



Windhill21

PROSPECTUS





'Each time you
wake up on a
school day, you
feel excited!'

Pupil

Welcome to Windhill21

Learning in the 21st Century

Welcome to Windhill21 – a school where every child is valued and where the learning atmosphere is infectious. We are delighted that you are interested in joining our progressive and ambitious school.

Windhill21 is an academy which provides an outstanding education and prepares our children for life in the 21st century as global citizens. A stimulating curriculum equips our children with solid foundations, confidence and enthusiasm for life-long learning.

Our children represent our diverse community; being culturally aware provides an opportunity to stand back and consider that there are certain backgrounds, personal values, beliefs and upbringings that shape the things we all do. Together with parents, governors and staff, they form the unique character that is our school and one of the features that makes our school an exceptional and vibrant place.

Outstanding staff and governors bring expertise, enthusiasm and experience to the school community. We are passionate about sharing high expectations and ensuring every child achieves his or her full potential, academically and personally. Children learn best when they feel safe to take on challenges; when they are inspired; when they feel valued and when their achievements are celebrated.

Our prospectus will give you a flavour of the world of outstanding opportunities that our school provides, but to truly gain an insight, we do encourage you to visit and see our children in action.

We look forward to welcoming you and your family.

Philippa Moore
Headteacher



A 21st Century School

Windhill21 – a world of possibilities

Windhill21 promotes a 'growth mindset' culture which underpins a belief that hard work and effort leads to success, not just natural talent or ability.

Breadth of experience is a key feature. Whilst we expect children to achieve academically, we provide a balance between academic, artistic and physical endeavour, along with pastoral and moral guidance. Pastoral care begins as soon as the children arrive at school and extends beyond the end of the school day.

Our vision

Our vision is to inspire all children with a love of learning. We want our children to become outstanding world citizens who are ambitious, courageous, inspirational architects of the future.

Our aims

- To strive for excellence, enabling all children to reach their potential.
- To aim high, achieve more, raise expectations and broaden horizons in a globally rich setting.
- Unlock the potential of each child by encouraging children to challenge, question and enquire.
- To equip children for lifelong learning and to enable them to live harmoniously within an ever changing diverse world.
- To provide an environment that creates a balance between the celebration of children's achievements and the development of aesthetic awareness and appreciation.
- To work in partnership with parents in accomplishing our shared vision.

'Now away we go
towards the top.
Many still, small
voices are calling
'Come higher''

John Muir 1911



'We have found the teaching team at Windhill to be so positive and supportive that our children have made strides of progress, which has been a joy to watch. It's a fantastic school. We are very grateful to be part of it.'

Parent



21st Century Learning

Windhill21 - providing life-long learning

Through dynamic teaching methods and our inspirational ethos, our children become engaged and motivated learners. By steering children's natural curiosity, we ignite a life-long zest for learning; building high self esteem and a strong determination to succeed.

We believe that learning is for everyone and every child deserves the best possible start to their education. The school is committed to the continuing development of staff to ensure that the best professional practice underpins our drive for children's success. Specialist teachers deliver high quality ICT, sport and performing arts throughout the school.

Children are encouraged to ask questions and to investigate. We recognise that children learn in different ways and so we teach in a variety of groupings and styles: whole class, small groups and individual support.

We have aspirational expectations. Challenge and engagement is the key to ensure that all of our children make rapid and sustained progress. We are proud of the excellent academic standards they achieve.

A young boy in a school uniform is looking intently at a wooden fence. He is wearing a dark blue sweater over a white collared shirt and a blue and green striped tie. The background shows a wooden fence and some pink flowers.

'The mind is like
a parachute,
it works only
when it is open.'

unknown

21st Century Curriculum

Windhill21 - delivering a curriculum for the future.....

Windhill21 believes that children have an inherent desire to learn and a natural inquisitiveness to be unlocked and encouraged. Our creative curriculum is underpinned by four key drivers: internationalism, confidence, philosophy and enterprise and extends beyond the requirements of the National Curriculum. It is designed to develop pupils as self-assured individuals who are fully prepared for their transition into secondary school and beyond, through a cross-curricular approach which strengthens and consolidates children's understanding and learning. Our whole school Assertive Mentoring approach empowers our pupils as reflective and progressive learners through mentoring meetings and clear negotiated targets. Key literacy skills are developed through the Read, Write Inc programme, Mechanics Hour and Creative Literacy. Maths understanding is deepened through practical opportunities and problem solving. Our termly whole-school

'Wonder Weeks' deliver rich opportunities and experiences for the whole school community.

The curriculum is supported by the use of Windhill21's extensive and well-maintained grounds and outstanding facilities which comprise of spacious sports field, a multi-use games area and focused outdoor learning areas. Our Forest School enthuses learning in all aspects of the curriculum and our thriving garden is used to support practical science, enterprise and cookery. We have invested in high-quality equipment in our playgrounds to ensure that our children are engaged purposefully and have the opportunity to develop all-round physical fitness.

Windhill21 is at the forefront of the rapidly changing world of technology. Our Media Suite contains the latest Windows PCs and iMacs as well as our envious and unique Immersion Room. Class sets of iPads and androids enhance learning along with our film-making and photography initiatives.



'Life is either
a daring
adventure or
nothing.'

Helen Keller

Broadening horizons

Windhill21 - a far-reaching, visionary approach....

Enrichment opportunities are a feature of life at Windhill21 providing richness and breadth for our children. Pupil learning is embellished by a wide range of clubs, inspiring visits and trips and 'Wonder Days' and 'Wonder Weeks'. Opportunities are woven into the curriculum to enthuse children, making learning more memorable, the experience of which may kindle future interest in life. The annual residential trip to The Somme in France in year 6 provides a fusion of learning: practice speaking the French language; understanding the French culture and the appreciation of World War 1 history.

Success in inter-schools sports competitions are a regular feature of Windhill21 and all children are encouraged to experience the challenges and the joy of participating in activities beyond the immediate environment.

Windhill21 is committed to ensuring that all children's talents and abilities are nurtured, challenged and celebrated.

We have many gifted and talented children and our programme allows those who have been identified as gifted or talented in a specific area to have the opportunity to take part in further enrichment activities.

All pupils at Windhill21 are considered to be ambassadors within school and the wider community. All are given responsibilities and flourish in the knowledge that they are trusted. Year 6 pupils have the opportunity to become House Captains, Play Leaders, Digital Leaders or Arts Ambassadors – something for everyone.

The Head Boy and Head Girl and their deputies carry out a range of important duties, including attending meetings with staff and taking assemblies. Our Pupil Forum meets regularly and forum members are given the opportunity to contribute to whole school development, as well as to manage a small budget.



'Only those who will risk going too far can possibly find out how far one can go.'

TS Eliot

A world in partnership

Windhill21 - committed to forging links with the community and beyond....

Windhill21 is an outward-looking and forward-thinking school who provides an excellent education for pupils aged from 3 to 11 years. By working in partnership with our 'in-house' pre-school and out of hours care provider, we are able to deliver an outstanding wrap-around care service which is seamless and consistent in its approach.

Through the partnership with other schools, businesses and community groups, Windhill21 shares ideas to develop the curriculum making it current and meaningful.

Mutual links with other outstanding schools have ensured that Windhill21 shares a progressive outlook and an energising 21st century approach to learning. International links with schools have led to media projects and a deeper understanding of different cultures.

Windhill21 is an instrumental partner in the Catalyst Teaching School Alliance and steers local teacher CPD (Continuous Professional Development) and delivers an exemplary NQT (Newly Qualified Teacher) training programme. For this to be successful, Windhill21 works in close collaboration with the local secondary schools and member primary schools.

Windhill21 is committed to working with parents and carers to build each child's confidence. By creating a community atmosphere of high expectations, pupils achieve their full potential, academically and personally.

Our active Parent Network supports positive communication between parents and the school.

'Sail away from the safe harbour. Catch the trade winds in your sails. Explore. Dream. Discover.'

Mark Twain



Admissions

If you would like to send your child to Windhill21, or would like to know more about our creative, happy and successful school, please contact the school on:

01279 696850

to arrange a visit and to discuss how to apply.

For our admissions policy, please visit our website:

www.windhill.herts.sch.uk

Further admissions information and how to apply can be found on the Hertfordshire County Council website, please visit:

www.hertsdirect.org/services/edlearn/admissions



**'Our international school is brilliant!
Our friends are from all over the world.'**

Year 6 Pupil

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