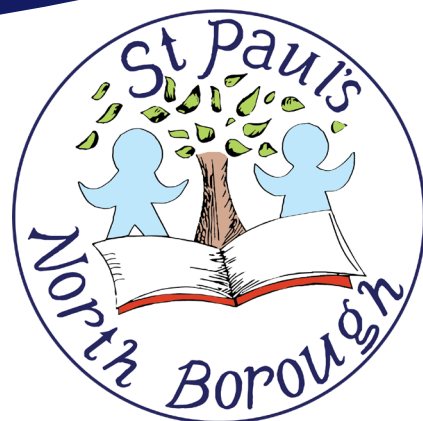




St. Paul's Infant School

# Prospectus





# Welcome to St. Paul's Infant School

## *A word from us...*

Welcome to St Paul's Infant School. This prospectus is an introduction to our school and, once you have read it, we hope that you feel that we will offer your child an inspirational and secure environment for their education.

The staff at St Paul's believe that our school is one that the community can be proud of, and one to which parents can send their children with confidence. Visitors to our school often comment on the calm and friendly atmosphere. This is important, because when children feel secure, safe, and happy, they learn more effectively. We aim to provide the highest standards of education in a supportive learning environment, so that all our pupils can fulfil their potential. We plan for each child to develop personal qualities that will enable him or her to establish and maintain good relationships, both now and in the future.

At St Paul's we believe that teachers, school governors, administrative and support staff, parents, and pupils should all work in partnership. St. Paul's recently federated with North Borough Junior School and now share a governing body which challenges school leaders to ensure all aspects of school life are the best they can be, and that the curriculum progresses from EYFS through to Year 6. The federation also guarantees your child a place at North Borough Junior School, you just have to apply when they reach Year 2.















# About Our School...

St. Paul's Infant School caters for children aged 4-7 years and is situated in Hillary Road, which is a residential area close to Penenden Heath. The school is set in delightful grounds, with many trees and shrubs, making it a very pleasant place in which to learn and work.

There are nine large classrooms, each equipped with an interactive whiteboard, iPads and a wide selection of resources that are encouraged to be accessed independently. Our school instils independence by providing students with opportunities for self-directed learning, encouraging critical thinking, and fostering a supportive environment that enables them to take ownership of their educational journey.

All of our staff are trained to support all pupils, no matter their individual needs and abilities. Our school believes in individuality and promotes this through our school values and every day approach to learning.

The school has two large playgrounds, grassed areas, an adventure playground and a conservation area, that is frequently used for Forest School. Each year group also has a covered outdoor area. These are constantly in use to ensure children gain a wide range of experiences and opportunities to learn in different spaces and with different resources.

St. Paul's prides itself on putting the interests of the children first, which is why child-initiated styles of learning are adopted throughout the school. Once the children enter Key Stage 1, they are continually exposed to Challenge & Investigation time, which is the children's opportunity to consolidate the learning that they have been undertaking in their own way.





## Our Values...

Values at St. Paul's underpin everything that we do and are promoted daily. At the heart of our ethos is "Togetherness", fostering a sense of unity and collaboration among pupils, staff, and parents. We believe that together, we can achieve more, creating an inclusive environment where every voice is heard and valued.

"Safety" is paramount in our school. We prioritise the well-being of our children, providing a secure and nurturing space for their academic and personal development. Our commitment to safety extends beyond physical well-being to encompass emotional and mental health, ensuring a holistic approach to education.

Resilience is a key trait we cultivate in our pupils. We recognise that challenges are opportunities for growth. Our focus on "Resilience" empowers students to overcome obstacles, build character, and develop the grit necessary for success in academics and beyond.

Embracing the concept of "Growth & Change," we foster a dynamic learning environment that encourages curiosity and adaptability. We believe in preparing our students not just for today but for the challenges and opportunities of tomorrow, whilst also thinking about how we grow and change as individuals and discussing how this should be respected.

Respect is the cornerstone of our community. We instil in our students a deep appreciation for diversity, fostering an atmosphere of understanding and acceptance. Respect is woven into the fabric of our school, creating a harmonious environment that celebrates the uniqueness of everyone. Together, guided by these values, we embark on a journey of shared growth, learning, and achievement.







## What our children think...

*"The people at school are all really kind and helpful. I am learning how to spell tricky words in my class, we do a spelling test every week and I am getting better."*

*"Learning time is my favourite thing to do at school. I like writing stories in learning time, I can use my sounds to help me now. I sometimes draw pictures too."*

*"I love playing outside in the adventure trail and making potions! We pretend that the potions turn us into lava monsters. It's so much fun!"*

*"I like the teachers at St Paul's, they like to teach us and help us learn. They are all really kind. I also like doing maths especially subtraction."*

*"I like playing with my friends on the playground at break time and lunch time. We get to play with children from other classes too."*

*"I love playing with my friends outside. We play Harry Potter sometimes. I really like trying to speak Spanish, when we do the register I sometimes say "ola" to my teacher. I also like drawing pictures in learning time."*







# Our Curriculum...

**St Paul's aims to equip all children with the knowledge and skills they need to succeed through life.**

We believe that the children understand which subject they are learning and explore with them the distinctive features concerned with the subjects, as well as ensuring that the knowledge specific vocabulary is shared in these lessons. Our curriculum is constantly reviewed to consider the different experiences of the children as well as our adults in school. We work hard to plan for opportunities to offer real life experiences to better support understanding. Our curriculum reflects the school local context by addressing typical gaps in children's real life experiences including trips out of school as well as visitors into school. The planning and experiences encourage the children to develop a love of learning and a willingness to explore while having fun and gaining new knowledge.

The curriculum considers many different subject areas. Each of these are well led and monitored to ensure that at St Paul's we are offering a well-balanced start to their learning journey. Our diverse curriculum connects subjects thereby giving a range of opportunities and a balance of knowledge and skills.

While learning outcomes are planned and progression is carefully considered, the children are offered the opportunity to access

their learning in a variety of ways to suit them best. This delivery builds on the strong foundation of the child initiated skills that the children acquire during their time in our early years classrooms. It also encourages the children to continue with an independent investigation approach, which we feel is a skill for life.

As an infant school, we strongly believe in a positive start for the children and work within the expectations of Development Matters for Early Years. This is where the children's balanced curriculum journey begins. Our children will have the opportunity to be creative, to be physically active and to be academically challenged along each part of their school journey. In KS1, Science, History, Geography, DT and Art are connected by theme and mapped to the requirements of the National Curriculum. RE, RSE, Music, PE and Computing are taught as discrete subjects but where a relevant and meaningful link can be made to our connected units, this is done as well.

At St Paul's our curriculum is reviewed yearly across the whole school community and adaptations are made to ensure that the children always continue to strive to be the best they can be.





# Ofted

## St. Paul's is a good school.

St. Paul's Infant School had a visit from Oftsed in January 2020 and was rated a 'good' school.

*"This is a friendly and welcoming school. Pupils' smiling faces as they come to school, and throughout the day, show that they are happy to be there. They enjoy learning and are excited to discover new things."*

*"Pupils learn and achieve well. They work hard and try their best. Teachers take pupils' interests into account when they plan lessons. The diversity of languages and cultures is celebrated so that all pupils are valued and respected."*

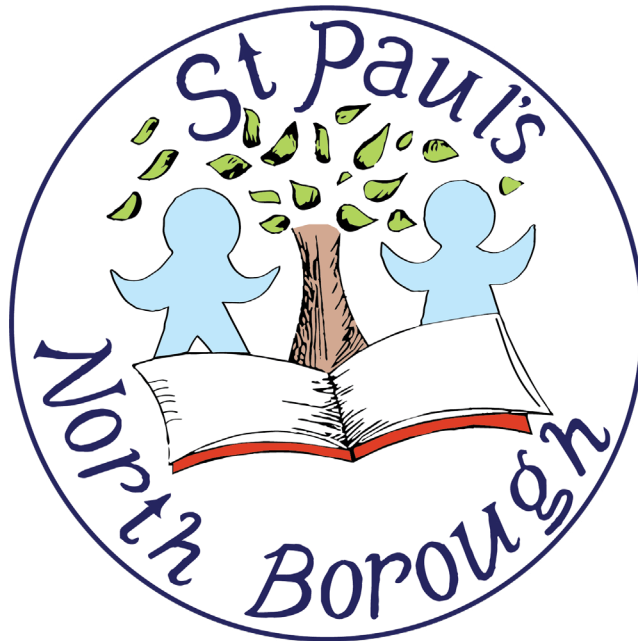
*"Pupils feel safe and secure. They know that adults in the school are ready to help them when they need it. Pupils are kind and caring and help each other out. Pupils live and learn by the school's values which underpin all that the school does."*

*"Senior leadership is strong and inspiring and has made sure that the school has improved. There is a strong team of dedicated and talented leaders and teachers who, in their own words, said: 'This is a really happy place, we are a family. We are valued, trusted, and feel we have opportunities to develop our skills and expertise.'"*









**St. Paul's Infant School**  
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**Website: [www.stpaulsmaidstone.co.uk](http://www.stpaulsmaidstone.co.uk)**

## **Eqaulity Statement**

At St. Paul's we aim to:

- Promote racial equality and eliminate racial discrimination.
- Promote equality of opportunity and good relations between persons of different racial groups.

## **Admissions Policy**

As a community school, St. Paul's Infant School follows Kent County Council's Admissions Procedures. Kent Local Education Authority co-ordinates the admission arrangements for all pupils. Contact Points: The Admissions Team **01622 696565**  
**[kent.admissions@kent.gov.uk](mailto:kent.admissions@kent.gov.uk)**