



Marston Montgomery Primary School



Marston Montgomery Primary School

'Learning for Life'



Marston Montgomery Primary School



Dear Parents / Carers,

The Governors, staff and parents extend a warm welcome to Marston Montgomery Primary School.

Our prospectus aims to help you to become familiar with some of the many aspects of our small, village school.

Our school is situated in the heart of the village and has been part of the communities of Cubley and Marston Montgomery for many years. It continues to thrive and grow on these strong connections to its surroundings.

Being small gives us the advantage of a happy, family atmosphere where 'Learning for Life' is at the heart of everything we do. Through individual attention, we provide an environment in which children are encouraged to flourish and achieve high standards in the many aspects of the modern curriculum.

The Governors are an enthusiastic body of people from the local community, including parents. They are keen to work with the staff of the school so that every child leaves with a passion for 'Learning for Life'. Together they manage and extend the range of resources at the school and monitor our work, so that our children have access to the best possible education.

Please come and visit us to learn more about our happy school.

Kind regards

Teresa Bosley
Head teacher.

If you need this brochure in a different format, please contact the school office.
Thank you.



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Applying for a school place for your child

You can apply on line by visiting the Derbyshire County Council Website:

www.derby.gov.uk/education-and-learning/schools-and-colleges/primary-school-admissions/

Our school website contains a link to this page.

To make an application you can:

- apply online - it's quick and easy and lets you track the progress of your application
- apply by phone on 01332 642730 - this takes around 10 minutes and you will need to know the name of the school you are applying to
- apply using a paper form - telephone 01332 642730 to request a paper form.

**If you need help please contact us on
01889 590373**



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Introduction to our school



We hope this booklet will give you the information you need to introduce you to our school. Nothing can replace first-hand experience so please feel free to come and meet us and judge for yourself the merits of our very special school.

Contact Information

Head Teacher: Mrs Teresa Bosley
Chair of Governors: Mrs Rachael Housley Bates
Head of Key Stage 1: Miss Ashleigh Harris
Head of Key Stage 2: Mrs Janet Beloe
Business Administrator: Mrs Amanda Lovett
Telephone Number: 01889 590373

Address:
Marston Montgomery Primary School,
Thurvaston Road,
Marston Montgomery,
Ashbourne,
Derbyshire
DE6 2FF

E-mail:
info@marstonmontgomery.derbyshire.sch.uk

Marston Montgomery Primary School is maintained by Derbyshire County Council Local Authority catering for children from the age of rising five up to the age of eleven when they transfer to secondary school. The school currently has two classes; infants and juniors. Children enter full time education in the Autumn term of the academic year that they are 5. The Local Authority is the admission authority and is responsible for school admissions. Please refer to the Derbyshire County Council website or our 'Admissions Policy' on our website for more information.

Times of Opening

9.00am – 3.30pm
Lunchtime is 12.15pm – 13:15pm.
Children may arrive in the morning at 8.45am and will be supervised in the playground from this time.

Office Hours

The Head Teacher has weekly non-contact time. Please make an appointment by contacting the school and speaking to our Business Administrator, Mrs Lovett.



Marston Montgomery Primary School



Our School Vision

Our Mission Statement

To develop, support and educate every child for themselves, their families, the village and the whole community.



Our School Vision

We are a village school working in partnership with children, families, staff and the local community to develop, support and educate each child so that they can succeed now and throughout their lives.

Our school will be a place where

- We are happy and safe.
- We love to learn for ourselves.
- We are confident and value the individualities of others.
- We are tolerant of others and respect them and their cultures.
- We are good citizens of a modern Britain.

At our school we are happy and safe because,-

- We look out for each other and are kind to each other.
- We are friends with everybody, all of us play together.
- We all have friends.
- We are tolerant of others.
- We are careful around school and around each other.
- There is no bullying.
- If someone is doing something we do not like we ask them not to.
- We smile.

At our school we love to learn for ourselves because,-

- We love to learn new things.
- We keep on trying and do not give up.

- We stay on the task we are given.
- We are proud of our achievements.
- We are always ready to learn and are enthusiastic.
- We learn independently.
- We are ready for new challenges.

At our school we are confident and value the individualities of others because

- We are ourselves
- We have confidence in ourselves because our learning makes us confident.
- We get to know each other and never judge a book by its cover
- We accept others differences, respecting everyone's individual qualities.
- We help others with their difficulties.
- We live a happy, healthy life.

At our school we are tolerant of others and respect them and their cultures because

- We respect everyone's differences
- We respect the beliefs of others.
- We respect other cultures.
- We learn about other cultures and religions so that we can respect them.
- We are not racist.

At our school we are good citizens of a modern Britain

- We are friendly to everybody we see
- We are kind and patient with others.
- We help other people in our local community and beyond.
- Do something in life – get a job, get a life.
- We learn to use new technologies, e.g. I-Pads
- We are positive and behave well.
- We look after our environment, both locally and further afield.



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What is Special about a Small School?

The village school can:-

- Develop close, friendly, relaxed relationships between child and teacher and parent and teacher.
- Provide personalised learning in our small classes.
- Create a 'family' atmosphere based on co-operation rather than competition.
- Act as a centre of community for village life.
- Provide good continuity for each child's education.
- Offer a greater degree of flexibility in organisation of teaching and the arrangement of the school day.

Naturally, it is also important to create time when we can be available to answer your questions and generally chat about our school. Starting school can be a big change for everyone in a family and we do realise how precious your child is. Let us reassure you that it can also be an exciting time and we welcome everyone to become as involved as they wish to be!



It is our aim that everyone is well motivated with an energy and excitement in their own learning that will serve them well, long after their school days are over, thus enabling our children to face the future in further education and the world beyond with confidence in themselves and their abilities.



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Our Curriculum

How will my child be taught?

The foundation subjects of the National Curriculum are taught at Marston in accordance with the statutory documents. New National Curriculum Core subjects are English, Maths, Science, R.E, and Computing. The Foundation Subjects are Technology, History, Geography, Music, Art, Physical Education and PHSE Education. It is our intention that by the end of their primary schooling the pupils will be in a position to relate the National Curriculum to their growing knowledge of the wider world and beginning to realise the part they can play caring for it. This lends itself to the cross-curricular approach we use at Marston Montgomery Primary School.

The Teaching of English

Our philosophy echoes the recommendation of the new National Curriculum. A considerable amount of time is given to speaking, listening and responding, drama, reading and writing.

Often our English is linked to other curriculum topics using a whole class and sometimes group work approach. An extensive range of materials are used to teach English, which includes computing and presentation skills. Our children take part in a daily phonics, spelling or grammar session. Children bring home an appropriate reading book and a reading record for parents to record reading and add comments.

Spelling lists are sent home as appropriate and activities are used in school to support learning of spelling and grammar rules. Drama and role-play are of high importance. We perform school concerts each year where every child plays a part.

The Teaching of Mathematics

Mathematics should be enjoyable, and it is the aim of the school to instil good mathematical practices that will equip the child for life in the 21st century. The school implements the New Curriculum for mathematics, through the 'Big Maths' scheme. The children spend at least 45 minutes in KS1 and 1 hour in KS2 on maths each day. Mental maths skills are given high priority.

Mathematics work is designed to give a grounding in such concepts as counting and calculating, securing number facts and relationships, understanding shape and handling data and measure. Problem solving and reasoning then further develop the children's learning. Where appropriate, maths is included in other areas of the curriculum.

The Teaching of Science

In our science work, pupils acquire scientific knowledge and understanding, through experimentation and investigation. Children are encouraged to approach science by devising investigations, observing, measuring and evaluating.

The Teaching of Computing

Computing is now playing a major role within the curriculum. In Computing lessons, the children learn skills so that they can apply them to other subjects in the curriculum. They also



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learn programming skills at a level that is appropriate to their age.

The children have ready use of the internet and its endless resources and use interactive whiteboards, laptops and i-Pads as an integral part of teaching and learning.

Other Areas of the Curriculum

Children are taught to develop an appreciation of the surrounding environment and to care for their school, village and homes. History and Geography skills are taught through a topic based approach, which enables children to learn about life in the past and the world around them.

These subjects are supported by educational visits, visitors to school, artefacts and a variety of media.

Children are encouraged to develop their creativity through Art, Design and Technology, Music and Dance.

Physical education is introduced to the children in the form of gymnastics, games, dance, athletics and swimming for older pupils. We hold an annual sports afternoon with all the children taking part. The children have an opportunity to take part in a wide range of tournaments.



Religious Education?

Religious Education is part of the curriculum as a statutory requirement and at Marston; there is a non-denominational act of worship held every day. Close contact is kept with the local vicar and other local religious leaders.

If you wish your child to withdraw from any act of worship, it is your right to do so. However, it is important for all of us to appreciate the differing beliefs and cultures that exist in our world and to understand other points of view.

Dealing with feelings of anxiety, jealousy, temper and sadness are often difficult for children, particularly young children, to understand, hence our format for assembly is often to come to terms with, express, share and deal with life's difficulties and celebrations.



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Relationships and Sex Education

We have a policy on Relationships and Sex Education and the teachers do attempt to deal factually and honestly with children's questions about physical differences between the sexes and about human reproduction. Such questions might arise as part of the wider curriculum when children are working on projects concerned with themselves and human development.

Children are taught about different relationships (e.g. friendships) through our PHSE curriculum.



Home / School Links

Our Homework Policy acknowledges that education is something that happens at home as well as at school. Children are expected to reinforce the basic skills at home, depending on their age they are expected to do this for different amounts of time. Older pupils may also be given formal homework.

We do ask parents to support the school by taking an interest in the work being done, whether it be listening to a child read, learning spellings or times tables. Your support is invaluable in helping your child.

We have a home school agreement, which we ask parents, children and the Governors to sign when your child starts school.

Rules

We feel it is important that we work in partnership to develop the children's approach and ability to deal with life's pleasures and problems. We are keen on good manners and respect for others. Good effort in all school activities, good attitude to work and others and a willingness to try their best are qualities that we reward. We use a Behaviour Ladder to promote positive behaviour and a system of merits recorded in their own personal log to encourage positive work routines. Our behaviour policy is available in school or on the website.



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Other Useful Information

Child Protection

Parents should be aware that the school will take any reasonable action to ensure the safety of its pupils. In cases where the school has a reason to be concerned that a child may be subject to ill-treatment, neglect or other forms of abuse, staff have no alternative but to follow County Procedures for safeguarding of children, and to inform social services of their concern. Our safeguarding and child protection policy is available on the school website or from the school office.

We do not wish to alarm you with this statement but remember it is our duty to make sure all pupils are safe at all times.

How do I see the school about my child?

We have a parent interview evening twice a year, usually in the autumn and spring terms. A written annual report is sent out in the summer term. These will give parents the opportunity to discuss their child's progress and achievements throughout each year. On occasions, we open the school for open days or curriculum workshops and you would be invited to these as appropriate.

If you have any concerns you are welcome to make an appointment with the class teacher or head teacher at a mutually convenient time to discuss these.

Holiday

Head teachers can only authorise term time absence if there are exceptional circumstances. Please contact the school office if you need to discuss an absence, at your earliest convenience.

These are new regulations, which have been made by the Government and not by the school. The school has to adhere to these new regulations to avoid being in breach of the law.

Special Needs

The Local Authority is the admission authority and is responsible for school admissions. The school has in place an Equalities and Special Needs Policy which states no child with disability or special need will be treated less favourably than those without, in considering applications for admission. Our policies are reviewed annually.

We do have wheelchair access and disabled facilities on both levels of the school. We have in place a Disability Equality Scheme and Accessibility Plan. A copy is available on request.

Absences

Please telephone school by 9.15am on the first day of your child's absence to explain the reason, as we are required to compile records of absences. Regular attendance at school is essential if your child is to be given the opportunity to make at least satisfactory progress.

The school has a commitment to provide the best possible education for your child and this cannot be achieved if attendance is poor. We have a duty to provide attendance data to the local authority. The school will inform parents if attendance or punctuality becomes a problem.



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First Aid and Medication

We have first aid facilities and competent staff at school who undergo regular training. We will always contact you should the need arise in cases of ill health or injury. We only administer prescribed medication and only following local authority guidelines.

We do have a full policy on the administration of medicines available in school and on the website. Should you need further advice please contact the school office before sending any medicine to school with a child.

Medical Conditions Policy Statement

Marston Montgomery Primary School is an inclusive community that aims to support and welcome pupils with medical conditions.

We aim to provide all pupils with all medical conditions the same opportunities as others at school.

We will help to ensure they can:

- be healthy
- stay safe
- enjoy and achieve
- make a positive contribution
- achieve economic well-being.



The school ensures all staff understand their duty of care to children and young people in the event of an emergency and all staff feel confident in knowing what to do in an emergency.

Marston Montgomery Primary School understands that certain medical conditions are serious and can be potentially life threatening, particularly if ill managed or misunderstood.

We understand the importance of medication being taken as prescribed.

All staff understand the common medical conditions that affect children at this school. Staff receive training on the impact medical conditions can have on pupils.

Dress

There is a school uniform. The suggested colours are grey/black trousers or skirts with white/red blouses or shirts, with red sweatshirts. Sweatshirts with the school logo on which can be purchased online from Tesco. All children need a pair of plimsolls, a white T-shirt and blue or black shorts for P.E. Other sports clothes such as tracksuits for outdoor games on the field are useful; Trainers are suitable for activities such as football or hockey. All clothing must be labelled with your child's name, as should coats and bags. The children will need a small drawstring bag in which to keep their kit on their peg.

Bags, with the school logo, for books and homework etc. can be purchased online from Tesco. Jewellery that could cause injury or despair, if lost, would be better kept at home. Children with long hair need to have it tied back at school.



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School Meals

Meals are cooked on the premises. They are optional, payment for these being made on Mondays. Cheques can be paid to Derbyshire County Council. If your child is coming in late, it is essential that we know if a meal is required, by 9.15am, at the latest. Children going home for lunch may leave at 12.15pm and must return by 1.15pm.

All children in Reception and Key Stage 1 (Years 1 and 2) are entitled to a free school meal. This is a new government initiative.



Parental Involvement

Parents are busy people but we do welcome help in many areas of our extensive curriculum. If you have a regular slot you can offer us each week for an hour or half a day that would be wonderful, if not then there are always incidental openings at all our events and fund raisers! Areas in which parents have helped are many – reading, computer work, sewing, apparatus etc. If you have a talent and want to help then let us know.

Educational Visits

These form part of our varied curriculum. Visits often support our topic work and help to bring it alive and make it interesting.

Children also have the opportunity for collective musical experiences on and off site. All are involved in a concert at Christmas or the end of the year and the Harvest Festival held at either Marston or Cubley Church. The children always design and decorate a well for the annual Well Dressing fete in June.

We do have to ask for a voluntary contribution towards the cost of some educational outings.

Fundraising at Marston School

Over the year, there are a variety of fundraising activities, which take place. We fundraise for the school and for various charities.

Events for the school have provided many much needed resources and help for the school. All family members are invited to help with and support our fundraising activities.





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Life Before and After Marston



Marston Tots

Our Tots group meet every week in school. Please come along and join them, there are plenty of activities out and one of these is always a craft activity.

Secondary Education

Most of our children transfer at the completion of Year Six to Queen Elizabeth's Grammar School (QEGS), in Ashbourne.

We have regular contact with QEGS to make a large school less daunting to children from small village schools such as ours. We also have plenty of liaison between the schools to ease the transition. We have contact with other small schools through various activities allowing children contact with peers from other areas. Staff from QEGS will visit and meet year 6 pupils during their final year.

Pre-School / Starting at Marston

Pre-school visits will be arranged in liaison with you and the pre-school or nursery attended by your child.

Your child will receive an invitation to join the infant class for a few sessions in the summer term prior to them starting school. They will also be invited to enjoy a school meal.

Every child has different needs, therefore this arrangement is very flexible and you will always be consulted. It is natural you will be enthusiastic to hear all about your child's first day, sometimes they do not want to tell you!

They are often absolutely exhausted; you can reassure yourself by popping in, or phoning school to talk to a member of staff. Always say goodbye to your child even if it is difficult for you as this establishes trust and a routine. If you think your child will be upset come and let the teacher know so that she can be on hand to reassure.



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