

Welcome

to Balfour Primary School

PROSPECTUS
2022-2023



Balfour Road, Brighton, BN1 6NE
office@balfour.brighton-hove.sch.uk
www.balfourprimary.co.uk
01273 507722



LETTER FROM THE *Headteacher*

At Balfour Primary School we strive for success for everyone and excellence in everything we do. Our core values underpin our curriculum, ensuring our pupils develop into well-rounded citizens embracing diversity, celebrating cultures from all over the world and are empowered to make a positive difference.



We are a friendly, enthusiastic and caring community committed to offering an education which nurtures a lifelong love of learning, enabling our children to be confident, successful and responsible in everything they do.

Our passionate and inspirational staff are highly dedicated, enabling the very best outcomes for our pupils, both academically and socially. They work closely together to ensure consistency and continuity in all our children's education. We recognise that children have diverse needs and we work to ensure we are a fully inclusive school. Every child is valued for their contribution and encouraged to grow and succeed.

We are a Rights Respecting School, helping our children to develop positive and respectful attitudes. We model and promote excellent behaviour for learning, ensuring the school is a hub of creativity where pupils can flourish in the school's calm and safe environment.

At Balfour Primary School we believe strongly in the holistic growth of our children and encourage them to participate in the numerous sporting, musical and art events and performances that take place throughout the year, as well as the variety of clubs before and after school that are available to them. We are proud of our local community and not only embrace opportunities to take part in local projects and events, but to also provide experiences for our children that they might not otherwise have.

Through our Climate Change Curriculum, we provide opportunities for children to begin to understand and make sense of the world in which they live including environmental change, inequality and poverty. We enrich the children with the knowledge and skills they need to make a real positive difference to the world, developing a sense of community, belonging and empowerment.

The ideals and opinions of everyone are valued. Our aim is to foster a strong relationship with our parents and carers, working in partnership, to inspire children not only to make excellent progress but to also ensure that their interests and talents are nurtured and new interests are developed.

I warmly invite you to visit our school so you can meet the children and staff, and witness how we offer the very best educational experiences that prepare our children for the opportunities and challenges ahead.

Alan Gunn
Headteacher

LETTER FROM THE *Governors*



Welcome to all prospective children and families considering joining our wonderful Balfour community.

Our school is committed to providing the very best possible experiences for each and every child. We pride ourselves with our safe, inclusive and nurturing environment and we were pleased that Ofsted noted our strong Early Years provision for reception children; “Children get off to a good start to their education in the early years. They develop quickly into confident, independent learners. Children develop good learning habits and respond well to knowledgeable and enthusiastic staff. They are happy and safe in school and most parents agree.”

Children, families, staff and governors work in close partnership to ensure that all children are happy and able to thrive. Governors are delighted that Simon Davies, our new Headteacher, is driving the school to be the best it can be so that all children, regardless of their needs, make the best progress.

As the Full Governing Body it is our role to think and act strategically, providing the appropriate support and challenge to ensure that the school not only complies with its legal and regulatory requirements but that the school offers the best possible opportunities for all children. We work closely with Simon Davies and the Senior Leadership team to ensure the school strategic plan offers opportunities for school development and we ensure our staff are well supported and offered opportunities for their own professional development. Lifelong learning is valued for all members of our community.

Your views are vital in our partnership. It is really important to us that we create a strong relationship with families who might be considering Balfour Primary School as the school of choice. We seek to hear your views and perspectives so that we can fully understand your views and there are plenty of opportunities for families to get involved in the life of the school. Together with families and staff we all seek to have a shared understanding of the requirements and expectations to create the best possible learning experience for each individual child.

Kirstin Baker
Chair of Governors





ABOUT OUR SCHOOL

Balfour Primary School is a larger than average, with over 700 children aged 4 - 11 on roll. In November 2019, the school had a full inspection by Ofsted and it was judged as “Requires Improvement”. Although this was a disappointing outcome for the school, we have since had the acknowledgement that the significant improvements that we have made have moved the school rapidly in a positive direction towards securing a “Good” in the next full inspection. These have been seen in recent Ofsted monitoring visits, including during the lockdown. You can read more about our most recent Ofsted reports on our website.

We are situated within a stunning 28 hectare Surrenden Campus which also contains a playgroup, two secondary schools, a special school and a sixth form college. The school is made up of two separate buildings and is surrounded by a number of well-equipped outside learning areas. There is also an independent nursery on the site, Buntings Nursery.

As a larger-than-average primary school we are proud to be able to provide an extensive range of experiences for our children, whilst the split site ensures children don't feel overwhelmed.



Balfour offers children big school opportunities, with a small school feel.

OUR VISION

To empower pupils to acquire, demonstrate, articulate and value knowledge and skills that will support them, as life-long learners, to participate in and contribute to the global world.

OUR VALUES

As selected by our students, parents and local community:

- ✓ **We are Responsible** – We work hard, are helpful, look after our environment and co-operate with others.
- ✓ **We are Reflective** – We are patient, honest, forgiving, admit when we have made a mistake and always look for solutions to improve ourselves and our learning.
- ✓ **We are Resilient** – We do not give up, we try to sort our problems calmly and give things a go.

LIVING OUR VALUES

We are a UNCRC Level 1 Rights Respecting school



We have green flag status with distinction



OUR EDUCATIONAL PHILOSOPHY & CURRICULUM

At Balfour, the curriculum offers all children the opportunity to learn and undertake experiences in a wide variety of activities and to do so with an assurance of success. The curriculum is based on children having confidence to achieve at a pace and level that meets their needs, which is appropriately challenging, engages them in the learning process and is delivered with purpose and rigour by teachers.

We aim to help each of our pupils fulfil their potential by preparing them intellectually, socially, spiritually, emotionally and physically through a rich, creative, thought provoking, and enquiry based approach to our curriculum. We focus on teaching the children how to learn, and how to become successful lifelong learners with a high level of self-esteem and resilience to equip them for the challenges of the 21st Century.

The children's learning experiences are carefully planned, personalised and structured to reflect their stage of development, their interests and their needs. We have high expectations of all the children, and ensure that they learn that effort, as much as achievement, is acknowledged, valued and rewarded. Children thrive on the exciting learning opportunities and challenges we provide them with, on the resources we use and on being encouraged to assume responsibility for their own learning. Our goal is for all the children to become responsible members of the school community and to also become aware of themselves as members of the wider local, national and global communities.





INCLUSION AND EQUALITY

As a United Nations Rights Respecting School we feel that we achieve all our goals by being able to create an atmosphere of mutual support, understanding and respect which is underpinned by our set of whole-school values and a set of lifelong learning attributes, enabling all of us to flourish as individuals, lifelong learners and creative thinkers. Please refer to the Equalities Statement on our website for more information.

We build on our similarities and seek enrichment from our differences and so promote understanding and learning between and towards others to create cohesive communities. We recognise and accept our equality duties as set out in the Equality Act 2010 and seek to involve the whole school community in order to ensure better outcomes for all. We aim:

- To promote positive attitudes to difference and good relationships between people with different backgrounds, genders, cultures, faiths, abilities and ethnic origins.
- To promote equality of access and opportunity within our school and within our wider community.
- To eliminate discrimination, harassment and victimisation.

We have produced a Disability Access Plan (found on our school website) which addresses our how we:

- increase the extent to which disabled pupils can participate in the curriculum;
- improve the physical environment of schools to enable disabled pupils to take better advantage of education, benefits, facilities and services provided; and
- improve the availability of accessible information to disabled pupils.

Please speak to Rachel Clark our Executive Inclusion Co-ordinator, for more information.

MAXIMISING THE POTENTIAL OF ALL OUR PUPILS

We work closely with multiple agencies in order to support children and families and run a number of different booster groups and interventions throughout the school in order to ensure all pupils are able to achieve their potential. These include:

- Same day maths intervention
- Four Week Reading
- Four Week Maths
- Annual Reviews
- BHISS (Brighton and Hove Inclusion Support Service)
- Booster Groups tailored to children's needs
- Team Around Family (TAF)
- Dialogue Counselling
- Educational Psychologist
- Early Literacy support (ELS)
- EMAS
- Narrative groups
- Nurture groups
- Parent Volunteer Reading Support
- Phonics Support
- Success at Arithmetic
- Talk Boost
- Speech and Language Therapy (SALT)
- Teaching Assistant support in the classroom
- Additional teacher support
- Lego Therapy
- Yoga

BEFORE AND AFTER SCHOOL CHILDCARE IS AVAILABLE

We have an in-house breakfast club which starts at 7:30 each morning. We also have a daily afterschool club provided independently by Pioneer, also Ofsted registered. In addition, we have a number of before and after school clubs which take place across the school. (Extra charges apply.) These clubs are run by staff, volunteers and/or external organisations. In addition, we have many lunchtime clubs which are set up & run by students with the support of a staff member. For more information about any of these please see the "[Parents & Carers](#)" section of our website.

Run by staff:

- Breakfast Club
-  After the Bell
-  Nature School
- Football
- Rugby
- Dancing
- Drama
- Eco Club
- Gardening
- Orchestra
- Recorders
- Choir

Run by external organisations: *(not affiliated with the school)*

- Pioneer Childcare
- Basketball
- Football
- Cricket
- Art Club
- Taekwon-do
- Languages
- Drama
- Music
- ... and more!



See our website for more: [Balfour Primary School - Clubs \(before & after school\)](#) 





BEHAVIOUR

At Balfour Primary School we have high expectations of behaviour and personal achievement for all our pupils. This is established by providing a caring and stimulating environment. Pupils are encouraged to be independent, develop self-control and show respect for others.

The school community selected four values and four inspirational young people to represent what the adults and children should demonstrate during their time at Balfour and reflect how we view our children as developing into young adults and citizens of the world. Staff will also uphold and model these values.

These values are at the heart of our school community in ensuring that we;

- Create a culture that makes everyone in the school community feel valued and respected.
- Support in maintaining high expectations of positive behaviours through a clear and consistent approach.
- Use reflective and restorative practice to resolve issues.



Our Growth Learning Climate

As a school we have made our four values a daily focus of lessons and a consistent language and dialogue between staff and children. We expect our staff to be strong role models of growth learning and to share how they continue to learn new things and use these growth behaviours, even as adults!

FIND OUT MORE!

Balfour Primary School is so much more than we could succinctly express in our prospectus and we highly recommend you attend an open event and check out the website for more information!

