



Foundation Stage Leader

Application pack

Welcome letter from our Headteacher

Thank you for your interest in applying for the position of Foundation Stage Leader at Beddington Infants' School.

This is a popular three-form entry infant school with a Nursery, located in Wallington, Surrey, across the road from Beddington Park. We have a unique approach to learning that has been developed over time by the staff and children, called the **Learning Naturally Method**. This active-learning model, building on the early years model, is highly successful for all of our pupils. 'Children thrive here,' Ofsted July '23.

Our children fulfil their academic potential whilst meeting their social, emotional and physical needs as they grow as individuals, learning indoors and outside every day. High quality early years practice and a play based approach to learning is at the heart of everything we do. All pupils are valued and individuality is celebrated.

There is an exceptionally strong sense of community at Beddington Infants' School. We pride ourselves on the positive relationships we have with our pupils, our families, across our staff and governor teams, with external professionals and with our local community.

We consider wellbeing to be a fundamental building block for learning. If children don't feel safe and happy, their capacity to learn is diminished. Equally, if wellbeing of staff isn't a priority they are not in a position to offer their best to the children and each other.

In developing our learning offer we consider what children need, rather than doing what has always been done. The successful candidate will be joining a creative and dynamic team.

We invest in staff development, providing a wide variety of opportunities to engage in personalised training. We offer a peer mentoring programme, access to the National College, strong links with our partner schools in the Sutton Education Trust (SET) and with Holy Trinity Junior School.

We offer opportunities to access externally provided qualifications such as National Professional Qualifications (NPQs).

We are active members of Challenge Partners and were recently awarded *Leading* in all areas, including being accredited with *Areas of Excellence for 'Developing Independence in Children' and 'Borderless Classrooms: Thriving indoors and outdoors'*.

We were delighted to host an official launch of the independent research carried out into the **Learning Naturally Method**, by Dr Fiona Aubrey-Smith. The launch was attended by a range of local and national professionals and feedback was very positive. This is a very exciting time for our school and we are looking forward to welcoming a Foundation Stage Lead who will be a part of the continuing evolution of the **Learning Naturally Method** and enjoy being a part of sharing our practice with other schools.

Visits to the school are strongly encouraged.

To book a tour, please contact Sinead Allen by email at office@beddinf.school or call 020 8647 7813.

The deadline for applications is 9am, Monday, 18th May and interviews will take place on Wednesday, 20th May.

We encourage early applications and reserve the right to pursue strong applications as soon as we are ready.

I look forward to welcoming you for a school visit and hopefully receiving your application. If there is anything we can help you with in the meantime, please let us know. Liz Kearney



Learning Naturally Method at Beddington Infants' School

Learning Naturally Method is a unique approach to learning that has been developed over time by the staff and children of Beddington Infants' School.

The **Learning Naturally Method** enables children to fulfil their academic potential, whilst supporting their social, emotional and physical needs as they develop as individuals, learning indoors and outside every day.

The **Learning Naturally Method** stemmed from our study of how young children learn, with a focus on creating the optimum conditions for learning.

We consider wellbeing to be a fundamental building block for learning. If children don't feel safe and happy, their capacity to learn is diminished.

In developing our learning offer, we considered what children need, rather than what has always been done; as a result, our offer has three strands:

1. Short Whole Class Lessons at key points throughout the day.
2. Small Group Learning allowing the adults to tailor the learning to the needs of the individual, giving immediate feedback and addressing any potential misconceptions
3. Independent Learning Time This is a time for pre-learning, reinforcing and using & applying and reviewing concepts. Adults monitor the independent learning to ensure that children are using the time wisely and learning to their potential.

"Children thrive here."

Ofsted, July '23



The three strands of the **Learning Naturally Method** create a powerful learning experience.