

# SPINFIELD SCHOOL



**A Community Inspiring  
Lifelong Learning**





## WELCOME TO SPINFIELD SCHOOL

Dear Parents & Carers

Welcome to our school and thank you for taking the time to read about us.

I hope you find this prospectus useful and informative.

Spinfield School was opened in September 1976. We are a combined school catering for children from the age of 4 to 11. We have a single form intake of 30 pupils in each of our year groups.

We provide a broad and balanced curriculum for all our children and encourage high standards of work and behaviour.

We value the support of our parents who work closely with us as partners in the education of the children.

We look forward to working with you to ensure your child's time at Spinfield is happy and successful.

Our website provides a wealth of information and we hope you will take a look to see all that we offer.

*Miss Jayne Spreadbury*

*Headteacher*



## Our Mission:

We strive to deliver an enriching educational environment that focuses not only on the core curriculum subjects, but also encompasses the following in our curriculum:

*Encourage responsibility*

*Foster an understanding of culture and diversity*

*Tolerance and understanding of others*

*The environment & ecology*

*Personal health & wellbeing*

## Our Values:

We have three school rules and values:

**Be Ready**

**Be Respectful**

**Be Safe**

Through these we encourage:

*Collaboration*

*Resilience*

*Creativity*

*Respect*

*Curiosity*



## EARLY YEARS

### ADMISSION TO RECEPTION CLASS

Children begin in the reception class at the beginning of the Autumn Term when their fifth birthday falls between 1<sup>st</sup> September and 31<sup>st</sup> August of that academic year. From September 2011, parents have been able to choose whether their child starts school on a part-time or full-time basis. Should parents opt to admit their children on a part-time basis, the options for starting full-time are as stated below. Please note that your child **MUST** attend school full-time during the term after his/her 5<sup>th</sup> birthday. We would encourage all parents to discuss with the Headteacher, the most effective date to start full-time.

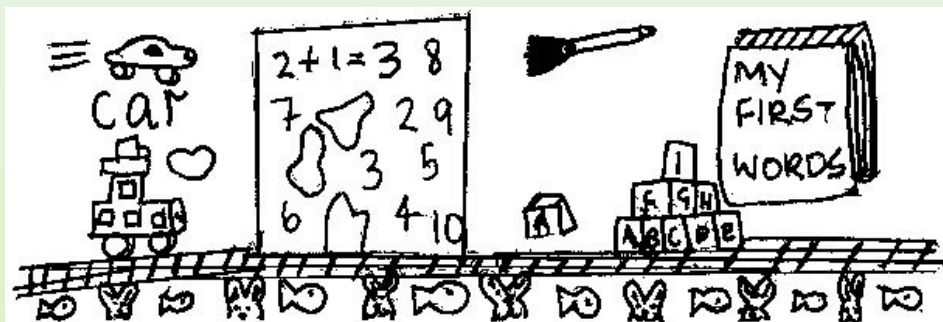
<b>Option 1</b>	Attend full time starting in the Autumn Term (September)
<b>Option 2</b>	Attend full time 3 weeks after the starting day (September/October)
<b>Option 3</b>	Attend full time starting in the Spring Term (January)
<b>Option 4</b>	Attend full time from the beginning of the Summer Term (April)

To help children and parents settle quickly into the school we run an induction programme:

- In the term before your child starts school, staff to visit, where appropriate, pre-school settings.
- An induction afternoon during the Summer Term for children and parents/carers
- Induction pack for new starters
- Interviews with parents/carers and child during the first two days of the Autumn Term. (The reception class begins two days after the other classes begin)
- A reading, writing & maths workshop in the first half term.
- An opportunity for parents/carers to liaise with school staff to discuss any individual induction needs.

### ADMISSION AFTER RECEPTION

This depends upon school numbers. Our admission number per class is 30 and statutory regulations state that in key stage 1, class sizes are a maximum of 30. Parents/carers may appeal to Buckinghamshire Council. We encourage all new children to spend a day in their new class prior to starting so that they can feel more at ease with the change of school.



## CURRICULUM AND CLASS ORGANISATION

### CLASS ORGANISATION

The National Curriculum is divided into stages. The primary stages are:

- Foundation Stage for 4- 5 year olds, Year R (Reception)
- Key Stage 1 for 5 – 7 year olds, Year 1 and Year 2
- Key Stage 2 for 7 – 11 year olds, Year 3, Year 4, Year 5 and Year 6

For teaching purposes the school will be organised in the most effective way, having due regard to the resources available, number of teaching staff and children on role. For most children, this will mean that they are with their class teacher most of the time working as a class, in groups or individually. There will be times when children will be taught by another member of staff. Teaching Assistants may work alongside the class teacher to support the children's learning. Parents also kindly come in to help.

Classes are named using the National Curriculum year. Each term class teachers send letters outlining the curriculum for that term and other relevant information.

### THE CURRICULUM

#### *What is taught at Reception:*

The reception curriculum is split into 3 prime areas and 4 specific areas. They are:

- communication and language.
- personal, social and emotional development.
- physical development.
- literacy.
- mathematics.
- understanding the world.
- expressive arts and design.

The children have an exciting play based curriculum alongside a very interactive systematic synthetic programme called Monster Phonics.

At the end of the reception year the children's progress is assessed using the EYFS profile and the 17 early learning goals.



#### *What is taught at Key Stages 1 & 2:*

##### **Core subjects:**

- English
- Mathematics
- Science
- Computing

##### **Foundation subjects:**

- Design and technology
- History
- Geography
- Art and design
- Music
- Physical education
- PSHE
- Citizenship
- Modern foreign language (French)



### RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

Children learn about religious and non-religious worldviews, from reception through to year 6. They explore what people believe and how they live and are encouraged to ask questions and reflect on their own ideas. We welcome visitors with different world views into school to talk to the children. We also take the children on visits to a variety of places of worship in the local community.

### COMPUTING

At Spinfield we love computing! We are lucky enough to have two full class sets of chrome books and a class set of iPads. Every classroom has an interactive white board and apple TV.

### SCHOOL TRIPS

Trips are an important part of the children's learning experience. These may involve walking to the local park or a coach trip to a specialist museum. The school has also built up a tradition of residential field trips for children in year 6. The trips and experience days are planned to enhance the children's learning and will always have a link to a curriculum subject. These trips follow National and Local Authority recommendations and guidelines.

## THE SCHOOL DAY

Our school day starts at 9.00 am and from 8.45 am, the children can come directly into their classrooms. The day ends at 3.25 pm/3.30 pm. We expect children to be in school by 8.55 am to facilitate an organised and calm start to the school day. The children have morning and afternoon breaks of 15/10 minutes each with an hour at lunchtime for KS2 and 1hr 15 mins for KS1.



## SPINFIELD HOUSE SYSTEM

The school has a house system. Our houses are named after four famous people who have had connections with Marlow.

A house shield is awarded annually to the most successful house. There are a number of house competitions



## SCHOOL GROUNDS

The school grounds give many opportunities for play and for learning. There are playgrounds, a balance trail, climbing apparatus and gazebo where children can sit quietly and chat. In the fine weather the open space of the large field is very popular. We have a nature trail around the edge of the field, a wild life pond and small garden areas, which support the environmental aspects of the science, geography and art curriculum.

## FOREST SCHOOL

All classes get the opportunity to engage in Forest School in our nature trail. The children love this inspirational activity which offers ALL learners regular opportunities to achieve and develop confidence and self-esteem through hands-on learning experiences in a woodland or natural environment with trees. Forest School is a specialised learning approach that sits within, and complements, the wider context of outdoor and woodland education.



## BEHAVIOUR

Our ethos is based on care and respect for each other and we expect all members of our school to behave in a polite and responsible way. This is stated in our behaviour policy, which is made explicit to the children so that they are aware of our expectations.

Children are encouraged to be considerate and self-disciplined, behaving well at all times, whether closely supervised or not. By using praise and encouragement, we work hard to enable good relationships to develop between all members of our school. We aim to ensure that all children feel they are equally important and to help them have high self-esteem.

Incidents of unacceptable behaviour are always treated seriously and are dealt with promptly and fairly. Children are asked to record what has happened and to reflect on their actions. If children have a problem or a worry they cannot cope with, they know that they can go to any member of the Spinfield staff for help. It is also helpful, if parents think that their child is being upset by another, that they inform us so that the appropriate action can be taken.

We have a wellbeing hub for the children to use throughout the day. An adult is always in supervision and, through the use of zones of regulation, children are encouraged to regulate their own behaviour.

## SPORT



Sport plays an important role at Spinfield. Through the curriculum, children are taught games, gymnastic activities and swimming. The children are time tabled for two PE/games sessions per week and there are plenty of opportunities for them to take part in our extensive programme of extra-curricular sporting clubs. The school participates in many local area sporting competitions and organises a variety of House tournaments.



## THE ARTS

Art and the performing arts are actively encouraged at Spinfield and every opportunity is provided for the children to explore their artistic/musical abilities to many different levels. The children are timetabled for one class music session and one singing session each week. There is also a wide range of extra-curricular activities and opportunities for children to extend their talents and commitment by learning to play musical instruments. As we recognise the importance of performance for children, they are encouraged to share their talents in school assemblies, concerts, inter-house competitions and in the wider community.



## EXTRA-CURRICULAR ACTIVITIES

There is a wide range of extra-curricular activities offered by the school. Some are run by the school staff while others are run by private providers. At the beginning of each term, arrangements for the term's clubs are sent to each parent/carer.

## COMMUNICATION

We recognise the importance of effective communication and do our best to keep you as fully informed as possible. The Headteacher sends out newsletters, which always include the dates of forthcoming events. Teachers send out class letters at the beginning of each term outlining the curriculum and other relevant information. Communication with teachers is via email. All letters from staff, governors or PA are sent via the children and/or e-mail/SchoolComms.



### BRITISH COUNCIL - INTERNATIONAL SCHOOL AWARD

Spinfield has been part of the British Council Connecting Classrooms Programme since 2012 and we have worked closely with schools in India, Pakistan and Nepal.

We have held the prestigious British Council International School for our *“outstanding contribution to the international dimension of the curriculum”* since 2015. Reaccreditation for this award takes place every three years. We currently hold three of these awards and are working towards our fourth reaccreditation. Each award requires schools to collaborate with overseas schools on seven projects within a year. The projects are closely tied to the Sustainable Development Goals outlined by the U.N. Respect, tolerance and understanding are at the heart of the ISA and its ethos defines our school.



### FAIRTRADE SCHOOLS AWARD

We received this award in 2023 in recognition of our efforts to promote FairTrade within our school and our wider school community.



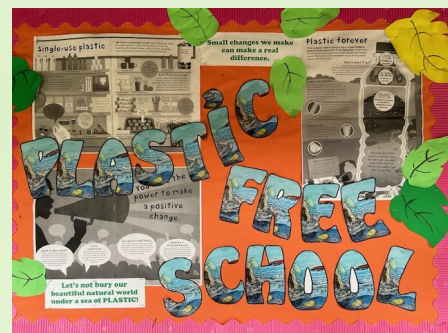
### WOODLAND TRUST GREEN TREE PLATINUM AWARD

This is the highest award in the Green Tree programme. This programme is designed to promote conservation and educate children about the importance of the natural, green world. We were proud to receive this award in 2023.



### PLASTIC FREE SCHOOLS AWARD

Spinfield was the first school in Buckinghamshire to achieve two of these awards. This programme is run by the *Surfers Against Sewage Charity Education programme*. HRH King Charles was patron of this charity before he became King as it is one of the leading organisations in the fight against plastic pollution. We were awarded our first Plastic Free School status in 2019 and completed the advanced award in 2022.



## Spinfield School Safeguarding Statement

At Spinfield School, the health, safety and well-being of every child is our paramount concern. We listen to our pupils and take seriously what they tell us. Our aim is for children to enjoy their time as pupils at Spinfield. We want to work in partnership with you to help your child achieve their full potential and make a positive contribution.



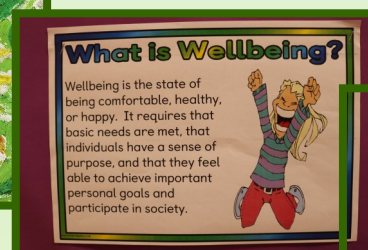
To promote a safe environment for pupils, our selection and recruitment policy includes all checks on staff and regular volunteers' suitability, including Disclosure and Barring Service checks, as recommended by Buckinghamshire Council in accordance with current legislation.

In accordance with our responsibilities under section 175/157 of the Education Act 2002, we have a Designated Person for Child Protection, Miss J Spreadbury, Headteacher, who has received appropriate training for this role. It is her responsibility to ensure that all staff in contact with children receive child protection awareness training on a regular basis. Mrs R Holland and Miss B Denton are the additional Designated Persons.

There are occasions when concern about a child may mean that we have to consult other agencies. Whilst we would always aim to work in partnership with parents there may be exceptions to this when concerns are raised for the protection of a child.

On very rare occasions Social Care, whilst undertaking an investigation under s47 of the Children Act 1989, may want to speak to a child without parents' knowledge. This would be a decision made in collaboration with partner agencies and would only be done in situations where a child might be at immediate risk. To gain consent at this point may increase the level of risk to the child or cause evidence of a crime to be lost.

The procedures, which we follow, have been laid down by the Local Safeguarding Children's Board, and the school has adopted a Child Protection Policy in line with this for the safety of all. If you want to know more about our procedures, please speak to the Headteacher, Miss Spreadbury, or your child's class teacher. The Child Protection Policy can be found in the policies section of the website.



**KEEPING  
CHILDREN SAFE  
IN EDUCATION**

In December 2019, we were inspected under a new education inspection framework. The report is available on our website. The report concluded:—

**Overall effectiveness: Good**  
**The quality of education: Good**  
**Behaviour and attitudes: Outstanding**  
**Personal development : Outstanding**  
**Leadership and management: Good**  
**Early years provision: Good**

**"Thank you so much for all your support and hard work over all of the years! I don't know what we would have done without you!"**

*Spinfield Parent*



**"Pupils' behaviour is excellent. They show high levels of respect towards other pupils, peers, staff and visitors."**

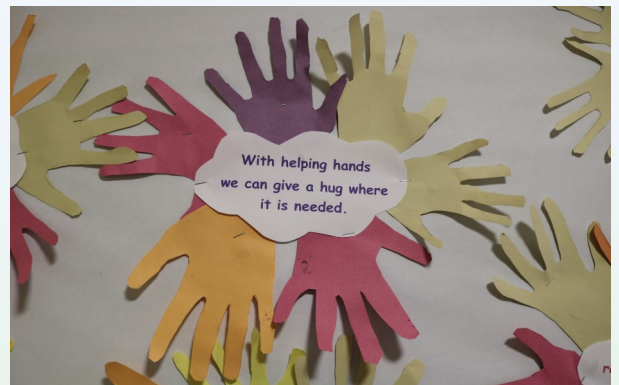
*Ofsted 2019*

**"... We appreciate everything that the school has done for our family."**

*Spinfield Parent*

**"... It's because of you and your team that we realise how lucky we are to be a part of such a kind and nurturing school. You deserve nothing but praise and recognition for the incredible job you do."**

*Spinfield Parent*



**"Pupils love coming to school and say that their teachers are 'fantastic'."**

*Ofsted 2019*



**"Pupils take part in a wide range of experiences which inspire new interests, develop skills, build self-confidence and nurture their talents. Inter-house competitions in art, music and poetry recital are very popular. Pupils are determined to become 'global citizens'. They are proud of their actions to address concerns about the environment. Many pupils develop character through holding leadership roles in school."**

*Ofsted 2019*



**"Pupils, their families and staff value the strong sense of community."**

*Ofsted 2019*

