Fruit, Milk and Water

All of our children in Foundation and Key stage 1 receive a free piece of fruit as a playtime snack. We encourage Key stage 2 children to bring a piece of fruit for playtime or to purchase a piece of fruit from the Fruit snack bar which offers a selection of fruit and fruit drinks for the children to enjoy each day. Prices range from 15 to 30 pence. Children are encouraged to drink water throughout the day and to bring a clean freshly filled water bottle with them each morning. Milk is available for all children to enjoy at playtime if they so wish.

#### Relationship and Sex Education

At Hillmorton relationship and sex education forms part of the Personal, Social and Health Education and Science Programmes and as such begins in a fundamental way in Key Stage One in accordance with the National Curriculum. We aim to set sex education in a clear framework of values, taking care to match it with the age of the pupils involved.

Most of the sex education will be covered in years five and six where it is integrated with the topics of family life and caring relationships. It is taught in the summer term when the children are more mature. All year 6 parents and carers will be informed in advance of when sex education will be focused upon. The learning support videos and the school's sex education policy are both available to parents to borrow if they wish. Parents may choose to withdraw their children from all or part of the sex education programme. In this instance they need to speak to the Headteacher, so that alternative arrangements can be made.



## At Hillmorton we aim high to ensure that every child

### ACHIEVES

We always remember that children are individuals who are growing and learning so we plan our curriculum to include different teaching styles and activities. We use hands-on learning wherever possible to motivate and stimulate pupil interest. Pupils are taught as individuals, in small groups and whole classes. Monitoring allows us to track children's progress and offer support or further learning opportunities. Children are encouraged to assess their learning and are involved with teachers and parents in their half-termly target setting.

#### The School Curriculum

We provide a broad and balanced curriculum covering all subject areas, which enables children to develop mentally, physically, culturally, emotionally, socially and spiritually. The school's curriculum is structured to cover all the requirements of the National Curriculum. Children are taught:

- English, Maths, Science and RE - the core subjects
- ICT, Art, Geography, History, Music, PE, Design & Technology and PSHE - the Foundation subjects

Children also have the opportunity to learn French as they progress through Key Stage Two.

#### The Foundation Stage

The Nursery (Pre-school) and Reception class follow the Foundation curriculum which is progressive, building on the skills and knowledge that a child already has. The approach to learning is through structured play based activities which encourage the child to learn at their own pace and ability.

The areas of learning are:

- Personal Social and Emotional development
- Physical development
- Mathematics
- Knowledge and understanding of the world
- Creative development

These areas are addressed through various approaches and activities.

#### Special Educational Needs (SEN)

Every child is considered special at Hillmorton Primary School and all parents & carers are welcomed and encouraged to discuss their children and their needs.

Some children attending our school will have a particular educational need. In the case of children with special learning needs, provision is made through a differentiated curriculum and when it is appropriate, intervention programmes or activities are planned by the class teacher and the Special Needs Co-ordinator. Progress is regularly reviewed and parents & carers are kept up to date with progress made.

Children may have other needs e.g. physical or behavioural and these are dealt with sensitively in consultation with parents. Liaison with relevant outside agencies is carried out where necessary and appropriate.



## At Hillmorton we aim high to ensure that every child

### ACHIEVES (continued)....

#### Parent's & Carer's Meetings

Regular meetings are arranged for Parents & Carers to meet class teachers to review their child's progress and to exchange information, which may influence the child's development.

In addition there will be meetings for New Parents & Carers for those children transferring from Nursery into the school.

We hold curriculum open evenings which you are invited to attend. These events are an opportunity for teachers and pupils to share their learning with you in an evening that is both entertaining and informative.

#### Home-School Link books

The books are used to encourage dialogue between home and school. They include information, dates and reasons for absence. Achievements are noted in the book and pupil's homework is recorded. We encourage all parents to use the book as way of sending messages between home and school.

#### Homework

At Hillmorton we believe that it is important for all children to continue their learning at home and ask for parent's and carer's support. We believe homework has the potential to:

- raise standards;
- helps to form a firm relationship between home and school;
- makes you aware of what your child is doing at school and what they are able to do;
- encourages independence and good study habits.

We encourage parents and carers to read with their children regularly. Older children will bring home a variety of activities including spellings and numeracy work. A copy of our Homework policy is available upon request.

#### ICT

We are committed to providing the most up to date ICT equipment. Throughout the school pupils access electronic equipment with confidence, learning skills to equip them for working in the twenty-first century. Our website is updated on a monthly basis and includes children's contributions from each year group. ([www.hillmortonprimary.org.uk](http://www.hillmortonprimary.org.uk))

#### National curriculum testing

All children entering our Reception class will take part in the Foundation Stage Profile programme. Children will be assessed using National Curriculum targets at the end of Key Stage One, aged seven years and at the end of Key Stage Two, aged 11 years.

The results of these tests, along with teacher assessments will be included in pupil's reports. Details of these results can be found at the back of the prospectus.

#### Extra curriculum activities

We believe in offering children opportunities to find success and discover their talents in as many areas as possible – not just academic.

The staff provide a wide range of after school and lunchtime clubs and activities such as:

Football; netball; art; Irish dance; Key Stage One P.E. Skills; Cross-Country; Crafts, Chess, Board - games and Choir.

Some of the clubs and activities are seasonal and the choice of clubs may vary. Hillmorton is a member of a thriving sports association and regularly offers courses ranging from Yoga and Golf to Tag Rugby as well as regularly taking part in tournaments and competitions.

## At Hillmorton we aim high to ensure that every child

### POSITIVE

We strive to educate the 'whole child', reinforcing positive social, cultural and moral values. Pupils are able to make positive contributions to the school community through a variety of ways.

#### School Council

We are very proud of our School Council who take their responsibilities seriously. They understand that they are the "voice" of the children and have made many positive contributions to the school community. They have carried out questionnaires, seeking school community opinions and been instrumental in introducing healthy playtime snacks, "Friendship Benches" and taking a lead role in the devising of a School Travel Plan.

#### Pupil responsibilities

We encourage children to develop a sense of responsibility early on at Hillmorton. Not only responsibility for their own learning but also for the school as a community. Children at Hillmorton are given opportunities to help ensure the smooth day to day running of the school through their roles as monitors. Our older pupils enjoy showing visitors around the school or running Peer Mediation, which they do very ably and with great pride.

#### Celebrating Success

Children celebrate each other's success and achievements at our "sharing" assemblies and "Star of the Week" assemblies. Children receive certificates, badges and stickers. Every child in every class presents their current work through their class assembly which are always well supported and thoroughly enjoyed by everyone.

#### Working with the Community

At Hillmorton we have a strong sense of community. We contribute to our local community in a variety of ways such as litter picking, supporting local charities, linking with neighbouring schools and enjoying the contribution of the local Community Police and School Health team, and local religious groups to our school curriculum, all with the purpose of enriching our pupil's experience while they are with us. Our pupils demonstrate great care for each other, fostered by the good example of relationships within the school family.

#### Open Door

At Hillmorton we operate an "Open door" policy, creating as many opportunities as possible for parents and carers to join us and share the children's learning. Our Open Evenings are always well attended and give you the opportunity to see the school "at work". Concerts and events throughout the school year - Harvest Festival, Christmas, Easter and Sports day - give opportunities for you to become involved with the life of the school and for all children to contribute to the life of the school community.



# Hillmorton Primary School

## At Hillmorton we aim high to ensure that every child can ENJOY

Children learn best when they are happy and stimulated. One of the greatest measures of our success is when parents & carers say how much their child loves coming to school. It is a huge pleasure to share the development of children. Seeing them grow and flourish is a reward we can all share and enjoy.

### Visits and Visitors

Our dedicated staff work hard to organize visits and visitors to the school to enhance and enrich the children's learning throughout the school year. We hold themed weeks e.g. Health week and Art week each term that give us the opportunity to focus on a particular area of learning and organize a range of special events and visitors.

Children in each year group are taken on school trips to places of interest and we delight in taking our older children on a residential trip each year for outdoor pursuits.

### Charging for school activities

We try to have visits/visitors to enrich our work at school and for the pupil's personal and educational development.

We hope parents will realize these benefits and co-operate when from time to time we ask for money.

Schools cannot automatically charge for trips and other activities which take place in school time. The cost of such events is met by voluntary contributions. Children at Hillmorton are treated equally whether or not their parents/carers have made a contribution.

If parents/carers need support they should talk to the class teacher or the Headteacher.

If money collected for activities is insufficient, the events might have to be cancelled and any monies collected, returned.

### Friends of School

We are fortunate to have an active parents and carers association. The Friends of School organize numerous events throughout the year and help raise thousands of pounds towards various school projects. These events are an opportunity for the whole school and wider community to come together socially and are enjoyed by everyone, particularly the children.

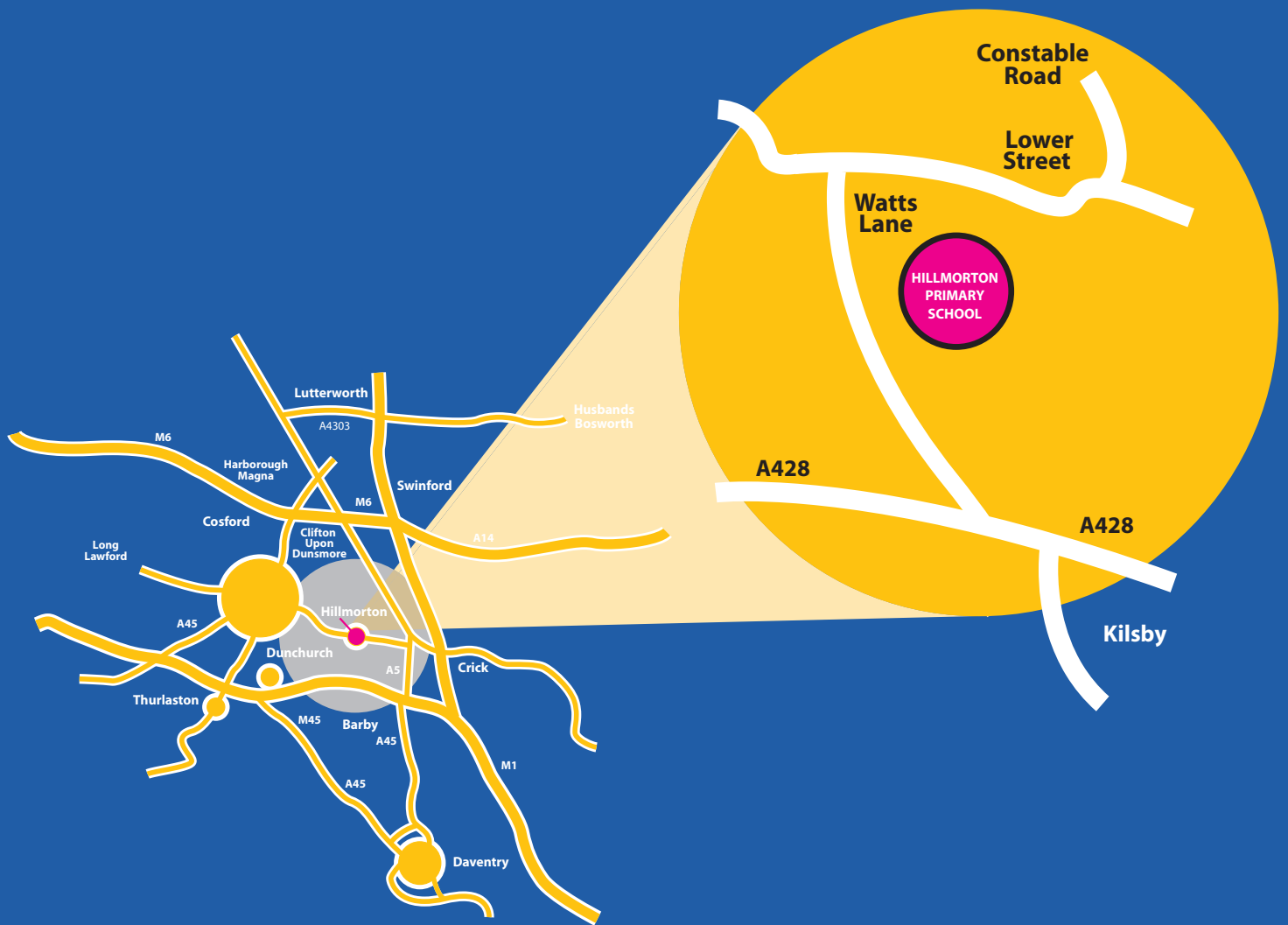
### Working together

Children benefit greatly when home and school work closely together. We encourage parents & carers to come into school to support the children's learning. Parent & carer support and participation in the life of the school is highly valued. Please contact either your child's teacher or the Headteacher if you are willing to help.

### Music

Children in Key Stage two have the opportunity to learn to play a musical instrument. The County Music Service visits the school weekly to offer tuition to our pupils. There is a wide range of instruments for children to choose from and also plenty of opportunities for all children to be involved throughout the school year – in musical assemblies and through special musical events where the children enjoy learning choral skills which are lively and fun.





### Hillmorton Primary School

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