



Yorkmead J/I School (NC)

2023 – 2024 Prospectus

Yorkmead School
York Road
Hall Green
Birmingham
B28 8BB



**Yorkmead School
York Road
Hall Green
Birmingham
B28 8BB**

Tel: 0121 464 4215

Fax: 0121 464 6793

Email: enquiry@Yorkmead.bham.sch.uk

Opening Hours (school): Monday - Friday

Key Stage 1

8.55am – 12.30pm

1.30pm – 3.30pm

Key Stage 2

8.55 – 12.10pm

1.10 – 3.30pm

Opening Hours (nursery):

8.30 – 8.55 Opening time

8.55 – 11.30 Morning session

12.45 – 3.15 Afternoon session

3.15 – 3.45 Home time

Full day 8.30 – 3.45

Headteacher: Mr A. Newman-Smith

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The School

Opened in 1937, our school is situated in the residential area of Hall Green, close to its boundary with Sparkhill. Being very close to the main Stratford Road, it is easily accessible and well served by public transport.



Currently a two-form entry school, Yorkmead can admit 60 pupils into its Reception – YR2 classes. We expanded our KS2 numbers to 32 per class from September 2023. At present there are 464 pupils on roll, organised into 14 classes of mixed ability, determined by age. Our nursery unit opened in February 2002. This was formerly the caretaker's house and was re-designed and refurbished to provide for full or part-time provision.

We believe that the school lies at the centre of the community and we set out to contribute to our community and, in turn, we look for its support and its respect.

Developing close links with the community and with parents in particular is one of our main aims. We recognise that education must be a partnership, if we are to ensure our pupils make good progress, realise their full potential and enjoy their time at school.

The Governing Body

Yorkmead Primary School has 8 governors at present. They represent parents, teachers, Birmingham City Council and the local business community. Each governor is “adopted” by a class and is invited to visit regularly. The governor’s role is to provide support for the head teacher and staff and governors are regarded as valuable members of the Yorkmead team.

Any parent wishing to have a matter raised at a governing body meeting should; contact one of the governors. If you wish to contact a member of the Governing body, please leave a message for them at the school office or you can email them at enquiry@yorkmead.bham.sch.uk and mark it for Governors.

The Chair of the governing body is:

To be elected in September 2023.

L.E.A Representatives	Co-Opted Governors	Teacher Governors
Mr K. Bailey Miss S Dhubab	Mrs B. Marsh	Mr A. Newman- Smith Mr A. Neal-Crane
	Mrs S. Pitfield	

Parent Governors	Clerk
Mr M. Aftab	Mrs Aarti Jain
Mr M Iqbal	

End of Key Stage Standards.

All staff continuously work hard to improve end of key stage standards. We hope that you will support us wholeheartedly in ensuring that your children receive an education of the highest possible quality by:

- taking a genuine interest in what your child is doing at school
- ensuring you help your child with reading, spellings and learning times tables
- speaking positively about school
- coming to school functions
- attending parents' evenings
- supporting fund raising activities
- alerting us to any changes in home circumstances which may affect your child's progress at school
- asking us for support with your child's learning, if you need it.

2023 SAT's Results: (provisional)

KS2	Reading		Writing		Maths		Combined
	Exp	GD	Exp	GD	Exp	GD	
	72%	%	75%	%	77%	%	60%

KS1	Reading		Writing		Maths	
	Exp	GD	Exp	GD	Exp	GD
	50%	0%	45%	0%	53%	0%

Our school code

We believe that:

- Everyone has the right to be treated with courtesy and respect.
- We are individuals with differences, but we can still learn from each other.
- Every person at Yorkmead is of equal importance.
- We should always try to understand other people's point of view, even though we may not agree with it.
- We should behave in a way which is not destructive to other people's feelings, or beliefs.
- Everyone is here to work hard and to give of their best.
- All subjects taught in school have equal value, although Maths, English and Science are given a greater time allocation than other subjects.
- The school code applies equally to every child and every adult here.

Religious Education

The religious education programme at Yorkmead follows the Birmingham Agreed Syllabus, which encourages a multi-faith approach. The school is not affiliated to any particular religious denomination.

Parents who wish to exercise their right to withdraw children from religious education, or religious worship, are invited to discuss this with the head teacher.

Helping in school

We are always delighted when parents offer to help. Some parents have become experienced, highly valued, members of the school community and any help you are able to give will be warmly welcomed. However, please be aware that anyone helping on a regular basis would need to undergo a DBS check in line with the school's safeguarding procedures.

Assistance is particularly welcomed with out of school visits as many of these would be unable to take place without parental support.

We particularly welcome help that can be provided on a regular basis with hearing children read, creative activities, extra-curricular activities and general support in the classroom. If you are interested in helping and can commit yourself to a regular time each week, please speak to a member of staff.

Safeguarding our Pupils

The staff at Yorkmead are; committed to protecting the children at our school and we are keen to support your efforts as parents, to protect your children.

Over the past few years, there has been a much greater awareness about what can happen if children are not protected properly. Every day there are examples of children being hurt, neglected, or mistreated. These incidents have made us all much more aware of the need to encourage children to take care of themselves, to make the right decision in difficult circumstances and to tell someone if they are worried, or are being hurt, or mistreated.

Mr Newman-Smith, Mr Sutton and Mr Neal-Crane are our named Child Protection staff at school. We work very closely with other agencies such as the Health Authority and Social Services, who share our commitment to safeguarding children. The people in these agencies include health visitors, school nurses, social workers, doctors and housing officers.

All adults who work at Yorkmead **will** report any concerns to the named child protection officer who will take further action if they consider it necessary.

Our first concern is your child's welfare and there may be occasions therefore when we may need to consult other agencies even before we contact you. **The procedures we have to follow have been laid down by the Birmingham Area Child Protection Committee.**

The Curriculum

The curriculum at Yorkmead aims to provide children with exciting, stimulating learning opportunities which broaden their life experiences.

All children are taught English and Maths on a daily basis. Science, history, geography, music, art, design and technology, RE, PE and information and computing are taught throughout the week. English and Maths are called the "core" subjects and children are tested formally in these at the end of KS2 (Yr6).

Reading, writing and maths are still the most important studies in the primary school and children who are confident in these areas will use these skills to make progress in all the other subjects. All children are encouraged to read, not only for information, but also for pleasure and we would ask for your support in this by:

- Listening to your child read daily
- Regularly visiting the library
- Talking with your child about what they are reading

Senior and Middle Leaders regularly monitor planning, work and the quality of teaching and learning across the school and give feedback and support.

A new National Curriculum was implemented in September 2014. Our school improvement plan sets out objectives to improve aspects of the curriculum. We have re-designed our curriculum so that subject specific skills are taught through a thematic approach which engages and enthuses our pupils, providing them with opportunities to embed core skills and knowledge throughout the curriculum.

Yorkmead School's Vision, Mission & Values

VISION: We will develop the skills and mindset for success so that we will contribute positively to our community.

MISSION: We believe this is important because:

- We want our children to be successful adults
- We want all children and all stakeholders to have high aspirations
- We want to provide the very best learning opportunities
- We want our values to underpin everything we do
- We value everyone – there are no outsiders
- We want to provide a safe environment for all so that everyone is an active participant and has the freedom to question

VALUES: The A to F of Yorkmead's Values

Altogether	We ALL have a role to play to listen to, support and encourage each other to achieve our goals We value being a team at Yorkmead.
Being Open Minded	We recognize, and are tolerant of, different perspectives to our own. We open our minds to think about what other people think by questioning and reflecting.

Curiosity	We are excited about, and actively contribute to, our learning. We are happy to share what we are learning. We see ourselves as life-long learners - there is always more to learn!
Determination	We aim high in our goals, value quality and focus on what we are doing. We are resilient learners and so will embrace any struggles we have.
Empathy	We show kindness and understanding as we think of and help others so that we can support them.
Fairness	We treat others as we want to be treated with honesty and respect. We believe everyone has the right to be successful.

Yorkmead J/I School Trips

Visits to places that support the knowledge learnt are provided for pupils.

Charging Policy

Yorkmead School is committed to providing quality education based on equality of opportunity and access. In practice, this means the children have an entitlement to benefit from all educational activities and to:

- Participate fully in the school curriculum
- Contribute to all aspects of school life
- Be a valued partner in the process of education

Parents will be notified in advance of all educational visits and costs will be kept to a minimum.

Parents should however understand that if there are insufficient funds available for a trip, it may need to be cancelled.

We recognise that the cost of school trips and visitors to the school can be high, especially for families with several children in school. The school operates a system whereby parents can make regular payments towards the cost of school visits throughout the year. This is a voluntary scheme, but we hope that being able to spread the cost over the year is a supportive measure for many families. The school operates a charging policy for late collection of pupils at the end of the day.

Assessment and Record Keeping

At the beginning of each year, pupils are set targets in reading, writing and maths. These are broken down into smaller, more manageable steps. All pupils should be aware of their targets. Progress towards these targets is measured regularly during the year.

Children are assessed regularly as part of the learning process. Information gained from these assessments is used to inform future planning, so that teachers can decide what to teach next, what to revise, or whether to move onto something new.

Children play an important role in their own assessment as soon as possible. They are taught to identify aspects of their work which show progress and areas where they need to improve further. In an atmosphere of trust, children are also taught to assess other children's work providing supportive feedback.

More structured or formal assessments are carried out by teachers every half term or at the end of a study unit.

In school, test results are combined with the teachers' own assessments of pupils' abilities and these are used to determine progress and attainment. Parents are informed of the results of tests through Parent's Evenings and through the end of year reports

Children with Special Educational Needs

We have a school policy of systematic assessment and record keeping for all children, so that we can become aware, very quickly, of those for whom ordinary provision is not enough.

As soon as we are aware of any problem, you will be contacted and we will maintain personal contact with you throughout the process of providing for additional needs. Parents of pupils with special needs will have the opportunity to discuss their child's progress regularly, with the Inclusion Leader Miss Wilkinson.

Miss Wilkinson has overall responsibility for special educational needs and for the day-to-day operation of the school policy. She also advises other teachers and liaises with outside agencies. Very careful and accurate records are maintained and there is regular consultation with teachers re planning and the writing of individual education programmes (IEPs)

There are currently 54 pupils on the special needs register.

Teaching assistants in Key Stage 2 work with a year group during English and Maths. At other times their work is

focused on children with special educational needs ensuring their needs are met.

Physical Education

Physical education is a very important part of our curriculum and we continuously stress the need for, and importance of, regular exercise and a healthy balanced diet.

All children are required to take part in PE lessons. Pupils now come to school in their PE kits on the day they have PE: shorts, "T" shirt and pumps

It is most important that children have the correct clothing for their lessons and that they bring it on the correct day. It is also very important that all clothing and pumps are clearly labelled.



Music tuition

At Yorkmead, we aim to give our children the opportunity to experience playing a musical instrument. In Year 4, a whole class will learn to play either a brass or woodwind instrument.

Instruments are loaned to pupils, by the Music Service, at no cost. Damage however must be paid for.

Children learning an instrument often perform in assemblies and end of term concerts.



Aims for School Improvement

As a school we are committed to ensuring that we achieve successful outcomes for all learners. We do this by formulating a School Development Plan every year. Our main aims for the coming year (2023-24) are as follows:

- To continue to improve pedagogy to ensure curriculum is implemented as intended by all staff, raising outcomes in the foundation subjects.
- To raise the proportion of pupils reading at age related expectations throughout KS2 and to work with The Literacy Trust to implement systems to improve the reading culture across the school.
- To improve active learning in the classrooms by creating a culture of 'excellence' at Yorkmead.

If you would like to view the individual action plans for the School Development Plan, paper copies are available upon request.

Getting to school on time

It is very important that your child gets to school on time so that they do not miss the start of a lesson and so that we know your child is safe. To aid this, school has a "soft start" beginning at 8.45-8.55am. Children come into school via the main gates on their own and go straight to their classrooms.

It is also important for you to collect your child promptly at the end of the school day. Teachers often have to attend meetings, or have responsibility for extracurricular activities and it is not always possible for them to wait with your child until you arrive.

All pupils EYFS, KS1 and KS2 finish school at 3.30pm Monday through Friday.

We never allow a KS1 child to leave the premises unaccompanied. Neither do we allow a KS2 child to leave the premises unaccompanied, if they are normally collected. Parents of pupils in Y6 who wish their child to go home unaccompanied, **must**, put this in writing. However, we do not allow Y6 children to take younger siblings home if they are not accompanied by an adult.

Children who are not collected promptly will be the responsibility of the head teacher and parents must enter school through the main front doors and collect them from the waiting area outside the main school office.

If you are going to be late, please let us know, so that we can inform your child and prevent them from unnecessary worry.



Collecting your children during school time

Whilst children are on the school premises, we are responsible for them.

During the school day, children are not allowed to leave school for any reason, unless they are accompanied by a parent, or responsible adult.

Adults will be permitted to collect children only from the school office and will be asked to sign children out before taking them from the premises.

Should you need to collect your child for any reason during the school day, either telephone school, or send a note to your child's class teacher, alerting them to the time your child will be collected.



Illness at school

If your child is taken ill at school, or feels unwell, we will contact you and ask that you collect your child to take them home.

If specialist help is needed, you will be contacted, or your child will be taken to hospital by ambulance, depending on the severity of the emergency.

Please do not send medicines or tablets into school for your child to take unless it is essential that they have them. If children do need to take medication, parents should make arrangements to attend school at the appropriate time in order to administer the medication.

In exceptional circumstances, the school will administer medicine, once a form detailing what the medicine is, the

dosage and the frequency has been completed and signed by the parent.

If you have any doubts about your child's fitness to come to school, please consult your doctor.

Children who have had sickness or diarrhoea must not return to school for 48 hours. If a child soils him/herself, parents will be contacted and asked to bring clean clothes to school. Although staff will do what they can to make the child comfortable, they are unable to change the child.

Attendance

We expect all children on roll to attend school every day the school is open unless they are genuinely ill. We do all we can to encourage children to attend through promoting positive attitudes towards school and rewarding good levels of attendance. We will also work with families where levels of attendance are of a concern.

Regular attendance is very important if your child is to make the most of the learning opportunities offered in the school and achieve to the best of their ability. This in turn will ensure that they have real opportunities to achieve well in further education and the world of work.

Absence from school is very disruptive to your child's education and puts them at a disadvantage with regards to their educational achievement. Missing school regularly also means that children will find it hard to maintain friendships and will miss out on social events. Research has shown that children with poor school attendance records are more likely to be involved in crime in later life.

If your child has to be away, please ensure that a note, explaining the reason for the absence, is sent to school on their return. Failure to do so will necessitate the school sending a form for you to complete. This will ensure that your child's absences are all "authorised". For reasons of safety, please inform the school by telephone on the same day, if your child is unwell and cannot attend. If your child is regularly absent, you may be required to provide medical evidence that your child has visited a doctor before an absence can be 'authorised'.

Leave during term time

Parents are **NOT** entitled to take their children on holiday during term time. Parents are expected to arrange family holidays during the school holidays.

The school follows LA policy and **DOES NOT** authorise any leave during term time unless there are exceptional circumstances. Any request for leave must be made to the head teacher.

Parents should be aware that if leave is not granted you may be issued with a fixed penalty notice and/or lose your child's place at school.

During 2022-2023 31 families were prosecuted for taking authorised leave during term time.

Should we need to contact you. . .

If your child has already attended our nursery, you will understand how important it is for us to be able to contact you, should the need arise. If your child is ill, or has an accident, we need to get a message to you quickly. It is therefore very important that we have your correct

address and telephone number and also the number of someone else to contact, in case you are out or unavailable during the day.

If there is an emergency and we cannot contact you, the head teacher takes responsibility for any decisions which need to be made, to ensure your child's well-being.

If you change your address or telephone number, it is most important that you let us know immediately.



0121 464 4215

If there are any changes in your personal circumstances, for example, a death in the family, or a decision about the custody of your child, it would help if you would let us know.

GDPR Statement

Please note, all personal data is held securely in accordance with the General Data Protection Regulations 2018.

School Uniform

We expect all pupils to come to school dressed in the school colours – navy blue, grey, white and pale blue.

The school uniform is:

Boys: Black / grey / navy trousers

White shirt / polo shirt

Grey / navy jumpers / sweatshirts

Sensible shoes (not trainers)

Girls: Black / navy / grey trousers / skirt / pinafores

White shirt / polo shirt

(blue & white dresses in the summer)

Grey / navy cardigan

Sensible shoes

PE Kit

Black, navy or grey jogging bottoms or shorts, white t-shirt, school jumper or cardigan and trainers.



M. New

Please ensure that all items of clothing and personal items are clearly marked with your child's name.

Shoes should be sensible and without heels, wedges, or platforms.

Trainers are NOT school shoes and should only be worn for PE.

We do not allow Wellingtons to be worn in school throughout the day. In wet weather, please ensure that your child has a sensible pair of shoes or pumps to change into.

Jeans are not allowed at school, except on non-uniform days. Nail varnish is also not permitted. Jewellery should be kept to the absolute minimum and should always be removed for P.E or swimming lessons.

Meals in school

We try to promote healthy eating, by encouraging children to bring fruit and non-sugary snacks to eat during the mid-morning break. Sweets, chocolate and crisps are not allowed for mid-morning snack. All pupils are encouraged to bring a bottle of water with a sports cap, for drinking throughout the day

All pupils in KS1 (Yr1&2) receive a free piece of fruit daily.

A carton of semi-skimmed milk is available at 26p per carton, ordered termly, in advance, which children drink during the mid-morning break. We should be grateful if those parents who prefer to send in their own drinks, could ensure that they are in carton form, which the children can manage themselves and then discard. Flasks are not considered suitable as they are often unmanageable and there are no suitable storage areas in school. Water bottles are ideal.

The school runs a breakfast club offering a range of cereals, toast and fruit juice. The cost of this is £2 per day (This will increase to £2.50 per day from October 2nd 2023). The breakfast club is open from 7.45am – 8.45am

From September 2014, **ALL** pupils in Reception, Year 1 and Year 2 have been entitled to a free school meal. You will be asked to indicate if you wish your child have a school meal before September. In order for kitchen staff to plan and order food, pupils will be expected to remain with school meals, (or sandwiches if this is what they have chosen) for a half term.

Pupils in KS2 whose parents are in receipt of Income Support are entitled to a free school meal and should



complete the necessary form from the school office. If you are in receipt of Income Support, your child will be able to stay for a school meal immediately on receipt of your Income Support number.

Dinner money - £11.50 per week (This increases to £11.75 from October 2nd 2023)

Dinner money is paid on line in advance.

Children may choose to bring a packed lunch from home if they wish. All containers should be clearly labelled with your child's name. Flasks are discouraged. Your child's lunch box should be a sensible size as storage facilities are very limited.

Children may only change from a packed lunch to a school meal and vice versa at the beginning of each half term, unless special permission has been first obtained from the head teacher.

Parents' Evenings

Parents' evenings are arranged termly. This gives parents, teachers and pupils the opportunity to discuss progress, behaviour and attitude and to work towards the achievement of agreed targets. Pupils are encouraged to attend so that they can see the partnership between home and school and feel some involvement in and some responsibility for their own learning. Your child can be invited to wait outside the classroom if you or the class teacher wish to speak privately together. These evenings are also an opportunity for you to raise questions, or give us any information which will help us teach your child more effectively.

All Parents' evenings are by appointment and this gives parents the opportunity to speak confidentially with the class teacher.

Attendance at Parents' Evenings is monitored very carefully, as research has shown that interest shown by parents has a marked effect on pupils' behaviour, attitude and standard of work.

Concerns, Compliments, Suggestions

If you have any of the above, **please tell us!** We work **with** you and **for** you and it is important that you communicate any, or all of the above to us!

We will listen to you.

If you have a concern, please try in the first instance to resolve it with the class teacher, the school secretary or the head teacher, whichever is most appropriate. We will do all we can to answer your questions, resolve difficulties and put right any mistakes.

The head teacher is always willing to see parents to discuss issues. Please contact the school office to make an appointment. Yorkmead operates an "Open Door" policy and we would much prefer you to come and speak to us directly about a concern, rather than worry about it, perhaps unnecessarily.

If this proves unsatisfactory, please contact the Chair of the Governing Body – To be elected in September 2023. If you are unable to resolve a concern with the staff, or the Governing Body, you have the right of access to a formal complaints procedure and should, in the first

instance, address your query to: **South Area Support Manager, Education Office, Margaret Street, BIRMINGHAM B3 3BU**

If you feel you have suffered an injustice through the LA's administration, you may take your case to the Ombudsman or you could contact your MP.

Holiday Dates for September 2023 – July 2024

The Autumn Term starts on:

Wednesday 6th September 2023.

Autumn half term:

School closes Friday 27th October 2023

School opens Monday 6th November 2023

Christmas break:

School closes Friday 22nd December 2023

School opens Tuesday 9th January 2023

Spring half term:

School closes Friday 9th February 2024

School opens Monday 19th February 2024

Easter break:

School closes Friday 22nd March 2024

School opens Tuesday 9th April 2024

Summer half term:

School closes Friday 24th May 2024

School opens Monday 3rd June 2024

Summer break:

School closes Friday 19th July 2024

Teacher training days

8th January 2024 (children should not attend)

8th April 2024 (children should not attend)

22nd July 2024 (children should not attend)

Statutory Assessment Results Academic Year 2022 – 2023

		Reading	Writing	Maths	Grammar, Punctuation & Spelling	Combined Reading, Writing and Mathematics
KS2	Children Working at the Expected Standard (EXS)	72%	73%	77%	78%	60%
	Children Working at a Greater Depth of Study (GDS)	17%	3%	20%	28%	3%
	Average Scaled Score (100 is the EXS)	104	N/A	104	105	N/A
	Progress Score (0 is the National Average)	+0.3	N/A	+1.1	N/A	N/A

KS1	Children Working at the Expected Standard (EXS)	51%	46%	56%	N/A	37%
	Children Working at a Greater Depth of Study (GDS)	5%	0%	14%	N/A	0%

Year One	Children Passing the Y1 Phonics Check	85%
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EYFS	Pupils achieving the expected standard in all seven areas of learning and development	75%
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