



# Prospectus







*It is a great privilege to be the Headteacher of Pixmore Junior School. My staff and I are committed to providing the very best possible education for all of our children. It is an honour to lead a team of professional and talented teachers who organise well planned lessons and activities to promote 'The Pixmore Way'.*

*In March 2025 Ofsted confirmed us as a 'good' school for the third consecutive time; we now strive to develop our practices and curriculum to drive towards 'outstanding'.*

*We are all very proud of our school and look forward to welcoming you.*

*S Inman*

Sarah Inman  
Headteacher

About us

**Pixmore Junior School** is a local authority community school (Hertfordshire County Council) catering for children aged 7 - 11 years or Key Stage 2 (National Curriculum), with a capacity of 240 children in two forms of entry.

The school is situated a ten minute walk from the centre of Letchworth Garden City and is an accessible single storey building with spacious grounds enhanced by a wooden gym trail, outdoor gym, climbing tyres, two playgrounds, two playing fields and a woodland play and learning area. These are all utilised as part of our curriculum and extra curricular activities.

Each year group has two class bases, a shared area with access to drinking water, toilets and a cloakroom. Children and staff can also access three additional learning spaces - The Hub, The Lab and The Quad. We have a separate hall and dining room which seats eighty children. Each class has an interactive whiteboard and children can access Chromebooks and iPads for learning. We make use of our outdoor space as much as possible to promote learning outside the classroom.

Pixmore serves a diverse community and we pride ourselves on being an inclusive, inspirational school that strives to help children achieve their best and become happy and confident citizens.





Our school ethos

Include ♦ Achieve ♦ Inspire

Pixmore is a happy and safe school where we are:

- ◆ **Ready to learn** - we inspire a love of learning to create inquisitive thinkers, conscientious learners, creative individuals and responsible citizens through a broad, engaging curriculum which centres on the need of every child.
- ◆ **Respectful** - we respect ourselves and others, the school around us and our local community; we embrace individuality and celebrate culture and diversity.
- ◆ **Safe** - we believe that happy children who feel safe and secure at school and home engage best in their learning. We work in a calm, friendly and safe environment where courtesy, common sense and consideration for others is expected. We follow **The Pixmore Way** to guide us and keep ourselves and others safe.

We expect high standards in all aspects of school life including attitudes to learning and to other people, academic achievements and presentation of work and of self.

We have a positive culture at Pixmore where relationships are crucial to success; we actively encourage the development of healthy, safe relationships through consideration and tolerance, by learning self-discipline and respect for others and our school. We all follow the **Pixmore Way** and practice using our Pixmore Learning Powers (PLPs) of **Resilience, Resourcefulness** and being **Reactive**.

We are committed to creating an inclusive, interesting and inspiring environment alongside a curriculum which is rich with opportunities for all to:

- ◆ Enjoy success and feel valued
- ◆ Participate in engaging and memorable activities
- ◆ Build safe and rewarding relationships
- ◆ Investigate, explore and problem solve
- ◆ Think analytically and reflectively
- ◆ Master skills in all projects
- ◆ Achieve high standards
- ◆ Have ownership and choices within learning
- ◆ Celebrate individuality







## School organisation

Pixmore Junior School is a co-educational school accommodating up to 240 children divided into eight mixed ability classes, with two classes in each year group.

Each teacher is responsible for the education and pastoral care of the children in their class and has overall responsibility for a particular aspect of the school's curriculum.

The Senior Leadership Team consists of the Headteacher and two Assistant Heads - one of whom is also our SENCo and the other leads our lower phase - and our upper stage leader.

## Behaviour and discipline

At Pixmore we have worked hard to produce a positive strategy towards behaviour and discipline based on the principle that good behaviour can be taught and should be rewarded.

In conjunction with the School Council and staff we have developed **The Pixmore Way**, which we use to reward and sanction behaviour. As a consequence, our children are well behaved and high standards of behaviour are expected. Bullying, racist, homophobic or sexist behaviour will not be tolerated and will be dealt with by the school in line with the school's policies.

All staff have been trained in Therapeutic Thinking and our behaviour policy and receive regular updates.

At Pixmore, children have access to pastoral support. Each year group has a Behaviour Support keyworker who has been given additional training to help children in their learning and behaviour and we ask for the support of parents and carers when it comes to expecting high standards of behaviour from their child.

Our Home/School Agreement, behaviour strategy and anti-bullying policy details are available from the School Office and the school website:

[www.pixmore.herts.sch.uk](http://www.pixmore.herts.sch.uk)

### Ofsted inspection 2025

*The school looks after pupils well. Pupils are confident that adults in the school will deal with any incidents of bullying if it occurs. Pupils are happy to go to staff if they are struggling or have any worries about either school or home.*



The school day

8:30am	School doors open
8:50am	School day starts/Registration
9:00am	The first session starts
10:30 - 10:45am	Morning break
12:15 - 1:15pm	Lunchtime
3:15pm	School finishes

Please ensure that your child is picked up by 3.30pm at the latest as school staff often have clubs to run and meetings to attend.

It is important that we know what the pick up arrangements are for your child, particularly if they are changed for any reason. If children are not collected by you or we are unsure of collection arrangements, the child will be asked to wait in the School Office until they are picked up.



Ofsted inspection 2025  
*Pupils behave well in class. They are happy at lunchtimes and playtimes as they are well supported. There is a wide range of activities for them to take part in...there is a harmonious atmosphere.*





Attendance

Good attendance is essential if progress and learning are to be maintained.

If your child is absent please telephone the School Office on the morning of the first day of absence, if possible by 9:00am (there is an answerphone so please leave a message if we can't get to the telephone).

It is our policy to contact any parent/ carer from whom we have not received a message. In this way we can ensure that the whereabouts of all children is known.

Punctuality at the beginning of the school day is vital for life learning habits. If your child arrives after 8:50am they must report to the School Office to be signed in so we can ensure that they are registered on the school system and check any lunch arrangements.

We take non attendance very seriously and make unannounced 'home visits' (usually a member of the Senior Leadership Team and a colleague) to check if all is well with the child, whose welfare is our prime concern. In addition, our Family Support Worker or Attendance Officer will meet with families to address attendance and lateness issues.

Attendance is discussed with parents/carers where there is a concern and reports are sent home at the end of each term. We celebrate good attendance weekly in our Friday Celebration Assembly.

Holidays

In accordance with Government legislation and law from August 2024, Headteachers do not authorise any holiday during term time. Requests for absence due to exceptional circumstances are considered under the Exceptional Circumstances definition:

*The fundamental principles for defining 'exceptional' are "rare, significant, unavoidable, short".*

*By 'unavoidable' we mean an event that could not reasonably be scheduled at another time. Exceptional circumstances are one-off events that are unavoidable, such as the death of a close relative, attendance at a funeral, respite care of a looked-after child, a housing crisis that prevents attendance.*

All such requests for absence are authorised at the Headteacher's discretion. An application for leave must be completed and returned to the School Office. Leave **will not** be authorised if a child's attendance is below 90% or they are close to Key Stage assessments.

Illness

If your child has been sick or has a temperature please keep them at home. Your child can return after 48 hours since the last bout of sickness. For most other illnesses, children can be in school and we will alert parents if we feel they need to go home.

Medications in school must be signed in at the School Office and collected by an adult at the end of the day.

We have a First Aid room, 2 defibrillators on site, 3 fully trained paediatric staff, and all staff have been trained in basic first aid.

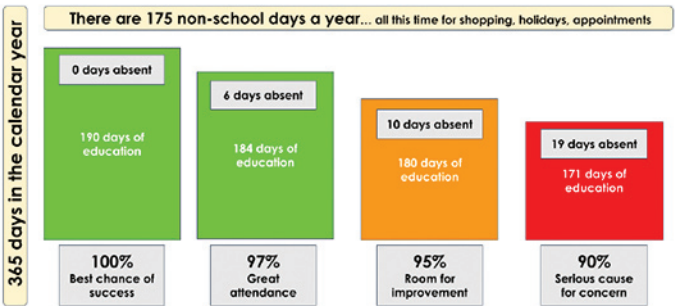
If your child becomes ill at school we will contact you so it is vital we have your up to date contact details. If your child suffers a head injury, parents/carers are informed and we will send a letter home on the same day.

To keep continuity of learning, try to arrange appointments for your child - such as dentist or doctor - outside of school hours. If this is unavoidable, notify your child's teacher and the School Office beforehand and come to the School Office to collect and drop off

your child. Children are **not allowed out of school on their own** during school hours for any reason.



Evidence strongly suggests that anything below 90% attendance can be detrimental to pupils' learning.



## School uniform

### Hair that is appropriate for school.

(Severe styles and shaved lines are not allowed.)

### School shoes - dark trainers.

(No bright colours.)

## Uniform

Plain green or Pixmore sweatshirt or sweatcardi.

White polo shirt.

Black or dark grey trousers, knee length shorts, skirt or dress.

No jewellery except one stud earring in each ear.

A watch. (No Smart watches.)

## Active uniform/PE kit

T-shirt in house colour.

Plain black shorts.

Trainers for outdoor PE.

Black tracksuit bottoms and tracksuit top. (Without hood.)

(Active uniform should be worn all day in school on PE lesson days or if your child has a sporting after school club.)

School sweatshirts, sweatcardi, polo shirts and PE kit bearing the Pixmore logo are all available from our uniform shop (contact the School Office for an order form) or generic uniform can be purchased elsewhere.

## Swimming kit

Some year groups go swimming as part of their PE curriculum. Please bring swimming kit in a plastic bag on swimming days. All children will require a swimming hat with their name clearly marked on the outside so they can be identified when swimming.

*Remember to name all of your child's belongings.*

## Food and drink

Lunch is prepared daily on site by Dolce Catering and children have a choice of a meat or vegetarian hot meal, a sandwich/wrap or jacket potato (with a variety of toppings) each day or they can bring their own packed lunch. SchoolGrid is the software provider for Dolce Catering and an email will be sent to parents/carers so they can set up a child's lunch account. On this site parents/carers can also make their child's lunch choice each day and pay for meals. If anyone has difficulty with this system, our School Office is always available to assist you.

If a child brings a packed lunch, please ensure that the lunch box and any drinks containers are named. For safety reasons we do not allow glass bottles, hot or fizzy drinks. As part of our commitment to healthy eating, we expect parents/carers to provide a balanced meal.

**If you think you may be eligible for free school meals, please ask at the School Office. Eligibility can access additional funds for the school to support your child.**

Children may bring a healthy snack to eat at breaktime e.g. fruit (fresh or dried) or vegetables. **Nuts, sweets, chocolate bars and crisps are not permitted.**

We understand the benefits of drinking water regularly and encourage children to bring water in a bottle with a 'sports cap' which they can keep with them and sip throughout the day. Children have access to drinking water in their class area.

**Please be aware that, because of possible allergic reactions, Pixmore is a 'nut free' zone.**



*Pixmore 'House' colours (Yellow, blue, red, green)*



## Extra-curricular activities

We believe in providing opportunities for children to participate in after school learning and we have a range of activities on offer at Pixmore which change throughout the year. Some are run by school staff and most take place after school, although several run during the lunch hour.

A few of the after school clubs are run by external providers whom the school has vetted and feels offer something that it could not provide. There is often a charge for these clubs. Please speak to the Headteacher if there are concerns around these costs. If your child is eligible for free school meals, the school will support your child's attendance at one fee paying club for a term.

We also run enrichment/booster classes to support certain children during the course of the year. If your child is offered these classes we would expect them to attend as this is to consolidate or extend their learning.



Ofsted inspection 2025

*There are many different opportunities pupils have to develop their skills.*



## Educational visits

Our aim is to allow children to enjoy a broad range of experiences to supplement and enthuse their learning. This may take the form of workshops, experts visiting the school or day trips.

A residential trip currently runs in Year 6.



## Charging policy

Pixmore does not charge for most activities but we do ask for voluntary contributions for some which we think will enhance your child's education such as trips and workshops. If we receive insufficient contributions for an activity, it may be necessary to cancel it. However, we always try to help those in need so that all children can participate fully in school activities. Speak to the School Office in confidence if you have any concerns regarding the payment of contributions.

If your child makes a model, produces some artwork or makes something in cookery which they can take home, we may ask for a small contribution towards the cost of materials.





## Our curriculum

At Pixmore, all learning threads into our ethos of ensuring pupils are **READY, RESPECTFUL** and **SAFE**. The curriculum is designed to allow for inclusion with ambitions for all pupils to achieve their potential, regardless of their backgrounds or starting points. It teaches pupils to have high expectations of themselves and to be:

- ◆ Inquisitive thinkers.
- ◆ Conscientious learners.
- ◆ Creative individuals.
- ◆ Responsible citizens.

We first and foremost follow the National Curriculum 2014 as a vehicle to provide our pupils with a broad and rich, knowledge and skills-based curriculum.

The National Curriculum itself comprises of the core subjects - English, Mathematics and Science. These, together with the foundation subjects of Computing, Design Technology, Art, History, Geography, Music, Physical Education, French (MFL), Learning For Life (PSHE) and Religious Education, form the basic curriculum taught at Pixmore.

Our timetable is designed to ensure pupils receive regular instruction in discrete subject area. Sequences of lessons are planned and regularly evaluated by teachers, following a variety of schemes of work selected and adapted to best meet the needs of our pupils.

Within each subject, knowledge and skills are taught in small steps. These then spiral within each subject enabling regular revision, retrieval, practise and consolidation. Scaffolding or differentiation is regularly used to ensure the learning needs of all pupils are met. In addition, we plan for links across subjects ensuring that the skills taught in one subject can then be utilised in other subjects.

To enrich the curriculum further, the school holds annual curriculum weeks. For example, we hold Writing Projects, STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering and Maths) Week, a Wellbeing (Sports + Arts) Week and Anti-Bullying Week. Pupils also participate in annual curriculum days including Safer Internet Day and World Book Day. These allow flexibility within the curriculum to work on knowledge and skills particularly relevant to our pupils at that very moment in time.

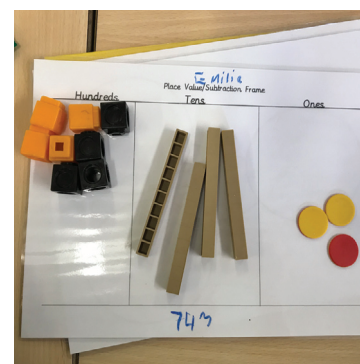
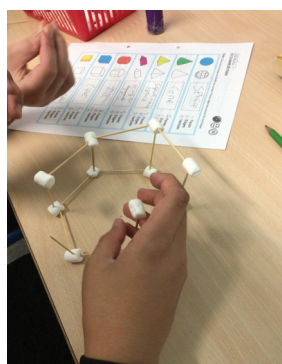
Further details of the learning journeys for each subject can be found in the curriculum pages of our school website.

<https://www.pixmore.herts.sch.uk/curriculum>



Ofsted inspection 2025

*Pupils' personal development is well promoted. Through the curriculum content, pupils enjoy opportunities to celebrate different languages and cultures.*





What makes Pixmore’s curriculum special?

At Pixmore, not only do we hold high expectations of pupils’ academic achievements, we also recognise the importance of developing confidence and resilience in today’s competitive world.

Key to this is our focus around well-being and mental health, which we understand as being core to developing resilient, emotionally-intelligent and happy children.

We know that high academic standards are underpinned by good attitudes to learning. At Pixmore, we call these our **Pixmore Learning Powers** and they are embodied by our Learning Power Superheroes which were designed by Pixmore pupils. They are:

- ◆ **Creg the courageous crocodile who shows resilience.**
- ◆ **Lily the listening lemur who is resourceful.**
- ◆ **Mini the mastery mouse who is reactive.**



Special educational needs

Pixmore is an inclusive school which strives for all children to reach their potential and make good progress against their starting points. We recognise every child as an individual, taking into account unique needs and making necessary adjustments wherever possible to remove any barriers to learning and participation. Valuing diversity is central to our overall aims in the Pixmore SEND Policy, which sets out to provide every child with equity of opportunity in order that they may succeed.

In accordance with the school's commitment to equal opportunities, all children at Pixmore are given full access to the National Curriculum. Staff will endeavour to help all children reach their full potential irrespective of race, gender, age, ability or disability. We offer provision to all children through our **Universal Quality First Teaching** which provides adaptations and reasonable adjustments for all children regardless of their needs. Where children need more targeted support, our Targeted Plus offer outlines the provision that we have in place to support children to thrive. For some of our children, our Specialist offer is needed to help them access the curriculum and thrive within the school. (See page 10 for the Whole School Provision diagram)

In order to fulfil our commitment we work closely with parents/carers to help us provide the level of support needed for their children to fully participate in the life of the school. We work with a wide range of external services and local authorities to support children with more complex needs and are pro-active in our approach to collaboration, recognising the expertise of external services and the contribution that parents/carers make in assisting us to understand their child.

We encourage all parents/carers of children with additional needs to arrange a visit to our school to meet the SENCo and discuss their child’s specific needs, our approach to working with them and to reassure them that we put their child’s needs at the heart of everything we do.

Ofsted inspection 2025

*Leaders are ambitious for all pupils with special educational needs and/or disabilities (SEND). Leaders have created a clear reading programme that builds pupils’ knowledge in a structured, sequential way. Teachers build warm, trusting relationships with their pupils.*

## Whole School Provision Guidelines

### Universal Support at Pixmore

- ♦ Communication friendly environments;
- ♦ Sensory friendly environments;
- ♦ Developing curriculum with clear intent and focus on pupil engagement
- ♦ Clear scaffolding and modelling;
- ♦ High expectations of pupil involvement and engagement using PLP
- ♦ Awareness of environment noise levels
- ♦ Therapeutic Thinking Steps including Zones of Regulation
- ♦ Protective Behaviours and PANTS program
- ♦ Behaviour Curriculum to develop emotional literacy
- ♦ Trauma Informed & Attachment Aware;
- ♦ Rest and movement breaks
- ♦ Additional safe spaces and calm chairs;
- ♦ RWI small group teaching;
- ♦ Essentials Maths
- ♦ Growth Mindset 'We can't do this...yet';
- ♦ Mindfulness
- ♦ Skillful use of teacher questioning
- ♦ Adaptive teaching;
- ♦ Multisensory Learning approaches
- ♦ On-going program of CPD for all staff
- ♦ Opportunities to work in variety of ways (1:1, small groups, independent)
- ♦ Structured and tailored transitions
- ♦ Key worker support

### Universal Quality First Teaching (including Reasonable Adjustments)



### Targeted Support at Pixmore

- Monitoring of interventions through termly pupil progress meetings
- One Page Plans outlining additional provision
- Further transition support through links with feeder infant and secondary schools
- Access to key worker to support learning in the classroom (may include SEN Monitoring);
- Pupil Premium Allocated Funding on a highly personalized level
- Additional meetings with SENCo
- Referrals to GP / Child Development Centre / other NHS professionals
- Access to curriculum specialists (including subject leads) for learning support in specific subjects
- Next steps formulated from structured approach to assessment
- Recording of progress in alternative ways to recognize and acknowledge small steps
- Family Centre Service Support
- LFSW support
- School Nursing Team Support
- Wider external services support (including Outreach)

### Targeted (additional provision & intervention)



### Specialist Support at Pixmore

- Monitoring of Interventions more regularly as per individual plans
- Individual Provision Plans every term (or more)
- Further transition support through links with feeder infant and secondary schools
- Additional timetabled support from key workers
- Greater contact with parents and support as needed e.g LFSW team
- Additional meetings with SENCo
- Multi-agency teams around the child
- Access to a range of specialist advisory teams
- All provision in place as per EHCP (if applicable)
- Highly tailored and personalised curriculum;
- Additional timetabled learning spaces
- Additional visits from Pixmore School staff prior to transition.

### Specialist (additional and highly personalised intervention)





Partnership with parents/carers

At Pixmore we firmly believe that the education of children is carried out most effectively through a partnership between home and school and that parents and carers have a positive role to play in supporting the work of the school.

To this end we ask you and your child to commit and sign a Home/School Agreement, which details what you can expect from us and makes clear what we would like you and your child to do in order to help your child succeed.

We have an ‘open door’ policy and welcome parents/ carers into school to talk to staff, to work in classrooms or help with activities. Support staff and teachers are around at the end of the day unless they are involved in clubs or professional meetings.

If you or your child ever need to share a worry or concern, please contact the class teacher as soon as possible as your first point of call. Parents/carers can also email teachers at:

**[schoolteachers@pixmore.herts.sch.uk](mailto:schoolteachers@pixmore.herts.sch.uk)**

Please put the class teacher and child’s name in the subject line so the teacher can respond.

Most issues are resolved informally. In the first instance always speak to the class teacher. In the event you are not satisfied, contact a member of the Senior Leadership Team whereby, if required, you will be provided with a copy of the school’s formal complaints procedure which is also available on the school website.

All year groups hold a ‘Meet the Teacher’ evening at the start of the academic year, followed by two further opportunities during the year to meet with the teacher on a consultation basis. We provide two written reports across the year, with the main report mid year (spring term). We have an open afternoon and parents/carers are invited to assemblies, which occur once per term.



In addition to the year plan, each year group produces a termly curriculum leaflet as well as newsletters which are sent by email and are available on the website. Parents/carers can sign up to the MarvellousMe app which allows teachers to communicate with them about positive events/opportunities their children have been engaged in. The school’s main form of communication is via Arbor. Parents will be provided with log in details on joining the school; parents are responsible for ensuring emergency contacts are up to date. The school uses email via Arbor to send out all information including newsletters, clubs and trip details.



We host a ‘Parent Forum’ on a variety of topics which enables us to take on board the views of parents and carers and develop our working relationships with them. We would like as many parents/ carers as possible to be involved in these discussions.

Website

**Our website is updated on a weekly basis.**

Here you will find useful information including term dates, copies of letters that are sent out and school policies, as well as homework. Schemes of work for all subjects as well as our provision for SEND and previous Ofsted reports are also available for inspection in school and on our website.

**[www.pixmore.herts.sch.uk](http://www.pixmore.herts.sch.uk)**



## Parents and Staff Association (PSA)

The PSA raises funds to help provide additional resources and equipment to benefit the children. All parents/carers and staff are automatically members and are encouraged to support the school by joining the organising committee or by attending events. Over the past few years the PSA has made a major contribution to the school's development, helping to fund our cooking area, outdoor gym, Mad Science Day and computing hardware, including new LED interactive boards for each classroom, iPads and Year 6 Leavers' books.

## Admissions

Following Hertfordshire County Council's policy, our admission number is 60 per year group, with two parallel classes in each year group.

Our main feeder school is Hillshott Infants School and we liaise closely with them to ensure that the transition between schools is as smooth as possible. Parents/carers of children starting in Year 3 in September are invited to an information evening in the previous summer term and the prospective Year 3 children are invited to join in specific activities to enable them to become familiar with the staff and the school. Parents/carers considering applying to the school are welcome to make an appointment to visit the school.

## Accessibility

The school building is suitable for children with mobility issues. All areas are accessible for wheelchair users as is the playground. There is a disabled toilet for staff/visitors (the children's toilets are disabled friendly), as well as ramps to the main entrance and hall. The school has two designated parking spaces for disabled visitors.

As an 'inclusive' school we make every effort to help children with disabilities integrate into the school and access the full school curriculum.

## GDPR

In accordance with data protection regulations, we send out our privacy notice to parents/carers annually. We have appointed a Data Protection Officer to oversee compliance with the regulations. If you have any questions about GDPR or how we handle your personal information, please contact:

Richard Maskrey: [DPO@pixmore.herts.sch.uk](mailto:DPO@pixmore.herts.sch.uk)



## Our Governors

Although the Headteacher has responsibility for the day to day running of the school, it is the governing body which retains overall responsibility for the strategic direction of the school. Parents/carers are invited to consider joining the governing body and all parents and carers are informed of any vacancies.

Information on the Governors can be found on the school notice board and the school website. You can request to see the minutes of Governors' meetings via the School Office. Governors can also be contacted via the School Office or by email at:

[governors@pixmore.herts.sch.uk](mailto:governors@pixmore.herts.sch.uk)

Ofsted inspection 2025

*Governors are diligent in undertaking statutory duties. This allows governors to have a detailed knowledge of the school's strengths and areas for development.*







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