

Ellenbrook Community Primary School



Prospectus and School Brochure

An inclusive school where every child can achieve success

Updated April 2015

Contents

Welcome to Ellenbrook and Mission Statement	Page 3
Our School Aims	Page 4
Contact Details and How to find us	Page 5
Parents and Ellenbrook	Page 6
Useful Information	Page 9
A Supportive Community	Page 15
School Uniform	Page 18
Admissions Procedure	Page 20
The Curriculum – An Overview	Page 21
The Key Subjects	Page 21
Assessment	Page 27
Extra Curricular Activities	Page 27
Final word	Page 28

A LARGE PRINT VERSION OF THIS PROSPECTUS
CAN BE OBTAINED ON REQUEST FROM THE
SCHOOL OFFICE.

Mission Statement

Welcome to our prospectus, which we hope will provide you with all the information you need. Our school is dedicated to nurturing the talents of every one of our children. Our aim is to help your child reach their true potential. By inspiring them to learn and teaching them independence, we hope to instil the confidence and skills they need to be successful in every aspect of their lives. Mutual respect is at the heart of all our teaching and we are proud that our pupils show outstanding behaviour throughout the school.

Ellenbrook Community Primary School values the huge impact that parents can have on their child's education and there are many opportunities for parents to get involved in the life of the school. We work hard to provide the best quality service for the children, parents and the community that we can. Our school forms the centre of our community and we hope that you will quickly feel part of it. Our school is welcoming and safe and we hope your child will soon feel a sense of belonging and team spirit.

We all want the same thing – the highest quality education for our children. We want our children to be happy, enthusiastic learners. These high expectations are embodied in our school's School Aims which were developed in partnership between the Governors and Staff.

If you wish to find out more about Ellenbrook Community Primary School, please make an appointment with the School Secretary, so that we can show you everything that makes us so proud!

Our School Aims

We aim to provide a welcoming, secure, and happy school:

- Where our children are inspired to learn
- Where achievement is built on the individual talents of each child
- Where creative thinking, endeavour and enterprise are nurtured
- Where academic standards are raised
- Where children are equipped with the skills to succeed in an ever changing world
- Where all children, staff, parents and governors work together towards the success of all the children
- Where everyone understands the value of respect
- Where the local community are welcomed
- Where , through all the Arts, the cultural diversity of the modern world is celebrated
- Where the environment and global issues are valued
- Where everyone puts children first

Contact details

ADDRESS: Ellenbrook Community Primary School,
Longwall Avenue,
Ellenbrook,
Worsley
M28 7PS

TEL NUMBER: 0161 799 6347

Website www.ellenbrookschool.com

E- MAIL: ellenbrook.primaryschool@salford.gov.uk

HEADTEACHER: Mrs Wendy Parkins

CHAIR OF GOVERNORS: Mrs Julie Strang

How to find us

**Ellenbrook Community Primary School,
Longwall Avenue,
Ellenbrook,
Worsley
M28 7PS**

From the A580:

- Leave the A580 at the Ellenbrook Road junction. The Woodside public house is on the corner
- Take the **second** right onto Longwall Avenue
- The school is about 100m on the right hand side

Parents and Ellenbrook

At Ellenbrook we have always valued the special relationship that exists between Parents and the School. It is important that School and Parents work together in order to ensure each child is happy in school and works to their potential.

In order to help create this trusting and valuable relationship, these are some of the activities and systems that we operate: -

- **Welcome meetings** – at the end of each academic year you are invited to meet your child's new teacher for the forthcoming year. This is an opportunity for us to pass on important information about routines, P.E., homework, expectations, etc. Teachers are also available should you wish to discuss any issues.
- **Parents' Evenings** – During the year we hold two formal parents' evenings – one in the Autumn term and the second in the Spring term. On these occasions, there is an opportunity for us to celebrate successes and to discuss your child's progress and development.
- **Reports** – Formal reports are issued at the end of the school year. You will also be given the opportunity to discuss your child's report with your class teacher should you wish to do so.
- **Newsletters** – letters are emailed home regularly containing important information. Please register for school emails. If you would prefer hard copies- just let the office know.
- **Homework** – Regular homework is sent home in line with our current policy, which is available should you wish to see it. We would appreciate your support in ensuring your child's homework is completed to a high standard. Should your child have difficulties with the work set, friendly feedback is always helpful. Homework can take many forms. We may ask children to carry out research and/or complete projects. In Key Stage 2, much of a child's homework will be recorded in their Learning Journal.

Please do not let homework become a problem. If your child experiences any difficulties and you are unable to help them, they can bring it into school to discuss it again with their teacher, accompanied by a note from yourself if necessary. Also, if your child is unable to complete a particular homework due to other commitments, we would be grateful if you could let us know in writing, so that we do not discipline a child without good reason.

Wherever possible we will provide guidance and support for you and your child in relation to homework.

Throughout their school life, one of the most valuable activities you can do with your child at home is reading and sharing books. You will be provided with help and advice on how to get the most out of reading sessions, particularly in Reception where you will be invited to a meeting in the first term.

Other ways in which you can become involved: -

- **PTA**

Shortly after we opened in September 1996, we formed a PTA. This group has four main aims: to develop good working and social relations between home and school, to provide social activities for local families where community spirit can develop, to support the school in events and activities and to raise funds for educational resources to enhance the children's education.

Since the school opened, the PTA has been highly successful in meeting all its aims and has contributed a great deal to the development of the new school in many ways.

Our existing committee co-ordinates its work but all parents and staff are automatically members of the PTA and every meeting is open to every member so that we can benefit from the ideas, expertise and interest of a larger number of people.

The PTA has organised many successful and entertaining events over recent years that have raised thousands of pounds! This money has helped us to purchase such items as a whole new reading scheme, a school minibus, as well many other items besides! If you would like to help us in this way please contact the School Office.

You can find out more about our PTA on the school website.

www.ellenbrookschool.com

- **Parent helpers**

We are always grateful for parent helpers. You may be able to hear children read; perhaps you have a hidden talent that you could share with

our children or maybe you would just like to help out on school trips. To do this, please speak to the staff in the office who will be able to help. Preference will be given to parents who are DBS checked.

We have a number of school trips throughout the year and we are always in need of parent helpers to come along. We hold a bank of parents who are CRB checked and they will always get priority for trips.

Useful information

- **The Governors and Staff**

In partnership with the Local Education Authority, the school is governed by a Governing Body, who represents the school and the community. This body, made up of parents, teachers and local people, meets regularly and works hard on the behalf of the children at Ellenbrook Community Primary School.

A full list of Governors, who they represent and their terms of office can be obtained from the School Office. The Governors are also often available at other events and parents may write to the Governing Body if they wish.

The school is staffed by a very hard working and committed team who always put the children first. A full list of support, teaching and non-teaching staff is also available on the school website www.ellenbrookschool.com or from the office.

- **Access to the school**

Access for children and their parents to the school is through the two pedestrian entrances to the side of the school. A footpath runs from the road along the side of the school to the entrances. The Salford Road Safety Team and the Governors encourage you to bring children to school on foot, not in cars. For safety reasons, the vehicle entrance to school is locked at the beginning and end of the school day. If parents do have to park on Longwall Avenue, please consider the safety of the children and our neighbours. Y6 children are permitted to come to school on bikes once parents have agreed to our Cycle Policy.

- **The School Day**

The school day starts at 8:55 a.m. with the ringing of the school bell. All children should lined up in the playground in time for the bell at 8.55am.

By 9:00 a.m. all exterior doors are closed and any children who are late will have to enter through the main entrance, report to the school office and have their names entered in the school Late Book. The school feels that starting the day on time and together is very important.

The Nursery and Reception classes plan time outside within their Foundation Stage day. Morning break for Key Stage 1 and 2 is from 10:45 a.m. to 11:00 a.m.

Lunchtime for Key Stage 2 is from 12:05 p.m. to 1:00 p.m.
Lunchtime for Nursery, Reception and Key Stage 1 is from 12 noon to 1:15 p.m.

Afternoon break for Key Stage 1 and Key Stage 2 is from 2:05 p.m. to 2:15 p.m.

The day ends for all the children at 3:30 p.m.

- **Teaching Hours**

Key Stage 2 (Juniors) is taught for 23 hours and 30 minutes each week.

Reception and Key Stage 1 (Infants) are taught for 21 hours and 50 minutes.

In addition, the daily Assembly / Act of Collective Worship for all children plays an essential part in the teaching process and in developing the school community spirit.

There is also time spent each week in welcoming, settling and registering the children at the start of the morning and afternoon sessions.

- **Complaints Procedure**

If you have a concern about something that happens in school you are asked to first contact your child's class teacher. Most issues can easily be resolved at this level. If your concerns are not answered then you should contact the Headteacher.

If you are still unhappy with how your complaint has been handled, you should then contact the Chair of Governors. Details of how you can do this can be obtained from the School Office.

The Office can supply you with either a summary of our complaints policy or a full copy if you wish.

- **Attendance, General Absences, Medication and Emergencies**

Excellent school attendance is essential for success and good progress in school. We expect every child, who is not ill, to attend every day. We monitor attendance very carefully, will follow-up absences and reward children and classes who have excellent attendance.

Parents are requested to phone school in the morning of EVERY day of absence, explaining why their child isn't in school. It is school policy to contact parents should a phone call not be received by 10:00a.m. to explain a child's absence. This is purely a safety measure to ensure parents are aware their child has not arrived at school.

Medicine can only be administered to children in accordance with Salford LEA's guidelines. A form, which can be collected from the School Office or downloaded from the school website, will need to be completed by parents in order to allow this to take place.

In the event of an emergency a contact address and telephone numbers are essential. At the start of each year a form will be sent home to update any change in circumstances. It is essential that the School Office is informed of any changes in circumstances which occur during the school year.

- **Holidays and Absence**

An annual school calendar showing term start and end dates is included on the school website.

It is expected that children will take their holidays at times when the school is closed. The Headteacher does not have the authority to sanction any holidays in term time. Under exceptional circumstances, please complete an absence request form available on our website under Policies and Document - absence.

www.ellenbrookschool.com

- **School Lunches**

We take great pride in the meals provided by Citywide Catering's school kitchens. The food is cooked on site and is made from fresh ingredients wherever possible. The children are given a choice of main meals, including a salad bar and desserts and drinks are also available to

purchase. As we are concerned about the health and well-being of children, we aim to offer the healthiest options possible.

The current cost of a school meal is listed in the Appendix at the end of this Prospectus/School Brochure. All children who are taking school meals should pay for the week on a Monday morning. Money should be in a sealed envelope with your child's name and class written on the envelope. This should be handed to the class teacher.

Alternatively, children are allowed to bring packed lunches into school. Very salty crisps and sweet snacks such as chocolate bars should be avoided, as should fizzy drinks. We are hopeful that you will support us in our efforts to protect the health of your child. In addition, please ensure that food and drinks are stored in suitable containers with **no** glass bottles.

- **Playtimes**

Children may bring healthy snacks to school to be consumed during breaks. We like to encourage healthy eating at these times. **Therefore crisps, sweets and chocolate bars are not allowed.**

The infant children are given a free piece of fruit, as these are provided by the Healthy Schools Fruit Scheme.

- **Water**

We encourage the children to bring bottled water into school to be consumed during lesson times. This water helps to keep the children hydrated and research has shown that this also aids concentration. Each classroom also has access to fresh drinking water. Children are not allowed fizzy drinks or flavoured water. Not only is there evidence that these products can contain chemicals harmful to children, but when spilt they cause a mess and attract bugs.

- **Milk**

School milk is available for **all** children. This is semi-skimmed milk and is stored in a fridge until needed. Under 5s receive it free of charge. All other children may purchase a small daily carton of milk at a nominal charge. This charge is collected termly. If you wish your child to have school milk please inform the school office. Children who do not wish to drink milk may bring water into school.

- **Charging policy**

- In compliance with the provisions of the Education Reform Act 1988 and the Salford Education Authority's policies on charging, our policy can be found in the policy section of our school website.

- **Transfer arrangements – Y6 pupils**

The majority of the children who leave us at the end of Year 6 transfer to the local High Schools with which we have close working links.

We have close links to Walkden High School. Walkden High is a “state of the art” newly built building, opened in September 2011. Children and Parents are given many opportunities to meet the Head and staff at the school, to visit the school in order to make an informed choice. There is a planned annual programme of visits for the children. The school instigates a transition programme to ensure a smooth transfer for the children from primary to secondary education.

A Supportive Community

Ellenbrook Community Primary School is a small one form entry family school where everyone gets to know everyone else. Your child will have their own class teacher with whom they and you can develop a close working relationship. They are always available to discuss any concern you or your child may have. The end of a school day, when the children are not waiting for attention, is the best time for short informal discussions. If you feel you require a longer, more formal meeting, please make an appointment through the school office.

We seek to provide a safe, secure and caring environment in which children can grow, learn and develop. The relationship between the child and the teacher is vital. All of the staff are committed to developing positive relationships with the children and we value the support of parents in helping to foster these relationships. Wherever possible it is helpful if parents can avoid talking negatively about the school, other children or the staff in front of their children.

We encourage children to be responsible for their own actions and to be in control of their own progress. They are expected to use good manners and to be respectful towards their environment, adults, their peers and to themselves.

It is very important that we are kept informed of any circumstances at home which might have an effect upon a child in our care and we ask for your co-operation should such a circumstance arise. Children do become upset at school from time-to-time, yet may not demonstrate such behaviour at home. This can sometimes be due to the fact that they do not wish to upset those who are closest to them: you! We can assure you that any information we receive will be treated in confidence.

Behaviour and Discipline

A good school and a good teacher have firm but fair discipline. A school cannot function effectively and children cannot learn if discipline does not exist. Discipline is a positive concept at Ellenbrook Community Primary School. We believe that every child has a right to learn and every teacher has a right to teach, without distraction or disruption. Those who work well are constantly praised and rewarded. We work to enhance their self-esteem and reward their achievements. The school has an agreed core set of rules which operate in every classroom. Misbehaviour and bullying will not be tolerated. It will not be allowed to disrupt other children's education. Any child who CHOOSES to misbehave is dealt with firmly, quietly and effectively. They are given opportunities and help to improve.

We look to parents as partners. If a child is having problems at school we expect parents to work with us to support the school's efforts to change their child's behaviour. Soon after admission Parents will be requested to sign a Home-School Agreement setting out aims and responsibilities. We constantly try to celebrate and share with you

your child's achievements in all aspects of their school life. We believe children grow and learn through praise and encouragement. We aim for a school with a disciplined but caring atmosphere which teaches the virtues of mutual respect and good manners.

SAFEGUARDING CHILDREN

Bullying

Unfortunately there are some children who seek to make other children's lives unpleasant by repeatedly making them feel uncomfortable or by hurting them on a regular basis. It is important, though, to make the distinction between regular 'falling out' incidents that, unfortunately, happen all too often and those incidents that are genuinely of a bullying nature.

If you are concerned about your child in any way we ask you please to contact us so that we can deal with the situation appropriately. It is also vital that you encourage your children to tell an adult in school about anything that is making them feel unhappy so that we can help to make them feel better.

The school's full Discipline and Behaviour policy is available from the school office or on the school website.

Child Protection

Schools have an important part to play in the prevention of all forms of child abuse. The school has a Designated Senior Teacher for Child Protection, as have all other schools within the authority. Presently, this is the Headteacher. All staff, both teaching and support staff, visiting teachers, sports coaches and all regular volunteer parent helpers are fully and regularly checked by the Police and Local Authority under Child Protection rules.

When a child has injured themselves at home, it is important that parents inform school. If a member of staff is unsure about how an injury has occurred, they may seek clarification from parents. Please don't take offence; they're only interested in your child's safety.

Parents should be aware that if it appears that a child may have been abused, the school is LEGALLY REQUIRED to report the matter to Social Services and/or the police IMMEDIATELY.

This requirement forms part of the Local Authority's procedures for dealing with Child Protection and is not a matter for the school's discretion. When the Headteacher is absent from school, the Deputy will assume the responsibility.

Safety There is a health and safety policy in school, which deals with every aspect of your child's well-being whilst at school.

The School Nurse

Throughout your child's school career they will be given a series of medical checkups. At the start of each year you will be asked to sign an approval form for these medical screenings. You will be invited to attend the more detailed examinations but you may attend all the general screening sessions if you wish.

First Aid

Several of our staff have recently been trained as First Aiders and further training for other staff is planned. To complement this, many staff have had Emergency First Aid training.

All minor accidents will be dealt with and recorded. More serious accidents will be dealt with by a First Aider, fully recorded and you will be contacted. There is a very limited amount of treatment that we may administer at school. That is why it is essential that you fill in and keep up to date the 'Emergency Contact sheet' which we keep in the school office.

If your child has any form of head injury, even minor, you will be informed. With minor head injuries, such as bumping into another child, your child will bring a 'Head Bump' letter home. This is just to warn you in case they begin to suffer any form of concussion. If we have any concerns we will contact you immediately.

Asthma and other medical conditions

It is vitally important that you inform the school office **and** teacher if your child suffers any ongoing medical condition **or** if their health changes in any way. This helps us keep them safe and helps us act in the appropriate way if your child becomes ill. If your child suffers from Asthma you should let us know how severe the condition is and what medication they use. They should bring their blue inhalers into school where we will ensure they are always available for your child.

Personal Belongings

All personal belongings are best left at home. The use of mobile phones by children on our premises is prohibited. In the event of exceptional circumstances, parents should notify the school. The phones will not be allowed to be switched on or used during the school day. School cannot be held responsible for any personal effects being damaged or lost on the school premises.

School Uniform

As our school begins to grow and evolve, it is important that everyone is clear about acceptable standards.

School uniform and a smart appearance create self-respect and a sense of belonging. Children learn best when they are happy and relaxed. We are very aware of the fact that children are continually subjected to fashion influences with regard to hair styles and hair wear – some of which are appropriate to the school situation whilst others are not. Our aim is to shield our children from unnecessary pressures and worries, so that they can concentrate on learning. In no way should pupils' appearance detract from their outstanding behaviour and attitude.

Uniform

Boys

Grey trousers or shorts; white polo or cotton shirt; green Ellenbrook sweatshirt; white socks and black school shoes.

Girls

Grey skirt or trousers; white polo or cotton shirt; green Ellenbrook cardigan or sweatshirt. Green Ellenbrook hoodies are also available from the office.

Hair

Any styles which cause a potential health and safety issue will not be allowed nor will any style/accessory which is not formal school wear or causes a child to be the subject of embarrassment, teasing or argument.

Children with long hair should wear it tied or clipped back for school. Hair accessories should be discreet and ideally in school colours. Children should not have their hair cut in any extreme styles, e.g. too short, (less than a number 3 anywhere). Children should not have their hair or eyebrows shaved. Tramlines/patterns, highlights/colours/steps/ military styles or 'undercuts' (two different lengths) in the hair are not allowed, and parents/carers will be asked to have the situation remedied. It is at the discretion of the Headteacher to ask parents to change the haircut if it is thought inappropriate.

Make Up

No makeup, including temporary tattoos, nail varnish or coloured lip-balm, must be worn to school.

Jewellery

Jewellery is not allowed with the exception of plain watches and simple stud earrings.

All jewellery must be removed *by the child* for P.E etc. New piercings should be done at the start of the summer holidays, so that the healing process is complete by September.

If parents continually disregard this policy then they will be asked to collect their child and correct their appearance. In the case of extreme hairstyles, parents will be informed that their child must cover their hair until the style complies with the policy. Children will not be allowed to represent the school in sports, school productions, outings, assemblies or photographs etc. until their appearance upholds the high standards set by the governors. Parents who continually disregard this policy will be invited to discuss our home school agreement with Mrs Parkins.

By supporting the school's policies and ethos, parents will be helping their child to be confident and happy. They will enjoy their time in school and feel like they belong.

This policy should be read in conjunction with the Policy for Safeguarding and Protecting Children. Accepted in principle by the Governing body of Ellenbrook Primary School in April 2015.

PE KIT POLICY

All children should bring in **BOTH** PE kits **every day**. Although PE is timetabled for specific days, there will be occasions when a slot is switched, or an additional opportunity for PE presents itself.

Outdoor PE kit:

Plain white unbranded t-shirt
Plain black unbranded tracksuit bottoms
Plain black unbranded tracksuit top
Plain white sports socks
Sports trainers (preferably white)

Indoor PE kit:

Plain white unbranded t-shirt.
Plain white unbranded shorts.
Plain white sports socks.
Black pumps

What if my child doesn't have their PE kit in school?:

PE is a statutory part of the National Curriculum. It is a legal requirement for school to teach PE and for children to take part in PE lessons. If children don't bring in their kits they will have to find some kit from the lost property bins. The same applies to inappropriate kit. Any lesson time lost as a result of this will be made up by the children at break time.

Additional information:

During the winter children are permitted to wear additional layers underneath their required school kit. During extremes of weather additional clothing may be worn, but this is at the discretion of the PE teacher.

Jewellery:

For Health and Safety reasons, children should wear no jewellery at all during PE lessons. If girls are unable to remove their earrings themselves, parents should remove them before school. If girls are unable to remove their earrings because they've just had them pierced, parents need to write a letter to let school know when they will be able to remove them. If earrings cannot be removed for whatever reason, they will need to be covered up with plasters brought in from home. Any lesson time lost as a result of this will be made up by the children at break time.

Non-participation

In the event of **short-term** illness/recovery needing rest from an activity (i.e. one or two lessons) the nature of the illness/injury should be detailed in a letter from the children's parent/guardian. Otherwise, the pupil will become involved in the lesson through less physical aspects of the National Curriculum. In the event of a lesson in which this is not appropriate, the child will be given a written worksheet to complete.

Admissions Procedure

How to apply for a Nursery and / or Reception place

(This information is taken directly from the publication 'Primary Education in Salford'.)

The Admissions and Exclusions Team (see address below) deals with all admissions to Nursery and Reception classes. **The staff at Ellenbrook have no jurisdiction in this process.** Parents should contact this team to request an application form. Upon completion the application form should be returned to the Children's Services Directorate (see address below).

As Ellenbrook is over-subscribed, the Local Education Authority admission criteria will be used to decide who gets the available places. See below.

PLEASE NOTE – A child who has attended Ellenbrook's Nursery IS NOT automatically allocated a Reception place. Parents WILL need to reapply.

Published Admission Criteria

"As far as possible the Admissions and Exclusions Team will try to meet parental preferences for schools but it is not always possible to do so. Places in schools are limited by the physical space in the school. Each school has an admission number which is based on the size of the school. If the number of pupils requiring places at that school exceeds the admission number then not everybody will be successful in obtaining a place there. This is what we mean when we say a school is 'oversubscribed'.

If the school is oversubscribed the places will be allocated according to the following admission criteria:

1. **Medical reasons** – If claiming medical reasons, parents/carers must provide evidence from the doctor that the child has a particular medical condition which means that admission to a particular school is essential.
2. **S.E.N.** – children whose statement of Special Educational Needs stipulates that specific school.
3. **Children in need** – as defined by the Children Act (1989) i.e. Those who are unlikely to achieve or maintain or have the opportunity of achieving or maintaining a reasonable standard of health or development or a child or

children whose health or development would be further impaired without the provision of services of the Local Authority.

Applications under this criterion would need to be supported by an appropriate professional stating that attendance at a particular school is essential. This includes children in public care.

4. **Older brother or sister** in attendance at the school at the date when the pupil is to be admitted. This includes step-children and foster children living with the same family at the same address.
5. **Distance from the school** – Priority is given to children who live nearest to the school. The distance is measured along a straight line (as the crow flies) between the child's permanent place of residence and the preferred school.

Important addresses

School Admissions Team
Children's Services
Second Floor
Unity House
Salford Civic Centre
Chorley Road
Swinton
M27 5AW

Tel. 0161 909 6508

school.admissions@salford.gov.uk
<http://www.salford.gov.uk/school-admissions-lea.htm>

Useful publications

'Primary Education in Salford' and other useful booklets can be obtained from the LEA website at www.salford.gov.uk/learning/primary

Visits

If you would like to visit Ellenbrook Primary School please contact the School Office to make an appointment.

Home visits / Visits to classroom

Any new children to Nursery or Reception are offered a home visit in order to introduce the staff and children to one another. In addition, each child and their

parents are invited to attend a session in the classroom to begin the process developing good home-school relationships.

The Curriculum

The Key Subjects

(Please see the school website for curriculum information, organised by Year Group)

Literacy / English

We believe that the development of Literacy is the foundation of primary education. It provides children with the tools to access the rest of the curriculum

From Nursery onwards the children are surrounded by a literacy rich environment. They are given opportunities throughout the school to develop their skills in speaking and listening in different situations. Starting in the Nursery we work with parents to help the children develop as competent readers who can use their skills to further their learning and who turn to books for pleasure.

Throughout their reading careers at Ellenbrook Community Primary School they will experience a wide range of literature such as fiction, non-fiction, poetry and plays within the reading schemes, the class library and the main school library. The internet also provides a rich source of reading material. In addition, we work to ensure the children have the skills and knowledge to express themselves freely and competently in many different written forms.

Numeracy / Mathematics

The development of mathematical skills is essential for children's future success in education and life. The development of these skills, knowledge and concepts, particularly through practical activities, is essential to our approach. We aim to develop a positive and confident attitude towards Numeracy and the ability to think logically and clearly. Confidence in Mental Mathematics is seen as a core element of our Mathematics curriculum and forms part of our daily Numeracy session.

Science

Through the teaching of Science we wish to develop children's natural curiosity so that they gain a genuine awe and wonder of the world we live in. Through 'hands on', practical scientific investigations children should develop their ability to be critical and to become more independent learners. We want them to develop the ability to raise and then find ways of answering questions. Science topics are planned across the whole school to ensure coverage of the National Curriculum, continuity and progression.

Computing

We are very fortunate to have some of the most up-to-date Information Technology systems and equipment available. Each classroom has its own interactive whiteboard with a networked PC. Each week each class has access to a suite containing enough computers for one per child and an interactive whiteboard. There is an extensive range of software available to the children under direct supervision and teaching from the teaching staff. This software not only supports the curriculum generally but teaches the children specific IT skills.

Our computers are networked via a strictly regulated RM interface. This allows the children to access the internet safely. Internet safety is very important for our children. Children and parents will be given regular advice and guidance on safe practice. See our website for more information. www.ellenbrookschool.com

Religious Education, Collective Worship and Community Cohesion

Religious Education aims to promote the spiritual, moral and cultural development of the children by exploring the Christian faith and values, as well as fostering an understanding and respect of other religions by gaining an insight into different cultures and traditions.

The school has adopted the Salford Agreed Syllabus for Religious Education and all children within the school follow this syllabus.

Each day the children gather for an Assembly / Act of Collective Worship, sometimes with the whole school and sometimes within their own phase or class. These assemblies explore many aspects of Christianity and of other world faiths and cultures.

During their years in Ellenbrook, your child will learn about all the major world faiths such as Islam, Hinduism, Judaism, Sikhism and Buddhism. They will also celebrate many of the world's religious festivals.

Each year we celebrate the diversity of our school, local and national culture through a school wide "One World Week".

Parents have the right to withdraw their children from the whole or parts of the Religious Education curriculum or from the Act of Collective Worship. Parents wishing to do so should make the necessary arrangements with the Headteacher.

Sex and Relationship Education

Sex and Relationship Education is firstly and mainly the responsibility of parents. In school we look to support and extend the education children receive at home. All Sex and Relationship Education will be provided within a spiritual and moral context. We deal with the subject sensitively and carefully, paying due regard to the age and maturity of the children and in the context of family life, when it arises within the curriculum.

Aspects of Sex and Relationship Education are taught from Foundation Stage right through to Year 6.

After informing parents, a series of detailed lessons on 'Healthy living and puberty' are carried out with Y5 and Y6. This is organised in conjunction with the School Nurse and is planned as part of their preparation for the High School and adult life.

Inclusion, Special Educational Needs and Disability Access

At Ellenbrook Community Primary School we encourage all children to achieve their full potential and we aim to provide access for every child to a broad and balanced curriculum. All our teachers differentiate work according to the needs of the individual child but there are some children who need additional educational support, be it short or long term, during their education. The school seeks to identify these children at an early stage so that they can receive appropriate help. We involve parents in any decisions that are taken regarding the children's educational needs.

The School aims to follow the LEA and DfES guidelines on Equal Opportunities, Special Educational Needs and Disability Discrimination and ensures that all admissions, policies and procedures that are established within the school are organised in the light of these guidelines. The school adheres to the LEA Admission Policy which covers the admission of children with Special Educational Needs and Disabilities.

The school has been designed as a barrier free school and we welcome children, parents and visitors with disabilities. The school has ramped access to all parts of the building which is all on one level. There is a purpose built disabled toilet.

Through the LEA the school has access to facilities to provide children, parents or visitors with adapted school information or teaching resources that they may have difficulty accessing.

All children identified as needing educational support or with disabilities, whether or not they have a Statement of Needs, will, as far as possible, be integrated into all aspects of school life.

The School is committed to ensuring that children requiring educational support and with disabilities have access to the full, broad, balanced and differentiated curriculum to which they are entitled.

This will be achieved through:

- Meeting the requirements of the Code of Practice and the LEA Policy for SEN and the Disability Discrimination Act;
- Planning procedures leading to differentiated teaching plans;
- Differentiated assessment procedures and record keeping facilities;
- Holding termly review meetings with staff to evaluate progress, to plan new targets and write new support programmes;
- Positive and structured links with outside agencies;
- Regular monitoring and evaluation of the Individual Education Plans for each child and progress of the children by the SENCO;
- Giving value to parental contributions in all aspects of a child's life.

Equal Opportunities and Racial Equality

All children in this school, regardless of their sex, race or religious beliefs are equally valued and are given equal opportunities.

Our Racial Equality Policy is based upon advice from the LEA. This policy is available from school office and parents may also request a copy. We are keen to celebrate cultural diversity in Britain and the World and work hard to ensure that there is no Racial Discrimination in our actions; even unintentional. It is our legal responsibility to report all racist incidents.

Able Children

We strive to meet the needs of all our children and feel it is important to 'stretch' and challenge the most able children. The School has an Able Children Co-ordinator who supports the rest of the staff in identifying and planning provision for our most able children and working with small groups of children.

Eco Schools and the School Council

Eco Schools is an international scheme aimed at making all schools and children more environmentally aware. It focuses on issues such as recycling, waste reduction, conservation of energy, the school environment and also has a global perspective.

The Bronze, Silver and Green Flag Eco School Awards are available to participating schools. Ellenbrook has been working really hard and previously won the Bronze and Silver Eco Awards. We have in the past been awarded the the full “International Eco Schools Green Flag Award” , We are one of a small group of Salford schools to have won this award.

Our children are the main driving force behind the scheme here at Ellenbrook through the School / Eco Council. Here the children bring forward ideas from class mates and feed back any relevant information which will help promote the ‘Eco Message’.

Healthy Schools

Ellenbrook is happy to be part of the national Healthy Schools Network. Healthy Schools strive to improve the children’s well being through encouraging healthy eating, keeping fit and developing healthy and safe lifestyles. The school has its own vegetable garden/allotment, an orchard and a Community Friendship Garden.

The Arts: Arts Council Silver ArtsMark Award Winner

Every year we play host to a huge variety of different artists, singer and dancers. In recent years we have worked with Indian dancers and musicians, renowned storytellers and visual artists.

The school was awarded the “Arts Council Silver ArtsMark Award” for its commitment to Arts education. Over the last few years we have worked closely with the Lowry.

Modern Foreign Languages

Through our close links with Walkden High School, our Year 6 children benefit from regular Spanish lessons. We also have a specialist MFL teacher who supports the teaching of languages across Key Stage 2. This gives our children a great start in the development of modern language skills and understanding.

School Sport

The school believes that all children should be encouraged to be fit for life and to enjoy sport. To foster this we have joined the Healthy Schools Scheme which involves children and staff in new initiatives to improve fitness.

All children follow the National Curriculum Physical Education programme which includes dance, gymnastics, athletics and games. The Lower Key Stage 2 children also attend swimming lessons on a regular basis. Every year we offer our oldest children the opportunity to attend a residential experience at Lledr Hall Outdoor Centre in Snowdonia where they take part in a range of outdoor and adventurous activities.

We are particularly fortunate to be able to provide quality, specialist coaching in P.E. and Games for our Y1 – Y6 pupils, through our link with Sports Development.

Our school teams in athletics, cricket, cross country, netball and football regularly take part in competitive inter school competitions. The school has received generous sponsorship for high quality sports kits for all our sports teams. Each year our Chess Club organises a Chess Championship.

Our school has been awarded the “Sports Council ActiveMark Award” for excellence in the range and quality of our school sport.

We run a number of school sports clubs and parent helpers are always welcome to become involved in these activities.

Assessment

Assessment is used regularly to allow us to make informed judgements about the abilities, knowledge or attitudes of the children within our care. We can then adapt our future planning and teaching to meet the needs of the children.

The Nursery and Reception classes are assessed using the Early Years Foundation Stage Profile and staff compiles a Profile Record of Achievement for every child. This Profile and these assessments are regularly shared with parents.

Formal national assessment takes place at the end of Year 2 and Year 6, in the form of National SATs (Standard Assessment Tasks). These results are formally collected and analysed externally. In addition, the teachers in Y3 to Y6 use less formal Teacher Assessment to produce a profile of the children's achievements.

We use the information gleaned from the SATS and other assessments to analyse the specific needs of the children and to plan the next steps in their learning.

Extra Curricular Activities

The staff are committed to providing a wide and varied range of extra-curricular activities for our children to enhance the normal school curriculum, to foster positive attitudes to school life and to develop life-long hobbies and interests.

Most are run after school until 4:30pm and many are free of charge.

To offer the children a variety of experiences and to cater for as many children as possible, the range of activities varies each term, as does the classes who take part.

If you would like to help a teacher run a club because of a special interest or talent, please do not hesitate to contact the Deputy Headteacher or the School Office.

Final word

We really hope that this Prospectus has provided you with all of the necessary information and has given you a true picture of how good a school Ellenbrook Community Primary School is.

Please explore our website to get a full view of our school's life.

www.ellenbrookschool.com

We would be happy to answer any further questions that you may have in person. Call into the office to make an appointment or arrange a time by telephone – **0161 799 6347**