



Barcombe CE Primary School

Prospectus 2019–2020

**Barcombe CE Primary School
School Path,
Barcombe Cross,
Lewes,
BN8 5DN
Telephone: 01273 400287**

**Website: www.barcombe.eschools.co.uk
e-mail: office@barcombe.e-sussex.sch.uk**

Executive Head Teacher:

Mr Stewart James

Head of School:

Mrs Ruth Force

Chair of Governors:

Mr Peter Clark and Mrs Sue Seymour

Vision

Our vision is to be a small school with big ideas and an excellent reputation. We offer a unique range of learning opportunities and, working closely with parents and carers, support the needs, strengths and interests of all our children so that everyone can aim high. Our children are happy, thoughtful, confident, independent learners, who leave us prepared for the future.

Mission Statement

Learning together, believing together

School Values

Collaboration Imagination Resilience Curiosity
Self- Control

Welcome to Barcombe CE Primary School

Barcombe is a thriving village and the school is very much at the heart of the community. Many of the parents and adults in the village have a connection to the school, whether they once attended themselves or are on the board of governors or members of the PTA. There is a strong bond between the school and the community and pupils both know and are well-known to adults, resulting in a caring environment.

An important part of the school's ethos is that we consider and care for others, at school and in the wider community. At the start of each school year, each class votes for and elects a charity for which it will raise funds throughout the school year. Last year, the children raised over £1,000 for their chosen charities.

Towards the end of the summer term, Year 6 pupils from primary schools in and around Lewes come together for the annual Lewes 'Patina', a celebratory parade through town to mark the end of their primary years and their transition to secondary education. Barcombe is proud to be part of this community festival.

All schools are very different and choosing the right one for your child is not an easy task. We hope this prospectus will give you a flavour of what Barcombe School has to offer you and your child and answer some of the questions you may have.

Stewart James
Executive Head Teacher

Ruth Force
Head of School

Enjoying life at Barcombe School **both inside and outside**

We currently have 134 children on roll who are taught in 5 classes:

Hedgehogs	Reception
Squirrels	Year 1 and year 2
Badgers	Year 2 and Year 3
Foxes	Year 4 and Year 5
Owls	Year 5 and Year 6

All classes have at least one teaching assistant supporting the class teacher in the mornings and our Reception Class benefits from a teaching assistant in the afternoon as well.

In addition to this Barcombe School also has:

- Two rooms available for group or individual learning
- Wireless internet access across the whole school
- Laptops and iPads available for all children
- Interactive Whiteboards in all teaching rooms
- A well-stocked library ideal for individual and group reading
- A disabled toilet.

**"The school has a
friendly atmosphere
encouraging good social
relationships"**

Parent

Learning at Barcombe School

As a Primary School, we educate children aged from 4 to 11 covering the Early Years Foundation Stage, Key Stage 1 and Key Stage 2.

Foundation Stage Reception Class (4-5 year olds)

The Foundation Stage classroom is an exciting learning environment, where children can choose their own activities, both indoors and outdoors. Throughout the day the children come together to listen to stories and take part in phonics activities, to develop the skills needed to begin reading. Much of the Early Years curriculum is very creative and imaginative, and follows the children's own interests, with exciting topics such as pirates and dinosaurs.

Children follow the Early Years Foundation Stage curriculum which covers three prime areas: Personal, Social and Emotional Development; Physical Development and Communication and Language. Activities are also planned for four other areas of learning: Literacy, Mathematics Understanding the World and Expressive Arts and design.



Key Stages 1& 2

As a school committed to creative learning, we teach many subjects through topics. This means the children become immersed in a particular area of learning for several weeks and really enjoy the exciting lessons, visits and experiences which are carefully planned by teachers to make learning as meaningful as possible. Our current curriculum has topics such as Take one Heart, Space & Ice Explorers, and what were Cavemen really like?



English

Literacy skills begin with speaking and listening, and therefore we have a strong emphasis on this in our English lessons. Children enjoy drama games and role-playing stories, which gives a deeper understanding of stories as well as building confidence. Our approach to reading begins in Reception, with regular phonics lessons, which continue through the infant years. Throughout the school, children are

encouraged to become confident, independent readers who read for pleasure, and class teachers use a variety of quality texts in their literacy lessons. In their writing, children are taught a range of styles, for different audiences, with a strong emphasis on spelling, grammar, punctuation and handwriting skills.

Mathematics

Mathematics includes a wide range of topics with a strong focus on number and calculation along with using and applying mathematics, algebra, shape, space, measure and handling data. Mathematics is approached in a variety of ways, making use of investigative and real-life situations, often with links to other curriculum subjects. We encourage our children to think mathematically and so help them to prepare for opportunities to apply their mathematical knowledge in and out of the classroom.



Science

Science is taught from Year 1 onwards, in line with the requirements of the National Curriculum which ensures a broad and balanced coverage of all areas. Science investigations are centred in a context that is meaningful to the children and are delivered in a creative and practical way. A special emphasis is given to investigative work and activities and is delivered in a practical way, with the children having fun and gaining many essential skills along the way.

Computing

Barcombe pupils are encouraged to use a range of technologies in their learning across the curriculum. With a new focus on computer science, pupils are introduced to algorithms and instructions, creating and debugging simple programs in Key Stage 1. As they progress through the school, this understanding is combined with creativity to design and write their own programs for specific purposes.

Children are encouraged to evaluate and apply different technologies to solve problems, all the while demonstrating an awareness and understanding of the safety aspects. Our aim is for each pupil to leave as a confident and responsible user of information and communication technology.

All classrooms are equipped with an interactive whiteboard and are digital. Children also have access to up-to-date laptops with a range of software, including MS Office, 2Simple, Scratch, Sublime Text, Python and Internet software.

We have permanent and complete access to the Internet. This allows pupils to access the internet quickly – and safely - with access carefully filtered at source.





Design Technology

Children have the opportunity to learn a number of DT techniques during their time at Barcombe. They complete a range of projects in both wood and textiles and are encouraged to build on ideas and plan how to execute their designs effectively. DT is complemented by Forest School activities when the children have the opportunity to use a range of tools to make different constructions as part of outdoor projects and they also enjoy cookery sessions, often related to a topic.



Modern Foreign Languages

Children in Key Stage 2 learn French, and emphasis is placed on speaking and listening. Lessons are comprised of games, role play activities and songs, and are designed to engage children and to steadily build their confidence. Children learn standard greetings, basic vocabulary and simple sentence structures.

“Teachers skillfully use story -telling to increase children’s understanding of how to structure their own writing”

Ofsted Inspection Report

Humanities

Children are fully immersed in History and Geography activities as part of a wider cross-curricular topic. This includes hands on experiences such as field trips, visits and meeting experts.

The aim in history is to fire curiosity about the past in Britain and the wider world. Pupils consider how the past influences the present, what past societies were like and what beliefs and cultures influenced their actions. They see the diversity of human experience so they can understand more about themselves as individuals and members of society.

Geography provokes and answers questions about the natural and human worlds. A knowledge of places and environments is developed in the children, together with an understanding of maps and a range of investigative and problem-solving skills both inside and outside the classroom. It is also a focus for understanding and resolving issues about the environment.

Personal, Social, and Health Education (PSHE)

PSHE is about preparing our pupils to live in the wider world, to understand diversity and to learn how to be good citizens both now and in their future lives.

In PSHE, pupils explore their own feelings and their role and relationships with others. The programme we teach includes a rolling programme of both Health (including drugs) and Sex Education, both of which are delivered to a child's maturity, understanding and needs.

We ensure that children develop the emotional tools to live in society through delivering quality provision using our Jigsaw Curriculum.

We teach pupils that there are many ways to manage their own, and others, feelings, and that the acknowledgement of other people as individuals is a key life skill. This is delivered through mindful activities within each classroom.

Art

Art is regarded as an important area of the creative arts curriculum. Children are encouraged to use a variety of media and techniques. They study the use of colour, line, shape, tone and observational drawing to develop their artistic skills and their appreciation of artists' work. The school has close links with several professional artists who regularly work with the children, offering a high level of expertise in this area of the curriculum. Art is also used to supplement and enrich other areas of the curriculum.



Physical Education

All children participate in games, dance, gymnastics, athletics and swimming lessons in which they develop skills and sporting qualities. All classes benefit from weekly lessons led by coaches. Each year, our Lower Key Stage 2 class visits Cumnor House in Danehill for lessons given by their swimming instructors, supported by staff from Barcombe School. We aim to develop children's enjoyment, confidence and skill in physical activity and to introduce them to the pleasures of sport. We also feature extra-curricular activities and take part in a variety of sports tournaments with local schools. Older children also have the opportunity to participate in a wide range of outdoor activities on a residential trip.



Music

Children in Key Stage One have the opportunity to listen and respond to a wide range of recorded and live music. They are encouraged to use their voices expressively to sing songs and speak chants and rhymes inspired by their topic work. At Barcombe, the children begin to play tuned and untuned instruments musically, taking their inspiration from artwork, storybooks etc. They experiment with improvisation and composition and explore the history of music through their topic work. All children have the opportunity to perform regularly in termly class assemblies or our bigger productions that take place at Christmas and the end of the school year.

Religious Education and Collective Worship

RE is learning about religion and learning from religion.

Understanding of a range of different faiths is taught so that children develop sensitivity and awareness of the needs and beliefs of people both in the United Kingdom and across the world. Assembly is an important part of the school day when we meet together as a community. It is a time when we place emphasis on the development of values and attitudes towards each other and the world around us.

Parents have the right to withdraw their children from religious education and collective worship should they so wish. If parents do not wish their child to be taught the agreed syllabus or take part in short acts of collective worship then they should inform us in writing. Their child can then be excused and suitable alternative arrangements made.

"There are really
good links between the school and home.
My child's start at school has been a
fantastic experience for the family
the family"
Parent

Curriculum Enrichment

Children at Barcombe School enjoy regular events to make their learning more meaningful and exciting. Recent trips include the Science Museum, Connect with the Countryside at The South of England Showground and regular welly walks and visits to 'Wild about Barcombe'. The children especially enjoy day and overnight visits to Hindleap Warren and for older children, the residential to Windmill Hill PGL Activity Centre.



Including all children

We aim to include all children and extra help is readily available for children according to their needs. The school has a part-time Inclusion Manager and a team of teaching assistants who support children within the classroom or sometimes in small groups or on a one to one basis in our group room. The school works closely with parents in assessing, monitoring and addressing children's needs and parents are regularly updated with their children's progress. The special needs policy of the school outlines the procedures for early identification, continual assessment, appropriate provision, record keeping and the involvement of outside agencies. We are a Dyslexia Friendly School.

Our more able pupils are also identified and given work appropriate to their needs both within school and for older pupils, in conjunction with other schools and outside services.

Our older pupils take a lead responsibility within the school, acting as Prefects, Play Leaders and as Buddies for our new Reception intake.

Each class has two School Council members who meet regularly to engage in discussions that have an impact on strategic developments within the school.

Extra - Curricular Clubs:

There are a range of clubs that take place either after school or during lunch breaks. These vary throughout the year and include: Football, Multi-skills, Art, Piano, French, Band and Choir. Clubs are led by our own staff, parents and outside agencies.

We also offer an After School Care club from Monday – Thursday 3.15-5.30



Barcombe CE Primary School National Assessment Results July 2019

End of Reception – Number and % of children reaching a Good Level of Development (GLD)

Barcombe %	East Sussex	National
85%	75.9%	71.7%

Phonics Screening Check – Number and % of children passing the Year 1 Phonics Screening Check.

Barcombe %	East Sussex	National
74%	81.8%	82%

End of Key Stage 1 Assessment – Number and % of children reaching or exceeding End of Year 2 Expectations.

	Expected	Greater Depth	Expected	Greater Depth	Expected	Greater Depth
Reading	94%	28%	77.3%	26.9%	75%	25%
Writing	83%	22%	72.2%	15.6%	69.2%	14.7%
Maths	83%	22%	77.6	22.2%	75.7%	21.7%

End of Key Stage 2 Assessment – Number and % of children reaching or exceeding End of Year 6 Expectations.

	Barcombe		East Sussex		National	
	Expected	Greater Depth	Expected	Greater Depth	Expected	Greater Depth
Reading	89.5%	47.4%	71.9%	25.2%	73.1%	26.9%
Writing	89.5%	31.6%	78.7%	17.1%	78.4%	20.1%
Maths	94%	58%	75.1%	21.7%	78.6%	26.6%
GPAS	79%	53%	72.3%	26.9%	78%	35.6%

Links with Secondary Schools

We have close links with Chailey Secondary School where some of our children transfer to at the end of Year 6. Some of our most able mathematicians benefit from weekly lessons at the school and we also use their facilities for PE tournaments. Children also transfer to Lewes Priory or Ringmer School.



Everyday Life at Barcombe School

The school day begins at 8.45 a.m and ends at 3.15pm. The children line up in their classes in the playground, but if there is inclement weather the children will be able to come into school from 8.35 a.m. Latecomers must sign in at the school office and their late arrival is noted in the register.

No children should arrive at school earlier than 8.35 a.m. as the school cannot be responsible for them before this time. The day begins with registration for both attendance and school dinners. At the end of the day, children are escorted to the playground by their teacher to be collected by their parents or carers.

Morning	Activity
8:45	Registration
8:50	Class time & Assembly Time
10:30	Playtime
10:45	Class time
Afternoon	Activity
12:00	Lunchtime
1:00	Class time
2:30	KS1 Playtime
2:40	Class time
3:10	KS1 Home
3:15	KS2 Home

Morning

Attendance, absence and illness

Children who have good attendance at school consistently make better progress with their learning and find it easier to establish and maintain good friendships. The Government and Local Authority have very strict guidelines regarding absence in term time, which the school has to follow. Any absence (except illness and medical appointments) will only be authorised in **exceptional** circumstances and should be requested using the form available from the office at least 2 weeks in advance.

If your child is unable to attend school, please notify the school office by 9.15am on the first morning of absence. Wherever possible, we ask that you make routine medical or dental appointments out of school hours.

School Meals

A hot school meal prepared on the premises is provided every day with an option of 'traditional', vegetarian or jacket potato. You can choose whether your child has a cooked meal or a packed lunch on a day by day basis. All children in Reception, Year 1 and Year 2 are entitled to a free meal each day and for children in years 3 – 6, the current cost is £2.05 per day, and can be paid via Parentpay. Free school meals are available for some older children and the office can advise you about applying for these if you feel your family may be entitled.

Should you wish to provide children with a packed lunch, we ask that no sweets, chocolate bars or nuts of any kind are included.

Children are welcome to bring a piece of fruit for morning break, and the school is part of the Government's fruit scheme which provides a free piece of fruit for all infants each day.



School Uniform

We feel that wearing school uniform is an important factor in helping children to develop a sense of pride and belonging in themselves and their school. Wearing uniform also ensures that children are wearing practical, appropriate clothes and that they do not have to compete in the fashion stakes. We therefore ask parents to co-operate, by sending children to school in uniform as detailed below.

- Green sweatshirt, cardigan or jumper - plain or with the school logo
- Grey/black school type trousers or shorts for boys
- Grey/black skirt, pinafore dress or trousers for girls
- White/green shirt - plain or with the school logo
- Sensible school shoe or sandals, which should be black.

Children also need plimsolls, black shorts or track suit bottoms and a white t-shirt for PE lessons (plain or with the school logo).

Please see our website for the full uniform code and a link to how you can purchase uniform online.

Parents/Carers and the Community

At Barcombe School, we believe in developing close working relationships with our parents and carers. Teachers are available for a quick chat about any issue concerning you after school most days of the week, or we ask that you make an appointment should you need a longer discussion.

As well as this we have more formal consultation evenings in the autumn and spring and each child receives a full written report at the end of the academic year.

The Executive Head, Head, or Deputy Head of School are at the school gate each morning and are pleased to talk with you then about any matters that do not require a longer or confidential appointment.

We welcome many of our parents in helping around school in a variety of ways such as reading with children, art, cooking and supporting or running after school clubs. This can be on a regular basis or a one-off for a special event.

We have a very active Parent Teacher Association which arranges a variety of social functions and also raises a great deal of money which is used for the benefit of all the children. Each year the PTA subsidise coach travel for swimming lessons and recently gave a significant contribution towards our music curriculum.

"Having parents involved in the school is
great as they get to understand their children's
points of view better"

Children's School Council

Admitting your child to Barcombe School:

All admissions are administered by East Sussex Council and can be carried out on line using the link shown:

<http://www.eastsussex.gov.uk/educationandlearning/schools/findingaschool/default.htm>

However, should you have any queries about availability of spaces in a particular year group, or any other questions, please do not hesitate to get in touch with us directly.

We hope you have found this prospectus useful and wish you every success in finding the school that best suits your child's unique personality, interests and learning needs.