


# Brookfield Junior School



aiming high



My child always  
comes out of school  
smiling and talking  
happily about her day.

**Parent**

# aiming high

My work is getting  
neater and I am  
trying really hard

**Pupil**





## Welcome to Brookfield Junior School, from the staff and the pupils

Brookfield is a happy, lively and forward-looking school, where we support each other and work together in our learning community.

### OUR AIMS

We aim to care for, develop and inspire our pupils and prepare them for the challenges that lie ahead.

We want our children to enjoy all aspects of learning and to flourish and develop as responsible citizens. All our pupils are encouraged to "AIM HIGH" to reach their full potential and their achievements are celebrated along the way.

We strongly believe in a partnership approach to education involving the school, our pupils and their parents. To this end we encourage your involvement in supporting your children's education during their time here at Brookfield.

I like getting smiley faces for my work

Pupil

### SCHOOL ORGANISATION

Brookfield Junior School is a community school in Larkfield with over 200 children aged between 7 and 11. We have eight classes altogether, with two classes in each year group ~ Year 3 to Year 6.

We are situated in spacious, leafy grounds which we share with Brookfield Infant School.

We have 8 colourful classrooms, an art studio, a music room, an ICT Suite, a Family Room and a newly refurbished library. Outside there is a quiet area, an adventure trail, a large playground and a climbing wall. The hall is used for assemblies, PE, productions and school meals, which are cooked in our kitchen.

Class teachers are assisted by PALLs ~ Play and Learning Leaders ~ who support the children throughout their learning and their playtime activities. We welcome parent helpers and volunteers to share their expertise with groups of children e.g. Reading, cooking, art or with off-site visits.

We are a healthy school and give our pupils every opportunity to be fit, healthy and active. We encourage them to participate in



initiatives such as walking and cycling safely to school. We offer a range of after school clubs.

## The School Day

7:45 – 8:30	Breakfast Club
8:30 – 8:45	Children enter their classrooms
8:45 – 8:55	Register
8:55 – 10:25	Morning sessions
10:25 – 10:40	Assembly
10:40 – 10:55	Play
10:55 – 12:25	Morning sessions
12:25 – 1:25	Lunch
1:25 – 3:10	Afternoon sessions
After school clubs on a Wednesday ~ 3.20pm – 4.20pm	

## SCHOOL UNIFORM

Our school uniform gives the children a sense of belonging and of being part of the school community. Children wear their school clothes with pride.

## SPECIAL EDUCATIONAL NEEDS

Our school has a commitment to ensure that the potential of every child is maximised, irrespective of ability, disability, race, gender and social origin; and to enable equality of access to the curriculum in an environment

where every child is valued and respected. We aim to identify children with Special Educational Needs as early as possible and to provide intervention strategies to enable them to make the best possible progress. The school has its own special needs base and designated SENCo/Inclusion Manager as well as access to the Specialist Teaching Service for outside agency support where necessary. We ensure that parents are kept well informed of their child's need and provision by effective and regular communication.

## PASTORAL

We believe that all our pupils are special and important and do all we can to make each individual feel safe and secure. We have a tight care network which takes note of health, behaviour and safeguarding. We liaise regularly with community support such as the Educational Welfare Officer, Social Services and the School Nurse. Our Family Liaison Officer provides a valuable link between home and school.

## PUPIL PREMIUM FUNDING

Following government guidelines we use the Pupil Premium Funding that is within our school's budget to support the learning and development of our Looked After children and those eligible for Free School Meals.





## FAMILY AND COMMUNITY LINKS

Throughout the year there are regular opportunities for families to interact with the school ~ watching assemblies and plays, attending celebration events, coffee mornings, plus our very popular family days when children bring their mums, dads and grandparents to school for the day!! We also have strong links with the local community. The churches, the Library and local environment are regularly visited. Councillors, police, fire fighters and nurses come to talk to our pupils. Harvest gifts are distributed to local residents and carols are sung to the elderly folk in Martin Square. PTFA ~ We are very lucky to have a great, hardworking group of volunteer parents who organise fundraising activities and events for the school. Pupils look forward to discos, fairs and film nights. New volunteers always welcome!

I love doing experiments in science

Pupil

## SCHOOL CURRICULUM

We believe in the education of the whole child both academically and socially. We offer a broad based curriculum in line with national requirements and opportunities for learning are developed through a range of both indoor and outdoor activities and educational visits.

Pupils are taught in mixed ability classes throughout the school. They are taught in groups within those classes to ensure that the teaching is matched to their needs and a wide range of strategies are employed to cater for their different learning styles.

End of year targets are set annually in mathematics and in literacy. These targets are set to ensure our pupils achieve their full academic potential and we are continuously focusing and monitoring pupil achievement.

## EXTRA CURRICULAR ACTIVITIES

Before school every day (7.45-8.30am) we run a Breakfast Club for children from our school and our neighbouring schools ~ Brookfield Infants and Lunsford Primary. The children eat a healthy breakfast and take part in a variety of activities. After school clubs run on Wednesdays (3.20-4.20pm) and these change each term so the children can choose from a variety of clubs on offer. Our Gifted and Talented Enrichment days provide challenging and exciting opportunities for children with skills in different subject areas across the curriculum. Cultural days are organised within the year to offer a chance for children to learn



about the culture of another country.

## INDEPENDENT LEARNING

At Brookfield Junior School we encourage all our pupils to be independent learners. Our pupils are taught the necessary skills to become 'Learning Heroes'. Empowering our children to take control of their learning will give them the confidence to know how to find out about the world around them. We want all our pupils to access the curriculum and our lessons take account of the different learning styles of our pupils.

## LITERACY

At Brookfield, we actively promote the love of books and reading and teach children to read for pleasure as well as understanding. Each class has a Reading Corner which is well stocked with a variety of colourful texts. Our library is open to pupils during lessons and at lunchtimes and contains a wide range of titles and topics. Children can also read books online through our subscription to BUG CLUB; and they are encouraged to share books at home as part of the home-school partnership.

Children are taught to write pieces in a wide range of styles and for different readers. Teaching strategies, including the use of 'real' text, drama, film and ICT are

used to encourage interest and excitement at the writing process. Each term we hold a WRITING DAY full of exciting stimuli and creative opportunities. All pieces of writing are valued and children are encouraged to share and enjoy their finished work with others.

## MATHS

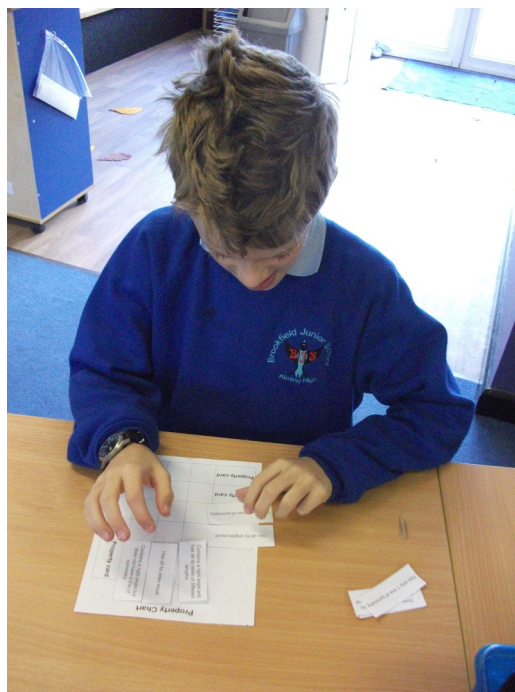
A Maths lesson is taught each day, usually in three parts: mental and oral calculations, the main teaching activity and a plenary to reinforce and consolidate the learning, or to move pupils on to the next stage. Maths is also taught across the curriculum especially in Science and ICT lessons.

To ensure that parents are aware of the methods of calculation used in the classroom, each family is provided with a copy of the Calculations Booklet.

## ASSESSMENT

Throughout the year there is a mixture of continuous teacher assessment and standardized tests. At the end of the key stage, children in Year 6 are tested using national Standard Attainment Tasks (SATs). Children in Years 3, 4 and 5 take tests towards the end of the academic year. Parents are notified of all test results in the annual reports.





## SCIENCE

Science is a key area for the children to understand the world around them. It is a fascinating subject and can give children the opportunity to immerse themselves in their learning. Our pupils will learn about life processes and living things, physical processes and properties of materials. Underlying this are the skills of enquiry. We believe in a 'hands-on' approach to teaching science at Brookfield Juniors. The children learn by doing and are taught the investigative skills necessary to become a scientist. We follow the Kent Scheme of Science which provides many cross-curricular links and embeds the use of the children's ICT skills.

## ICT

Information Communication Technology is at the heart of our lives. To be able to use ICT effectively is an essential skill; therefore the use of ICT within the curriculum has a high priority. ICT is taught through all core and foundation subjects where opportunities exist. Some of the skills are taught as a discrete unit of study. We are proud of our ICT suite of 35 workstations. There is an additional wireless network of laptops within the classrooms and interactive whiteboard technology throughout the school. As well as using computers our children are taught how ICT is used in control technology and moni-

toring. The children will leave Brookfield Junior School as confident users of ICT.

## HISTORY

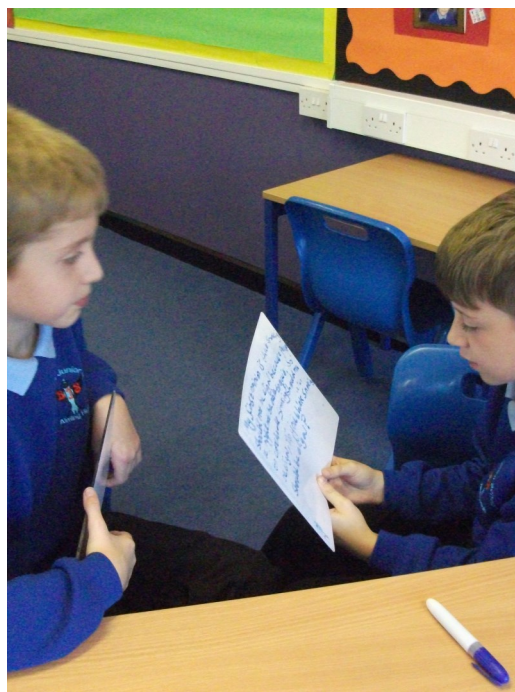
Each topic involves learning stories from the past, finding information from a range of sources, and developing skills such as chronology and awareness of differing opinions. Topics range from Ancient Civilisations to Victorian Britain. Usually, a topic will include a visit to an historical site or museum, or a special day at school involving visitors, dressing up and re-enactments which help to make history more enjoyable and reinforce the learning.

## GEOGRAPHY

Geography is taught through topics such as India, Rainforests and Improving the Environment. We aim to make the learning exciting as well as relevant by including practical opportunities for children to learn about their environment. There are opportunities to develop geographical skills such as making and using maps, and to learn about other areas of the world.

## ART AND DESIGN

The studying of art and design stimulates and develops the visual thinking and creativity of our children. By gaining a greater understanding of colour, form, texture and patterns they are



encouraged to communicate their ideas and feelings. The children's learning is enriched through experiencing Art and design on a cross curricular basis. Children use a range of materials and tools including ICT, working both in 2D and 3D formats. They also carry out peer assessment activities with their own work and that of others. We have an art studio to further enhance the development of art and design work across the school. To celebrate their achievements, children's work is displayed throughout the school and shared in school assemblies.

## DESIGN TECHNOLOGY

Children are given opportunities to investigate, design and make products using a variety of tools and materials. This is a practical subject with links to their science work, in which children learn about food preparation and healthy eating.

## PE

We encourage our children to have a positive attitude to sport, to exercise regularly and to lead healthy lifestyles. Our PE curriculum aims to develop children's skills in gymnastics, dance, athletics, games and swimming. For Outdoor and Adventurous Activity opportunities we have a climbing wall, an Activity Trail and an ori-

enteering course around the school grounds. We encourage the children to understand the need for safety, help them develop important transferable skills such as co-ordination, fair-play and teamwork. An exciting range of activities are available through after-school clubs and our partnership with Progressive Sports offers opportunities for high quality teaching and learning experiences. A 'Health and Fitness Week' is held each summer, which includes our highly popular Sports Day. Our school teams compete against other schools in the district.

## SPORTS FUNDING

Following government guidelines we use the Sports Funding that is within our school's budget to support the development of high quality PE experiences for our children.

The school knows its pupils very well.

**Ofsted**





## RE/ASSEMBLIES

Assemblies are held every day and provide a great opportunity for the whole school to gather together to consider moral and spiritual values and equip children for life in the wider community as thoughtful and caring people.

All pupils are taught RE and have the opportunity to learn about the beliefs and practices of Christianity as well as those of other faiths. Children are encouraged to start thinking about why people believe.

## MUSIC

Music helps develop pupils' confidence and self esteem. Dancing, investigating sound, making instruments, learning songs, counting beats and listening to music are experiences that can nurture a love of music and an enjoyment in performing. Children have the opportunity to have hands on experience with a great many

percussion instruments. They work as individuals, in small groups or as a whole class as well as having the opportunity to perform in larger productions. Visiting instrumental teachers give lessons in playing the ukulele, drums and guitar.

## PSHE AND BEHAVIOUR

At Brookfield our children are well behaved and we celebrate their positive attitudes and caring relationships. We also have sanctions in place for any misdemeanours.

Our Personal, Social and Health Education (PSHE) lessons enable our pupils to become healthy, independent and responsible members of society.

We encourage our pupils to play a positive role in contributing to the life of the school and the wider community. In so doing we help develop their sense of self worth.

Learning takes place through "circle time" discussions, drama or by inviting in



visitors to talk about their jobs.

We encourage the children to take part in a range of practical activities that promote active citizenship, such as charity fundraising or the planning of special events such as an assembly or workshop.

## SEX AND RELATIONSHIPS EDUCATION

Sex education is presented in a moral framework within the contexts of family life, relationships and understanding themselves and their own feelings.

Parents have the right to withdraw their child from any or all sessions on sex education after consultation with the Head Teacher.

## MODERN FOREIGN LANGUAGES

French is taught to every class, using the <<Tout le monde>> interactive scheme, which pupils can also access on the Internet at home.

Spanish is taught to every class, using <<La Jolie Ronde>> scheme.

Pupils improve their skills of listening,

speaking, reading and writing in a fun way, using word puzzles, puppets, games and quizzes.

## HOMEWORK

Homework projects are set twice in each term; with an element of choice regarding the activities.

The tasks are related to the current topic, plus some aspects of Literacy and Maths to reinforce and consolidate the concepts that have been taught in class.

Children are also encouraged to read regularly, to practice their times tables and to learn their spellings.

Homework should be regarded as a positive experience and an extension of learning. We believe that homework is important in raising standards; parental support for these tasks is expected.

## Taking Care of your Child

At Brookfield Junior School we want to ensure your child is happy, safe and secure.

This, of course, is a shared responsibility and we have a home-school agreement





that outlines the responsibilities of the school, parents and pupils.

## Happy

Please let the class teacher know of any issues at home that might cause your child to be unhappy at school. Our Family Liaison Officer (FLO) will do her best to support you and your family during difficult times.

We, in turn, will do our very best to ensure problems with friendships, squabbles and difficulties are sorted out quickly and fairly.

## Safe

Please keep your child at home if they are unwell and inform the school by telephone on the first day of absence. Please try to avoid making routine medical appointments during school hours. The school must have an emergency telephone contact number for every

child. The number of a family member or trusted friend is also required in case parents are not available. Please inform us straight away of any changes to these details. If your child becomes ill or has an accident we will notify you straight away. If your child requires a midday dose of medicine, please complete the forms at Reception.

## Secure

The school gates are closed during the school day for your child's security. Main doors have keypads requiring codes for access and security cameras are placed around the site. Access for parents and visitors is through the main gate and then reporting to Reception. At the end of the day children meet their parents outside the classroom or on the playground.

Mobile phones are not allowed in school.

## Keeping Track of your Child

Regular teacher assessment, both formal and informal, will be carried out by the class teacher. Formal parent consultation meetings are held in Term 2 and Term 4 and a comprehensive school report showing attainment and progress is sent to parents towards the end of the school year in July.

Parents are also informed of class topics and curriculum content via letters and homework diaries. Parents are encouraged to

My learning is  
getting better and  
better all the time

Pupil





meet the class teacher at the classroom door, or make an appointment if any issues should arise.

Newsletters, dates and other information is sent home by email each Friday and is available on our school website ([www.brookfield-jun.kent.sch.uk](http://www.brookfield-jun.kent.sch.uk))

## Healthy Eating

Children may buy fruit at break times, or bring their own cheese or fruit. We encourage our pupils to drink water throughout the day to aid concentration, and eat healthy packed lunches. There is a choice within the freshly prepared midday meals, which are cooked on the premises. Free School Meals are available for some families ~ please ask at the office.

## Compliments, Concerns and Complaints

We work very hard to make sure you are happy with the way we care for and educate your child. If you have compliments to share, please tell us or write a few words in our Visitors Book. However, there may be occasions when you have questions or concerns about your child's well being. Please discuss these first with your child's class teacher and then if necessary, make an appointment to speak with the Deputy or Head Teacher.

## School Publication Scheme

Information available under the Freedom of Information Act 2000 and access to our school policies may be found on the school website.

## KS1 – KS2 Transfer

The majority of our pupils transfer from our feeder school of Brookfield Infants, which is on the same site. We have adopted several strategies to ensure the smooth social and academic transfer of our pupils from one establishment to another. This principally involves a transition week in July when the infants join us for several mornings giving the Year 3 teachers the opportunity to get to know the pupils. They stay for lunch, assemblies and playtimes, and these experiences prepare them for the start of their Junior years. Prior to this the Year 3 teachers spend time at Brookfield Infants to discuss the pupil's educational and social needs. Parents are invited to a 'Meet the Teacher' evening in July and again in September to give an overview of the school's values, beliefs and expectations. We believe in nurturing the caring side of our pupils and when our new members join us in Year 3 they have already been assigned a 'buddy' from Year 4 who will be there for them in the playground and share experiences in the classroom.





## KS2 - KS3 transfer

We take every opportunity to prepare our children for their move from primary to secondary school. Once secondary places have been confirmed, there are a number of transition meetings that take place. During Term 6 a representative from each secondary school meets with the children to give them a brief run-down of the routines of their new school. Our SENCo and class teachers also meet with these staff members to discuss the children in more detail. In July there is a 'transition day' when every child visits their new school in preparation for their new start in September.

## FINALLY ...

Working in partnership across Home and School, we endeavour to develop and inspire the young children within our care.

**We look forward to welcoming you to our school community.**

**Thank you for reading our prospectus.**