



Prospectus



Joseph Hood Primary School
www.josephhood.merton.sch.uk

Welcome

I'm very proud to be the Headteacher of Joseph Hood Primary School. I invite you to come and visit us to personally experience our friendly, warm and inclusive atmosphere, where our aspiration for our pupils is to "be the best you can".

Ofsted last inspected our school in March 2017 and judged that our school continues to be a good school. Ofsted noted that our children and staff have strong relationships, that our ethos is one of inclusivity and that our parents actively support our school.

In this prospectus we have tried to give you a flavour of life at Joseph Hood and what we can offer your child. We work every day to develop the individual abilities of all our pupils. We know and celebrate that every child is different and our approach reflects our appreciation that children learn in different ways and at different paces. Our village school atmosphere, where we know and greet every child by name, enables our pupils to flourish and achieve in a friendly, caring setting.

If you would like further information, please visit our website or even better, contact the school office to arrange a visit.

I look forward to meeting you and to welcoming you to the Joseph Hood community.

Anita Saville
Head Teacher



The leadership team has maintained the good quality of education in the school since the last inspection
OFSTED 2017



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Persevering
in achieving
our
objectives

Perseverance

Our teaching
instils a
lifelong love
of learning

Instil

A friendly
and
supportive
school
celebrating
diversity

Inclusive

A nurturing
environment
so pupils can
develop
their talents

Nurture

Respect for
each other
underpins
our school
community

Respect

A place
where pupils
and staff
can achieve
their goals

Success

We work
hard to
encourage
everyone to
be happy

Encourage

All of Our Children have a Broad and Balanced Curriculum

Educating

We are a two-form entry primary school providing high quality teaching in a warm and inspiring environment.

Throughout their education with us, children develop their knowledge and understanding in Literacy, Maths, Science, History, Geography, Art, Design and Technology, Music, Personal, Social and Health Education (PSHE), Religious Education (RE), Computing (ICT), Physical Education (PE) and French.

We teach these subjects through a series of termly topics chosen to capture the interest and stimulate the imagination of our children.

Inspiring

Our topics include London; Castles and Dragons; Stone and Bones; The Romans; Fire and Ice; as well as many other exciting themes that you can find out about on our website.

In order to ensure a rigorous and challenging coverage, subjects including Maths, Literacy and Science are also taught in their own right and to a high level.

We believe that our role is to equip our children with lifelong learning skills that will prepare them for the challenges of life. Our teachers set high expectations for all of our children and teach using a range of educational strategies.

A young girl with dark hair, wearing a school uniform consisting of a white collared shirt and a dark grey vest, is pointing her right index finger upwards. She is looking towards the upper right. In the background, other children in red school uniforms are visible, some also pointing their fingers up. The setting appears to be a classroom or a school assembly.

Joseph Hood Primary School
020 85422471

Pupils achieve well
both personally and
academically

OFSTED

Working to build Successful Futures

Enhancing

We believe that we have a huge role to play in developing your child which extends well beyond the requirements of the curriculum. We want our children to leave Joseph Hood as young people who value themselves and others, who care and respect their environment and their community and who have enjoyed a wide variety of experiences which have extended their horizons and life experience.

Children are taught outdoor and indoor sports, including rugby, football, netball, athletics, gymnastics and dance. Many of these lessons are taught by specialist coaches.

Children have the opportunity to be part of our School Council where our student representatives debate cross-school issues and offer views on behalf of their peers and we invite our older children to take on the responsibility of becoming a 'Red Hat' - our team of students who support positive behaviour in the playground and around school.

Enriching

We reward effort, attitude, progress and perseverance through a variety of reward schemes from end of year treats for excellent attendance through to our coveted 'Headteacher's Awards'.

Swimming lessons are provided for all children from Year 2 upwards to ensure that they become water confident.

Throughout the year, themed days and weeks are woven into the curriculum. From celebrating our love of stories and book characters on World Book Day through to a Science Day, we pride ourselves in providing an exciting, fun and memorable primary school experience.

As well as weekly music lessons, children are able to receive individual and small group instrument lessons during the school day. We also have a specialist French Teacher who delivers high quality weekly lessons to all year groups from Reception onwards.



Caring for the Needs of Children

We know that all children are different and that there are children who need more support or some adaptations to school life and routines. We work hard to understand and to meet the needs of all our children.

Our Special Educational Needs Coordinator supports our teaching staff where a child is identified as benefiting from additional support or specific interventions; whether that be emotional support, speech and language support or support for a specific learning difficulty.

Our team of learning support assistants are deployed across the school often supporting small groups of children in a range of ways including with handwriting development and the development of social skills.

Supporting and Nurturing

We are experienced in supporting parents to help secure an external assessment of a child's needs which may result in securing an EHCP (Education, Health and Care Plan) that sets out a statutory entitlement to enhanced support for a child's learning in school. Whatever the needs of your child, we will always seek to work in partnership with you as a parent.

We believe that all children, including the very able, should be offered the opportunity to develop their gifts and talents to the full. We have a Gifted & Talented Coordinator whose role is to organise the provision for these children which includes planned work in the class and extracurricular activities such as after school clubs, both at our school and other schools where appropriate.



We believe in working in partnership with parents in order to achieve our goal that your child feels happy, valued and experiences success. We begin this partnership with you from day one of your child joining our school.

Our skilled Early Years teachers work closely with families ensuring a strong and supportive partnership between home and school. In Nursery and Reception you will bring your child right into their classrooms at the start of a session. This offers an opportunity to talk to staff every day as your child settles into school life. We believe this regular dialogue between home and school is vital throughout your child's time at Joseph Hood.

We regularly invite parents to participate in a range of workshops led by teaching staff. These give parents the opportunity to understand how certain subjects are taught in school and how they can support their child's learning at home.



Working with Parents

For all children from Year One onwards, our class teachers greet their children every morning in the playground or at the door to the classroom and similarly at the end of each school day. This offers the chance every day of a quick word including an opportunity to agree a time to have a longer conversation when necessary.

Each term we hold parents' conferences where parents are invited to discuss in detail their child's work and progress. In Nursery and Reception, parents are also sent half termly updates on their child's progress ensuring that they have a real understanding of their child's learning and daily experiences.




Our Setting

We enjoy good indoor and outdoor facilities that were significantly extended in 2012.

Our school library is a bright and inspiring place where the children enjoy browsing, reading and borrowing from our wide collection of books. We hold a range of fiction from the very best picture books through to multiple copies of all the favourite stories. Beyond stories we have books to help our children discover more about the world we live in.

Our facilities are fully accessible.





Lessons are usually brisk and lively with a good pace that keeps pupils interested and on task

OFSTED

Our ICT suite houses our desktop PCs with additional IT facilities provided through use of our set of class iPads.


All of our children enjoy their timetabled ICT sessions and our ICT club after school is very popular.

Exploring and exploiting the power of ever-evolving technology is part of everyday learning at our school.

Our modern classrooms are bright and spacious with our older children being situated on the first floor. Interactive whiteboards are in use in all rooms enabling the integration of a wide range of online sources and technology into daily lessons.



Our purpose-built Sports Hall enables a range of indoor sports and activities as well as being a great size for our all-school assemblies and shows. Adjoining our hall is our onsite kitchen where cooked lunches are prepared daily.

A hallway in a school decorated with a series of colorful paper lanterns hanging from a string. The lanterns are made of crumpled paper in various colors like blue, purple, red, and green. Some have white paper cutouts of swans or other designs. Below the lanterns, several small, colorful paper baskets are hanging. The background shows a hallway with a white ceiling and a doorway in the distance.

Joseph Hood Primary School
020 85422471

Teaching is
consistently good
with an increasing
proportion that is
outstanding
OFSTED

Beyond the Classroom

We offer all pupils opportunities to participate in extra-curricular activities after school. At any time a wide range of clubs are on offer, run by our staff and external agencies. Our programme of clubs and activities is revised termly depending on the time of year and other commitments children may have. Our current clubs include Homework, Library, Construction, Football, Tap, Art, Multi-sports, Gymnastics, Choir, ICT, Planting and Gardening and Outdoor Adventure Activities.

When teaching and taking part in sporting events, as well as utilising our large school grounds and hall, we also make regular use of local playing fields and nearby secondary school facilities.





Expanding their Horizons

School trips and visits are an integral part of education at Joseph Hood and we organise many whole-class school trips during the academic year. We also enable membership of and enjoy regular visits to both the local library and the in-school lending library.

These trips offer a chance to engage in school topics in a hands-on way and range from, for example, a day at Windsor Castle or Fishbourne Roman Palace through to taking part in performances in the Royal Albert Hall.

Children in Years 3, 4, 5 and 6 have the opportunity to take part in residential visits. In recent years our children have been to activity camps at Sayers Croft, the Isle of Wight and France. These visits promote independence and provide new and exciting experiences.



Our Pupils

Here at Joseph Hood Primary School we believe that our children are the most important people and we endeavour to give all children lots of opportunities to share their thoughts and opinions and play an active role in the decisions that affect their learning and well-being.

Our Staff

Our strong and effective team of teachers are drawn from a range of backgrounds and specialisms. You will find our staff to be warm, friendly and committed. All our staff work hard to foster an ethos of mutual respect and approachability between themselves, families and pupils. Our skilled Leadership Team successfully nurture the talents and skills of their staff, ensuring a high quality of education for all our pupils.

Our PTFA

We have a very active Parents, Teachers & Friends Association. Everyone with a child at our school is welcome and encouraged to get involved. Our PTFA organises both fundraising and social events and works closely with Mrs Saville and the staff to enrich school life and our children's education.



Our Governors

Our Governors are all volunteers drawn from the staff, parents and local community. They work in partnership with the staff, challenging, monitoring and supporting the school. The Governing Body and our dedicated staff have a close working relationship which enables us to pursue our common goal, the highest educational standards for the children at Joseph Hood.

Our Cluster

We are part of an active cluster of seven local primary schools who work together to share good practice, training and resources to provide our children with the best possible education. All our schools have been judged to be GOOD or OUTSTANDING by Ofsted.

Our Community

We have developed a range of links with the local community. Our children make visits to the local places of worship and we have visitors from the local community, including our community police officers, the fire service and the librarian from our local library.

Keeping our Children Safe

At Joseph Hood Primary School we take seriously our responsibility to protect and safeguard the welfare of children in our care. We take comprehensive steps to ensure that children stay safe and do not come to any harm.

Rigorous safeguarding procedures are completed prior to any member of staff starting work at Joseph Hood.



Celebrating our Diversity

At Joseph Hood we welcome children from many different countries and backgrounds. We embrace and enjoy our diversity.

You will often be welcomed to a class assembly in a multitude of languages reflecting the breadth of our school population.

Whilst we appreciate and celebrate our differences, what brings us together is our values of respect for one another, our enjoyment of learning and our desire to be the best we can.



Absence and Uniform

We are committed to ensuring that each and every child in our school fulfils their potential. To help us achieve this we want all of our children to have the best possible attendance and to be ready to start the day on time.

Research shows that children with high attendance make the best progress at school.

We encourage our children to take pride not just in their work but also in their appearance. All pupils must wear our school uniform. Our PTFA run second-hand uniform sales which are very popular.



Doing our Best to support You

Wrap Around Care

Our hugely popular wrap-around care offers children a fun and caring environment where they can feel happy and secure in a familiar setting with adults they know and trust.

We run onsite, before and after school care with Breakfast Club starting at 7.45 and After-School Club finishing at 6pm.

Both clubs are run by our school staff and do not require pre-booking or a termly commitment.

Our After School Club is broken down into sessions and parents are charged only for the sessions they need to use.

Secondary School

We have good relationships with the local secondary schools and work in partnership with them throughout the school year; extending our children's learning and preparing our Year 6 students for the next phase of their education. Our students go on to attend a range of popular high schools locally as well as competing and gaining places at grammar and independent schools in the wider area.

At Joseph Hood, we support both parents and children in the decision making and process of applying for high school, with meetings including representatives from the Merton Admissions Team. We also invite local high school leaders to come and talk about their school and answer your questions. We encourage our parents to visit as many schools as possible with their child as you reach this important decision about their next step.

In the term before your child moves on to their high school we facilitate visits to their next school.

After School Club

With our wrap around care, children are offered the opportunity to participate in indoor and outdoor activities, including ball games, team games, computers, construction, painting, art & craft, role play, drawing and reading.

For those staying until 6pm, we also provide an area the children can use to do homework with reference and information books available.

Our website has further details including menus, activity timetables and costs.





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Find
out
More



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Be The Best You Can