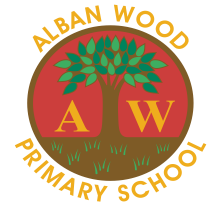


ALBAN WOOD PRIMARY SCHOOL AND NURSERY



WELCOME

Welcome to Alban Wood Primary School!

I hope this prospectus will give you an insight into life and learning at our school. Perhaps it will inspire you to visit and experience for yourself the enriching and caring environment which every child enjoys here.

Our staff team and I are fully committed to guiding and nurturing all children in their personal and learning journeys throughout their time in the school. We understand the trust that parents place in us when choosing our school, and we have high expectations of ourselves to support each child's social and moral development, as well as maximising their enjoyment and achievement in all areas of school life.

Our school leaders and governors are passionate about continual development and innovation, such that all pupils are provided with high quality learning experiences – no child deserves less.

I look forward to having every child in our school, getting to know their unique qualities, and working in partnership with parents and carers to support their growth.

Mrs Rachel Kirk
Headteacher





VISION AND VALUES

At Alban Wood, all members of our school community feel valued and motivated to succeed within a safe, caring and stimulating environment.

Our high expectations promote academic, personal and social achievements and ensure that our children leave Alban Wood as confident, responsible citizens who will enjoy lifelong learning.





780 Music

HOME-SCHOOL PARTNERSHIPS

At Alban Wood we believe that parents are a child's first and most important educators. Therefore we are committed to making every effort to ensure that there is an effective and proactive partnership between home and school in order to provide the best possible care and education for all pupils. We welcome parents in to school for Parents' evenings termly, but additionally for workshops, events, and performances throughout each term.

We operate an open-door policy: class teachers and/or a member of the senior team will always be happy to see you. We have a number of active parent volunteers in school too, who are much valued by us, as well as a PTA. In whichever ways you wish to contribute and take part in your child's school learning journey, you will be most welcome.



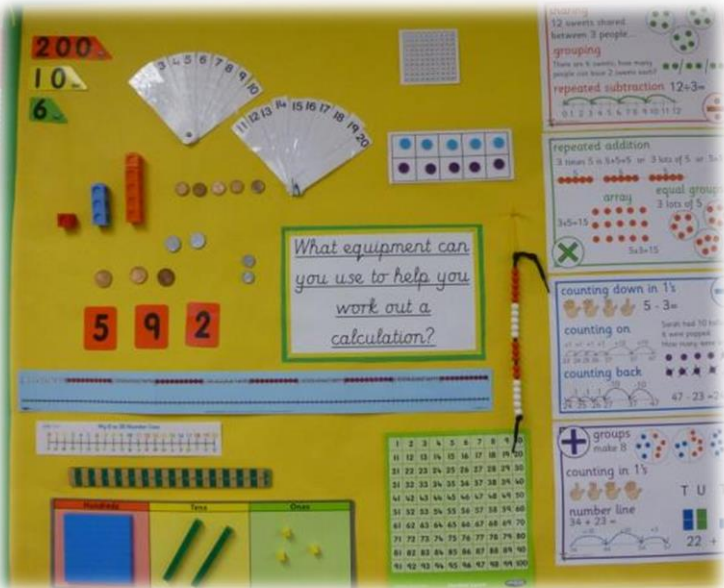


WINNING AT ALL
CHEATING THAT IS RUINING OUR



CURRICULUM

During the Early Years Foundation Stage, our children at Alban Wood learn through choosing from a continually changing range of play opportunities, both indoors and outdoors. Their engagement with play-based learning, and their interactions with peers and adults, supports their personal and social development which is so important at this age. The 'awe and wonder' created through carefully planned learning experiences forms a secure foundation for each child's developing love of learning. Learning is most effective when home and school work together – as well as home visits and a number of ways in which we support children's transition from home to school, we offer a wide range of ongoing ways in which parents can contribute to their child's learning: for example, 'stay and play' and each child's personalised display space. Learning is captured through electronic learning journals (including photographs) which are regularly shared with parents.



Through the Early Years Foundation Stage and into Key Stage One, we place great importance on the children's earliest experiences of English and Maths. The curriculum promotes a solid foundation in phonics, supports development of all early reading and writing skills, and fosters a love of books. Maths skills, as with English, are taught through a wide range of approaches, because practical learning and active participation are so important. The curriculum in Key Stage One incorporates a wide range of subject areas, including Science and Computing as part of the core curriculum, and other subjects (History, Geography, RE, Art and Design Technology, Music, PE, PSHCE) taught through motivating and enriching topics. Pupil voice tailors the curriculum to the needs and interests of the class as the topic progresses.





As your child develops through Key Stages One and Two, we continually encourage their growth in confidence and independence; each child's attitude to learning and desire to improve are nurtured, which will stand them in good stead for all learning in the future. We continue to place high importance on English and Maths, with these skills underpinning learning across the curriculum. Other subjects, as listed above but also including French, are taught with an emphasis on learning skills which are transferable to all learning, and which will be much needed as children move on to Secondary schools. Our Curriculum fully meets all aspects of National expectations, including 2015 and 2016 changes, but above all, it is designed to motivate all children, to foster their thinking and curiosity and to support the best possible progress for them in their time with us at Alban Wood.

EXTENDED CURRICULUM

The curriculum at Alban Wood is enhanced through exciting visits and visitors for particular projects; trips and events in school, within the local community or further afield; and especially a focus on outdoor learning, including Alban Wood Community Farm! Outside the normal school day, we offer many further opportunities. These include a very wide range of Sports clubs (including matches which take place between local schools), Farm Club, Art Club, Choir and other musical activities. A residential trip takes place in Year 6 for all pupils. Alban Wood is open between 8am and 6pm every day, with a Breakfast Club and After School Club on site. These clubs are much loved by the children, and are supportive for parents who wish to use these facilities.



EVERY CHILD MATTERS

At Alban Wood we provide different experiences and teaching approaches to enhance all children's learning and to maximise the achievement of every individual.

Our PSHCE (Personal, Social, Health and Citizenship Education) is very important across the school, including an emphasis on Philosophy For Children (P4C). We are fully committed to supporting each child's learning journey, which will mean differentiated learning to support and challenge in the classroom, and personalised support, responding to their strengths and needs. Monitoring of teaching and learning by the leadership team will always focus on inclusion, ensuring that all children are sufficiently supported and challenged to make excellent progress.

Alban Wood Primary School is committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of all children: our child protection policy and procedures and safer recruitment practices are rigorously implemented.



SCHOOL SELF-EVALUATION

As a leadership team and governing body, we are committed to the highest expectations for the school and rigour within our self-evaluation practices. As confirmed by our Hertfordshire Improvement Partner, Alban Wood is 'outstanding' overall and in each of the key areas:

- Leadership and management
- Behaviour and safety of pupils
- Quality of teaching
- Achievement of pupils
- Effectiveness of Early Years Provision

OFSTED, FEBRUARY 2013

At our most recent Ofsted Inspection in 2013, the school was graded 'good'. From that point, our ambition and continuing improvements can be shown through pupil progress data, which has been outstanding from 2012 onwards, with value added data (measured from KS1 to KS2) which has been within the top 2 percentiles Nationally over a three-year period.

At the time of our Ofsted, we were pleased that pupil behaviour and learning behaviour was recognised as a key strength at Alban Wood, supported by all aspects of teaching and learning: *Pupils' behaviour in lessons and around the school helps to generate harmony and a sense of purpose. They are very positive about their learning and keen to do well.'*



'Pupils find lessons interesting and can often be seen to be enthralled by what they are hearing from their teachers or the activities in which they are absorbed.'

Similarly, we were most reassured that parent voice, reflected through Parent View (surveys collated by Ofsted) demonstrated parents' confidence in our school. For example, *'Parents and carers are strongly of the view that the school makes every effort to ensure their children behave well at all times.'*

'Parents and carers hold the headteacher in high regard and greatly value being able to approach her at the start of the day with any concerns they have.'

All at Alban Wood are committed to sustaining excellence and innovating within our practice, which makes it a continually exciting place to be!



WHERE TO FIND US



CONTACT DETAILS

Alban Wood Primary School The Brow, Watford, WD25 7NX

Telephone: 01923 678247/678240 Fax: 01923 678256

Email: admin@albanwood.herts.sch.uk

