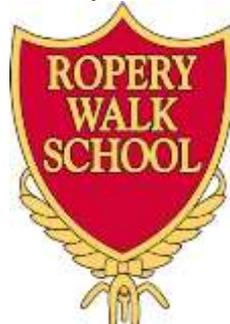


# Ropery Walk Primary School Prospectus



Ropery Walk Primary School, Seaham



Ropery Walk Primary School  
 Ropery Walk  
 Seaham  
 County Durham  
 SR7 7JZ  
 Tel. 0191 5813959  
 E-mail: [roperywalk@durhamlearning.net](mailto:roperywalk@durhamlearning.net)  
 Website: [www.roperywalk.durham.sch.uk](http://www.roperywalk.durham.sch.uk)  
 Head Teacher - Mrs. Angela Bell

This document tells you about our school.  
 Ropery Walk Primary School is for children from 4 - 11 years of age. There are currently 260 children in the school divided into 13 classes. Classes are arranged as follows:

Reception	Mrs. G. Thompson
Reception	Mrs. A. Colman/Mrs. S. Robinson
Yr. 1	Miss M. Devlin
Yr. 1	Mrs. J. Brotchie
Yr. 2	Miss K. Fowler
Yr. 2	Miss C. Armstrong
Yr. 3	Miss Beadle
Yr. 3	Miss Middlemass
Yr. 4	Miss C. Aird
Yr. 4/5	Mr. A. Brown
Yr. 5	Miss A. Johnston
Yr. 6	Mrs. S. Storey
Yr. 6	Mrs. C. Donaldson

Deputy Head Teacher: Miss M. Devlin  
 SENCO: Miss M. Devlin  
 Assistant Head Teacher/ Lower KS2 Leader: Mrs. S. Storey

Teaching Support Staff	
Mrs. L. Reilly	HLTA
Ms. K. Burgess	HLTA
Mrs. R. Curtis	Teaching Assistant
Miss N. Dinsdale	Teaching Assistant
Mrs C. Fletcher	Teaching Assistant
Mrs. A. Hornsby	Teaching Assistant

Miss T. Huntingdon	Teaching Assistant
Miss A. McCabe	Teaching Assistant
Mrs. T. Neil	Teaching Assistant
Mr. J. Osmond	Teaching Assistant

Office Manager	Miss M. Button
Place 2 Be Manager	Mrs. H. Johnson
Education Welfare Officer	Mrs. P. Lythgoe
Caretaker	Mr. M. Henshaw
Lunchtime Supervisory Assistants	Mrs. T. Ajiboye, Mrs. T. Brown, Miss K Charlton, Mrs. S. Curtis, Mrs. S. Purvis, Mrs. L. Grey, Mrs. M. Wallace
Cleaners	Mrs. S. Purvis, Mrs A. Morris
Cook	Mrs. J. Sinclair

### **School Governors**

- Mrs A. Bell - Head Teacher
- Mrs S. Storey - Staff Representative
- Mrs. C. Fletcher - Staff Representative
- Mrs K Smith - Co-opted
- Ms V. Barnes - Co-opted
- Dr. V. Boliver - Parent
- Mr. S. Joyce - Parent

Clerk to Governing Body - Lynn Fenwick

Governor Support Link Officer  
 South Eastern Division  
 County Hall  
 Durham  
 DH1 5UJ

## Our Vision

### **We believe:**

- That children are our priority and that we want them to reach their full potential
- Our role as staff is to do our very best for the children at all times

### **We want our children to:**

- Enjoy school and be happy
- Achieve the very best they can
- To have equality of opportunity
- To have respect for themselves and others
- To become resilient, life long learners

### **We will bring this about by:**

- Providing the best teaching and learning experiences we can
- Providing an exciting and engaging curriculum
- Nurturing each individual and showing respect for the rights of each child
- Providing a stimulating, exciting and safe environment
- Engaging parents and the wider community in school life
- Not wasting a minute because every minute counts

### **Only the best will do for our children**

### **Our Mission Statement:**

**to provide a joyful learning environment that empowers children to reach their educational and personal potential while nurturing their self-confidence and self-esteem.**

The School has a Senior Leadership Team which works with the support of the LA and the Governors to manage and lead the school. The Senior Leadership Team work to set targets for the school, to plan for resources and to design training for staff.

## **Ethos and Values**

Staff and Governors work with the Local Authority to ensure that all our children receive a broad and well-balanced education and we aspire to create an atmosphere of both excellence and enjoyment for our pupils. Our aim is to create a happy and secure environment in which our children can explore and investigate, listen and discuss in order to acquire those basic skills of reading, writing, handling numbers and computer literacy which will allow them to make good progress in all aspects of the curriculum. We ensure all our pupils have equal access to provision and resources in order that every child has the opportunity to maximise their potential and be successful.

Success in our school is valued and celebrated and hard work and effort are rewarded.

## **The Curriculum**

We recognise Literacy, Numeracy, Science and ICT as being vital elements of the curriculum but we also understand the need for pupils to learn a wide variety of subjects.

All pupils study History, Geography, R.E, Design and Technology, P.E, Music, Art and P.S.H.E. Pupils in Key Stage 2 study French language and culture. This breadth is essential in developing all round students who are able to thrive in an ever changing world. The school has policy statements for each curriculum subject formulated by staff and governors. Arrangements can be made to see any policy by appointment with the Head Teacher.

## **Discipline and Behaviour**

It is a primary aim of our school that every member of the school community feels valued and respected, and that each person is treated fairly and well. We are a caring community, whose values are built on mutual trust and respect for all. The school's Behaviour Policy is therefore designed to support the way in which all members of the school can live and work together in a supportive way. It aims to promote an environment where everyone feels happy, safe and secure.

Any pupil behaviour which disrupts the learning of other pupils, or poses a health and safety risk is unacceptable. This includes low-level disruptive behaviour, bullying and incidents of verbal abuse, physical violence or assault.

The school has a number of rules, but our Behaviour Policy is not primarily concerned with rule enforcement. It is a means of promoting good relationships,

so that people can work together with the common purpose of helping everyone to learn. This policy supports the school community in aiming to allow everyone to work together in an effective and considerate way.

The school expects every member of the school community to behave in a considerate way towards others. This policy aims to help children grow in a safe and secure environment, and to become positive, responsible and increasingly independent members of the school community. The school rewards good behaviour, as it believes that this will develop an ethos of kindness and co-operation. This policy is designed to promote good behaviour, rather than merely deter anti-social behaviour. The school Behaviour Policy is available in school for any parent to view in more detail.

### **Admissions**

All parents who wish to visit the school before applying for a place are most welcome to do so by appointment with the Head teacher.

Children are admitted to full time primary education at the beginning of the school year in which they will be five years old. The school follows the LA admissions policy which can be obtained by contacting school or by contacting County Hall in Durham. All admissions are dealt with by the Authority which consults with the Governing Body before allocating places.

### **School Uniform**

We encourage the wearing of our uniform which consists of:

- grey trousers or skirt
- white or pale blue polo shirt
- navy sweatshirt with school badge

In summer girls may wear a navy checked summer dress and boys may wear grey shorts and polo shirts. Children are encouraged to wear school shoes rather than trainers.



Examples of our winter and summer uniform.

School PE kit should be a pale blue T-shirt and navy shorts. It is essential that children wear appropriate footwear (trainers or plimsolls) for PE. Children will not be permitted to do PE wearing inappropriate shoes for health and safety reasons. Children are also discouraged from wearing football tops in PE lessons.

Sweatshirts, polo shirts, PE tops and school coats/fleeces embroidered with the school badge, can all be purchased from JD Fashions in the town.

Please ensure your child's name is marked inside all items of uniform, in particular, sweatshirts and coats.

We have a Code of Conduct in school which has been devised by our Governors and which states that unsuitable items of clothing e.g. football clothes, items of jewellery and extreme haircuts are not allowed. We ask for parental support in maintaining this.

### **Session Times**

Please be aware that there is no supervision on our yards until 8.45am. Our children are brought into school by the teachers on duty at 8.50a.m. Each day begins with an assembly as we think it is important that the day begins with a period of time that is peaceful, religious and where we can reflect on the wonders of our world.

Lunch break is from 11.45am - 1.00p.m. for infant children and from 12.15 - 1.00p.m. for junior children. All children finish at 3.15p.m.

### **Religious Education and Collective Worship**

Our school provides children with Religious Education that contains both Christianity and elements of the other major world religions in accordance with the policy that is laid down by our L.A. Our Collective Worship follows the same lines. All R.E. lessons and all Assemblies are for all our children, unless special agreement has been reached with parents who may withdraw children from Religious Education or Collective Worship. Parents who feel they may wish to withdraw their child should discuss this with the Head Teacher, in order to make alternative arrangements.

Friday Assembly is a celebration event where each teacher selects a child who has done some good work or has demonstrated good behaviour or some other quality around school. The children come out to the front and receive a certificate.

### **Attendance and Lateness**

As you are aware it is a legal requirement that children attend school regularly. Pupils with poor attendance find it difficult to learn routines and often their general learning in the classroom is affected. We understand that children are ill from time to time. If your child is absent we ask that school is informed by telephone on the first day of absence and a note is brought into the teacher on returning to school. It is also important that pupils are on time. Our office staff monitor all attendance and telephone parents of pupils who are frequently late or absent. Pupils who arrive after the start of school are marked late in the register. The register is checked each week by an Education Welfare Officer who investigates unauthorised absence or persistent lateness.

As of 1<sup>st</sup> September 2013 the school is not able to authorise holidays for pupils during term time. Amendments to the government regulations make it clear that schools '*may not grant any leave of absence during term time unless there are exceptional circumstances.*' Under Section 23 of the Anti-Social Behaviour Act, 2003, schools have the power to issue penalty notices in cases of unauthorised holidays in school term time.

### **Authorised and Unauthorised Attendance 2019/2020:**

Number of pupils of compulsory school age on roll: 256

Authorised absence in the period: 2.66%

Unauthorised absence in the period: 0.99%

### **Lunchtime**

Lunch is provided in the school dining hall with all food prepared on site. We have lunchtime supervisors with responsibility for the safety and welfare of the children at lunchtime. We expect the same high level of behaviour at lunchtime as we have during the rest of the school day. School lunches are nutritionally balanced and made with food which has reduced fat, sugar and salt. Packed lunches may be brought if preferred and eaten in the dining hall under supervision. The cost of a school meal is £2.10 per day.

Infant children receive free fruit at morning break.

### **Extra Curricular Provision**

The school has a Sports block comprising: sports hall, floodlit all weather sports pitch, playing fields and a mini ICT suite.

All our pupils have the opportunity to take part in high quality after school sports, arts and academic activities. We have programmes running delivered by teachers, visiting coaches and the local School Sports Co-ordinators. Extra curricular classes run most nights between 3.15 and 4.15 pm and are free to our pupils.

We have a Breakfast Club every morning from 8:00am: this currently costs £1.00 per day.

### **Extra Curricular Classes and Clubs**

Our current programme offers at different times of the year:

- Football
- Cricket
- Gymnastics
- Health Related Fitness
- Netball
- Tennis
- Dance
- Film Club
- Bright Sparks Science Club



We work well with the local community and are always looking for opportunities to offer new and exciting activities.

### **Special Educational Needs Policy**

Within our school we have a Policy of Education for SEN pupils. This policy ensures that children who have special needs are identified early in their time with us. At times they are identified by Seaham Harbour Nursery School and we liaise closely in these instances to provide suitable education for these children.

Staff meet regularly with our Special Needs Co-ordinator to discuss which children are felt to be in need of support in school. These children may then be identified as having Special Educational Needs. Many children identified in this

way will only have temporary need of support to show progress and will then be withdrawn from the register.

Frequently we have sufficient expertise within school to assist these children to overcome any difficulties they may have. However, at times, we require the help of our Educational Psychologist to give us guidance as to how best to provide a suitable education for all our children. Speech Therapy, Occupational Therapy, Physiotherapy and School Medical Services all play a part in helping our SEN pupils reach their potential.

Regular meetings give us all the opportunity to discuss progress made and devise education plans tailored to individual children's needs. These meetings involve all staff working with the child. Information gathered at these monitoring sessions are recorded within our SEND list to ensure effective continuity for the child's education.

### **Schools and Disability Discrimination Act 2001**

All schools in England and Wales have statutory duties, making it unlawful to discriminate against disabled pupils and prospective disabled pupils. The duty not to discriminate falls upon the Governing Body. These duties cover admissions, education and associated services and exclusions.

Children with disabilities will be offered equal entitlement to the curriculum, as far as can reasonably be arranged. Parents and carers are welcome to consult the school for further details.

### **Equal Opportunities and Multicultural Awareness**

At Ropery Walk Primary School we want to ensure that our school is a place where everyone, irrespective of their race, colour, creed or ethnic origin feels welcomed and valued. The school has an Equal Opportunities policy, which offers equal access to educational activities at the school, without distinction of race, colour, gender, creed, language, national or social origin, social status or disability.

Our Race Equality Policy helps our school to tackle racial discrimination, and to promote equality of opportunity and good race relations across all areas of school activity.