

Avenue Junior School

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# Avenue Junior School



## Prospectus

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## Welcome to Avenue Junior School

We are delighted to welcome you and your child to Avenue Junior School. This prospectus, along with our website [www.avenuejunior.org](http://www.avenuejunior.org) and open afternoons and evenings, will give you an insight into what Avenue Junior School has to offer and the information and guidance you will need when your child begins their time at Avenues.

At Avenue Junior School we are continually impressed with the wonderful children that we have the privilege to work with every day and we know that the fantastic achievements made by the children are a tribute to the good relationship and partnership we have with parents. We take pride in the way we work together with parents to enable children to achieve their full potential and thoroughly enjoy their learning and school days. We look forward to building these relationships with you throughout your child's four years with us.

We strive to ensure that all children appreciate their own potential, are proud of their achievements and celebrate their uniqueness.

We are proud of our school and of the good reputation we have, which comes from the high expectations we have of our pupils and ourselves.

We look forward to you and your children joining us.

Best wishes

Debbie Dismore Executive Headteacher

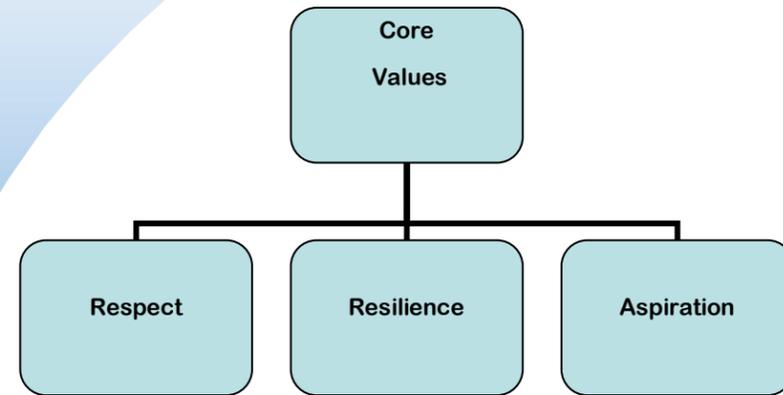
Mike Hooper Deputy Head of School



## Avenue Junior School

### Our Vision

*'Creating Excellence and Enjoyment for Everyone'*



We aim to achieve our vision by:

- providing an exciting and balanced curriculum
- providing equality of opportunity and equal access
- providing a variety of approaches to learning
- providing a happy, safe and secure environment
- ensuring children are supported to develop good emotional and physical health
- encouraging the necessary learning and social skills for taking a positive role in life
- valuing each member of the school community and their contributions
- developing self-respect, self-confidence and taking responsibility for their actions
- developing compassion and respect for gender, cultural, religious and social backgrounds
- taking positive action against discrimination and stereotyping on the grounds of race, gender, sexual orientation, ability or social class.

Through working in partnership with parents, children, governors and staff our learning community will:

- be confident and enthusiastic; working independently or as part of a team in all aspects of school life
- have a good set of social and moral values; they are compassionate and respectful. They value the world, their school and each other.
- have a sense of pride in themselves and their achievements and a strong belief in their own identity
- have happy memories of enjoyable, challenging and exciting learning and high aspirations for the future
- be ready for the next step in their learning journey.



## The Curriculum

At Avenue Junior School we endeavour to give the children exciting learning opportunities, by using a cross-curricular and thematic way of working. Our units of work reflect the ethos and culture of our school community while also exploring the wider world we live in. The children explore their role in society; in school, in their locality, their country and also their place internationally. We aim to open the children to a wide range of learning experiences, both within the school and outside the classroom.

By keeping all elements of the curriculum lively and exciting, we give the children reasons to speak, write and listen enthusiastically. They have a positive attitude towards learning now and this will continue with them in the future. We try to give the children a breadth of activities and include Forest Schools work in all year groups in the school as well as a variety of visits to enhance the learning experience.

Our curriculum is refreshed every year and detailed plans will be sent to parents at the start of each term and are our Curriculum Document on the website sets out the full school curriculum for each year group.

Religious Education is an entitlement for all pupils and its place in the school curriculum is an acknowledgement of the importance of beliefs and values in people's lives, regardless of particular religious commitments. We recognise that our pupils come from a variety of religious and secular backgrounds and welcome this diversity. Religious Education is provided according to the Norfolk Agreed Syllabus. Parents may ask for their child to be totally or partially withdrawn from Religious Education.

*The school's work on supporting others is a strength and develops a high sense of moral purpose in the pupils. The school is a 'School of Sanctuary' and pupils talk clearly about how they should welcome new pupils and visitors. They respond to current events, recently holding an afternoon dedicated to protesting climate change. A real sense of moral duty is clear from pupils' description of this. Pupils are well prepared to be active citizens through involvement in many groups, such as the eco-council, the equalities and well-being group, Amnesty International* Inspection report: Avenue Junior School, 27–28 March 2019



### Our Continuing Musical Tradition

The school has a long-established reputation for excellence and participation in music. We believe it is an essential part of school life and we are thoroughly committed to maintaining this outstanding provision. Our music teacher is part of the leadership team in the school and delivers excellent quality music provision to all children in a well resourced music building. The school boasts an exceptional orchestra, wind and string ensembles, and our choirs take part in the Norfolk County Music Festival each year as well as performing locally. Additional instrumental music tuition is open to all children and we currently have approximately 240 children learning instruments in school. Concerts are performed at Christmas and in the Summer term and enjoyed by all our school community.

“We are so delighted that our son has been given such brilliant opportunities to enjoy music, in ways we don’t think we’d have found anywhere else in Norfolk. You’ve made performing to an audience something to enjoy and be confident about, which will have huge value in so many ways later in life.” Year 6 parent.

*Pupils’ cultural development is a priority through the high-quality music provision. They perform at local music festivals. They have a large hall, with stage and balcony for parents watching, and make full use of this to stage performances on a regular basis. Ofsted March 2019*

### Sport

Avenue Junior School is proud of its unwavering commitment for Sport for All and has held the Sainsbury’s School Sports Gold Award for 3 years running as well as being shortlisted for Norwich Sports School of the Year for the last two years.

Our partnership with Premier Sports extends sporting opportunities within and beyond the school day. A strong partnership with the UEA provides additional opportunities and expertise from their Sports department. In addition to this, in Year 5 the children use the pool at the UEA for their swimming lessons. Sporting clubs currently offered by the school include football, netball, volleyball, korfbal, cross-country and athletics, fencing, dance and archery. A full list is available on the website.

The school competes in a range of leagues within Norwich and beyond, including children’s national volleyball competitions.



### What other activities are available?

Avenue Junior School also provides a range of non-sporting activities. We have writing clubs, art clubs, Warhammer club, chess club, Ukulele club and a board games club. Cookery Club is also available. We have before school maths interventions and reading buddies are available at lunchtimes in the library. There is a strong School Council as well as an Eco Committee which meets regularly with staff.

Children in Year 4 and Year 6 attend a three-day residential visit. In Year 5 the children have the chance to go camping. Our residential visits have included Horstead Residential Centre in Coltishall, PGL in Lincolnshire, Whitwell Hall and Norfolk Lakes in Lyng. It is an opportunity for them to experience a range of outdoor and adventurous activities, including water based activities, as well as promoting skills in team-building and confidence.

We have stimulating themed events, such as Performing and Creative Arts Week, which support the curriculum while giving the children a different focus for their learning. We are extremely fortunate to have a wonderful library and an enthusiastic librarian who excels in attracting regular visits by renowned authors, inspiring the children to read – and, indeed, to write books themselves. Chris Riddell, Jeremy Strong and Claire Balding have all visited the school in recent years.

### PLAYTIMES AND LUNCHTIMES

Our playground not only encourages collaborative, imaginative and energetic play but also supports the curriculum. At lunchtime there are a wide variety of activities for the children to choose from including our famous ‘Loose Parts Play’ (junk modelling on a very large scale!), art, meditation, sports areas, gardening and natural outdoor art as well as forest schools sessions. There is a trim trail and a pirate play area for imaginative play. The school was awarded a Sports England Grant for a multi-use games area which was installed on the lower playground in Summer 2015.

## AVENUE JUNIOR SCHOOL 2019 KEY STAGE 2 TEST RESULTS

	AJS Ex-pected Standard	National Expected Standard	AJS Higher Standard	National Higher Standard	AJS Aver-age Scaled Score	National Scaled Score	AJS Pro-gress Score	National Progress Score
Reading	89%	73%	41%	27%	108	104	0.8	0
Writing	85%	78%	37%	20%	N/A	N/A	0.1	0
Maths	88%	79%	23%	27%	106	105	-1.2	0
Combined (R, W, M)	76%	65%	15%	11%	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
GPS (Grammar, Punctua-tion and Spelling)	77%	78%	32%	36%	105	106	N/A	N/A

What is a scaled score?

A pupil's scaled score is based on their raw score. The raw score is the total number of marks a pupil scores in a test, based on the number of questions they answered correctly. A scaled score of 100 will always represent the expected standard on the test. Pupils scoring at least 100 will have met the expected standard on the test. A scaled score of 110 represents a child working at a Higher Standard in Reading, Maths and SPAG.

Writing does not have scaled scores as this is solely Teacher Assessment.

What is a progress score?

Individual pupil level progress scores are calculated in comparison to other pupils nationally. For all mainstream pupils nationally, the average progress score will be zero (progress from KS1 results to KS2 results). A school's progress scores for English reading, English writing and mathematics are calculated as its pupils' average progress scores. This means that school level progress scores will be presented as positive and negative numbers either side of zero.

More information for parents on KS2 Tests and Results can be found at

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/2017-national-curriculum-tests-for-key-stages-1-and-2-information-for-parents>



## Meeting the Needs of All Children

Avenue Junior School is an inclusive school and fully recognises its responsibility in providing equality of opportunity for all its pupils irrespective of their ability, gender, race, creed, physical ability or social circumstances, including looked-after children. It is a school in which the teaching, learning, achievements and wellbeing of every child matter.

The following policies support meeting the needs of every child and fulfilling our legislative responsibilities. They are available from the school office and our website:

- *Special Educational Needs Information Report*
- *Equalities Policy and Objectives*

In supporting children with Special Educational Needs (SEN) and/or disability we aim for:

- the early identification of children with SEND
- addressing the needs of all children with SEND
- ensuring continuity and progression by monitoring progress and using assessment to inform planning
- integrating of all children with SEND into mainstream classes but providing small group and individual support where necessary
- encouraging a partnership of parents, teachers and support staff involved in identifying and meeting children's needs.

All staff are committed to enabling all children to participate in the life and work of the school to the best of their abilities, whatever their needs. All children identified as having additional needs will have a Learning Passport which is formulated and reviewed termly with the child, parents and teacher.

Our full time dedicated SEND leader, Dawn Jones, is contactable through the school office.

## We make sure our pupils are healthy, safe and well supported

At Avenue Junior School everyone is encouraged to adopt a healthy lifestyle through regular exercise, healthy eating and regular class activities and lessons which promote healthy attitudes. The school achieved Enhanced Healthy School Status in 2013 to recognise its commitment to the well being of every child.

Circle time in class is an important part of our approach to pupils' personal and social development. This, together with using PATHS (Promoting Alternative Thinking Strategies) materials and resources, gives opportunities for pupils to share good experiences and deal with common concerns, and helps to create an ethos of respect for each other. Every day in every class there is a PATHs Pupil of the Day and the children are able to give compliments to the pupil on their qualities and achievements.

Underpinning our approach to supporting pupils we have clear rules and expectations about behaviour and respecting the rights of others. Our "STAR" rules for the school show clear expectations and consistency for all staff and children. We follow a "Good to be Green" behaviour system in school, and more details can be found in the Ready to Learn Policy. We have procedures for dealing with bullying and promoting positive relationships between children. We work towards enabling pupils to feel confident in dealing with day-to-day upsets themselves, whilst still providing a sympathetic safety-net if they need the support of adults.

The Positive Behaviour and Discipline Policy and Anti-Bullying Policy is available on the website or from the school office.

### Pastoral Support

We have a very strong commitment to the well being of all children and as such we have a fantastic team of pastoral assistants, a Parent Support Advisor, art workers and therapists alongside externally sourced counsellors who work together to provide group, individual and parental support work as it is needed.

### Child Protection

Responsibility for child protection is shared throughout the whole school community and includes every adult working, helping or visiting the school premises. We all have a statutory duty to ensure that any child protection concerns about a child are passed on and that the Child Protection Policy and Local Safeguarding Children Board (LSCB) procedures are followed. If you are concerned about a child, please contact one of the designated lead teachers at school. The school will always act upon information given which raises concerns about the safety of a child. Further advice on Child Protection and Safeguarding can be found on the website.

#### Designated leads

Debbie Dismore Executive Headteacher

Mike Hooper Head of School

Steve Chambers Deputy Head of School

Lauren Gislam Parent Support Advisor



## How we work with parents and the community

Avenue Junior is a community school. Children, staff, governors, parents and community groups work together to foster a love for learning, celebrate diversity, promote equality and widen opportunities for all. It takes co-operation between home and school to produce such a positive ethos, and we have a Home/School Agreement which states the school's aims and what we can all do to help achieve them.

We actively encourage parents to play an active part in school life, and we are fortunate to have so many parents volunteering to help in school. Every class has a special assembly, to which parents are invited, where children present an aspect of their learning to the whole school. There are many further opportunities for parents to come and join their child in their learning and contribute to the development of the school, including open afternoons, curriculum weeks, regular parent meetings and coffee morning.

The school has a Parent Support Advisor, Lauren Sherwood, to give parents support, information and access to services as necessary at regular drop-in sessions, or by contacting her directly at school.

We also celebrate and share our internationalism, making excellent links locally, nationally and globally. The school has a strong partnership with Bolera Primary School in Malawi, as well as linking with other schools across the world. We take part in a whole range of activities supporting the local and national communities.

### PTA

Avenue Junior School has a thriving and energetic Parent Teacher Association, organising a wide range of social and fundraising activities. It has helped raise a tremendous amount of money for playground improvements, the school minibus, Forest Schools and sound equipment. It is a great way to be involved in the life of the school and we are always grateful for the continuing hard work and dedication of the PTA.

### The Cluster

We have strong collaboration with schools in our local "cluster" and organise activities for children to mix from different schools, as well as shared training days and professional development activities for staff. We have a joint building, called the Cluster Hub, situated in the grounds of Colman Junior School where many cluster events and workshops take place.

## School Organisation

### Daily routine (Year 3 & 4)

8:30 - 8:40 .....Arrival in the playground

8:45 - 9:00.....15 minutes focused activity & register

9:00 - 10:15 ... Assembly and lessons

10:15 - 10:30 .Morning break – healthy snack time!

11.45 - 12.45 Lunch break

12.45—1.00 Reading ‘Siesta’ Time

2:00 - 2:15 ..... Afternoon break – re-energise the brain!

3:15..... End of school day

Years 5 & 6 have a longer morning break, lunchtime 12.30—1.30 with no afternoon break.

### School Meals

Hot school meals are served in the main hall from 11.45 pm for Years 3 & 4 and 12:30 pm for Years 5 & 6. Hot school meals, produced by Edwards and Blake, are available to order from the school office. There is also a packed lunches alternative. Details for all school meals can be found at the school office. Meals need to be ordered on a weekly or half-termly basis and paid for in advance. Some families are entitled to free school meals. The office has all the details to help you with this. Please do register for free school meals if you are eligible, even if you do not wish to take up the offer, as the school will then receive additional funding to support your child's learning and well being.

In line with our feeder schools, the school only allows healthy snacks at playtimes and prefers these to be waste free. As part of our Healthy School status we encourage children to bring healthy lunches to school and do not allow sweets or chocolate. We are a nut-free school due to a number of children having allergic conditions. We ask that all parents respect this. Children should bring water to school every day in a clear bottle.



## Uniform

With regard to school uniform our guiding principle has been that it should be inclusive, practical, affordable and easily available. Our uniform is gender neutral and children and parents may choose to wear any item from the list. Parents may purchase the vast majority of it from wherever they choose, however school polo shirts and sweatshirts with a logo are available to purchase from Stevensons on Ber Street Norwich or on line at [www.https://www.stevensons.co.uk/](https://www.stevensons.co.uk/)

The Uniform is as follows:

- Royal blue sweatshirt or cardigan with school logo
- Grey or black school trousers, skirt or pinafore
- White or royal blue polo shirt
- Black school shoes/boots

In summer black or grey shorts or blue school dresses (checked or striped only), are an acceptable alternative. Sensible sandals may be worn but parents need to bear in mind potential for injuries with open-toed shoes.

Sportswear: A complete change of clothing consisting of plain white T-shirt, shorts, socks, (warm sportswear for cold weather) with trainers for outdoor wear and black or white plimsolls for indoor use.

All children need a coat for the colder weather. The school may not allow your child to play outside in very cold temperatures without a coat.

The school always has good quality second hand uniform for sale. This can be purchased through the school office.

If you have any difficulty providing your child with any items of clothing, please do get in touch with us. All support will be given with the upmost confidentiality and we would be very happy to help.

## Attendance

By law, all children of compulsory school age (between 5 and 17 years of age) must get a suitable, full-time education. There are clear links between good attendance and high attainment.

Parents are responsible for ensuring the attendance of their child/ren at the school at which they are registered. The Local Authority, in partnership with the school is responsible for making sure that parents fulfil their responsibilities.

Holidays during term time are firmly discouraged and will not be authorised unless there are exceptional circumstances. In line with local authority and government guidelines any unauthorised absence may result in a penalty fine from the local authority.

The school prides itself on its excellent attendance record of 97%. This is achieved and maintained through working in close partnership with parents and carers. The attendance trophy is given each week to the class with the best attendance.

## Admissions to Avenue Junior School

The intake number of Avenue Junior is 120. This is set by the Local Authority and approved by the Governing Body. Whilst the vast majority of our children come from the local area Avenue Junior School has always served a wider community as well and we welcome any parent who identifies our school as the one which meets their children's needs best. Our ability to take children from outside our immediate area is dependant on the numbers coming from our immediate catchment areas and the local authority admissions criteria which are outlined below. We welcome any parent who wishes to visit our school and we always do our best to give them an experience which helps them to make their choice.

## Local Authority Admissions Criteria in the Event of Over Subscription: County and Controlled Junior Schools

In the event of over-subscription, preference will be given to children living nearer to the school, according to the following criteria, in order of priority:

1. Children for whom their Education Health and Care Plan names that school.
2. Those children in the designated area with an older brother or sister attending school at the time of the decision.
3. Those children living in the designated area served by the school.
4. Those children living outside the designated area served by the school but who have an older brother or sister attending at the time of the decision.
5. Those children living outside the designated area served by the school if space permits.



Your notes.....