

# Pupil Evaluation

North Heath Community Primary School



What do the pupils of North Heath have to say about their school?

## Quality of Education

North Heath Community Primary School is a caring, friendly and very enjoyable place to learn. We have approximately 400 children and 50 staff at our school and we all work together and help each other like one big happy family!

In our amazing school, we have 14 classrooms and they all have Clevertouch boards to help us with our learning. There are also extra rooms where small groups of children can work with an adult. The Reception classes have their own garden with a PE trail, mud kitchen and bike track and Year 1 have an outside learning area too. Our work is displayed in our classrooms and around the school which makes us feel proud and inspires us to try our best and keep improving. It makes the walls look colourful and also when parents and other visitors come to our school they can see what we have been learning.

On the field we have a colourful running track which we use for the daily mile. The colours match our four house colours and we use it for sports day as well as PE lessons. There is an exciting orienteering course set up around the school grounds. It is really fun and helps us to keep fit and learn important orienteering and geography skills. It also encourages team work as we have to work together and talk to each other about the different places on the map. We have three playgrounds where we have fun at playtime with our friends. We play with the playground toys which School Council help to choose and purchase. On the playgrounds, we have rainbow benches to sit on and there are quiet and calm areas so we can sit and read or talk to our friends.

PE is really enjoyable because we get lots of fresh air whilst keeping fit and healthy. We use the track for running and we also play netball, cricket, hockey, tag rugby, rounders, stool ball and football. In our spacious hall, we do gymnastics, dance and yoga. In addition to this we also have visiting sports coaches and every year group get to take part in lessons including Kicks Dance, cricket, athletics, SAQ and football. We love taking part in different sports competitions against other schools. Years 3 to 6 take part in District Sports, Years 3 and 4 take part in indoor athletics, Year 5 compete in netball and Year 6 have the opportunity to participate in cross country, rugby and hockey tournaments. It encourages us to be fit and healthy and it makes us feel confident and proud to be selected to represent our school.

In the music room, children can learn to play instruments including, piano, guitar, clarinet and flute. We have visiting teachers who help us to develop our skills and then we get to share our talents through performing to our parents at a special assembly. We also have the opportunity to take part in Rocksteady lessons. We learn to play the drums, keyboard and bass guitar and sing different rock songs. At the end of term, we perform to our parents and other children at school.

Every classroom has a class library with lots of books for us to read at school and borrow to take home. We enjoy reading every day and our teachers read to us too. Our school library has lots of new books and they are organised into different sections so it's easy to find the type of book you are looking for. There are seating areas where we can sit with our friends and enjoy reading our books.



Working together, we enjoy and achieve

The friendly and kind teachers are good at helping us to learn and understand because they take time to explain and make learning clear and fun. We can ask lots of questions and if we are not sure about something, they will help us. Our teachers encourage us to talk to our partners or in small groups and we help each other. We use the success criteria to mark our own work and sometimes we even mark our partner's work and talk about what we have done well and support each other to edit and improve our work. It is really useful because if we don't spot a mistake then our partner might and then we can correct it. Our teachers challenge us to do well in our learning and help us to achieve our targets. We have our targets in our books so we know what we are aiming to achieve and what we need to do to get there. It makes us feel proud when we do well and encourages us to try even harder. In the autumn and spring term, we get a progress report which we see with our teachers and parents at parent's evening and then in the summer we get a full report to celebrate all of our achievements.

In every year group, we have iPads to use in the classroom. The school also have laptops to use for computing and topic work. In addition to this, we have visualisers in every classroom, so that teachers can share work and stories with the whole class and we can all see it more clearly. Working on the Clevertouch boards is a good way to explain things, and we get to write on it too. In Reception, the parents even come and watch us! To make lessons more fun, we often do drama and acting to bring our learning to life. We have lots of equipment to help us learn like books, maps, Numicon, Song of Sounds, vocabulary boards and iPads.

The topics in our curriculum are interesting and exciting. There are lots of different lessons, so everyone has a chance to be good at different things. In science, we do lots of fun experiments and we even have visits from real scientists to help us learn and investigate. We have other visitors that come to our school too. When Reception learnt about people who help us, they were visited by the Fire service, the Police a nurse and a veterinary nurse. In the juniors, the Young Shakespeare Company bring stories to life, and we get to be actors and join in. Visiting Museums have also been to school, and they bring artefacts like fossils and old toys for Reception and Year 1 to learn about.

During the year, we also have special days related to our topics such as Australian Day in Year 2 and Greek or Viking Days in Years 3 and 4. We get to dress up and have lots of fun whilst we are learning.

As well as this, we enjoy lots of educational visits such as, Godstone Farm, Brighton Toy Museum, Tilgate Park, The Sealife Centre, Butser, Warnham Nature Reserve, Bignor Roman Villa, Hampton Court, Drusillas and Year 5 and 6 residentials to Sayers Croft and Fairthorne Manor. Going on visits is really enjoyable because we not only get to see new places but it also brings our learning to life and helps us to understand a topic.



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## Leadership and Management

Mr Gildea and the leadership team are really good at managing our school. They always make sure that we work hard and try our best, that we look smart and they encourage us to be cooperative, enjoy our learning and to be respectful. All of the adults at school help us to feel safe and valued. We have fire drills so we know what to do if there's a fire and we also have a lockdown drill. There is a buzzer on the gate and door so visitors have to report to the office and they also wear a lanyard to show they are visiting. Around the outside of the school there are fences and padlocked gates and only the school staff know the combinations!

The teachers are all very friendly and get to know us really well. They listen to our ideas and help us to achieve our goals. It feels like we are part of a big team. All of the teachers and classroom assistants are nice and kind and we can talk to any of them if we need to. The staff always smile and stop to talk to us in the corridors or say hello which makes us all feel safe and happy, and they make sure we understand in our lessons.

The teachers are amazing because after a busy school day, they then teach brilliant after school clubs such as, football, rounders, cookery, choir, athletics, science, art, computing, board games and many more. It gives us opportunities to participate in activities with different groups, make new friends and work with different teachers.

In the hall, we have assemblies on Tuesdays and Fridays. We also have singing assemblies, and class and house assemblies, where the teachers share messages and stories that help us learn about our school values and how to keep ourselves safe both in and out of school, as well as online. In Honour book assembly, we share our achievements from both in and out of school, with Mr Gildea or a teacher from the leadership team celebrating our work and giving out certificates. Every few weeks, tokens are given out for our house point challenge. It is really exciting to see the House Captains dropping the tokens into the towers and it encourages us to work even harder to win points for our team. At the end of each term, we find out which house is currently leading and we also get attendance certificates.

When we do some really good work, we sometimes get to show Mr Gildea. He is always proud of our work and he gives us a special Head Teacher sticker for our books and one for our jumpers so our parents can see it too. Our teachers always give us lots of praise for good work. It makes us feel confident and encourages us to always try our best. When we see our work on display, it makes us feel important.

We are proud of our school and always want to show people how good we are, like when we go on a visit, we like it when people comment on our good behaviour.



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## Behaviour and Attitude

We are treated fairly and with respect by all the adults at school. We have a worry box in our classroom so we can talk quietly to our teacher if we are worried or feeling unhappy about something. In RSE, we wrote questions anonymously and our teacher answered them. It meant that we could ask questions that might usually be too embarrassing. The teachers know everyone really well and they help us to achieve our very best.

At playtime, the staff help us to play games fairly. Everyone knows our school values and our rules for the playground, which help us to stay safe. Teachers help us to understand what is right and wrong.

Every year, each class learns how to use the internet safely using the SMART acronym. In Reception, the children listen to a story about Smartie the Penguin who teaches the children how to stay safe when using a tablet to play games on the internet.

In the classroom, we are given jobs to encourage us to be responsible, like class monitors and librarians and at playtime we are responsible for tidying away the playground toys so they do not get lost or broken. We keep our classrooms and school tidy so that we can feel proud of our environment.

If we are ill or hurt, the adults always look after us and care for us. We are encouraged to be kind and caring and to be independent. Often, we have special visitors to help us learn about key safety issues, for example, the fire service taught us about fire safety and we even got to go in the fire engine!



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## Personal Development

At our school, we have opportunities to take part in different sports competitions against other schools and there's also the Music Festival (The Big Sing) where some children go to Christ's Hospital to perform with other schools. Year 3 take part in a Country Dancing Festival, and we also take part in the Horsham Children's Parade. Taking part in these activities helps us to become more confident and independent because we go to different places and meet new people. Year 6 take part in Bikeability week to learn how to ride a bike safely in public.

The sports competitions and after school sports clubs encourage us to be healthy and exercise whilst still having lots of fun. In Reception, Year 1 and Year 2 we are all offered a piece of fruit at snack time, and we can also have milk or water to drink. Our teachers encourage us to try different fruits and they eat them too. In the juniors, we bring our own fruit for snack time. Our school encourages us to have healthy lunches. The hot dinners come with the choice of salad or vegetables every day and for pudding, fresh fruit is always available.

We have a House system and each year; we vote for Year 6 House Captains. We also have two School Council representatives from each class. They are elected at the start of the year and have two meetings every half term. The School Councillors help to run the school shop which sells stationery. School Council like to organise activities to raise money for charities such as Red Nose Day, Sport Relief and Children in Need because we like helping those who are less fortunate than us. The responsibility of being a School Councillor makes us feel proud and excited to tell everyone that we meet, because it's an honour to represent your class and share ideas. The Gallery Council meet with Mr Gildea each term and choose outstanding work to display around our school.

Every year, Years 1 to 6, perform two class assemblies to parents as well as Christmas performances. The children in Reception perform a special assembly for Mothering Sunday and a Christmas Nativity. At Christmas, Years 5 and 6 go to St. Mark's Church to perform Christmas carols to their families and the community.



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## Quotes from children

\*We have lots of fun at school. Year R

\*I love reading and I love writing my own books. I am looking forward to Year 1 but I will miss my teachers. Year R

\*I like doing science experiments. Year 1

\*Being a School Councillor makes me feel happy and very important. I like doing jobs and going to meetings because we get meet other children from our school. Year 1

\*I think our school is a bright and colourful place. There is so much art about and I like looking at it. Year 2

\*Our teachers help us if we get stuck and I like using flippers to help me with my writing. Year 2

\*I have really enjoyed being a school councillor. I like organising the school shop for my class and sorting the money. We set it up like a real shop. It was very popular with my class and we made lots of money. Year 3

\*I really enjoy art because it means I can be really creative. My favourite art activity was when I drew and painted a dragon. Year 3

\*We go swimming every week. The teachers always push us to do our best. It's really important to learn to swim as it could save your life one day. Year 3

\*I like going on school trips because we go to new places and it helps us to understand what we are learning about. I'd definitely like to go on more visits. Year 3

\*We get to go on lots of visits like the Toy Museum in Year 1 and the farm in Reception and in Year 4 we went to Bignor Roman Villa. It's really good because we get to learn and have lots of fun at the same time. Year 4

\*I like Now Press Play. We used it to learn about internet safety. I think it's important to know how to keep safe. Year 4

\*When I got elected as School Council rep, I was filled with pride as it meant everyone trusted me. Year 5

\*I really enjoyed Sayers Croft as I got to do lots of fun things as well as learning. Year 5

\*The residential visit to Fairthorne Manor was amazing. There was so much to do and many of the activities we had never done before. At first I was nervous about trying the abseiling and raft building but then I saw my friends enjoying it and decided to have a go. I really enjoyed all of the activities and I'm glad that I tried them. Year 6

\*I have really enjoyed my time at North Heath. All of the teachers have been so kind and I have learned so much. I am definitely ready for secondary school now! Year 6

School Council July 2023

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