

#### WHAT OUR PUPILS SAY:

*"I am looking forward to learning different things in Art, Maths, Citizenship."*

*"It will be fun to learn trickier songs !"*

*"I will enjoy playing sports in competitions against other Year 5s."*

*"I am looking forward to making new friends and having a bigger School Council."*

*"What will our writing be like in Year 6?!"*

*"We're going to get a brand new classroom and equipment like computers and a new log trail area."*

*"It will be great because there will be more older children to help take care of the younger children."*

#### WHAT WE OFFER

*Outstanding learning environments and the highest expectations for our community*

*Ambitious curriculum, which links learning to the real world, sports, the arts and problem solving*

*Staff, pupils and governors who are committed and dedicated to the long term success of our school and community*



#### THE BENEFITS OF STAYING AT WHALTON CE FIRST SCHOOL AS IT BECOMES WHALTON CE PRIMARY SCHOOL

- Your child will move school only once.
- Pupils will be in a familiar environment with familiar staff.
- Your child will have a class teacher who knows them and can ensure an appropriate level of challenge and support across all subjects.
- Your child will be taught by experienced upper Key Stage 2 staff.
- Your child is familiar with the ethos and values of the school.
- The new Whalton CE Primary School will feed directly into Ponteland High School.
- There will be stronger links with secondary school staff and students.
- Your child will have access to school, partnership and regional sporting opportunities.
- There will be regular opportunities to work with and build relationships with peers in partnership schools.

If you would like to discuss the changes at Whalton CE First School as it evolves into Whalton CE Primary School, please come to our Primary Meeting 5:30-6:30pm on Wednesday 3rd May 2017 or contact school to make a convenient appointment.

Nichola Brannen

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Our Primary Offer  
**Updated**  
information for  
all  
**Parents**

(March 2017)

**Year 5 & Year 6**  
**2017-9**



## EXTENDING OUR PROVISION INTO YEARS 5 AND 6

From September 2017 our school will become Whalton CE Primary School and we will be educating children from age 4 to 11.

By September 2017 we shall have a brand new classroom in between Class 1 and Class 2. The existing staff toilet will become a toilet for Year 5 and 6 girls and a new smaller staff toilet will also be built. In line with primary practice, there will be space for Year 5 and 6 boys and girls to change separately for PE - one group in the hall and the other in the sectioned off new cloakroom. Building has started, colours have been chosen and we intend to brighten up the whole school with a lick of paint and replacement of the carpets and flooring so all children will benefit from a fresh environment.

Thank you for responding to the Primary Questionnaire. It really helped us in the more practical considerations. Most of you would prefer to keep the current vibrant red with grey, with our existing logo but with a name change. Some people suggested a tie and a blazer, which we are very excited about. Come to our Primary Meeting where we can show you examples of the curriculum, planners and uniform. You can help us to make the final decisions regarding these things.

### Dates for your diary:

*Wednesday 3rd May 2017 5:30-6:30pm*— Primary Meeting for all parents

*Friday 21st July*— end of term service where the children will celebrate their years at Whalton CE First School. All children (those who are staying on at Whalton and those who are going to new schools) will be embarking on an exciting new adventure and our service will reflect this.

## UPPER KEY STAGE 2 CURRICULUM

We have visited Whittingham Primary, St Peters Elwick Primary, Hart Primary School and West Jesmond Primary School where we have been able to benefit from their experience especially Whittingham Primary, which has recently converted from First to Primary status. We have made several visits to the Outstanding Teaching School—West Jesmond Primary School, in Newcastle, where we have collected information to ensure that we are offering the very best possible curriculum provision in all areas. All of our staff have had experience of working in the Upper Key Stage 2 and following our visits we have planned next year's curriculum. We are extremely excited about the opportunity to build on the success of our Year 4s.

Our curriculum aims remain:

- To ensure high academic achievement
- To offer a rounded, holistic education
- To develop core values ie friendship, honesty forgiveness , hope and love
- To develop generic skills eg communication, collaboration
- To encourage children to reflect, question and challenge
- To develop self-confidence and high self-esteem
- To raise awareness of society, community and individual rights and responsibilities
- To instil curiosity and a love of learning
- To involve parents and carers
- To utilise the rich cultural and historic environment of Whalton, Northumberland and the North East
- To prepare Whalton CE Primary School children to make valuable and effective contributions to society
- To help children to foster high and varied aspirations
- To continue to build resilience

## EXTRA-CURRICULAR OPPORTUNITIES

Phil Hall delivered a series of badminton lessons to our Year 4s and as a result, a team of 4 was chosen to participate in a tournament in December. The children thoroughly enjoyed their competition and it was an excellent model and springboard for more competitive sporting events.

We continue to buy into the expertise of a variety of sporting coaches for our curriculum and support funding for after school clubs. Also we are opting into the competition arm of the Ponteland School Sports Partnership which will allow our children to compete with children from all the other schools in the Ponteland Partnership at selected festivals. We intend to develop the relationship we have with the other small schools, Belsay and Stamfordham by sharing Upper Key Stage 2 PE and venues regularly .

Music is a very important part of our school. We have whole class violin tuition for our Year 3/4s and a peripatetic guitar teacher comes in once a week. We would like to offer other instruments and would welcome ideas.

## JOURNEY THROUGH THE PARTNERSHIP

Ponteland Learning Alliance is the name adopted by Whalton, Heddon-on-the-Wall, Darras, Richard Coates, Ponteland, Stamfordham Primaries and Ponteland High School, to show our commitment in working together. In the Autumn Term there will be an opportunity for children from these schools, following auditions, to participate in a Shakespeare project. Plans are underway for a trip to Europe in the Spring term too! Immersion Days are planned for the next 2 years where the Upper Key Stage 2 children from the partnership make many visits to Ponteland High School for familiarity; to develop relationships; for the opportunity to use the facilities and to ensure the smooth transition from small school to big school and from Primary to Secondary.