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*Headteacher – Mrs. H. Warburton*

[www.northwalkdenprimaryschool.co.uk](http://www.northwalkdenprimaryschool.co.uk)

*September 2025*

## Letter from the Headteacher

Dear Parents and Carers,

Firstly, I am delighted to welcome you to our school!

It is our aim to make sure your child is happy and successful during their years at North Walkden Primary School. We want your child to thrive and flourish at school and fulfil their potential, goals and aspirations in all aspects of their development.

Your child will be warmly welcomed into a caring, safe and nurturing environment where we encourage respect for one another, children and adults alike. We have high expectations in all aspects of school life, such as behaviour, attitude, manners, personal responsibilities, appearance and presentation.

**'Reach for the Stars'** is our school motto and is at the heart of everything we do at North Walkden. We are committed to ensure each child receives the best possible care and education and achieves their full potential. The success of each child's education is important to us whatever their ability.

Our curriculum is broad, balanced and exciting; it is filled with practical experiences to engage and motivate the children to always want to learn more. We aim to foster a 'thirst for learning' culture. We link different areas of the curriculum together in topics and we take the children out on exciting and interesting trips to enrich their life experiences further.

We strive to promote their academic, spiritual, moral, cultural and physical development so that, in time, they will be ready for the opportunities, responsibilities and experiences of adult life.

Throughout your child's education, we will keep you up to date and informed of progress, achievements and developments but please remember that you are welcome to come in and see us at any time, particularly if you have worries or concerns - just make an appointment with the appropriate person.

Finally, I would like to emphasise how much we value the support we receive from our parents, carers and families and how beneficial it is to the children if we work together, in partnership, to ensure that the years ahead at our school are both happy and fulfilling for your child.

I look forward to working alongside you during your journey with us at North Walkden Primary.

Yours faithfully,

Mrs Warburton

Headteacher



### **Our Mission Statement**

‘Aiming High, Striving for Excellence’

### **We do this through our school Ethos by aiming to:-**

1. Provide an environment where respect and good manners are valued.
2. Promote friendship, good behaviour and the virtues of perseverance and hard work throughout the school.
3. Provide a relevant and exciting curriculum that delivers a wide range of rich educational and cultural experiences.
4. Provide all children with a thorough grounding in the basic skills of reading, writing and mathematics.
5. Fully involve the children in their learning and use a range of teaching styles that allow the children to learn in a variety of ways.
6. Allow the whole school community to become aware of their roles in the education of the children and encourage everyone to work together to ensure that children achieve their potential.
7. Actively develop the school’s status as a resource within the local community and provide families with the access to support services that they may need.
8. Provide the children with an understanding of their place in the community and the skills and resilience that they will need in their future lives.
9. Promote the understanding that a child’s time in primary school is precious and that every day is important.

### **This is supported through our school motto:-**

‘Reach for the Stars’

## Historical Background

North Walkden Primary School is a small, caring community school which takes children from a wide and varied catchment area. We are not a faith school, but we do have close links with St. John the Baptist C. of E. Church.

Our school building dates from 1926 and is built around a quadrangle. This quadrangle has been developed to provide the EYFS with a super high quality outdoor learning environment.

There are three corridors along the sides of the quadrangle which house the classrooms and the fourth side is made up of the school hall.

The school is well equipped with ICT equipment which is used by all classes.

Outside we have two playgrounds, a quiet garden, an enclosed grass area and a large field. **Please note that children are not permitted to play on the outdoor play equipment outside of school hours and school cannot be responsible for any children who use the equipment before and after school whilst under parental care.**



## **The Staff at North Walkden**

**Headteacher**

**Deputy Headteacher**

**Assistant Headteacher**

Mrs. H. Warburton

Mrs. C. Richardson

Miss. C. Briggs

**Nursery**

**Reception**

**Year 1**

**Year 2**

**Year 3**

**Year 4**

**Year 5**

**Year 6**

**Cover Teacher**

**SENDCo**

Miss. R. Khan

Miss. C. Briggs

Miss. F. Stott

Miss. R. Byron

Mrs. H. Johnson

Mrs. K. Conaghan

Mr. S. Lomax

Mrs. A. Bowling/Mrs. E. Cosgrave

Miss. K. Martin

Mrs. J. Thomas

**PE**

Premier Sports

**Family Support Worker**

Mrs. L. Blemmings

**Teaching Assistants**

Miss. T. Worsley

Miss. M. Warburton

Mrs. J. Seddon

Mrs. J. Lewandowska

Miss. S. Howarth

Mrs. N. Pimbley

Mrs. A. Trousdale

Mrs. P. Blackshaw

Mrs. J. O'Reilly

Miss. S. Cheetham

**School Business Manager**

Mrs. L. Nolan

**School Administrative Assistant**

Mrs T Hampson

**Site Officer**

Mr. C. Thomas

**Welfare Assistants**

Mrs. P. Blackshaw

Miss. J. Froggatt

Miss. E. Cartledge

Mrs. A. Omar

Mrs S Ng

Mrs J O'Reilly

Mrs. L. Thompson

Ms. H. Crook

**Cook / Supervisor**  
**Main General Assistant**  
**General Assistant**  
**Cleaning Operative**

Ms S. Hill  
Ms. L. Jackson  
Mrs. D. Nash / Ms N. Barber  
Mrs J. Bradley

**School Governors**

The following are Governors of the school for the current academic year:

**Chairman**

*Mrs. L Carter*

**Vice Chair**

*Mrs. T. Green (Parent Governor)*

**LA Governors**

*Mr. M Baranski*

**Parent Governors**

*Mrs. V. Tyrer*

**Staff Governor**

*Mrs. C. Richardson*

**Co-opted Governors**

*Mr W Shaw*

*Mr. A. Thomas*  
*Mr. B. Shaw*  
*Ms. B. Ehibor*  
*Ms.S. Oghogho*

**Headteacher**

*Mrs. H. Warburton*

The Governors of the school are responsible for making decisions about how the school is run. They meet formally at least once a term to discuss matters relating to personnel, finance, curriculum and buildings. The Governing Body can be contacted via the school office.

## Admissions

Admission to North Walkden Primary School is through an application form which is obtained and returned to the Admissions Department at Salford Civic Centre (there is a link to school admissions on our school website). North Walkden Primary School follows the admission policy set out by Salford City Council. Salford Admissions Department can be contacted via the online form on their website.

If classes are over-subscribed, places are offered according to the following criteria:

1. Looked After Children and Previously Looked After Children
2. **Children in Need:** as defined by the Children Act (1989) “ Those who are unlikely to achieve or maintain a reasonable standard of health or development, whereby this would be further impaired without the provision of local authority services”  
Applications under this criteria would need to be supported by an appropriate professional stating that attendance at a particular school is essential.
3. **Medical reasons:** parents/carers must provide evidence from their doctor or medical professional that the child has a medical condition that means admission to that particular school is ‘essential’.
4. **Older brother or sister:** in attendance at the school on the date when the pupil is to be admitted. This includes step-children and foster children living with the same family at the same address. Other children may be considered under the sibling criterion provided proof is available to demonstrate the children are resident at the same address as part of the same family unit. The council accepts that in some family units the children may not be a natural brother/sister.

Parents who are not offered a place can appeal against the decision. The process of appeal is dealt with by Salford LA.

Parents considering applying to North Walkden are welcome to visit the school by appointment. You will be able to discuss all aspects with the Headteacher and have a look around the school.

Further information is available on the school website at

[www.northwalkdenprimaryschool.co.uk](http://www.northwalkdenprimaryschool.co.uk)





## Organisation of our School

### The School Day

School starts                8.45am - doors open at 8.35am and close at 8.55am

Playtime                    10.30 – 10.45am /10.45-11am (UKS2)

#### **Lunchtime**

Nursery                    11.30am – 1.00pm

Reception                11.30 – 1.00pm

Infants                    11.45am – 12.45pm

Juniors                    11.45am-12.45pm (LKS2)

12.00 – 13.00pm (UKS2)

Playtime                    2.00 – 2.15pm

(KS1 only)

Home time                3.15pm

### School Dinners

At dinnertime the children are served the meal that has been pre-ordered for them via the Evolve Hub primary meals system. Our school meals are provided by Citywide at the school. Application for free school meals can be made online <https://www.salford.gov.uk/schools-and-learning/free-school-meals/>

All children in the Early Years Foundation Stage are requested to have a school meal initially, for the first term. From Reception to Year 6 children have the choice between a school meal or they can bring a packed lunch from home.

School Meals cost **£2.10** a day, **£10.50** for the week (these prices are set by Citywide and are subject to change). School meals have to be paid for at the time of ordering, orders cannot be made if there are unpaid debts. You can pre-order for the term, half term or just place your order weekly if you prefer. Universal Free School Meals are available to children in Reception, Year 1 and Year 2 if you wish to take up this offer from the government. **However, if you are entitled to Free School Meals due to your income and benefits then you still need to register for the Free School Meals as detailed above.**

### Uniform

At North Walkden Primary School we believe in creating an environment of high expectations. This starts with and is embodied by our school uniform. The uniform creates a sense of unity and pride in our school and supports the standards we strive for.





### Reception - Y6

- Grey skirt or pinafore dress - required
- Grey or black trousers – required – no leggings or sportswear (except PE day)
- Grey or black shorts – summer option
- Blue checked pattern dress – summer option
- White shirt – long or short sleeved - required
- Royal blue school V-necked sweatshirt or Royal blue school cardigan - required
- School tie - required
- **Sensible black shoes (no trainers) - required**



**Nursery class** – are not required to wear a tie and may wear a white polo shirt rather than a shirt.

**Footwear:** Children **must** wear sensible black shoes for school. Trainers **are not** permitted. If your child does not have black shoes to wear they will wear their PE pumps in school or be provided with some.

In the winter, boots may be worn to school but children will need to change into a pair of shoes or pumps inside school.



### PE Kit for Reception to Y6 - required

Children are able to come to school in their PE kit, when they have a PE lesson that day.

- White T-shirt, blue/black shorts and black pumps.

Outdoor games: – own tracksuit and trainers.

Please note – trainers **CANNOT** be worn in the hall as they mark the floor, pumps **MUST** be worn.

Swimming – Swimming costume/trunks, towel. Bermuda shorts are not permitted and all children will need to wear a swimming cap.

For safety reasons; the only jewellery allowed in school are small stud earrings and a plain watch. These **MUST** be removed by the child for PE, games and swimming.

Hooped earrings or any other jewellery is **NOT** allowed.

Nail varnish is to be removed for school. False nails are not permitted at any time.

A sensible hair style must be adhered too, no shaved or patterned lines are permitted. Long hair should be tied up with a sensible blue or black bobble. No coloured or dyed hair is permitted.

**School Bags:** The only bag required are a book bag – No fashion bags or rucksacks are allowed, this is for health and safety reasons and due to limited space in the cloak rooms and book bags are stored in the children's trays in the classroom.

All items of clothing and personal equipment must be **clearly marked with the child's name**. It is of great assistance to teachers to be able to identify items of clothing quickly.

All school uniform can be ordered on-line from Tesco <https://www.tesco.com/direct/north-walkden-primary-school/22349.school> or at our Touchline school shop <http://www.touchline-embroidery.net/north-walkden-primary/> or through the school office (Touchline order only) but all orders must be accompanied with full payment. Please see the school website for prices.

### Safeguarding

#### **Keeping your children safe is our priority**

At North Walkden we take Safeguarding, Child Protection and children's health very seriously. It is our **duty of care** to make sure that any concerns we have about the wellbeing of a child are investigated or that any medical needs a child has are met.

Sometimes this means that difficult and uncomfortable discussions with parents or carers are needed but as with everything at North Walkden, children come first. We will endeavour to work closely with families and provide support as appropriate.

If there are concerns about a child, school may need to consult with Children's Services for advice and where this is the case we will normally inform parents of this. In some serious circumstances concerns may be reported to Children's Services first.

North Walkden has strict policies and procedures in place to safeguard children. All staff have had training in Child Protection. Some have undertaken further specific training. All of our policies are available to view on our website.

At North Walkden our Designated Safeguarding Lead is Mrs Warburton (Head Teacher).

The Safeguarding Deputies are Mrs Blemmings (Children & Families Worker), Mrs Richardson (Deputy Head Teacher) and Mrs Thomas (SENDCo).

If you are concerned about a child please come into school and speak with any of us in confidence.

'Safeguarding and Child Protection is **everyone's** responsibility'

If you are worried about a child Salford's The Bridge Partnership can be contacted by telephone on **0161 603 4500** from 8.30am – 4.30pm

#### **Operation Encompass - Information for parents**

Operation Encompass is a police and education early information sharing partnership enabling schools to offer immediate support for children and young people experiencing domestic abuse. Information is

shared by the police with a school's trained Key Adult (DSL) prior to the start of the next school day after officers have attended a domestic abuse incident thus enabling appropriate support to be given, dependent upon the needs and wishes of the child.

Children experiencing domestic abuse are negatively impacted by this exposure; domestic abuse has been identified as an Adverse Childhood Experience and can lead to emotional, physical and psychological harm. Operation Encompass aims to mitigate this harm by enabling immediate support, making a child's day better and giving them a better tomorrow.

Operation Encompass believes that children are victims of domestic abuse in their own right and should be acknowledged as such.

Further information can be found [HERE](#)

Our Safe Guarding and Child Protection Policy has been updated to reflect this new procedure. Our Key Adult is Mrs Warburton.

### Office

The school office is open from 8.30 am to 4.00 pm. Please do not hesitate to email using [NorthWalkdenPrimary.PupilContact@salford.gov.uk](mailto:NorthWalkdenPrimary.PupilContact@salford.gov.uk) or phone if you require any information. (0161 921 2921)

### Milk

Children under the age of 5 receive free milk. After the age of 5, milk must be paid for. You will be asked each term if your child requires school milk. **If your child is entitled to free school meals due to your income/benefits then they are entitled to free milk.**

### Fruit

North Walkden Primary School has joined the Healthy Eating Scheme run as an initiative by the Government. All children in the Nursery and Infants will receive a free piece of fruit every day in school. We also actively encourage juniors to bring a piece of fresh fruit each day to eat at break time.

### Contact Forms

Parents/Carers are asked to update their child's information through Parent Portal – this can be done at any time although we will remind you at the start of the year. **Please inform the school office of any change in details, i.e. emergency contact numbers, medical information etc.**

### Attendance

At North Walkden we believe that high attendance is essential in your child being successful at school. Therefore we have a clear policy on the handling of absence. A copy of this policy is on the school website and can be obtained from the school office.

### Absences

Please notify the school on the first day and each subsequent day of absence by telephone if your child is absent due to illness or any other reason. If we have had no contact by day three school will carry out a home visit and may request a police welfare check. The schools policy for attendance is available on the school website. If we are not given an acceptable explanation for an absence then it will be classed as an unauthorised absence and these may be reported to the Educational Welfare Service and could result in a fixed penalty fine.

### Late arrival and collection

School starts at 8.45 am and it is important that your child arrives on time for school. If your child is consistently late to arrive or be collected then the Education Welfare Service will be informed and may result in a fixed penalty fine.

### Mobile Phones - Pupils

North Walkden has a firm policy in relation to Mobile phones and camera devices which can be found on the schools website. Below outlines the key points for both pupils and parents / carers.

It is school policy to prohibit all children, with the exception of year 5 and year 6 children that travel to and from school alone, to bring their mobile phone to school.

- North Walkden Primary strongly discourages pupils from bringing mobile phones to school unless it is for safety when travelling to and from school on their own.
- If a year 5 or year 6 pupil brings a mobile phone, the phone must be handed in at the beginning of the day to the office for safe keeping and then collected at the end of school.
- If a pupil is found by a member of staff to be using a mobile phone for any purpose, the phone will be confiscated from the pupil and returned at the end of the day.

### Mobile Phones / Camera Devices – Parents

- No parent is permitted to use their mobile phone or use its camera facility whilst inside school buildings, in the swimming pool or around the grounds when children are present.
- In the case of school productions and sports day, parents/carers are permitted to take photographs/video footage of **their own child** in accordance with school protocols but we strongly advise against the publication of any such photographs on social networking sites. Most events will be videoed / photographed by school staff and then made available to parents.
- Parents and visitors should not use their mobile phones whilst inside the school during the school day, at before or after school session or any school activities (such as assemblies or parent workshops).
- North Walkden Primary School accepts no liability for the loss or damage to mobile phones which are brought into the school or school grounds.

### Medical Information

Health checks are periodically held in school. All parents/carers will be notified of medical examinations and are invited to attend. The school should always be informed about any child who has a medical condition and we will endeavour to respond in the appropriate way.

Where children are receiving medication following illness the school is only able to administer prescribed medication. Parents/carers will be able to come into school and administer non prescribed medicine to their children if required. Exceptions will be made for children who suffer from asthma where inhalers should be brought and left in school. **It is essential that the school know where every child's parents or guardian may be contacted during school hours in case of an accident or illness.**

### Annual Holidays

Below are the new guidelines regarding holidays during term-time. These have been taken from the Department for Education website.

#### **Term-time holiday**

In September 2013 the Government amended the policy surrounding holidays being taken during term time. We take attendance very seriously because there is clear evidence that any absence from school can and does impact on children's attainment. The second most common reason for absence from school is for a family holiday, the Government agreed that this needed to be addressed. **Head teachers may not grant any leave of absence during term time** unless there are exceptional circumstances. Head teachers should determine the number of school days a child can be away from school if the leave is granted.

Further to the email sent out to all parents on 3<sup>rd</sup> July 2024 notifying of the updates to school policies surrounding attendance from 19<sup>th</sup> August 2024, parents are strongly urged to avoid booking a family holiday during term time. Parents have a legal duty to make sure that their child aged 5-16, if registered at a school, attends that school regularly and are consistently punctual. We take attendance very seriously because there is clear evidence that any absence from school can and does impact on children's attainment. The second most common reason for absence from school is for a family holiday, the Government agreed that this needed to be addressed. Head teachers may not grant any leave of absence during term time.

If you should take leave of absence on the above dates, the absences will be marked as unauthorised in the register. Therefore, a Penalty Notice fine may be issued to you by Salford City Council on your return.

**From 19th August 2024, the fine for school absences across the country will be £160 discounted to £80 if paid within 21 days, or £160 if paid within 28 days. If a parent receives a second fine for the same child within any three-year period, this will be charged at the higher rate of £160 with no discount given for early repayment. A second penalty notice issued within a three-year period, will not be eligible for discount. Only two penalty notices can be issued within any three-year period. This is incorporating both truancy and holiday penalty notices. Any further unauthorised absences within the three-year period, which would usually result in a penalty notice, may result in legal proceedings through the aggravated process.**

This will mean that the head teacher will **NOT** be able to authorise any holidays in term time.

### Transfer to Secondary School

The children from North Walkden attend a wide range of local (and not so local) secondary schools. Admission to secondary school is organised by the LA.

### School Reporting Policy

We have two parents' meetings every year – in the Autumn and Spring terms. In addition to this a report is sent home in the Summer term. The aim of these meetings is to keep you informed of your child's progress.

When we talk with you or write about your child, we will:

- be clear and not use jargon
- explain your child's strengths and progress
- indicate any areas of concern and set targets for improvement
- explain clearly how we intend to meet your child's needs
- seek your views and discuss how we can help

### The Early Years Foundation Stage (EYFS)

The EYFS at North Walkden Community Primary School consists of the Nursery and Reception children. The EYFS is the first stage of the National Curriculum, focusing on the distinct needs of children aged three to the end of the Reception year.

The EYFS curriculum has a total of seven areas. These consist of 3 prime areas, which are central to all that we do and 4 specific areas.

The areas are as follows: -

#### **Prime areas:**

- Personal, Social and Emotional Development;
- Communication and Language
- Physical development

#### **Specific areas:**

- Literacy (reading and writing)
- Maths
- Understanding of the world
- Expressive arts and design.

Each area of learning sets out the skills, understanding, knowledge and attitudes, which it is hoped children will reach, or exceed, by the end of the EYFS. Children will be at different stages of progress towards these goals, depending on their age and stage of development.



Within the EYFS curriculum children encounter new experiences; they explore the world around them, ask questions, extend their skills, develop confidence and build on what they already know. Staff in the EYFS plan a wide range of opportunities for children to learn both indoors and outdoors. The planning is built on what the children know and can do. Sometimes activities are planned for particular learning needs and sometimes the children initiate and develop their own learning. Both provide opportunities for children to work together and share experiences. The children have an individual learning journey, where their progress is noted.

### Hours

8.45am – 3.15pm.

### Lunchtime

11.30am. – 1pm. For nursery children

11.30am – 1.00pm. For reception

### Transition

In the Summer Term, many transition activities take place within nursery and reception, including visits to new classes and meetings with teachers.

All nursery children are given a gradual introduction to school life in September, by following a part time routine for the first few weeks. This helps them to gradually adapt to the busy school life day.

In reception, we offer a staggered intake to ensure that each child feels confident within their new environment.





### Starting School

Prepare your child in a positive way for the exciting, but strange step of starting school. It is most helpful if children have been prepared in advance by teaching them how to put on their own clothes, to fasten buttons and do up zips and know how to use the toilet. Using a knife and fork is another useful skill.

### Parents / Carers

We believe that parents/carers are children's first educators and understand their children better than anyone else. We value your input, feedback and support in developing your child's learning. You are always welcome in the unit and if there are any problems, please come and discuss them with us. We would like our time with you to be a partnership.

### Collection of children

Children will only be allowed to leave the school with an **authorised adult**. If you are unable to collect your child in person, then you must ensure that staff have been notified of who will be collecting them.

The Authorised Adult should be a responsible person aged 16 years or over. The person may be a;

- Parent/Carer
- Family member
- Child minder
- Neighbour
- Someone over the age of 16 who has the parent/carer's written permission to collect the child from school.

Infant children (those in Nursery, Reception, Y1 and Y2) should **NOT** be collected by other brothers or sisters in school. They should be collected by an authorised adult. Teachers have been asked NOT to release infant children to siblings from Key Stage Two but to ask the office to contact parents/carers to ensure they are collected by an authorised adult.

If infant children are to be collected by a brother or sister who attends High School, and is over the age of **14**, written permission from the parent/carer should be given prior to the collection.

### Methods

Parents/carers of children starting our school are asked to provide specific information which is kept in our data file in the office including:

- \* Home address and telephone number of parents/ carers
- \* Place of work, and telephone number (if applicable)
- \* Mobile telephone number (if applicable)
- \* Names and telephone numbers of adults who are authorised by the parents/carers to collect their child from the school i.e. child-minder, relative
- \* Information about any person who has been denied legal access to the child

\* Information about who has primary responsibility for the child

If there are any changes to any of the above we ask that the school office is notified immediately. When there is a change to the end of the day arrangements we ask that parents inform either the school office or the class teacher.

It is the parent/carers responsibility to ensure their child knows who will be collecting them that night.

### Safe Collection

School finishes at **3.15pm**. The children in Nursery Class wait inside the building (in Nursery) and are handed over individually to their authorised adult. Children in Reception wait in the classroom and are released to their known adult individually from the Reception class room door. Children in Year One are taken out via their classroom door and handed over to their authorised adults. Children in Year 2 are released to their appropriate adult from the KS1 door. Children at KS2 (Years 3, 4, 5 & 6) are taken out onto the junior playground to meet their authorised adults.

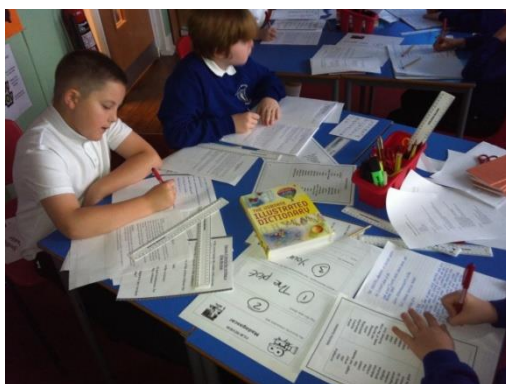
Once a child has been handed over to a responsible adult, they are no longer the responsibility of the school. We ask parents/carers to remain vigilant after collecting their child to ensure they leave the school premises safely.

### Key Stage 2

Parents/Carers of older children in Year 5 and Year 6, may understandably wish to encourage independence prior to their children going to High School and allow their child to travel home alone, or with a friend. Should this be the case we ask that the class teacher, or office staff, be informed, in writing, to avoid any confusion.

As with all pupils at North Walkden, the children are encouraged to become valued members of the community and as such, high self-esteem and a strong self-image are promoted.

### The Curriculum in KS1 and KS2



## English

The skills of reading, writing, speaking and listening lie at the heart of our curriculum. They are taught as discrete subjects although practised within all other areas of the curriculum. English is taught daily for at least one hour during which the children will receive whole class teaching of specific English skills that enable them to speak, listen and read and write with increasing confidence.

## Mathematics



At North Walkden we aim to present mathematics in an interesting and stimulating way so that children enjoy using their skills and knowledge and have confidence in applying them in all areas of Maths. This means much more than just 'doing sums' or being able to manipulate numbers and symbols, although these are important. We currently use a wide variety of materials and practical resources that support the teaching of mathematics. This involves all children taking part in a daily maths lesson which focuses on oral, mental, written and practical numeracy skills.

## Science

North Walkden Primary School understands the need for all pupils to develop their Scientific ability as an essential component of all subjects and as a subject in its own right. A good understanding of scientific knowledge and conceptual understanding helps to support pupils work across the curriculum.

We believe that Science is a body of knowledge built up through experimental testing of ideas. Science is also a practical way of finding reliable answers to questions we



may ask about the world around us. Science in our school is about developing children's ideas and ways of working that enable them to make sense of the world in which they live through investigation, as well as using and applying process skills. We believe that a broad and balanced science education is the entitlement of all children, regardless of ethnic origin, gender, class, aptitude or disability.

### Computing

Computing prepares the pupils at North Walkden for the rapidly changing world. All the children at North Walkden have access to technology such as the latest iPads and Chromebooks. Wherever possible, computing is integrated into the classroom and is used as a cross curricular tool to support and develop learning in all subjects. We aim to give children access to and provide experience of a range of hardware and software to enable them to achieve the highest level of competence understanding, and be computer literate.



### History

The study of history is done in blocked units of work and helps to fire the children's imagination and curiosity about the past. Throughout the blocked units of work the children will learn about major events/people, and will use a series of enquiry skills to help them develop their knowledge of chronology and gain an increased understanding of the past. Where appropriate, links will be made with other areas of the curriculum.



### Geography

Geography develops knowledge of places and environments throughout the world, an understanding of maps and a wide range of investigative and problem solving skills, both inside and outside school.

Geography helps the pupils of North Walkden gain a greater understanding of the ways of life and cultures of people in other places. It helps them think about their own place in the world, their values and their rights and responsibilities to other people and the environment.

## Art



Art is a foundation subject within the National Curriculum. It stimulates creativity and imagination. The children follow a balanced programme of study, which takes account of abilities, aptitudes, physical, emotional and intellectual development. During art lessons the children are provided with a range of skills, concepts and attitudes and they are taught a range of techniques and methods of working.

## Music

Music is a practical, creative subject that can be of benefit to all pupils in developing imagination, the ability to listen attentively, the opportunity to develop confidence and the chance to express personal thoughts and feelings. As an integral part of culture, past and present, it helps pupils understand themselves and relate to each other. Our pupils are given access to a wide variety of musical forms, but most of all we promote the enjoyment of music.



## Design and Technology

Design and Technology is a foundation subject within the National Curriculum. It is a subject that involves the children designing, making and modifying things that work, so it is a practical based subject. Design and Technology enables the children to work with a wide range of materials, to be creative, to become problem solvers and it gives them enjoyable hands-on experience. This subject also enables the children to work individually or as part of a team.



Food Technology presents excellent opportunities for work across the curriculum, above and beyond learning about food itself, as well as for teaching and learning through 'hands on' activities.

Learning about food, how to prepare it and the principles of a healthy diet is important for every child.

The National Curriculum aims to teach children how to cook and how to apply the principles of healthy eating and good nutrition. It recognises that cooking is an important life skill that will help children to



feed themselves and others healthy and affordable food, now and in the future, potentially halting – and even reversing – the growth of diet-related illnesses.

### Physical Education – PE

PE is about developing enjoyment, confidence and skill in physical activities. Pupils at North Walkden spend time each week participating in high quality PE and sporting activities. Our PE programme covers games, gymnastics, dance, swimming, athletics and outdoor pursuits as well as other activities, on occasions, such as fencing. The development of confidence, tolerance and the appreciation of one's own and others strengths and weaknesses is considered to be an important part of the learning process. We hope that pupils will develop a healthy competitive spirit, leadership and sportsmanship qualities and a positive attitude towards a healthy and active lifestyle.

### Religious Education – RE

RE develops knowledge and understanding of religious beliefs and practices and makes a strong contribution to the spiritual, moral, social and cultural development of the pupils. Religious Education at North Walkden follows the guidelines set out in Salford's Agreed Syllabus for Religious Education. While the curriculum centres on the Christian faith, children have the opportunity to learn about all the principal religions represented in Great Britain. Through this curriculum we aim to encourage children to understand, empathise and tolerate all cultures and faiths in our multi-cultural society.

At North Walkden, pupils participate in a daily act of collective worship. Pupils visit St. John's church regularly, and enjoy whole school celebrations of Christian festivals to which families are always welcome.

Parents/carers have the legal right to withdraw their children from worship and religious education. Should you wish to do so, please notify the Headteacher.



### Modern Foreign Language (MFL)

As the UK is becoming an increasingly multicultural society, we have a duty to provide our children with an understanding of other cultures and languages. The MFL provision at key stage 2 in North Walkden Primary School is designed to reflect this and also takes into consideration the primary MFL entitlement as set out in the National Curriculum 2014.

The key elements of MFL learning at North Walkden are:

- Our language learning is inclusive and enjoyable for all.
- The main language we study is French.

- Children are exposed to different languages and cultures throughout Nursery and KS1.
- French is taught as a coherent programme from year 3 to year 6 using Language Angels
- The curriculum also encompasses learning about French life and culture

### Personal, Social, and Health Education

At North Walkden, Personal, Social & Health Education is about the promotion of a healthy life-style, to encourage a more positive and happy way of living. It is aimed at self-awareness and self-respect and includes Citizenship. We aim to develop the children's confidence and responsibility and make the most of their abilities.



### British Values

The New National curriculum 2014 states that all children should be taught British Values. At North Walkden we endeavour to promote and teach British Values across the curriculum, for example through history, RE and PSHE at an age appropriate level. Our whole school assemblies are often themed around British Values too.

Further information about British Values at North Walkden can be found on our school website.

### What are British Values?

According to the DfE, British Values are;

1. Being able to influence the decision making process through the democratic process.
2. Knowing that living under the rule of law protects the individual.
3. Knowing that some public bodies (like the Courts) are independent of the control of politicians.
4. Having the freedom and protection to choose and hold the belief / faith you want.
5. Accepting that other people have their own faiths / beliefs / opinions, and that this is tolerated and not be the cause of discriminatory behaviour.
6. Being able to identify and combat discrimination.





The Governing Body has agreed a Sex Education Policy. As children mature, we endeavour to answer questions that might arise naturally. These questions are answered honestly, but with sensitivity and appropriateness. In Year 5 the children receive a discreet sex and relationships lesson which is delivered by the School Health Team. The Year 5 pupils are shown educational videos as part of a planned programme, but parents do have the right to withdraw their children from this programme if they wish, although parents must understand that any Sex and Relationship content delivered through the science curriculum is a statutory requirement.

### Special Educational Needs – SEN

At North Walkden Primary School we strive to meet the individual needs of all children, and aim to give all children the opportunity to make the best of their formative years through encouragement, direction and support. Identification of special needs is a graduated approach of intervention and action, early on in school life. Once identified, provision is made that suits each child, and careful monitoring, combined with the advice from appropriate specialists, helps to maintain the progress of children with special educational needs. A copy of the school's SEN policy and other information about our SEN provision can be seen on our school website.

### Gifted and More Able

Children who are deemed to be exceptionally able are also supported by the provision of differentiated supplementary activities and additional extension and enrichment activities.

### Assessment

Children's work is continually assessed and this is used by all staff to inform their day to day planning. Children in Year 6 undertake Statutory Assessment Tests in line with government guidelines, and children in other years also complete detailed assessments. At the end of Year 1, children will complete the phonics screening test and in Year 4 there is a multiplication check. Children in the Early Years are assessed using the EYFS Profile and Baseline Assessment. The outcomes of these are discussed with parents. Two Parents' Evenings are held each academic year and the children receive an annual written report.

### Pastoral Care and Discipline

It is the aim of North Walkden Primary School that every member of the school community feels valued and respected and that each person is treated fairly and well. The school has a Behaviour and Discipline Policy that is designed to support the way in which all members can live and work together. Children are expected to come to school ready to learn and take part in school life. A positive approach to discipline, based on praise and rewards is emphasised. However, on the occasions when children do not respond to this policy the school uses a number of sanctions which reinforce school rules and which help to provide a safe and secure learning environment. The school rewards good behaviour as it believes that this will develop an ethos of kindness and cooperation. A regular merit assembly is held where achievement, good behaviour and a positive attitude towards school life is celebrated.

We are lucky enough to have a Family Support Worker based in our school. Lisa Blemmings is available to meet with parents / carers and children who may need a little extra family support.

### Extra-Curricular Activities

The school strongly believes in extra-curricular activities as a way of enhancing learning and providing children with a variety of experiences. A number of after school activities are held focussing on musical, sporting and creative activities. In order to enrich the curriculum many visitors are invited into school. The children also have the opportunity to go on a variety of educational trips. Every year the school organises a residential trip for the year 6 class where the children enjoy a wide range of outdoor activities.



### Complaints procedure

***If you have a concern or a complaint about our school we would like you to tell us.***

We welcome suggestions for improving our work in the school. Be assured that no matter what you want to tell us, our support and respect for you and your child will not be affected in any way. Please tell us of your concern as soon as possible. It is difficult for us to investigate an accident or problem properly which has happened some time ago.

#### **What to do first**

Most concerns and complaints can be sorted out quickly by speaking with your child's class teacher.

All staff will make every effort to resolve your problem informally. They will make sure that they understand what you feel went wrong, and they will explain their own actions to you. They will ask what you would like the school to do to put things right. Of course, this does not mean that in every case they will come round to your point of view but it will help you, and the school, understand both sides of the question. It may also help to prevent a similar problem arising again.

#### **What to do next**

If you are dissatisfied with the initial response, you can make a complaint to the Headteacher. This should be made in writing.

You may also find it helpful at this stage to have a copy of the full statement of the General Complaints Procedure as this explains in detail what procedures are followed. This is available from the school office or on the school website.

The Headteacher will ask to meet you for a discussion of the problem. Again you may take a friend or someone else with you if you wish. The Headteacher will conduct a full investigation of the complaint and may interview any members of staff or pupils involved. You will receive a written response to your complaint.

### **If you are still unhappy**

The problem will normally be solved by this stage. However, if you are still not satisfied you may wish to contact the Chair of the Governing Body to ask for a referral of your complaint to a Governors' Complaints Panel. The school policy for handling complaints is available on the school website and can be requested from the school office.

### **Further action**

Complaints about school problems are almost always settled within school but in exceptional cases it may be necessary to refer the problem to an outside body such as the Local Authority or the Secretary of State for Education and Employment. Again there is more information on this in the General Complaints Procedure.

### School Website and App

School has an app called 'School Spider', this is used for booking clubs, parents evening, trips etc. We ask all parents to download from either their apple store or Google play – the app is free. All of the above information, along with much more, can be found on the school website at [www.northwalkdenprimaryschool.co.uk](http://www.northwalkdenprimaryschool.co.uk). Please feel free to take a look and to make any suggestions of what you would like to see on our website that you would find helpful.

### Weekly Newsletter

School send out a weekly newsletter to keep parents informed of what has been happening and also what is coming soon. In order to receive this you must provide school with an email which we can send it to.

### Wrap around Care – Breakfast and After school club

Since October 2023 Playkidds have offered breakfast and after school clubs for all children attending North Walkden. The clubs are in school and open from 7am in the morning and until 6.00pm after school.



Playkidds is an established company who already successfully run wrap around provision at other local schools and we are pleased they have agreed to extend their services to North Walkden. Attached you will find their prospectus and you can take a look at their website here <https://www.playkidds.co.uk/>

**Support with costs:** All families are eligible for support with childcare through the new government scheme and can receive a reduction of 20% of their costs. If your child was attending both clubs and the weekly cost was £75 per week, you would only pay £60 using the scheme. Further information about this can be found here <https://www.gov.uk/tax-free-childcare>

**Here is an introduction letter from Playkidds which is also attached:**

The management of Playkidds wrap around school club are absolutely delighted that after careful negotiations with the Head teacher and the Business manager at North Walkden Primary School we will be able to offer before and after School childcare within the premises of the School, starting in October 2023.

Introduction to Playkidds before and after School club;

In 2016 Playkidds opened its first out of School club in Moorside road in Swinton. At that time, we provided out of School care for families at 3 Schools in the Swinton area of Salford. In addition, we also provided holiday club which is still offered to all of our families when Schools are closed.

In 2017 due to increasing demand for places we opened a second setting, providing out of School care for families at another School. Initially this setting was within a church hall. However, as time has progressed, we have now moved the setting into the School grounds and operate from within the School.

In 2021 we added a further setting, again within School premises which is now at capacity from September 2023. All of our settings have been awarded five stars for hygiene by the local authority.

We currently provide care for over 100 children every day both morning and afternoon across the three settings. Since we started providing care, we have cared for children from over 1400 families and we are extremely proud of being part of every single one of our children's development.

In 2019 we were voted community business of the year in Salford based on our commitment to supporting the community.

We also pride ourselves in employing local people with the skills to provide the highest possible care for your children. Evidence of this was seen by Ofsted at our latest inspection which can be found on the following link;

<https://reports.ofsted.gov.uk/provider/16/EY500806>

If you would like to register for a place at Playkidds at North Walkden primary School, simply send an email to [info@playkidds.co.uk](mailto:info@playkidds.co.uk) and we will send you all the information you will require to make a decision on registration. You may also obtain the information from the School office.

We try extremely hard in these difficult times to provide high quality care at an affordable price. In addition we will direct families to ways to save on childcare fees such as registering with the governments Tax Free childcare voucher scheme which may provide you savings of 20%.

We sincerely hope to be able to meet with you very soon at your before and after School club in North Walkden Primary School.