

Learn to Live
Live to Learn

Huntington Community Primary School

Prospectus 2026/27

Aldford Road, Huntington, Chester CH3 6EA

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AT A GLANCE

Huntington in brief

3–11
Ages from Nursery to Year 6

2018
Opened in a new, fully accessible building

13
classes, from our Seedlings Foundation Unit to Year 6

EYFS
Nursery and Reception learn together in our Seedlings Foundation Unit

Good
in all areas at our last Ofsted inspection, June 2023

388
Pupils on roll, including Nursery

The school day

Doors open 8.40am · Lessons begin 8.45am · Registers close 9.00am

Day ends 3.15pm for Nursery to Year 2 and 3.25pm for Years 3 to 6.

WELCOME

Enjoyable, challenging and memorable learning

Learn to Live, Live to Learn

Our vision is simple but ambitious: a school where every child flourishes, every family feels valued, and every member of staff is proud to belong.

At Huntington, we believe that every child who walks through our doors deserves the very best: not just in academic achievement, but in confidence, character and the joy of learning.

I joined Huntington in April 2026 with a deep commitment to building something truly special here in Chester: a school the whole community can look to with pride. We hold high expectations for all, nurture curiosity, and prepare our children not just for the next stage of education, but for life itself.

I warmly invite you to get in touch and come and see us in action. The best way to understand what makes Huntington special is to experience it for yourself.

David Erne
Headteacher



Our Headteacher with pupils

> **"Strong relationships between pupils and staff add to the feeling of community at this school."**
>
> Ofsted inspection report, June 2023



VISION AND VALUES

Learn to Live, Live to Learn

At Huntington, **every child belongs**. We are a nurturing, inclusive school, grounded in strong relationships and **high expectations for all**. Our values are:

Respectful
Strong relationships, clear routines and shared expectations

Kind
A nurturing school where everyone is welcomed and supported

Curious
A rich, challenging curriculum that sparks curiosity

We develop respectful, kind, curious and resilient learners who know their strengths and leave us ready to follow their dreams and make a difference in the world.

Everyone is welcome

As a No Outsiders school, we teach that "everyone is welcome in our school. No one is the same, but everyone is equal."

Wellbeing at the heart

As a myHappymind school, a Healthy School and a Milk or Water Only school, we help children understand their feelings, build resilience and make healthy choices.

NO OUT SIDERS
EVERYONE IS WELCOME IN OUR SCHOOL.
No one is the same, but everyone is equal.

PROUD TO BE A myHappymind SCHOOL

Healthy School



> **"The academic, social and emotional support that leaders provide contributes strongly to pupils achieving well."**
>
> Ofsted inspection report, June 2023



OUR SCHOOL

A modern building in extensive, secure grounds

Huntington opened in autumn 2018, a **£7m investment** in the community by Cheshire West and Chester Council, with spacious classrooms and the latest technology in a fully accessible building.

Inside

- Spacious classrooms, each with an interactive display panel
- A large, glass-fronted hall
- A fully equipped IT suite and two libraries
- Built to current energy-efficiency standards, with solar panels to reduce energy use and running costs



Interactive display panels in every classroom

Outside

- Two large playing fields
- A junior playground with separate areas for 5-a-side football, netball and basketball, and quieter games
- Three adventure playgrounds, a Reading Shed and an outdoor classroom
- Separate playgrounds for Early Years and Key Stage 1, with a large covered area for outdoor learning in all weathers
- A large Forest School area





Adventure play in our grounds

CURRICULUM

How we teach

We teach the National Curriculum through **linked themes**, so that children make connections across subjects, and we make the most of learning beyond the classroom.

Linked themes

Themes are organised largely through history, geography, English and science. In the Early Years Foundation Stage, themes often grow from the children's own interests.

Everyone involved

Kagan co-operative learning strategies are used throughout the school to involve every child as fully as possible.

Growth mindset

Discrete lessons and our everyday teaching encourage questioning, perseverance and the belief that every child's capabilities can grow.

Classes and teaching

Most year groups have two classes; this year, Years 3 and 4 learn together in three mixed-age classes. Teachers meet the range of needs through whole-class teaching, group work and individual support. Pupils know what they are learning and why, and receive targeted feedback as well as assessing their own work.



Working together in class

Learning beyond the classroom

The most powerful, memorable learning often comes from first-hand experience. Every class learns outside, in our grounds and on day visits linked to their theme. Junior pupils also go on residential visits to outdoor education centres.



Bright, well-equipped classrooms

> **"Leaders have built an ambitious curriculum."**
>
> Ofsted inspection report, June 2023

CURRICULUM

English

We want every child to **enjoy books** and to become a confident, independent reader, a fluent writer and an effective speaker.

Reading

Younger children learn to read through **Little Wandle Letters and Sounds Revised**, a systematic synthetic phonics programme validated by the Department for Education, with a matched collection of phonically decodable books.

As they move through school, children meet a wide range of fiction and non-fiction. In Years 3 to 6 we use **Ready Steady Read Together**, built around high-quality texts, which aligns with our approach to writing.



Reading in our library

Every child can borrow quality texts from the 'reading spine' collection in their classroom and from our well-stocked library, supported by an online catalogue with links and suggestions for further reading.



Sharing a book in the book corner

Writing

Our writing curriculum is driven by **Ready Steady Write**. It aligns with Ready Steady Read Together, so pupils meet the same high-quality texts and topics across literacy, humanities and science, making meaningful links in their learning.



Exploring non-fiction

Speaking and listening

Children develop communication skills through role play, class discussion, assemblies, prepared talks and special events such as No Pens Day and Poetry by Heart, the national recitation competition won by one of our Year 6 pupils in 2021.

CURRICULUM

Mathematics and science

Mathematics

From September 2026 we teach mathematics using **Power Maths: White Rose Maths Edition**, a whole-class mastery programme for Reception to Year 6. Children also take part in the NCETM **Mastering Number** programme, and in Key Stage 2 they use **Times Tables Rock Stars** to practise times tables.

Each lesson encourages children to:

- develop fluency through regular practice
- explain and prove their reasoning
- solve increasingly complex problems
- make connections between areas of mathematics
- use mathematical vocabulary accurately

Science

Science helps us make sense of the world. Our teaching challenges children's ideas through exploration and plenty of practical experience, so that they use all their senses and build secure scientific knowledge and understanding.

The **Plymouth Science** scheme, embedded in our linked-themes curriculum, ensures continuity, progression and breadth.

Every other year our Science Week brings a host of extra experiences, such as a visit to Techniquest, to deepen learning and enthusiasm for the subject.





A science day visit

CURRICULUM

The wider curriculum

A broad curriculum gives children **first-hand experiences** and the chance to shine well beyond the classroom.



HISTORY
The Second World War brought to life for Year 6 at the Stockport Air Raid Shelters



GEOGRAPHY
Our own River Dee website, used by high schools to support GCSE work



DESIGN AND TECHNOLOGY
National finalists in the Bloodhound 'Fly to the Line' competition



ART
A rhino sculpture decorated by our pupils with designs from our partner school in Cape Town



MUSIC
A guitar concert in the hall



SPORT
Girls' football: Cheshire finalists

SCHOOL LIFE

Beyond the classroom

Trips, residentials, sport, music and special events give every child **first-hand experiences** that bring learning to life.

Residential visits in the junior years



Year 3 at Robin Wood, Wrexham



Year 4 in the Lake District



Year 6 at the Conway Centre

Sport and music

Pupils compete against other schools throughout the year. Every Year 4 child learns brass, samba percussion and guitar in whole-class lessons with Music for Life tutors, and clubs include choir, musical theatre, multi-skills and football.

Special events

- Day visits linked to every class theme
- Forest School in our own grounds
- Science Week every other year
- No Pens Day and Poetry by Heart
- PTA events such as the Christmas Fair



Active play in our grounds



Imaginative play outdoors

ACHIEVEMENT

Achievements and what people say

Our pupils **achieve well**, in the classroom and well beyond it.

Recent successes

National winner
Poetry by Heart, the national recitation competition, won by a Year 6 pupil in 2021

National finalists
Bloodhound ‘Fly to the Line’ design and technology competition

County finalists
Girls’ football, Cheshire finals

Used by high schools
Our River Dee website supports GCSE geography



Our national Poetry by Heart winner

In their own words

> “Pupils feel safe and happy … enjoy school … [and] achieve well.”
>
> Ofsted, June 2023

> “Leaders and staff are highly ambitious for the achievement of all pupils.”
>
> Ofsted, June 2023

> “My kids love it, and I know they’re happy and safe there. They enjoy going to school, and for me, that’s the main thing.”
>
> Parent of a Huntington pupil

> “I like maths and I like playing football with my friends. All the teachers are friendly.”
>
> Huntington pupil


Proud of their learning

INSPECTION

What Ofsted said

At our last inspection in **June 2023**, the school was again judged **Good in all areas**.

Good	Good	Good	Good	Good
Quality of education	Behaviour and attitudes	Personal development	Leadership and management	Early years provision

In the inspectors' words

> "Strong relationships between pupils and staff add to the feeling of community at this school."

> "Pupils feel safe and happy ... enjoy school ... [and] achieve well."

> "Leaders and staff are highly ambitious for the achievement of all pupils."

> "The academic, social and emotional support that leaders provide contributes strongly to pupils achieving well."

> "Leaders have built an ambitious curriculum."

Read the full report at reports.ofsted.gov.uk, searching for Huntington Community Primary School.

RE, RSHE and special educational needs

Religious education and collective worship

RE follows the Cheshire West and Chester agreed syllabus. Children learn about Christianity, Islam and Judaism in Key Stage 1, and these religions plus Hinduism and Sikhism in Key Stage 2. Humanism is introduced as a non-religious worldview. Daily collective worship is broadly Christian.

Parents and carers have the right to withdraw their child from RE and from collective worship. Please speak to the Headteacher if you are considering this.

Relationships, sex and health education (RSHE)

All pupils are taught Relationships Education and Health Education, which are statutory in primary schools. In Years 5 and 6 this includes age-appropriate sex education.

Parents and carers may ask for their child to be withdrawn from sex education that is not part of the science curriculum. There is no right to withdraw from Relationships Education, Health Education or science. We encourage every child to take part, and our programme and materials are available for parents to view and discuss with staff at any time.

Special educational needs and disabilities (SEND)

We track every child's progress closely. If a child's progress gives cause for concern, whether educationally, socially, emotionally or because of a medical need, we follow the **SEND Code of Practice**.

We believe in early intervention, and we work in partnership with parents and carers from the first sign of concern.

Who to talk to

Your child's class teacher is always the first point of contact.

Our SENDCo is **Mrs Natalie Kirkness**: sendco@huntington.cheshire.sch.uk. Our SEND governor is Mrs Caroline Willis, via the school office.

Our SEND Information Report is on the school website, and the council's Local Offer describes services available across Cheshire West and Chester.



PARTNERSHIP

Working with parents and carers

We want school to feel as **friendly and familiar** for parents and carers as it does for the children.

Keeping you informed

Parents' evenings are held every term, and every child receives a written report in the summer term.

You do not need to wait for a parents' evening. If you would like to discuss any aspect of your child's welfare or progress, please arrange an appointment with the class teacher. Our staff are approachable and welcome contact.

Helping in school

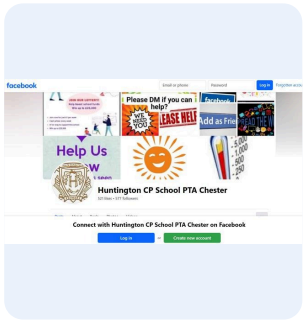
Parents and carers help in many ways, including working with reading groups, helping with cookery and artwork, and giving specialist talks.

Our Parent Teacher Association

Every parent and carer is automatically a member of the PTA. It raises funds for additional school resources and runs events for children and families, such as the Christmas Fair. Follow the PTA's Facebook page to keep up to date.



Santa's grotto at the PTA Christmas Fair



The PTA Facebook page



Keeping in touch: our Instagram feed

DAILY LIFE

Lunchtimes and wraparound care

Children can have a **freshly prepared hot meal**, cooked on site by our Edsential catering team, or bring a packed lunch. Menus and allergen information are on our website.

School meals

- A school dinner costs £3.40 per day (£17 per week), paid online.
- All children in Reception, Year 1 and Year 2 receive a free school meal through the government's universal infant free school meals scheme. We encourage every family to take this up.
- Older children may be eligible for free school meals depending on household circumstances. Please ask the school office for details.
- Even if your child already has a universal infant meal, please tell us if you may be eligible, as registering can bring extra funding to support your child.

Packed lunches

Please send sandwiches in a plastic box clearly labelled with your child's name. We encourage healthy packed lunches with no glass bottles or cans. Pre-peeled fruit helps children who cannot yet manage it themselves.

We are a nut-free school, to protect pupils with potentially life-threatening allergies.

Drinks

We are a Milk or Water Only school. Please send a named water bottle, which children can refill from the water cooler and keep in class. Milk is free for Reception children.



Lunchtime in our light and bright hall

Before and after school club

On-site care is run by **S4YC**, Monday to Friday, with holiday clubs from 8am to 6pm. Breakfast (7.30–8.30am) and an afternoon snack are included at no extra cost.

Website: www.s4yc.co.uk
Telephone: Toni, 07498 189140

JOINING US

Admissions

Nursery places are managed **by the school**. Reception and in-year places are managed **by Cheshire West and Chester Council**.

Nursery

Our Nursery is part of the **Seedlings Foundation Unit**, where Nursery and Reception children learn together. Children can join in the term after they turn three, with admissions in September, January and April.

1. Register your interest with the school office.
2. We send application forms at the end of April for September admission.
3. Places are allocated under the school's own Nursery admissions policy, available on the school website or on request.

Starting school

Children must be in school from the start of the term after their fifth birthday. Any child who turns five between 1 September and 31 August may start Reception at the beginning of the autumn term.

We arrange visits for new starters and invite new parents to a meeting where we share full details. See page 17 for tours. School uniform is available from our supplier, My School Style.



Applying for Reception

Apply through Cheshire West and Chester Council:

cheshirewestandchester.gov.uk › school admissions › reception admissions

Key dates for September 2027 entry
Closing date: 15 January 2027
Offers sent: 16 April 2027

Joining another year group

For any other year group, or once the school year has started, please contact the school first and then apply through the council:

cheshirewestandchester.gov.uk › school admissions › in-year school transfers

How places are allocated

We have **60 Reception places** each year.

If there are more applications than places, the council allocates them using its published oversubscription criteria. Looked-after and previously looked-after children always have the highest priority.



YOUR NEXT STEPS

From first visit to moving on

The best way to get to know Huntington is to **visit us**. Please contact the school office to book a tour.

1
Visit
Contact the school to book a personal tour

2
Apply
Nursery through the school; Reception through the council by the national closing date

3
Get ready
Visits for new starters and a meeting for new parents

4
Move on
Supported transfer to secondary school after Year 6

Personal tours

Please contact the school office to arrange a personal tour.

Telephone: 01244 506450
Email: admin@huntington.cheshire.sch.uk

Moving on to secondary school

Pupils transfer to secondary school in the September after Year 6. Families apply for secondary places through Cheshire West and Chester Council; the national closing date is 31 October.

Most of our pupils move on to **Christleton High School** or **The Bishops' Blue Coat**.

Our transition process is excellent, supporting every child's move to secondary school.

OUR TEAM

Our staff

Leadership

Mr D. Erne	Headteacher
Mrs L. Nicholson	Deputy Headteacher
Mr M. Cunnington	Key Stage 2 Lead
Miss K. Bate	Key Stage 1 Lead
Mrs Z. Hardisty, Mrs G. Thomson	Early Years Leads
Mrs N. Kirkness	SENDCo

Key Stage 2 classes

Mr M. Cunnington	Y6 Alder
Miss C. Avery	Y6 Sycamore
Miss H. Hickman	Y5 Rowan
Mr S. Bell	Y5 Larch
Mrs L. Nicholson, Mrs A. Osholaja	Y3/4 Lime
Mrs S. Bunning-Williams	Y3/4 Hawthorn
Mrs K. Caldecott, Mrs L. Tranter	Y3/4 Hazel

Key Stage 1 and Early Years classes

Mrs L. Ward, Mrs B. Robinson	Y2 Cedar
Mrs B. Jones, Miss K. Bate	Y2 Elm
Mrs J. Roberts, Mrs L. Pelham	Y1 Beech
Mrs K. Wilson, Mrs B. Gait	Y1 Maple
Mrs Z. Hardisty	EYFS Willow
Mrs G. Thomson	EYFS Oak
Mrs K. Williams	Key Stage 1 PPA cover
Mrs N. Harrison-Smith	RE teacher, Years 3 to 6

Teaching assistants

Mrs S. Jermin, Mrs A. Rawcliffe, Miss C. Rigby	Early Years
Mrs J. Thomson, Mrs L. James, Mrs Middleton	Year 1
Mrs K. Cadman, Mrs L. James, Mrs D. Tyldesley	Year 2
Mrs N. Harrison-Smith (HLTA)	First Aid Lead
Mrs F. Arnott	Pupil premium
Mrs J. Arrowsmith	SEN
Miss M. Billington	EYFS and KS1 support
Mrs F. Lowe	ELSA

Pupil support assistants

Miss K. Barritt, Miss M. Giles, Mrs J. Leonard, Mrs A. Newton Mrs S. Peers, Mrs L. Potter, Mrs A. Rawcliffe, Mrs S. Robinson, Mrs D. Tyldesley

Business and site

Mrs R. Lynch	School Business Manager
Mrs M. Ashton	Finance Assistant
Mr J. Crossen	School Maintenance Officer
Mrs A. Blood	Catering lead (Edsential)

GOVERNANCE

Our governing board

Governors set the school's strategic direction, hold leaders to account and oversee how money is spent.

Parent governors

Mrs A. Robinson	Chair
Mrs C. Callaghan	Chair, Finance and Personnel
Mrs F. Fenton	
Mrs J. Jones	
Mrs K. McMillan	

Local authority governor

Mrs C. Willis	Vice Chair; Chair, Curriculum

Co-opted governors

Ms L. Gibson
Ms M. Lloyd
Ms S. Winston
Mrs N. Harrison-Smith

Staff governor

Ms C. Avery

Headteacher

Mr D. Erne	Ex officio

How the board works

The full governing board meets once a term. Its committees also meet termly, and much of the work that underpins the running of the school is carried out through them.

Non-confidential minutes of meetings are available to view in the school office.

If you would like to contact the governing board, please write to the Chair of Governors via the school office.

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Live to Learn

GET IN TOUCH

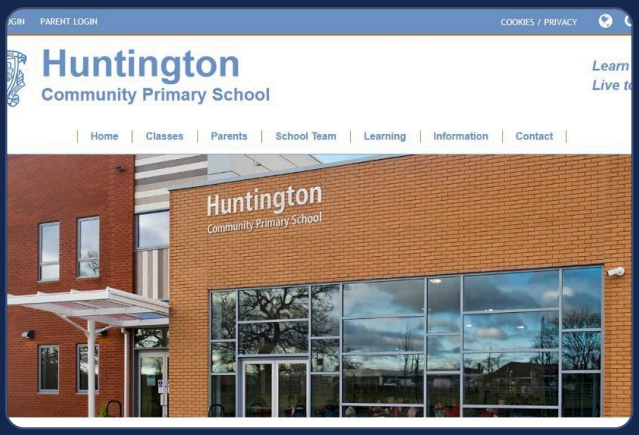
Come and see us

The best way to get to know Huntington is to visit. Please contact the school office to arrange a tour.

Huntington Community Primary School

Aldford Road
Huntington
Chester
CH3 6EA

Telephone 01244 506450
Website www.huntington.cheshire.sch.uk
Email admin@huntington.cheshire.sch.uk
Admissions bursar@huntington.cheshire.sch.uk



Visit our website for news, policies and term dates

Local authority
Cheshire West and Chester Council, Area Office, Stanney Lane, Ellesmere Port CH65 6QL
cheshirewestandchester.gov.uk/residents/education-and-learning

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