

Eden Park Primary School

“The school has developed an outstanding curriculum which delivers exciting inspirational learning experiences to all the pupils.”
(OFSTED 2013)

An exciting school with an irresistible curriculum and high expectations, committed to care, adventure and success

Inspire curiosity – Explore potential – Achieve together

Welcome to Eden Park Primary and thank you for your interest in our school. We hope you will find this pack helpful but should you require any further information please get in touch.

The school is caring, friendly and very lively; we are always busy with events and activities taking place all the time. Please have a look at our web site and the weekly newsletters. You can also follow us on Twitter @edenparkprimary.

If you have not already done so, please contact us to arrange a tour of the school. You and your family will be most welcome. We look forward to seeing you.

Once again welcome to Eden Park.

Ken Kies
Executive Principal

The School and Facilities

We have lovely grounds and some excellent buildings



Facilities include:

- Fully equipped media suite with radio and television studios
- Two minibuses that allow us to make great use of the local area and community
- Easy classroom access to high quality IT to support learning
- Two halls (a real luxury for a primary school!)
- Separate music room and excellent opportunities for instrument tuition
- A wonderful library in its own building
- Three adventure playgrounds
- A large field within a few minutes walk
- A conservation area and outdoor learning environment. We call this Wild for Learning!
- A purpose built Foundation Stage area including two nurseries with their own garden and enclosed play area
- A Breakfast Club

The gardens and grounds are extensive and the buildings are surrounded by grassed areas. There is a sensory garden and there are beautiful trees everywhere and many flowerbeds.

Security

- We secure the school site at the external gates during school time allowing staff and pupils to have free access to all buildings
- Access to the site during school hours is by video entry phone

Parental Links

Confidence in our school comes from knowing and understanding what is happening in it. We hope you are able to take an active and positive interest in your child's education at Eden Park.

Parents are welcome in school and we have lots of volunteers who help in class. Parents are regularly invited to attend a variety of school events.

These include:

- Regular special events to share class work and learning outcomes with parents
- Family learning courses
- Music concerts
- Performances and productions
- Sports days and festivals
- Parent report evenings

The Home School Diary

We have an important home school diary system. This acts as a regular three way link between school, pupil and home and runs right through the school.

Homework

Regular homework appropriate to each age group will be sent home. A detailed parent guide is included as part of the New Parent/Pupil Information Pack and our policy can be found on the website.

Newsletter

A newsletter is published every Friday. This contains photos and information about the week's events, lists letters that have gone out during the week and keeps parents informed of future diary dates. We also print the names of those children who have received awards. We email it to your given address or produce a paper copy if you prefer.

PTA

Every parent is automatically a member of our school Parent Teacher Association. There are frequent family events held throughout the year, which are enjoyed by the whole school community. The fund raising side of the organisation is extremely successful and has provided the school with a variety of fantastic resources. New committee members are always welcome so if you're willing to attend a few meetings or perhaps run the clay pizza oven at our next school fete, please come along.

Learning Platform

A large amount of information is shared each week on our school learning platform. For example, pupil work, homework challenges, forums and discussions and a great deal more. This also provides a secure email address for children.

Staff

The teachers and support staff

The school has an experienced, talented and committed teaching staff. The teachers and teaching assistants are friendly, care about all the children, have a good sense of humour and work very hard to make the children's learning as interesting and exciting as possible. We have teaching support available in every classroom in the school. We also provide intervention teaching for children who need some additional support or extending in a subject.

Clubs - lots of them!



Down at the harbour with the school kayak club

At Eden Park we think it's really important that children are given the chance to experience a wide range of opportunities in addition to the usual school curriculum. As a result we have introduced a large variety of different clubs that cover areas such as:

- PE and dance
- Art and Craft
- Board Games
- Performing Arts
- Nature
- Additional learning provision

The children are highly enthusiastic about these activities and that's why the school's large range of clubs takes place each week. The range of clubs on offer varies each term but there is always something for every age group.

School Teams



We currently have school teams for Netball, Football and Gymnastics. These teams have matches with other schools. We play at home and sometimes away. We don't always win but we're working on that!!

School Uniform

We are proud of the school and the way that we present ourselves. We have a smart uniform which includes the school logo designed by a pupil as part of a school council competition.



Eden Park Tadpoles and Frogs Nurseries



We have fantastic purpose built Foundation Stage classrooms. These include a nursery and a lovely enclosed outdoor classroom and play area. These facilities are excellent and provide the children with a terrific start to their education.

We try to ensure that the time each child spends in the nursery is filled with happy, stimulating and rewarding experiences for them and their families.

The nursery is very much part of the school and our children often participate in events happening in main school. There are especially strong links with the reception classes so the move to full-time education is a smooth, eagerly anticipated progression.

Our nursery children enjoy a full and varied curriculum. Activities are planned to deliver the Early Years Foundation Stage Curriculum. The children learn through structured, practical play activities which they experience both inside the nursery room and in our inviting outdoor areas.

Our two year old provision is called Tadpoles. It takes place in a refurbished building and provides a similarly well planned and diverse curriculum. Separate brochures are available for both our Nurseries.

The Irresistible Curriculum!

At Eden Park we aim to equip children to lead fulfilling and meaningful lives. Our curriculum has been developed by the whole school community as a framework for teaching and learning about the world in ways that are purposeful and real.

Our usual learning sequence is set out below:

The Hook

Our projects start with an exciting experience or challenge to capture the children's interest and generate enthusiasm.

The Learning

Our four core values (respect, independence, creativity and teamwork), curriculum skills and knowledge are taught rigorously through a range of engaging and challenging activities.

The Outcome

A high quality outcome brings together the children's learning in a meaningful way and is shared with parents and the community.

These learning experiences link curriculum areas where possible to ensure that the learning is relevant, motivating and engaging. We aim to provide a curriculum where the activities are child-centred, practical, motivating and meaningful. Key skills are carefully mapped out to ensure ongoing full coverage of the curriculum and progression of skills throughout the school.

Where links cannot be made to the learning experience, subjects are taught discreetly, for example maths, R.E or some areas of science.

We try to share the outcomes of the children's learning in a variety of ways for example project books, assemblies, concerts, films, open mornings, parent events and presentations.

Our curriculum is underpinned by the school's core values which impact on all learning. These values are planned, taught and celebrated as part of the children's daily learning.

English

Learning to read, write, listen and talk effectively is fundamental to children's education. We aim to ensure that these skills are united and developed to as high a standard as possible for each child.

Reading is seen as an absolutely essential skill and the school provides parents with comprehensive information on how children's reading can be developed.

How Literacy is developed

In Early Foundation Stage children are given lots of opportunities to develop pre-reading and writing skills in a very hands-on way such as in role-play. Letters and sounds are introduced through links with the children's play.

The fine motor skills essential for good pencil grip are encouraged through a variety of activities. Pre-handwriting skills are developed through writing in dry sand, with paint, with clay and tracing activities. Library books are chosen and changed regularly.

These rich early experiences are built upon in the Reception Year where alongside this practical theme, early reading books are introduced together with increasing phonic skills, linked to a structured programme, called Read Write Inc. that takes place every day.

In Key Stages 1 and 2 English skills are further developed and we take opportunities to link our literacy work to other areas of the curriculum to provide children with real experiences for their reading, writing, speaking and listening.

Numeracy

A good understanding of mathematics forms an essential part of every child's development. The maths skills your child learns at primary school can be applied to many other areas of learning and will also help them tackle practical problems outside the classroom with logic and reason.

Thanks to the way this subject is taught in our school, learning maths is stimulating, challenging and fun, with interactive whiteboards, laptops and many other resources providing children with a rich, exciting learning environment. Whenever possible the children's maths is applied to their curriculum projects.

Children in upper Key Stage 2 are split into ability based maths groups and often work with additional staff to reduce class sizes.

But don't just take our word for it! Here's what some of the children think about the way we teach mathematics at Eden Park Primary School:

"I think maths is brilliant because we can find things out for ourselves." Jack (9)

"My favourite thing about maths is playing games in teams." Abigail (9).

"Using the interactive whiteboard is great fun. I have learnt loads this year!" Erin (7)

The Outside Classroom

We have a dedicated area for studying aspects of natural science and developing forest type skills. This fascinating and beautiful area is known as our “Wild for Learning” area. It is very popular with the children and under the care of our specially trained staff children conduct experiments, use tools and even have a cup of hot chocolate around the fire!

Modern Foreign Languages

Spanish is taught from Year 1 upwards. Children enjoy learning the language through games, songs, activities and daily tasks such as the class register in Spanish! This language complements our strong international links with a school in Peru.

Special Educational Needs (SEN)

We believe that all children have the right to a broad and balanced curriculum, through which individual potential can be achieved in an atmosphere of encouragement, sensitivity and respect.

We will ensure that appropriate provision is made for any pupil who has special educational needs, be they: learning, physical, emotional or behavioural.

We recognise the importance of parents in helping their children to achieve their potential and they are treated as partners to play an active and valued role. Our experienced and knowledgeable teaching assistants also play an important role in the provision for our SEN pupils.

Outdoor Education



We provide a number of opportunities for children to experience adventurous and challenging outdoor activities. These include: climbing, caving, abseiling, high ropes, orienteering, kayaking. We currently offer residential trips every year for all Key Stage 2 children.

Swimming

Children in year 3 and 4 have swimming lessons at the local Brixham Pool.

School Council

Children are elected by their fellow classmates to represent the views of the pupils. Meetings are held on a regular basis together with senior teachers. This gives the pupils their say in how the school is run. Recently the school council has contributed to a number of projects including:

- Revisiting the school uniform policy
- Working on theme tunes for each of our core values
- Supporting and improving assemblies

The Play Areas

We have several separate play areas that allow us to plan happy and safe playtimes for the children. These include:

- Enclosed outdoor areas for the youngest children
- A football playground
- Areas to use a range of playtime games
- A beautiful large grass area and large wooden gazebo where in dry weather children from KS1 can play together
- Picnic areas with cover available
- Three adventure play areas

Behaviour

Behaviour is good. Pupils are polite and well mannered. They say they feel safe in school and bullying is rare. Their parents agree. (OFSTED 2013)

We expect an excellent standard of behaviour at Eden Park Primary School. We have a comprehensive positive behaviour policy. The policy includes behaviour codes for school in general, the playground and for assemblies.

We do have incidents of course and the school's aim is to work with parents as partners to resolve any issues, keeping all informed. In addition, the school runs a very successful programme called THRIVE which helps us to address the needs of those children who have social or emotional difficulties. This is run by a highly skilled Pastoral Team who are able to support children and work with them on a one to one basis.

11 + and Grammar school entry

A number of our children go on to the grammar school and we run 11 + clubs to support Year 5. We are very happy to meet with parents to discuss choice of secondary school and can advise on the 11 + process.

Community

We want our school to be at the heart of the local community. We take part in community events, support local and national charities and invite visitors in to the school.

Other community involvement includes:

- Use of school facilities by outside clubs
- Performances from the school choir in the town several times each year including a visit to a residential home for the elderly and singing at public events
- Working links with schools in contrasting environments such as London and international links with a school in Peru
- Participation in local sporting events
- Excellent links with the secondary schools including Brixham College and Churston Grammar, including having developed an early transition programme for some pupils in Year 6.

Breakfast Club

We run a Breakfast Club every weekday morning during term-time 8.00 a.m. – 8.50 a.m., for a small charge. The club is open to children attending the school from Nursery through to Year 6. Breakfast consists of a choice of waffles, muffins, crumpets and pancakes as well as toast and cereal. If you would like a place for your child please contact the school office for further details.