



*A World of  
Opportunity*



Vernon Primary School



*Nobody else  
is quite like me*



# Welcome to Vernon Primary School

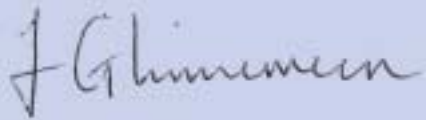
## *Dear Parents/Carers*

This prospectus introduces the life and work of Vernon Primary School.

Our aim at Vernon Primary School is to help prepare your children to value and embrace their future. We believe that the children are our richest resource and we seek to foster a love of learning and of life.

Our School is a vibrant, dynamic learning community, building positive relationships with all children, staff, parents and the wider community. We have an open door policy which means that you are always welcome to come and talk to us if you have any concerns or issues that you would like to raise.

We adopt a child-centred holistic approach to the planning and delivery of the curriculum, ensuring that all our children receive their entitlement of a broad and balanced education. We endeavour to create an open and friendly environment where individual children's needs are met. This will enable them to flourish in our School and achieve their full potential.



J Glimmerveen  
Headteacher



*"Children thrive  
and are happy in their education"*



“We view the School as an extended family unit where love, trust and responsibility is recognised by everyone involved”



*“I can't wait to get to school in the mornings”*





### At Vernon Primary we aim:

- To create a rich, safe, stimulating and purposeful learning environment to enable children to grow in confidence and work with independence
- To encourage, praise and reinforce success, celebrating efforts, enabling all children to gain a sense of achievement
- To encourage and welcome the wider community into the daily life of our School, drawing on skills of others and working in partnership to further support and extend children's learning
- To help each child to achieve their full potential, by aiming for excellence, in providing a broad, balanced and challenging curriculum that meets the needs of individual children
- To nurture a life long love of learning and support children in making the right choices socially, morally, spiritually, culturally and emotionally

*"The School is warm and caring"*



*"The support, dedication and effort of the teaching staff has been fantastic. I cannot thank the School enough"*

At Vernon Primary School we have high expectations of the teachers and of the children. Both our Reception classes follow the Early Years Framework and the National Strategies for Literacy and Numeracy. Early Years children learn through structured play. For Years 1 to 6 the curriculum follows the National Literacy and Numeracy Strategies with sessions usually taking place in the mornings. Study work engages the children and is our way of offering a balanced curriculum that inspires and celebrates every child's work.

A much loved story or theme is at the core of our study work. This provides a 'hands-on' approach of investigative, experimental learning by stimulating rich learning experiences linked to other subjects. A variety of teaching strategies are employed with the emphasis on creativity, to foster a sense of awe and wonder and a love of learning.

We provide highly structured and demanding activities to ensure all our children make good progress. The language skills of speaking, listening and writing form the basis of all learning.



We encourage children to become enthusiastic, autonomous and thoughtful readers who not only decode the text but understand and engage with what they are reading. Children read daily both independently and with the support of the teacher during guided lessons.

In our teaching of writing we aim to enable the children to write with confidence for a range of purposes. They learn about the use of grammar and punctuation.

We have received national recognition for our teaching of reading and writing skills at Infant level and have become a 'Lead School' for Cheshire.

The introduction of a daily phonics session matching the needs of every child has had a very positive impact on the children's progress. They have acquired phonics skills at a faster pace (blending sounds to read and segmenting sounds to write) and this in turn has increased confidence and self-esteem. Teaching in this systematic way, through fun activities which keep the children excited and motivated to learn, has continued to raise standards throughout the curriculum.

All pupils receive a daily Mathematics lesson lasting between forty five and sixty minutes, according to age.

This lesson follows the same structure across the School beginning with the oral and mental starter. There is then a whole class session, before children work independently on different activities.

Mathematics is taught in a variety of ways but emphasis is placed upon a practical and creative approach to learning. At Vernon Primary we believe in the importance of this to develop a sound knowledge of all areas of Mathematics.

*"High quality teaching helps children learn at a very rapid rate"*





## “We have strong links with Poynton High School”



Vernon Primary School has strong links with Poynton High School. One of these links is for sports provision. This was introduced to raise an already high quality of PE teaching and learning to an even higher standard. The School has a link teacher who attends regular meetings and training sessions. Part of the role includes responsibility for staff training and attending sports festivals alongside

the children. Through the Sports Partnership initiative, children's PE skills have been further enriched. It has been recognised that we are providing a quality PE curriculum and 'out of hours' learning in this area and we have been awarded the 'Active Mark'.

Since 2006 we have also worked alongside a Drama specialist from Poynton High School which has enabled teachers to become skilled in the delivery of Drama in the classroom. This initiative has had a very positive impact on learning, particularly in continuing to raise the standard of writing throughout the School.







*"A healthy interest  
in sports is promoted"*





## Foundation Stage at Vernon Primary

The Reception class in School is the second year of the Foundation Stage, the first year being in a Pre-School setting such as a playgroup or nursery. Once in School we continue the Early Years Foundation Stage curriculum, based on learning through play and first hand experiences. Children's learning is not compartmentalised: enjoyment, excitement, motivation, trust and the development of physical and social skills are as important as the subject areas of Numeracy and Literacy.

We guide and encourage the children to learn through a broad range of balanced and relevant experiences in six key areas of their development.

- Personal, Social and Emotional Development
- Communication, Language and Literacy
- Problem Solving, Reasoning and Numeracy
- Knowledge and Understanding of the World
- Physical Development
- Creative Development



## Pre-School Children


We all enjoy meeting our new starters during their Pre-School year and encourage them to visit us and walk around our School. Activities in the summer term, such as picnics, invitations to the summer fair and other School activities help to familiarise the children with the new surroundings.

In June, our new children visit School for an induction week in which they experience morning sessions. If parents wish, the Reception teachers enjoy visiting the children at home to strengthen the early partnership. Visits take place in the half-term before admission.

All parents are kept fully informed about the induction process and any questions or queries are always welcomed.



*"Vernon Primary works in partnership with parents to ensure each child's well-being"*



*"My children thoroughly enjoy the numerous extra-curricular activities. The choice is wonderful!"*

children to our School and work hard to include all learners.


Lessons are adapted to children's needs so all can achieve and reach their potential. Some children may have access to a teaching assistant to help them succeed in School whilst others are streamed into a higher class.

We believe that partnership with parents plays a key role in enabling pupils with special educational needs to achieve their full potential. We value the involvement of parents and encourage them to play an active role in their child's education.

We take great pride in the range of extra-curricular activities offered at Vernon Primary School.

These activities further enrich a child's development and encourage children to develop skills and realise passions outside the classroom.

Children can enjoy a variety of activities such as Art and Design, French, Dance, Drama, Uganda Club, Time Out Club (meditation), Rounders, Football, Athletics, Environmental Club, High 5's, Choir, Orchestra, Flute and singing groups.



Teachers continually assess the children throughout the year. Each child has individual targets for Literacy and Numeracy which are assessed every half term. At Year 2, each child will be assessed by a Key Stage 1 standard assessment task alongside teacher assessment and test. Results of internal and SATs assessments are reported to parents. In Year 6 each child sits statutory Key Stage 2 SATs tests in May.

At some stage in their schooling children may have or experience special needs in certain areas. Other children may be particularly gifted or talented. At Vernon Primary School we welcome all





We run residential visits for children in Years 3, 4, 5 and 6, which the children thoroughly enjoy.

All pupils use ICT in appropriate activities throughout the Key Stages. Through these experiences the children are able to develop new skills independently and use hardware and software with confidence. ICT Club enables children to develop skills further.

Music is a real strength of the School. All children are given the opportunity to compose and perform thus building confidence and self esteem both in the classroom as well as in high calibre productions.

We have a behaviour policy which sets out our practice in promoting good behaviour in School. We thank the children for observing our code of conduct in exercising care and respect. We rely on the creation of an atmosphere of co-operation and mutual respect in order to discipline. The attitudes and responsibility seen in our children is a strength of the School. Where children do not respond, we adopt a policy of positive discipline and a child's parents may be contacted.





*"We feel very privileged that our children attend this school"*

### Inclusion Quality Mark

Our School has been awarded the Inclusion Quality Mark. The inspection team were impressed with our 'inclusive' school community and reported the level of provision for our children is outstanding. We are extremely proud of this achievement as it truly reflects our vision for a happy, stimulating and safe learning environment where the child is at the centre of all learning.

### Dyslexia Friendly Mark

In December 2007 our School was awarded the 'Dyslexia Friendly Mark'. Overcoming barriers to learning is important to us and our teaching staff are conscientious in taking into account all learning styles in their teaching. Through rigorous assessment, individual progress is monitored carefully. Our aim is to meet the children's needs at all levels of learning.



### National Healthy Schools status

In May 2007 our School was awarded the 'Healthy Schools Mark'. This has been a whole School initiative which involved learning about and adopting healthy lifestyles. As a result the children eat healthy snacks, understand the importance of exercise and take part in a wide range of extra curricular activities that involve sport. A School Council has also been set up to ensure the children contribute to and take ownership of some of the decision making in the School.

### Eco Schools Award

We are always striving to make our School economically and environmentally friendly. In School we have an Eco-team of children, staff and governors who work hard to introduce new ways of thinking in this area. Our work has been recognised and we currently have the silver award for Eco-Schools.





*Nobody else  
is quite like me*

**Headteacher:**

Mrs Joanne Glimmerveen

Telephone: 01625 872 556 Email: [head@vernonprimary.cheshire.sch.uk](mailto:head@vernonprimary.cheshire.sch.uk)





## Vernon Primary School

Clumber Road, Poynton, Stockport, Cheshire SK12 1NW

### Headteacher:

Mrs Joanne Glimmerveen

Telephone: 01625 872 556 Email: [head@vernonprimary.cheshire.sch.uk](mailto:head@vernonprimary.cheshire.sch.uk)