



Barcombe CE Primary School

Prospectus

2020–2021

Barcombe CE Primary School,
School Path,
Barcombe Cross,
Barcombe,
BN8 5DN

Telephone: 01273 400287

Website: www.barcombe.eschools.co.uk

e-mail: barcombeoffice@skylarkfed.education

Executive Head Teacher:

Mr Stewart James

Head of School:

Mrs Ruth Force

Co-Chairs of Governors:

Mr Peter Clark and Mrs Sue Seymour

Vision

We are a small but 'mighty' school. We deliver an active and engaging curriculum that challenges and inspires all, and encourages everyone to embrace 'life in all its fullness'. Our emphasis is about learning to learn whilst promoting a Christian ethos. We believe everyone can achieve!

Mission Statement

Learning together, believing together

School Values

Barcombe is a Church of England school and as such, our Christian ethos supports the principles and practice of equality and inclusion. We celebrate the fact that we work in a diverse, multi-cultural, multi-faith society. We positively welcome the contribution of those from other faith communities or of no religious belief, which enriches the work we do. We believe that everyone has a contribution to make and a right to equality of opportunity and that everyone should be treated fairly, be they a child, parent, carer, employee, volunteer or supporter.

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. In recent years, classes have raised hundreds of pounds 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. We also have a virtual tour of the school on our website which you may like to view.

Stewart James
Executive Head Teacher

Ruth Force
Head of School

Enjoying life at Barcombe School, both inside and outside

We currently have 130 children on roll who are taught in 5 classes:

Hedgehogs	Reception and Year 1
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
- An outdoor classroom
- Wireless internet access across the whole school
- Laptops and iPads available for all children
- Interactive Whiteboards in all teachingrooms
- 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 projects. 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 the project 'Treasure', a History-based project; this will be followed by 'Home' which is a Geography-based project. In the Summer term, the whole school project will be 'Landscape', an arts-based project.



English

English 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 computing, 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 and iPads with a range of software, including MS Office, Times Tables Rockstars and Purple Mash.

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.

Homework and remote learning is facilitated through Google Classrooms.





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 project. 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 and is a particular strength at Barcombe. 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

Along with Art, Music is a particular strength of Barcombe School. Children 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. Older children learn to sing expressively and to sing songs in two or more parts. They also learn to perform songs to an audience and develop a positive critical ear for others' performances. The children begin to play tuned and un-tuned instruments musically, taking their inspiration from, for example, artwork, storybooks or poetry. They experiment with improvisation and composition and explore the history of music through their project 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. Barcombe School follows the East Sussex Agreed Syllabus and uses Understanding Christianity to deepen the children's understanding alongside the study of other faiths.

Collective Worship 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. Christian Bible stories, hymns and prayers are the focus for collective worship.

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”

Parent

Curriculum Enrichment

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

Disclaimer:-

Due to Covid restrictions, school trips and the annual overnight Year 5 and Year 6 visits are on hold in line with Government guidelines. As soon as these rules are lifted, the school will look to reinstate.



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 school's Special Needs policy 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 and Music Lessons

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, French, Cooking, Recorders, Band and Choir. Clubs are led by our own staff and outside agencies.

Peripatetic lessons are available on a range of musical instruments: violin, flute, clarinet, saxophone, recorder, cello, guitar and piano.

Disclaimer:

Again, due to Covid restrictions, most of these are on hold in line with Government guidelines. As soon as these rules are lifted, the school will look to reinstate.



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 many 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. At the end of Year 6, our pupils mostly transfer to Chailey Secondary or Ringmer School. A few transfer to other schools including Priory School, Roedean, Lewes Old Grammar and Brighton College.



Everyday Life at Barcombe School

The school day begins at 8.45 am

The 3 younger classes, Hedgehogs, Squirrels and Badgers, leave at 3.05pm

The older classes, Foxes and Owls, leave 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 go into their school class from 8.40 a.m. Latecomers should buzz the door and a member of staff will lead them to their classroom. Their late arrival is noted in the register.

No children should arrive at school earlier than 8.35 am 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	Arrival
8:55	Registration
9.00	Class time and Collective Worship
10:30	Playtime (timing can be flexible)
10:45	Class time
12:00	Lunchtime
Afternoon	Activity
1:00	Class time
2:30	KS1 Playtime (timing can be flexible)
2:40	Class time
3:05	KS1 Home
3:15	KS2 Home

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 from 8.30am and latest 9.00am 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' or vegetarian meal or a jacket potato or filled baguette. 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; for children in years 3 – 6, the current cost is £2.10 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 or seeds 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 shoes or sandals, which should be black
- Black, white or grey socks

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 theCommunity

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 of School, 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 into the school helping 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. **(Currently not happening due to Covid.)**

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.