



Information for Parents

2024 - 2025

# Head Teacher's Welcome

On behalf of the school community, I would like to welcome you to Earith Primary School.

We form part of the Active Learning Trust, which is made up of several schools across Cambridgeshire and Suffolk. For more information, please visit [www.activelearningtrust.org](http://www.activelearningtrust.org)

I am extremely proud of the team that we have here at Earith Primary School. I consider all of our staff to be professional, approachable, flexible and above all, caring. Our dedicated staff work tirelessly in order to support the children to improve in as many aspects of the wider curriculum as possible – all within a happy and nurturing environment.

This pastoral approach, coupled with a clear learning focus is why I consider us an achieving, inclusive and therefore successful school.

## **'Being safe, being respectful, being *our* best'**

This is our school motto and forms the basis for our main school code of conduct. Our biggest asset is our pupils, but we firmly believe that all stakeholders of our school (pupils, staff, parents, governors, and the wider community, for example) also play their part in this. If we are all being safe, if we are all being respectful and if everyone is being the best they can be, this provides the best possible starting point for the magic to happen...learning!

In order to achieve this, we firmly believe in promoting, developing and actively celebrating pupils' accomplishments through our school Core Values – the 5Rs. These learning behaviours, we feel, will help our young people thrive, not only through their time at Primary School, Secondary School and in the wider world of work, but help them to become aspirational and well-rounded, active citizens of society.



We look forward to working in partnership with you, and to achieve the very best possible education for the people that matter the most – your children.

Mr Abbs

Head Teacher

# Ethos, Values and Vision

## Ethos & Values

Our biggest asset and number one priority is our children. We focus on their development through high-quality teaching that provides a rich, broad, balanced and inclusive curriculum, full of enjoyable and memorable learning experiences.

Everything we do as a school encourages each child to achieve their very best so that all pupils, in close partnership with parents (and other key stakeholders) reach for the highest levels of personal achievement and development possible. We genuinely care about each member of our school and view Earith Primary as an integral part of the community.

We firmly believe in promoting, developing and actively celebrating pupils' accomplishments through our school Core Values – the 5Rs. These learning behaviours, we feel, will help our young people thrive, not only through their time at Primary School, Secondary School and in the wider world of work, but help them to become aspirational and well-rounded, active citizens of society.

**Our school values are based around 5 Rs of:**



These values are embedded throughout school life, and all children, from Early Years to Year 6, understand our expectations in displaying these values, both during learning and playtimes. Everyone has a stake in our school behaviour code, which also underpins our values:

**Being Safe**

**Being Respectful**

**Being *our* best**

## Vision

Our vision is to be an inspirational school, providing children with the best learning experience it can offer. This experience will be achieved through a high-quality curriculum, including the very best quality of teaching and learning/education; effective leadership; excellent pupil and adult relationships; grounded in pastoral and inclusive practices and with access to an ambitious provision that supports the pupils' social, emotional and physical wellbeing.

## School Organisation

### Classes:

Year	Age Range	Class Name
Reception/Year 1	4 to 6 Year Olds	Antony
Year 1 / 2	5 to 7 Year Olds	Wenzel
Year 3 / 4	7 to 9 Year Olds	Larwood
Year 5 / 6	9 to 11 Year Olds	Rauf

### The School Day:

Time	Session
8:45am	School Starts
9:00am	Gates are locked
8:45am to 12:00pm	Morning session
12:00pm To 1:00pm	Lunch
1:00pm To 3:15pm	Afternoon Session
3:15pm	School Ends

### Punctuality, Drop-Off & Collection Expectations

School starts at 8.45am (morning task & registration) with gates locked at 9.00am. It is important that the children arrive at school on time. Arrival after the gates are locked will mean an unauthorised absence. This is in-line with our new Attendance Policy 2024/2025: we encourage you to read this and note new statutory changes to fines, per child, per parent – thresholds for unauthorised absences. Late arrivals should enter via the school foyer and the reason for lateness needs to be provided for our records.

**Please note: there is no supervision from staff before 08:45am;** this is parental responsibility. If you wish to have a **brief, informal conversation** with the teacher, they may be able to accommodate you during drop-off at the door. If it requires more time, then please call and ask to speak to, or book an appointment with a teacher. **Otherwise, please say goodbye to your child, and collect your child from the classroom door each morning.**

**In Academic Year 2024/2025, parents with children in Year R only may enter through the classroom door; support their child hanging up their belongings; say goodbye in the classroom and exit through the side gate before it is locked at 9am.**

Children in Reception class to Year 4 will be handed over to their parents at the end of the day, on sight. We recognise that as some children reach year 5 and 6 (Rauf Class), they may feel more confident and ready to travel home on their own (**this includes walking independently to the gate**) with your permission. Should you, as parents, feel your child is mature enough to cope with this responsibility, then **please email, phone, or pop into the office to give us your consent for this permanent arrangement for Academic Year 2024/2025.**

You must inform the school office if your child is **being picked up by someone other than a parent as a 'one-off' so we can make teaching staff aware.** Please liaise with office staff to update which family members/close friend have permanent permission to collect your child at any time.

Please ensure your *child* knows what their arrangement is, too.

## Attendance & Illness

*'...It is the legal responsibility of every parent to make sure their child receives that education. Parents have an additional legal duty to ensure their child attends that school regularly, on time. This means their child must attend every day that the school is open' (DFE)*

Please read page 11 'National Framework for Penalty Notices' of our new Attendance Policy 2024/2025 so you are aware of new sanction thresholds that are in place across England for unauthorised absences over a rolling 10 week period. This includes greater fines; the chance of a more significant fine and/or imprisonment.

The school works closely with parents and, where necessary, the Local Authority to ensure that all children have excellent attendance. Low attendance is tracked, monitored and intervention from the school may occur.

We actively promote the importance of high attendance and its impact on attainment. All stakeholders of our school should consider the relationship between low attendance and missed opportunities of learning in a wider sequence of lessons which can create gaps in children's curriculum skills and knowledge. Statistically, pupils with higher attendance, achieve higher. Please read pages 5-7 of our Attendance Policy 2024/2025 to see all the positive strategies and ways we approach promoting a culture of high attendance at Earith Primary School.

### ***\*Attendance Policy 2024/2025 due to be published in late August***

If your child is unwell, please contact the school office by 9:00am on the day of illness and every following day that your child is away. If your child has sickness or diarrhea, please allow 48 hours after the symptoms have finished, before they return to school.

Please notify the office of any appointments during the school day or that will affect their start and finish times.

Again, please read our Attendance Policy in full in order to ensure a greater understanding and transparency over how attendance will be managed.

## Illness During School Hours

If a child becomes ill or injured during the school day, and is not well enough to stay in class, parent/s will be called to pick the child up. It is important that we have updated emergency contact numbers on file in the School Office in case no-one can be contacted at home.

## Medication

If a child needs to take medicine at school, please contact the school office as there are specific guidelines we need to follow in-line with our *Supporting Pupils with Medical Needs Policy*. Medicine always needs to be prescribed by the doctor and in its original packaging.

## School Uniform Policy

Please read our School Uniform Policy in full so you are aware of our expectations: [LINK HERE](#) . It is important that children take pride in their school and wearing the correct school uniform supports this.

Please write your child's name on all items of clothing. The school will not accept any responsibility for any lost or damaged items. Please make sure that your child wears sensible shoes at all times. Children will continue to come to school in their PE kit on their PE days which will be announced on the 4<sup>th</sup> September 2024.

### Scooters & Bikes

Children of all classes and all ages may bike or scooter to school. **During the summer months (or when the field is open) we allow children to use their own, or a school scooter and helmet on the playground on specific days.** Please do not allow your child to use their bike or scooter on the car park. Repeat offences for this will likely see a ban. This is to support safeguarding.

**Please ensure bikes and scooters are named.** The school accepts no responsibility for lost or damaged scooters, bikes and helmets.

### School Dinners

School meals are cooked by **Edwards & Blake (new school catering service 2024/2025)** on site by our school cook who presents a wide variety of healthy main meals and desserts. School packed lunches are also available.

All children in Early Years Foundation Stage, Year 1 and Year 2 are **entitled to a free school meal.**

If your child wishes to have a **packed lunch from home, please clearly name their lunch box; we strongly encourage and celebrate healthy eating.** Your child's diet impacts their concentration, which impacts their behaviour, which impacts their learning. Please be mindful of this and send in your child with a healthy, well-balanced packed lunch. **Multiple packets of crisps and small chocolate bars are not acceptable over a working week.** Consider the impact over a longer period on their performance at school. **No nuts in school – due to allergies in school.**

### Break-Time Snacks

Children in the Early Years, Years 1 and 2 are provided with a snack of fresh fruit or vegetables through the 'School Fruit & Vegetable Scheme'.

All children may bring a fruit, vegetable or a healthy cereal bar/snack bar (**no nuts due to pupil allergies**) to eat mid-morning. Again, we strongly **strongly encourage and celebrate healthy eating. Crisps or a chocolate bar will not support your child's learning or behaviour during this time of day.** Milk is also provided free of charge for under 5s and children in receipt of Free School Meals. There is also an opportunity for parents to purchase milk for their children. Please speak to the School Business Manager for full details.

### Water

Drinking water is available throughout the school and all **children need to bring a water bottle into school each day.** This will be kept in class and children are encouraged to drink regularly throughout the day.

### Free School Meal Entitlement

**If you are in receipt of** Income Support; income-based Jobseeker's Allowance; income-related Employment and Support Allowance; support under Part VI of the Immigration and Asylum Act 1999; the guaranteed element of Pension Credit; Child Tax Credit (provided you're not also entitled to Working Tax Credit and have an annual gross income of no more than £16,190); Working Tax Credit run-on - paid for 4 weeks after you stop qualifying for Working Tax Credit; Universal Credit - if you apply on or after 1 April 2018 your household income must be less than £7,400 a year (after tax and not including any benefits you get) **you may be entitled to Free School Meals. For further information, please contact the school office. The school receives extra money for this, which can be used to support your child's learning.**

## Home & School Partnership

The education of your child is an equal partnership between school and home and we highly value support of parents and our relationship with you. There are many ways for parents to become involved in school life:

### Communication

Our **main platform for communication is the school website**. Here, you can view photos in our gallery; watch the latest videos; read all the newsletters; see what Sid the Cygnet is up to; catch-up with our Reading Blog amongst many other things. **Have you got the app and setup school notifications? [HOW TO HERE!](#)**

We also use **ParentMail (and soon will use 'Arbor'; further info to follow)** to communicate with you. We have a texting service which we use at our discretion e.g. referencing important letters; quick updates etc. The school does have a Facebook & Twitter account but we are unable to share lots of current information on this platform. **There is an expectation on parents to keep up-to-date using the school website and to read our weekly newsletters/specific letters so that you do not miss key information & communication about general school life, expectations and events.**

### Weekly Celebration Assemblies

These are filmed and shared under the **Assemblies** tab for those parents unable to attend each week – everyone is invited. You will not be informed if your child has received a weekly award. Children are nominated at the end of the week, for that week! You can always watch the assembly on the website and we also email you a photo of your child receiving the award as a nice memento.

### Head Teacher Award Assemblies

**Every half term**, we hold a special assembly where each **teacher nominates two children** who have demonstrated the school's Core Values especially well and are deserving of a Head Teacher award. Parents will be informed if their child will be receiving one of these. We encourage all parents to come and watch.

### Friends of Earith School (FOES)

FOES are a very special group of parents of the school who give up their free time to come together with one common aim: **raising funds to improve opportunities and experiences for our young people**. FOES-led events have included: fayres; discos; parties; Easter Egg hunts; visiting Santa; non-uniform days besides many other things! Money raised has funded big things like our gym, Trim Trail & ICT Suite as well as the little things that make all the difference: leavers' hoodies, book bags for new parents and treats like lollies during trips or school events – to name but a few.

### Parents' Evenings

These are held **twice yearly** to discuss pupils' progress with their teacher.

### Homework

Please encourage your child to read every night. Key skills e.g. spellings and mathematical fluency should be practised on Spelling Shed & Numbots/Times Tables Rockstars. Active Learn also supports maths reasoning skills: [LINK HERE](#)

### Volunteering

If you are **interested in volunteering** in school to **support pupils' teaching and learning**, please contact the Head Teacher in order to further discuss your **strengths and any areas of interest and expertise**. If this would be advantageous for our pupils, we would love to hear from you.

### Recommended Reading, School Library & Book Club

Reading is a passport to the world and we believe that reading should be a fundamental part of childhood. Our aim is to develop and embed a strong, sustainable reading culture, through a rich and varied experience of texts. To support our commitment to reading, all children have access to a well-stocked library where they can borrow books to take home and share with their families. We also have a selection of phonically decodable books to borrow.

We encourage parents, if purchasing/borrowing from the local library for their children to read at home, to pick books from recommended reading lists. These lists are specifically designed to offer children a wide range of reading genres which will not only spark their interests, but give them the breadth of knowledge that is vital for young, curious minds. <https://www.thereaderteacher.com/>. A wide selection of these books are also stocked in our school library and form part of your child's curriculum studies in English.

To foster a love of reading, a small group of volunteers give up their free time to run a successful Book Club, which gives pupils the opportunity to purchase, or save and purchase new, high-quality texts. Further details of this, and other reading events, will be published during the Academic Year.

### Breakfast Club and After School Clubs

These will be run by Premier Sports starting in September. Please call the school office for further details.

There are many other events that parents may be invited to throughout the academic year. Some of these include Information Evenings linked to teaching & learning; school events at Christmas; Easter; Summer (Sports Day) – again, to name but a few!

# Our Curriculum



## Curriculum Intent

At Earith Primary, we are committed to delivering a broad and balanced curriculum that provides opportunities and experiences that capture the interest of *all* our pupils, enabling them to strive towards their potential in every area of school life – academic, social, personal, physical, spiritual and creatively through a curriculum offer that is:

- **Engaging, Inspiring and Active**

Children are motivated when engaged, inspired, enthused and where learning is purposeful. Our aim is to provide real-life opportunities for learning where children are encouraged to think and learn through enquiry and exploration and engage in the process of learning. This would include a range of visits, visitors, enrichment weeks and themed/subject days, for example.

- **Broad and Relevant**

Children learn through a variety of experiences, valuing all subjects and ensuring the local area and the wider community are embedded in the learning.

- **Challenging**

All children will be able to access learning that encourages them to think, enables them to make progress and provides opportunities to develop the skills and rich knowledge to be successful in life.

Please visit our school website homepage and navigate to the Curriculum Tab for further information: [LINK HERE](#)

## Special Educational Needs

Earith Primary believes in inclusive education and a person centred approach. We work together to overcome challenges and each individual is stronger and more resilient as a result. This is demonstrated in our school each and every day and lived out through the school's core values – The 5Rs: resilience, readiness, resourcefulness, reflectiveness, and responsibility.

We do this by identifying and breaking down possible barriers to learning. The views of both the pupil and the pupil's parents are sought as parents play a vital role in supporting their child's education.

Children with special educational needs are offered full access to a broad, balanced and relevant education, adapted to suit their individual needs.

Following guidance from the SEN Code of Practice, pupils with SEND shall be identified as pupils who need interventions that are additional to or different from those provided as part of the school's usual differentiated curriculum.

The Special Needs Co-ordinator is always happy to talk to parents about any concerns they may have. Please see the school website for further information:

Navigate to: Homepage; School; SEND

Link: [LINK HERE](#)

## Safeguarding

Earith Primary School is committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children and young people and expects all staff, volunteers and stakeholders of the school to share this commitment. [LINK HERE](#)



# *How To Contact Us*

**Earith Primary School  
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PE28 3QB**

<b>Head Teacher</b>	<b>Mr Thomas Abbs</b>
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<b>School Admin/ICT</b>	<b>Mrs Sue Wardell</b>
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