



South Hill Primary School

Prospectus 2020-2021



'Building Character, Learning Together'

*Due to current Covid-19 precautions, items are subject to change,

SOUTH HILL PRIMARY SCHOOL

Heath Lane
Hemel Hempstead
Hertfordshire HP1 1TT
01442 402127

admin@southhill.herts.sch.uk

www.southhill.herts.sch.uk

Welcome



Welcome to South Hill Primary School

Our school is set in beautiful grounds in the heart of Hemel Hempstead. We aim to provide the best education for the children in our care, within a nurturing and supportive environment that places pupil's learning, development and wellbeing as our main priority. We have a team of dedicated and highly committed professionals who put the education and happiness of your child at the heart of everything they do. We hugely value the relationship between the school and parents and we endeavour to work closely with parents in a trusting relationship, sharing the responsibility for your child's education and wellbeing. Our pupils are a credit to our school and we hope your child has a positive, fun and memorable learning experience as part of our South Hill Family.

Our Mission Statement: "Building Character, Learning Together"

Our Vision

"South Hill Primary school builds the leaders of tomorrow. It nurtures young people who are happy, resourceful, reflective, caring and resilient; who develop a lifelong love of learning and who celebrate diversity, collaboration and excellence in all aspects of our school community."

Our Aim

We aim to enable our pupils to develop skills and knowledge as independent learners in a cooperative environment in which everyone is valued as part of our school community. We aim to nurture confidence and resilience in all our pupils.

Message from the Chair Of Governors

"South Hill Primary is a vibrant school offering a creative curriculum in an outstanding environment.

We are fortunate to have a team of brilliant, dedicated staff who all serve our school with commitment, patience and positivity. It is thanks to them that our children are happy, cared for and learning."

Mr H Peters - Chair of Governors



"Pupils are happy, confident and well cared for" Ofsted 2018

Message from the Headteachers



South Hill has the benefit of having two dedicated Co-Headteachers.

Their combined knowledge in education, and the local area, allows them to best serve the children, parents and community while endorsing the values of South Hill. They provide a consistent environment for staff, pupils and their families.



Wellbeing

This year our school was proud to achieve the Wellbeing award. We take pride in the pastoral support we offer our pupils and families alike. As well as my headship duties, I will continue to be the Wellbeing lead supporting pupils' personal development and welfare in order for them to access the curriculum. Our wellbeing team supports and signposts families to services such as Gade support. Through our therapeutic approach to behaviour we actively promote resilience and independence which includes our peer mediation scheme. We want to work in partnership with parents to ensure all our pupils are happy learners here at South Hill.

Curriculum

We are committed to ensuring we offer our pupils a curriculum that is creative and tailored to their needs. My role, amongst other headship duties, will be to monitor standards across the school ensuring the curriculum is taught effectively and to a high standard. The Teaching and Learning team ensure that high expectations are at the forefront of our learning walks, book monitoring and lesson drop-ins. We aim to ensure that the pupils at South Hill experience a consistent 'daily diet' of learning and that they learn in an environment which builds confidence. Our Creative Curriculum is key to building skills and developing curiosity. We want our learners to take risks and learn from errors in order to build resilience and an enjoyment of learning.



“Pupils leave the school prepared for the next stage of their education” Ofsted 2018

Teaching and Learning



Children in Reception continue to follow the Foundation Stage of Education. The curriculum for the Early Years Foundation Stage underpins all future learning by supporting, fostering, promoting and developing children's personal, social and emotional wellbeing.

At South Hill Primary School we have adopted our own 'creative curriculum' where topics and themes are taught and introduced so that, by the time our pupils leave us, they have been enlightened, enriched and enthused by the knowledge and skills they have developed.

Our creative curriculum enables pupils to engage in their learning through inventive hooks, outdoor learning, educational visits, adult speakers and a variety of other ways to enliven their learning. We encourage movement, role play and developing links with the community to support the needs of a more immersive curriculum. The daily diet of learning is consistent and essential to achieve the aims of our fresh outlook to learning.

We encourage out of class learning for every year group to bring the curriculum to life. These include regular school trips, sports events, dance competitions and a range of fun and cultural themed activities.

We have some of the very best sporting facilities and grounds and quality coaching ensures all pupils enjoy and thrive at the many disciplines and sports we encourage. In addition to the swimming classes, we encourage "the Daily Mile" where students can run, walk and enjoy exercise together in the fresh air.

We have a specialised music teacher which allows every pupil access to instruments, music and singing, giving them an opportunity to express their artistic and creative sides! The South Hill Choir performs regularly throughout the year. Additionally, our stage provides the children with a setting where they can perform in the many different plays and drama activities we hold regularly.



“Leaders have thought hard about the design of the curriculum. Pupils study a rich and vibrant curriculum” Ofsted 2018

Inclusion



All children who attend South Hill Primary School have individual needs. From time to time some pupils will have specific needs and will need additional support. Some children will need an individual plan of work to assist or accelerate their learning. All parents are kept informed of their child's development and this would include additional needs. Central Government has recognised that some pupils have more specific needs than others and introduced 'The Code of Practice' which gives schools specific guidance in the education of these children. We place a high priority on Special Educational Needs (SEND) provision and use a multi agency approach to provide care for our pupils.

We offer the following provisions to support our pupils emotional wellbeing:

- **Nurture Club**

We provide a nurture club for some pupils who benefit from playing in smaller groups. This allows them to socialise within a more supportive environment.

- **Nurture Room**

We have a time-out room that pupils can visit for some calm time should they experience anxiety for example. During this time, pupils can engage with calming toys and can speak to an adult to ensure they are ready and happy to learn.

- **Chill Zone**

This is an area for children to chill out amongst soft toys and bean bags should they become distressed.

- **Time to talk**

For any pupils experiencing any worries, we offer a 'time to talk' initiative where pupils can communicate with a member of staff about any concerns.

- **Play therapy**

Children within our school have access to play therapy to support a variety of emotional needs.

"The school's focus on well being ensures that their social and emotional needs are catered for well" Ofsted 2018

Accessibility

Our school aims to be an inclusive school. We aim to make all our children welcome and happy. Every child is different and we view differences as an opportunity for adults and children alike to learn more about one another. If your child has a disability, we will make reasonable adjustments to ensure that pupils with disabilities are not placed at a substantial disadvantage and we will know we have succeeded when disabled pupils are participating fully in school life. In order for effective partnership working between home and school to take place, we anticipate that parents will inform the school of any requirements to ensure a plan is made.

Equality

The school supports a policy of equal opportunities for children and staff. We actively support policies of equal opportunities for all in our curriculum. We support the guidelines for schools of the Commission for Racial Equality; we work positively to eliminate discrimination, to promote equality of opportunity and to promote good relations between people of different groups.






Discipline and Behaviour



We enjoy excellent behaviour throughout the school. We believe this comes from a consistent approach to learning and wellbeing.

‘The South Hill Way’ encompasses our school rules of ‘The 4 R’s’: **‘Reflect, Responsibility, Resilience and Respect.’** Our behaviour policy promotes these values by encouraging positive behaviour for learning and gives clear expectations and consistency for all. We expect children, parents, staff and governors to adhere to these values at all times and to positively promote these within our school and wider community.

Our behaviour policy and school rules have been developed with a therapeutic approach to behaviour, following Herts ‘Steps’ training. As such, staff will always deal with behaviour at both an age-appropriate level and taking into consideration an individual child’s needs.

The South Hill Way 		
	<h3>Reflect</h3> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - We listen carefully to everybody. - We value every person equally. - We are responsible for our own progress and learning. 	We follow the British value of: DEMOCRACY
	<h3>Responsibility</h3> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - We follow our school and class rules. - We make good choices and learn from our mistakes. - We keep ourselves and others safe. 	We follow the British value of: THE RULE OF LAW
	<h3>Resilience</h3> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - We all have the right to express our own opinions and views. - We show respect to everyone, even if we disagree with them. - We have freedom to make our own choices. 	We follow the British value of: INDIVIDUAL LIBERTY
	<h3>Respect</h3> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - We value our different background and beliefs. - We are polite and have good manners. - We help others to learn and to fulfil their potential. 	We follow the British value of: MUTUAL RESPECT



School Uniform

We are proud of our pupils and want them to feel part of a wider community. The uniform looks smart, lasts well and provides a feeling of group and togetherness. The office can provide any required information upon request.

“The school’s work to promote pupils’ personal development and welfare is good”
Ofsted 2018

Home Learning & Healthy Eating



Home Learning

At South Hill School we believe that supported learning at home can consolidate school activities but we strongly believe that our children need leisure and family time to enable them to pursue their own interests and hobbies and to play. Home learning may not always be written tasks; they may be finding out information or collecting items or taking a walk and chatting with family whilst viewing seasonal changes.

Reading is a very important part of each child's learning. We would like to encourage our children to read every day. This means setting aside some time for reading. The understanding of what they are reading is as important as the mechanics of reading. Therefore, even if no formal homework has been set, there is always an expectation to read at home.



Healthy Eating

Children in Reception are entitled to free school milk until the term that they are five. Children entitled to Free School Meals are offered milk free of charge. Milk is provided for other pupils at morning break for a small cost which is charged termly. Pupils in FS and KS1 are provided with a free piece of fruit at morning break.



Extra-curricular Activities

During your child's time at South Hill Primary School, we hope they will get involved in some of the activities offered outside the curriculum eg. football, netball, dance, maths, science and IT club. The school also enjoys the many rich 'out of school' experiences and trips that provide valuable experience and wonderful memories.

Admissions & P.T.A



Admissions

'Applying for a school place' leaflets are distributed by Herts County Council. You may apply on-line at: www.hertsdirect.org/admissions or if you prefer, application forms should be sent directly to the Admissions Team, **County Hall CHR 102, Pegs Lane, Hertford, SG13 8DQ**. To be considered you must apply by the deadline set out by Herts County Council.

Hertfordshire County Council allocates places according to the admissions criteria. These are often determined by whether you have another child already at the school or by how near to the school you live.

What if my child is already five or older?

Occasionally school places become available in classes due to families moving away from the area. Waiting lists are held for each class in the school by Hertfordshire County Council (HCC). To apply for a place, you should ring the In-Year Admissions Service Centre 0300 123 4043 or www.hertsdirect.org/admissions

Visits

You are most welcome to visit South Hill Primary School. We arrange visit days by appointment (which we will specify). You will be able to tour the school and the outdoor facilities, see the teachers and pupils at work and have an opportunity to ask questions.

South Hill School Parent Teacher Association (PTA)

The school benefits enormously from a very active PTA which supports the school in its aim to be a Learning Partnership and foster positive relationships between school, home and the wider community. All parents with pupils at South Hill Primary School are automatically members of our PTA. The PTA has been awarded charity status to assist in their fund-raising events and supports the school in many ways not just as a fund-raising group but also by providing practical voluntary support to benefit the pupils. The AGM is held in September so that parents have an opportunity to meet each other and plan together the future fundraising and social events for the children and parents. If you would like to come and join us, everyone is welcome – 'many hands make light work' and we have a good time! A school event can only be successful if parents, friends and staff help each other.





The Organisation of the School Day

	FS & Key Stage 1	Key Stage 2
Pupils welcomed into school and make their own way to their classroom to complete the morning task.	8:40 - 8:50am	8:40 - 8:50am
Registration	08:50am	08:50:00
Morning session 1	08:50 - 10:20am	08:50 - 10:30am
Morning Break	10:20 - 10:35am	10:30 - 10:45am
Morning session 2	10:35 - 12:00pm	10:45 - 12:15pm
Lunch	12:00 - 1:10pm	12:15 - 1:15pm
Registration	1:10pm	1:15pm
Assembly	1:15 - 1:30pm	1:15 - 1:30pm
Afternoon session 1	1:30 - 2:15pm	1:30 - 2:15pm
Afternoon session 2	2:15 - 3:10pm	2:15 - 3:15pm
Story/ Reading time	(3:00pm)	
End of school day	3:15pm	3:20pm

Breakfast Club and Morning Games Club

Breakfast Club operates from 7.45-8.40am. At 8.40am children are taken to their classes. Breakfast (including cereal, toast, crumpets, muffins) is served and there are a variety of games for the children to play in a calm and orderly environment. A charge is made for this club.

Morning Games Club

This operates from 8.00-8.40am. This is a more active club where children play games and listen to music. There is also a charge for this club.

After School Club – Claire’s Club

Claire’s Club is run by an external provider. The club is Ofsted registered. The children are met at the end of the school day, engage in creative and active activities as well as being provided with a snack. Please enquire at the school office for further details and charges.

Safeguarding



Safeguarding

The school works in partnership with parents to support children in every way possible. However, the law places clear responsibility on schools to ensure that they work together with other agencies to safeguard and promote the welfare of all children.

Photographs of children may be taken during school activities and placed on our website. However, in the interests of security, names will not be included. Any parents who object to their child being included should contact the School Office. We expect that any photographs taken by parents at school activities are for personal, family use only. All adults who work or help in our school have an enhanced DBS certificate and have a safeguarding induction.

“South Hill school is committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children and young people and expects all staff and volunteers to share this commitment.”



Complaints

The school aims to work closely with parents and we hope that parents who have any concerns or anxieties will in the first instance raise these with the class teacher. If you are not sure who to approach, please ask your child's teacher (or contact a member of the School Office staff who will be able to help you). We find that nearly all concerns or potential complaints can be resolved happily through discussion. Please refer to the Communication Leaflet on the website.

The governors have arrangements for considering complaints formally. For general complaints and matters to do with educational needs, the governors have adopted a procedure which follows guidelines recommended by the Hertfordshire County Council. You can find a copy of this on the school website or contact the School Office.

Further information

A copy of all policy documents are available for parents to see. Please refer to the school website or contact the School Office.





SOUTH HILL PRIMARY SCHOOL

Heath Lane

Hemel Hempstead

Hertfordshire HP1 1TT

01442 402127

[**admin@southhill.herts.sch.uk**](mailto:admin@southhill.herts.sch.uk)

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

Building Character, Learning together