



With the deadline for school applications looming, choosing the right school partnership for your child is a current priority. Our prospective parent meetings are your opportunities to ask any questions you might have. Here are some of the questions parents have asked to help make this decision about 'big school' as easy as possible.

How does the school communicate with parents and involve them in the life of the school?

We use a range of ways to interact with parents, we put on events where you are able to join in and build your relationships with us and other parents, plus assemblies and other occasions where you can celebrate your child's achievements. We carry out regular parent surveys to find out how parents think we are doing and to look at what we can do better. We often ask parents to join us to discuss new initiatives so that we have parent's views.

You can see our [latest parent survey results here](#).

How does the school support my child's learning?

We teach a mastery curriculum in a thematic way, which means that our children learn through relevant engaging topics and we expect all children to master key skills in reading, writing and maths. We love our Maths at school and support our pupils well in achieving excellent results.

Each term, your child's class teacher will provide you with an outline of what your child will be learning in school and what sort of things you can be doing at home to supplement their learning. We invite our new parents into the class to watch the children learning phonics and support you in helping your child further at home. We start sending reading books home from the start of term; these will often be books to share until your child has a grasp on phonics.

Some parents will be aware that their child needs some additional support, whether it's to help them to reach age-related expectations or stretch those who are more able. We encourage you to share your concerns with school staff as they will be able to put your mind at ease.

Your first parents evening should not be your first chance to find out properly how your child is getting on at school, you will have frequent opportunities to share your child's learning journey through daily communication and contact via our secure Tapestry system. All staff are also available via email.

We all need to speak to the teacher every now and then. Small queries may be dealt with by having a quick word after school or leaving a message with the school office, while for bigger concerns, you may need to email staff or ask to arrange a meeting. However, whatever the issue, you can always reach your child's teacher to give you peace of mind.

You can find out more on [our website pages](#).

Are there clubs, before and after school?

Our school runs morning and afternoon care from 7.40am to 6pm. Children are cared for in mixed age groups and have a blend of free play and adult led activities such as baking, sport and craft. Children can attend other school run sports clubs after school and be collected by our club playleaders. All staff caring for children are employed and trained by the school and follow our school values. Our wrap around club really is a special place to be.

[Find out more here...](#)

What are the lunchtime arrangements?

Lunchtime can feel like a big deal if your child is less confident trying different foods. For the first three years in school, your child is entitled to a free school lunch and we would encourage you to take this option.

We offer four meal choices daily and our older pupils are allowed to bring in packed lunches and can pick and choose the days that they want a school meal. Our current menu is [published here](#) so that you and your child can see what is coming up and choose what they are going to eat on certain days.

For the first three years at school, our children are also provided with a daily mid-morning fruit snack to keep them going. You can also sign your child up to have milk at school. This is free until your child turns 5 years old.

Our oldest children undertake Play Leader training and support the youngest children in school by helping children at lunchtime, setting up and leading play activities and looking out for children who need a friend. We also pair our youngest children with older pupils as buddy readers, so that your child gets to build strong caring relationships with the older children.

What experiences does the school offer the children?

We actively encourage and develop pupil leadership skills in school. We have a School Council, Eco Committee, Anti-Bullying Council, House leaders, Peer Mediators, Play Leaders and Junior Travel Ambassadors. A specialist teacher, teaches our children Spanish from year three (7 and 8 years olds). We have chosen Spanish as our additional language because at most secondary schools, children will go on to study Spanish.

We offer extra-curricular clubs at lunchtime and before and after school so children can participate in activities that can't be squeezed in to the school day. Most clubs are offered to the older children, as the younger ones can be very tired at the end of the day.

[Find out more here...](#)

How do you deal with medical issues?

Parents complete a medical consent form when your child is enrolled and the office keeps a note of all of the medical conditions made known to us. Parents/carers of children who use an inhaler or epipen should ensure that they have a spare one in school. These will be labelled and available for use by the child as required.

Many young children are less than reliable at using the loo, and even children who have been toilet trained for years can slip up. Staff are used to dealing with accidents, but it might put your mind at rest to keep a bag of spare clothes at school.

We have a large number of trained paediatric First Aiders in school. They are also responsible for the storage and management of medicines, the assessment of a child's injury or condition and the administration associated with First Aid.

If a child sustains a minor injury in school then it will be treated and you will be informed by email. If a child has a serious injury or is unwell, then you will be contacted and the situation discussed. If we were unable to make contact with a parent or if your child needs immediate medical care, we will arrange for them to be seen by paramedics. It is absolutely vital that we have accurate emergency contact details for all of our parents and that we are informed of any changes in medical conditions immediately.

Is this a happy school and is it the right one for my child?

Our staff have a wealth of experience in helping children adapt to school life. If there are any wobbles, we will work with you to ensure that your child has the best possible start to their school life. You can read [our positive behaviour policy here](#).

Following our prospective parent meetings, you will hopefully have had enough of an opportunity to make your mind up about whether this is the right school for you and your child. Have a look at our school website, read our parent survey and Ofsted report. By then, you should be in a good position to make an informed decision about whether this is the right school for you and your child.

From the staff at Meldreth Primary School - we wish you well.