





Welcome to Wales Primary School



Dear Parents and Carers,

Welcome to our school!

Wales Primary School is a school with a strong sense of community. We have approximately 210 pupils in the primary age phase and an attached nursery unit which is run by a private provider. Our school grounds are beautiful! Our children have access to a rich outdoor environment including a large field and garden area as well as our own woodland area which includes an enclosed pond. We also have our own swimming pool where the children have the chance to access weekly swimming lessons as they go through school.

We are extremely proud of our school and work very hard to ensure that all of our children feel happy and secure and that they are supported and encouraged to achieve their full potential. Our aim is for all our children to flourish as learners in becoming the best versions of themselves and to leave Wales Primary School as well rounded, confident and independent individuals.

Education is a partnership between home and school and we place a great deal of emphasis on our partnership with parents. We know that children learn best when parents/carers and school staff work together in your child's interests. We pride ourselves on having an 'open door' policy and believe that it is always better to discuss and talk through any concerns or worries you may have straightaway so we can work together to solve any issues that may arise.





We hope that you will find the following information useful and informative. Should you have any further queries or want to share any thoughts or concerns with us, please do not hesitate to contact us through phoning or emailing school.

We look forward to getting to know both yourself and your child better and hope that you come to love Wales Primary School as much as we do.

Yours sincerely,

Anna McDonald
Headteacher





A Welcome from the School's Governing Body

Dear Parents and Pupils,

May we, the board of governors, take this opportunity to add our sincere and warm welcome to you all to Wales Primary School.

We understand that you have a choice of schools for your children and we appreciate that the decision to select the correct setting can be a difficult one.

Our school offers a warm and friendly environment that is conducive to learning and giving your children the best possible start to their education and learning. We are small enough to give personal attention while large enough to attract the best of the teaching profession.

Please take time to examine our school closely and absorb the feel and philosophy of the teaching practices. This truly is a family unit.

Yours sincerely,

Nick Parr

Nick Parr
Chair of Governors





School Information

Address: School Road
Wales
Sheffield
S26 5QG



Telephone: 01909 770236

Email: school@walesprimary.co.uk

School website www.walesprimary.co.uk

Pupils on roll: 210

Type and range: Primary school 4 -11 years

Head Teacher: Mrs Anna McDonald

Chair of governors: Mr Nick Parr

School Hours:	Morning	School starts at	08:45
	Lunchtime	All the children have a 45 minute lunchbreak between	11:45 and 13:00
	Afternoon	School finishes at	15:15

Rotherham LA: Children and Young People's Services
Admissions section
Riverside House
Main Street
Rotherham
S60 1AE

Telephone: 01709 823777





Our School Vision and Values

Wales Primary School is a school with a strong sense of community. We are very proud of our school and work very hard to ensure that all our children feel happy, healthy secure and safe so that they achieve their full potential. Our broad, stimulating and relevant curriculum helps each child to develop a firm foundation on which they can build in preparation for adult life. We recognise each child's individuality and strive to meet his or her needs in a caring and fully inclusive environment.



It is our vision that each pupil who leaves Wales Primary School will have:

- 🌍 A strong sense of who they are and where they come from
- 🌍 Respect, tolerance and empathy
- 🌍 A strong sense of curiosity about the world around them
- 🌍 A good understanding of what learning is and how to improve themselves as learners
- 🌍 Resilience, independent thinking skills and the confidence and ability to articulate and reason
- 🌍 The strength of character to think for themselves and respectfully question and challenge others
- 🌍 The ability and adaptability to respond to a changing world





Our Aims for Children as Learners

We have a strong commitment to raising the achievement of all children through a wide range of opportunities and experiences that promote the development of each child academically, socially, physically, intellectually, morally, artistically and spiritually. At Wales Primary School, we want our children to become the best versions of themselves and leave as strong, open minded, confident individuals who have the ability and adaptability to thrive in an ever changing world.

In order to achieve our vision, we aim to provide our children with a vibrant, relevant and enriched curriculum where they are challenged and inspired to excel. Furthermore, our school ethos will:

- Model high standards and sets high expectations of learning, teaching and behaviour
- Nurture independence
- Work in partnership with parents, carers and the wider school community
- Value creativity and respect individuality
- Inspire children to recognise and build on their own talents
- Provide enrichment opportunities to develop children's character
- Promote outstanding Assessment for Learning by:
 - Enabling children to recognise that they have the power to drive their own learning
 - Teaching children positive habits that will help develop them as learners
 - Facilitating honesty and openness about learning and progress
 - Providing an environment in which children learn that building on failure is a critical part of improvement





School Staff

Headteacher:	Mrs Anna McDonald
Deputy Headteacher:	Mrs Charlotte Lax (in the absence of Headteacher)
Assistant Headteachers:	Mrs Katherine Askey Mrs Charlotte Lax (SENDCo)
Teaching staff:	Mrs Katherine Askey Mr Joshua Chapman Miss Megan Davies Mrs Charlotte Lax Mrs Claire Long-Melton Mrs Natalie Pemberton Mrs Nichola Robinson Mrs Heather Spencer Mrs Rachel Woolhouse
Teaching Assistants:	Mrs Emma Baxter Mrs Claire Bird Mrs Nicola Brumby Miss Emma Clarke Mrs Lynsey Doona Mrs Helen Elian-Lycett Mrs Meredith Hinde Mrs Kay Marsh Miss Lindsey Morte Mrs Louise Stephenson Mrs Samantha Stewart Mrs Sarah Wood
Administrative Officer:	Miss Joanne Hallam
School Business Manager:	Mrs Jayne Harrison





Chair of Governors: Mr Nick Parr

Deputy Chair: Mrs Sarah Jones

Clerk to Governors Mrs Vicky Hawksley

School Governors: Mr Tim Justice, Mrs Karen Brooks,
Mr Paul Fletcher, Mrs Amy Fletcher,
Mrs Alice Deeley, Ms Megan Clark





The School Day



School Times

08:40 – 08:45 Doors open for whole class morning task and registration

11:45 – 13:00 All the children have a staggered 45 minute lunch break

15:15 – End of the school day

All children must be picked up from school by a responsible adult unless the school has been informed **in writing** of an alternative arrangement by filling in the appropriate form.

Punctuality

School attendance is very important, as is punctuality. If children miss the first part of the day they miss out on important learning and often they struggle to get into the rhythm of the day. Please ensure that your child is ready and in their classroom at 08:45.

Attendance/absence

If a pupil misses one day's learning they are missing at least 30 minutes reading, an hour each of writing and mathematics and an additional 2 hours of other subjects. We ask parents to consider whether their child needs to stay off school and only keep them off if you consider them too ill to learn or a risk to other children through having a contagious illness.

If your child is ill or absent from school for any reason, please telephone the school on 01909 770236 select option 1 and then leave a message stating the reason for the absence and how long you think your child will be away from school. We ask that you contact school each day that your child is absent. Because of our legal safeguarding obligations, we operate a 'first call' system in school which means that we will phone you if your child is absent from school and you have not contacted us.





Your Child's Learning

Class Organisation:

The children are grouped according to age in similar sized classes. Within each class there is a spread of attainment levels and we work very hard on planning quality learning experiences which meet the needs of all children and help them to achieve their full potential. To ensure this, work is carefully planned in both range and pace and is underpinned by regular assessment procedures, including children's assessment and evaluation of their own work. Whole class, individual and group teaching strategies are used as appropriate. Teachers are supported by well qualified teaching assistants. Class teachers and teaching assistants know your child very well and will be very pleased to involve you in their life at school.



High Expectations: High Achievements:

We have high expectations of ourselves as teachers and of the children as learners. We are confident that the broad, balanced and enriched curriculum we offer will stimulate and inspire children to acquire knowledge and develop the vital learning skills, which will provide a firm foundation for their future.

We encourage children to recognise their own talents and skills and to become independent and confident learners, which we feel supports both their academic and social development. Children's achievements are celebrated and everyone enjoys success and praise regularly. We know that children make progress at their own rates and in their own ways and that it is vitally important to value them as individuals; providing learning opportunities that will build on their strengths and overcome their weaknesses.

Our children use the '**Wales Learning Behaviours Code**' which recognises, builds on and supports their successes as learners.





The Wales Learning Behaviours Code:

Wanting to learn
Asking questions
Listening and thinking
Evaluating my work
Sticking at it!



We recognise that learning consists of:

- Acquiring knowledge and applying this knowledge
- Understanding ideas and asking questions to further this understanding
- Perfecting skills
- Developing positive attitudes.

In order for this to take place we believe that the children must:

- Become involved with things that are relevant and interest them
- Be active in their learning
- Be encouraged to work with each other
- Make progress and be challenged in each area of learning
- Be encouraged to think and act for themselves and become independent.



Everything that we do at Wales has one focus in mind: our children. We want our children to become the best versions of themselves so that they not only achieve academic excellence but that they also develop and excel as individuals who have the ability and adaptability to thrive in an ever-changing world.

We believe that through hard work, listening to advice, practise and not giving up when faced with a challenge, our children will develop into well-rounded individuals who have the ability and adaptability to thrive in an ever-changing world.





Special Educational Needs and Disabilities (SEND)

Occasionally we find that a child does not make the progress we expect. If this is the case parents are consulted and appropriate steps are taken to support the child. This can vary from a small amount of small group or one-to-one support to a tailored programme based on the recommendations of SEN specialists. If we feel that a child is not making expected progress through quality first teaching, the Special Educational Needs Coordinator (SENDCo) will be consulted and we may seek advice from outside agencies such as the Learning Support Service, Educational Psychologists, Speech and Language Therapists or Autism Communication Team for support.

Parents are always consulted and kept fully informed at every stage once we have identified that their child could benefit from some extra help. Similarly, we encourage parents to discuss any concerns they may have about their child's progress or development with their child's teacher. More information about SEND at Wales Primary School can be found on our website.

Our assessment procedures also identify children who are exceeding age related expectations and work is planned to meet the learning requirements of these children. In school, children's skills and talents are nurtured through the provision of a number of extra-curricular activities, such as sports clubs, music clubs and arts and crafts.



Home Learning

Wales Primary School has a policy of providing home learning opportunities that are enjoyable, manageable and interesting. Children throughout the school are expected to read at home for at least 10 minutes every day. Maths homework is sent half-termly broken down into tasks to be completed each week. The children have on-line learning platforms such as Numbots and Times Tables Rockstars to work on at home.

In FS2 the children have a homework book with tasks in phonics as well as key words to learn and spell each week.





School Uniform

Uniform is worn at Wales Primary School to show children's pride in being a member of Wales Primary School.

Our Uniform is:

Navy blue sweatshirt or cardigan

Navy blue, grey or black trousers or skirt

White or light blue polo shirt

In warmer weather shorts or **blue** gingham dresses may be substituted for trousers and skirts.

FS2 children will need a pair of wellies!

Sweatshirts and cardigans with the school logo can be purchased from School Trends (www.schooltrends.co.uk) or Pinders Schoolwear in Crystal Peaks or at their Aston factory shop.



Clothing for PE

PE lessons are twice a week for all classes. On these days children need to wear their PE kit for school. You will be informed of your child's PE days on your class newsletter and by e-mail.

Their kit should include the following items:

White t-shirt or polo shirt

Navy blue or black shorts

Plimsolls or trainers

Navy blue or black track suit or jogging bottoms and a warm top to wear in colder weather

Please note children are not permitted to wear football shirts or patterned 'fashion' t-shirts or leggings for PE



Swimming

We are very fortunate to have our own swimming pool. All children will have the opportunity for swimming lessons as they progress through school.

Children must wear swimming trunks, shorts (above the knee) or one-piece swimsuit; for safety reasons they **are not permitted** to wear bikinis or long swim shorts.

Children with long hair should be able to tie their hair up and swimming caps are advisable for all children. Children are permitted to wear well fitting goggles, but we prefer them to try swimming without goggles first.





Jewellery

Jewellery is **not allowed** in school with the exception of a watch. If your child has pierced ears, small studs are permitted, however for safety reasons children are not permitted to wear earrings in PE lessons and adults in school are not permitted to remove children's earrings, so they **MUST** be removed **by the child** for PE.

We request that if you wish your child to have their ears pierced that you do this during the long summer holiday to give sufficient healing time and avoid your child having to remove earrings for PE before they are healed.

PTFA

Our PTFA is a Parent, Teacher and Friends Association. It is a recently formed group of parents who support school by organizing events for our children and raise money to provide opportunities and experiences. They are always welcoming new members to support events in school. If any parents are interested in joining or would like to find out more, please e-mail walesptfa@gmail.com





School Meals and Snacks

At Wales Primary School children can choose to have a school meal or bring a packed lunch.

School Meals

School meals are provided by an external company called Dolce. We use this provider as we feel they offer good value, excellent service, convenience of ordering meals and making payments and of course, nutritious food for our children. Meals are ordered by parents/carers and you can order as many or as few meals as you like per week or per term. You can also order up to 8:55am every morning for that day. Meals cost £3.28 per day for children in KS2 and accounts must be set up for all children to order meals including children in receipt of Free School Meals and KS1 children who are currently entitled to free meals (FS2, Y1 and Y2). To enable an account to be set up for your child, you will need to provide the school office with your email address.

Packed Lunches

We have a healthy lunch box policy which means that we ask that children do not bring sweets or fizzy drinks in their lunch box. You can find information and ideas about healthy lunches on our website. So that you are aware of what your child is eating or not eating we do not allow children to throw away uneaten food from their lunch box (except for opened yoghurts) instead children will bring home any food which they do not eat so that you know exactly what they have eaten.

Snacks

Foundation Stage and Key Stage One children have the choice of a free piece of fruit or vegetable every day which is provided through the Fruit for Schools charity. Foundation Stage children also have free school milk each day. Other children in school are permitted to bring a healthy snack of fruit or vegetables for playtime. Please note that children are allowed to bring in cakes to share with their classmates on birthdays; (but these are not compulsory!) **please inform your child's teacher if you do not wish your child to have these treats.**

Please note that as we have some children in school with nut allergies, we ask that children do not bring nuts or food containing nuts into school.





Child Protection and Safeguarding

The health, safety and welfare of our pupils is of paramount importance to us, all members of staff are very clear about their responsibility to keep children safe and also the ways in which they can support children in having a proportionate response to risk.

We give our responsibilities with regard to child protection and safeguarding high priority and maximum attention. All staff and volunteers hold a current DBS check and all visitors to school sign in, wear identification and unless they have an enhanced DBS are accompanied by a member of staff whilst they are on the school site.

Additionally, risk assessments for visits outside school and unusual activities held within school are completed in accordance with LA procedures.

The school is a child protection agency and has a duty to refer to Social Services and/or the Police any actual or suspected incidents of child abuse.

If you have any concerns about the safety of your child or other children in the school community, please do not hesitate to speak to a member of school staff.

Mrs Anna McDonald is the schools' designated member of staff with responsibility for child protection and safeguarding. The safeguarding team also comprises of Mrs Charlotte Lax and Mrs Katherine Askey as deputy designated safeguarding leads and Mr Paul Fletcher is the designated governor.

If you wish to see a copy of our child protection and safeguarding policy please call into the school office or visit the school website parents' page www.walesprimary.co.uk





Term Dates 2026/2027

Autumn Term

Inset Day: 1st September 2026
School Opens: 2nd September 2026
School Closes: 23rd October 2026
School Opens: 2nd November 2026
Inset Day: 27th November 2026
Inset Day: 30th November 2026
School Closes: 18th December 2026



Spring Term

School Opens: 4th January 2027
School Closes: 12th February 2027
School Opens: 22nd February 2027
School Closes: 25th March 2027

Summer Term

School Opens: 12th April 2027
May Day: 3rd May 2027
School Closes: 28th May 2027
School Opens: 7th June 2027
School Closes: 21st July 2027



Please note, there will be 2 further inset days during the school year.

