

### Attendance and welfare

We recognise the many benefits of children having good attendance and being punctual and give certificates and rewards to children who excel in this area. We also work closely with the Education Welfare Service to support and promote good attendance and punctuality. The school works closely with professionals such as the school nurse, speech and language therapists, Education Welfare Service and Educational Psychologists. Referrals will be made where necessary and parents will be consulted at each stage.

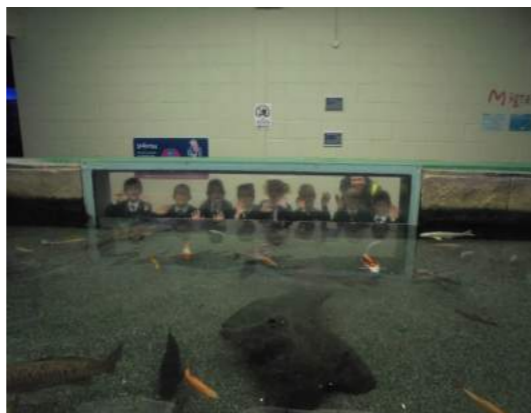


Our new dining experience

### Year 5 Residential Trip to London



### End of year Awards Evening



Key Stage 1 mainland visit to Blue Reef

And Finally... Thank you for reading this short prospectus. We encourage you to visit our school, have a look on our website to read more about our school, our Facebook page, view our photo galleries, and download our newsletters.

Should you wish to meet us and see the school on a normal working day then please do not hesitate to contact the school office and ask Mrs Lucy for an appointment. This is the best way for you to appreciate fully all that Nettlestone offers. Please do not hesitate to telephone us to make an appointment. We would be delighted to meet both you and your child and give you a tour of the school so that you can find out more.

### Contact details:

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# PROSPECTUS





# Working in partnership

Dear Parents and Carers,

I would like to extend a very warm welcome to you and your child from our community at Nettlestone Primary School. We are proud to be part of a Federation working together to achieve the best outcomes for our children with Newchurch Primary School.

As a Federation we have one Governing Body and we work closely together across the two school so as to maximise opportunities and resources. However, we are sympathetic to the differing needs and environments that the two schools have, and we work tirelessly in ensuring the individual needs within each setting are met to provide the best outcomes possible for our pupils.

I have the post of Executive Headteacher across the Federation and am supported by a Head of School in each setting, Mrs A Jacobs at Nettlestone Primary School.

We pride ourselves on being a caring school and strive to ensure that all our pupils are treated as individuals to promote happy, supported and successful independent learners ready for the busy life within today's society.

Our aims are promoted across the school community, as well as across the Federation, and underpin all learning. Our expectations of presentation, behaviour, outcomes and pupil achievement are high and, with the help, support and involvement of our parents, our pupils make very good progress and have the best possible start to their education.

I hope you find this prospectus useful and informative. If there is anything you are unsure about or would like more information on, please call in to the school or contact the School Office. We will be happy to answer your queries or to arrange an appointment for you to look around our school.

We look forward to meeting you and your child and welcoming your family to Nettlestone Primary School in the near future.

Yours sincerely,

Miss Kirsty Howarth  
Executive Headteacher

Mrs A Jacobs  
Head of School

**'We have staff of the highest calibre who are committed to ensuring that each child is valued, cared for and given every opportunity to reach their full potential.' OFSTED Nov. 2014**

## Parental Communication

We firmly believe that a key factor for a child to achieve to the best of their ability is a partnership between the parent, the child and the School to enable a level of individual care. The best outcomes for our pupils are achieved when there is genuine understanding and mutual agreement on the values and expectations of the School. The parental community of Nettlestone is supportive, interested and engaged; in return, we strive to involve parents in the process of educating their child and try to ensure effective communication at all times. Parents are kept informed regularly of events, work and achievements through Weekly Newsletters, a well maintained website, Facebook Page, texting and email.

We welcome parents and carers into school on a regular basis through open days, information evenings, family assemblies, religious celebrations, special lunches, sporting events, productions and mentoring meetings. Parents and carers are able to support their children's learning outside of school and become active partners in their education. At Nettlestone we have an open door policy where parents and carers are encouraged to come in and talk to staff at a mutually convenient time. Nettlestone also has a thriving Parent/Teacher Association known fondly as FONS (Friends of Nettlestone School) that supports our fundraising initiatives. This is an invaluable resource for any small primary school as it significantly supports the purchasing of additional

teaching resources, play equipment, IT equipment, costumes and set materials for productions, and PE equipment.

## Transition

We make every effort to ensure that the transition to our school is a smooth and happy one for every child both upon entry to our School in Reception Class but also leaving us to go to their choice of secondary school at the end of Year 6. For the pupils, at just 4 years old, the prospect of starting their journey with us each September can be a daunting one for the children but also for the parents and so we endeavour to provide guidance and reassurance from the outset once the places have been allocated by the Local Authority. We host individual parent meetings with the Head of School and Executive Headteacher welcoming each family to the school, home visits are made in May by our Early Years Team to support the transition, 'Stay and Play' sessions offered in June, and a Summer picnic calendar to maintain the familiarity for these young people.

Our Year 6 pupils will attend the two transition days at the secondary schools coordinated by the Local Authority and we also support additional visits and attendance to events at the local schools as appropriate. Our pupils move on to various schools around the Island with a significant number attending Ryde Academy being the closest in proximity to us.

## Reverend Rob supporting a whole school assembly



## SACRE Inspection 2015

Line management for RE is strong and there was good evidence of subject monitoring and awareness by the subject lead. The head is very supportive of RE and could see the links between the emphasis on British Values and the engagement with other faiths in RE. It was evident RE is thought of as part of the school's British Values commitment as how the lessons were linked was explained on the medium term plans for RE. The subject leader is highly committed and extremely well organised. There is very good capacity for rapid progress in RE.



## Community Lunch with family

**One of the strengths of Nettlestone Primary School includes the range of experiences and opportunities offered, and also the high standard of support.'**

Parent Survey July 2016

# Beyond the classroom

## House System

The children will also belong to a House System which provides a vertical structure that enables healthy competition and a further sense of belonging. Such a system also provides opportunities for all individuals to be involved in representing their House in a wide range of activities, providing enrichment and extension to an already broad curriculum.

Teachers recognise achievements by awarding Reward Points, certificates, or feedback for work, positive contribution or effort within our community. The Reward Points accumulate and generate further Achievement Certificates rewarded by the Head of School within our Celebration Assemblies, where a range of achievements are celebrated. As a member of one of the four Houses, each pupil receives a strong vertical support structure, in addition to their Class, which will facilitate and promote relationships between the Year groups. The House System is recognised through a variety of events, including Assemblies, sporting events, music, and fund raising activities.

**"Fantastic celebrations of varying individuals' achievements—not just pure academic."  
Parent Survey July 2016**



## Enrichment

The extremely full and varied programme of clubs provides opportunities for the pupils to attend in order to develop their interests, but also the chance to try new or different activities. This extended curriculum includes sport, drama, music and some unusual clubs, such as Table Tennis or Country Dancing, and also provides frequent opportunities for our Island Primary schools to engage in Area and Island events. Sport at Nettlestone has developed from strength to strength, engaging not only the talented pupils who represent the School, Island or even county, but also engaging a wide range of pupils, through the creative and varied sporting opportunities on offer.

Similarly, Music and performance has a central role to play in the life of the School with each Key Stage participating in a Production every year, enabling our pupils to learn a wide range of instruments, participate in choirs, dance and musical productions. We also have committed to participation in the J-Rock Challenge each year which encourage the children to be a part of an 8 minute dance on stage at the Guildhall in Portsmouth or Southampton for example. The core message of the Be Your Best Rock Challenge is to show young people how they can achieve a 'natural high' on life rather than with the use of drugs, alcohol and tobacco and this



**'Activities are rich, interesting and challenging, and links between subjects make learning relevant and meaningful.'**

**'The sports funding grants has been used to good effect in increasing pupils' participation in sport, and providing expert teaching in a wide range of activities.'**

**Ofsted 2014**



supports our values at Nettlestone Primary School. Our School Extra-Curricular provision is further complemented by day and residential visits with Key Stage 2 children all having the opportunity for overnight trips. It is firmly believed that the learning experienced on such visits contributes significantly to the development of the individual pupil and such visits are carefully planned to support the curriculum and the wider learning opportunities. Nettlestone pupils benefit from residential visits, for example to Hooke Court in Dorset, London, and Little Canada and East Dene centres here on the Isle of Wight. Nettlestone is fortunate to have dedicated staff, volunteer governors, community support and parents who enable our pupils to benefit from such enriching experiences. Support is also provided for families who find it difficult to enable their children to participate, ensuring that no child is disadvantaged.



## Our school:



Education should provide opportunities for each child to succeed in a variety of ways, preparing our young people for a future in which they can thrive in whatever pathway they choose. At Nettlestone we firmly believe that learning should be fun, satisfying and motivating; pupils should be able to celebrate their success and achievement with pride; and the curriculum should be enriched by an extensive range of extra-curricular opportunities accessible to all. We are proud to achieve academic results that are above the national average and that these results are continuing to improve. We work hard at Nettlestone to achieve this for our pupils and we are proud to share some of the

ways in which we do this in the following pages.

In short, the School offers:

- Excellent academic standards promoting everyone being able to achieve and celebrate success
- Exceptional levels of support for all individuals
- A caring, nurturing family community
- Outstanding standards of behaviour and attitudes to learning
- An exciting new curriculum which is broad and balanced and responsive to pupil interests
- A wide range of extra-curricular activities and enrichment programmes.

Nettlestone Primary School has the advantage of being set in beautiful grounds next to farmland and surrounded by stunning countryside. We have a traditional school building, which offers light and spacious rooms equipped with excellent play, games and sports facilities. We have developed our Early Years Setting to promote and stimulate learning from Reception Class through into Key Stage 1. The school has excellent links with Nettlestone Nursery, which is an outstanding

pre-school located within the school grounds. A before school club is offered here from 8am.

We benefit from being in a Federation with Newchurch Primary with one Governing Body promoting a unified and collaborative approach to all we do in our schools. The Federation facilitates sharing of good practice, teaching and learning strategies, resources and promotes healthy competition between the two schools!



## Ofsted report November 2014:

**'Teachers plan interesting and exciting activities that motivate, encourage and enthuse pupils to do well. Pupils say that teachers set their work 'at just the right level of challenge', so they 'improve very quickly'. Teachers are skilled in ensuring that more able pupils have work that matches their abilities.'**

## Our curriculum

Our success is based on good, indeed often outstanding teaching, by talented and committed teachers, careful monitoring and feedback, very strong parental support and excellent relationships between staff and pupils. Also fundamental to our curriculum is the belief that children achieve better when they enjoy their learning. We give high priority to basic skills in English and Maths and these are taught every day to ensure clear progression in these core areas. We are keen to ensure that this is not exclusive as we firmly believe the enrichment and variety of opportunities is key to nurturing a well-rounded individual. Music is taught by a subject specialist in Key Stage 2 classes. We also provide access to specialist music tuition in a number of instruments.

At Nettlestone Primary School we deliver a creative curriculum in line with the Government with an interactive, hands-on approach to teaching and learning. Children in the Reception Class follow the Early Years Foundation Stage curriculum. There is a strong emphasis on developing children's knowledge, confidence and social skills through a play-based approach to learning.

In Key Stages 1 and 2 children are provided with a varied and exciting curriculum that is carefully planned to meet the needs of individuals. English, Maths, Science and Computing have a very high

profile as core subjects. Wherever possible we teach foundation subjects discretely and use specialist staff to ensure the highest possible delivery in areas such as PE, Music and Languages.

The remaining subjects, such as History, Geography, Art and Design Technology, are taught through cross-curricular topics. Our topics are carefully planned to engage, inspire and motivate all children and are responsive to the interests of the pupils.

Our teachers plan for a range of groups and abilities within each curriculum subject. Our approach to teaching is varied and includes individual and collaborative group work as well as whole class teaching. All classes have the support of Teaching Assistants who work with individual children and small groups as well as supporting teachers in the delivery of the curriculum. The school encourages children to be actively involved in their learning. We promote a positive "I can" attitude in everything that we do and teach the skills that enable our children to become confident, independent learners.

**'Pupils' spiritual, moral, social and cultural development is promoted well. A range of vibrant and interesting activities is provided which enrich pupils' learning.'**  
**Ofsted 2014.**



## Your child's progress

Our teachers make assessments about the children's progress continuously to inform their planning for learning. Some assessments are informal and a natural part of the lesson. Sometimes the children take more formal tests. Test and assessment results help us to:

- ensure all children make appropriate progress,
- put in extra support for any child who is not doing as well as they should,
- ensure more able children are stretched and challenged.

Children's skills and knowledge are assessed towards the end of their Reception year and these assessments are used to complete their Foundation Stage Profile. In Year 1, the children complete a National Phonics test. The 2016 National Curriculum assessments in English and Maths take place in Year 2 and Year 6 during May. These tests are known as SATs.

We use an internal tracking system to record all pupils' attainment, progress, intervention outcomes and targets. Your child's progress and learning targets are shared with parents three times a year at mentoring meetings and also in their end of year report. Parents are encouraged to contact their child's teacher at any time to share their achievements or if they have any concerns about their child's progress.

**'As a result of outstanding teaching, children get off to an excellent start in the Reception class.'**  
**Ofsted 2014**



## Supporting individual children

### Learning for All

We promote high expectations and standards across all aspects of School life at Nettlestone whilst maintaining the nurturing and personal support children of a primary school age need. The learning environment is calm and well managed, with behaviour and discipline outstanding, enabling all pupils to engage in their learning without disruption. British Values underpin our work throughout the school. Our curriculum is designed to ensure that there are plenty of opportunities to develop children's personal, social and emotional skills. We encourage our pupils to treat others with care, respect and consideration and always praise and reward good behaviour.

Pupils with Additional Educational Needs are well supported in their lessons with particular attention to their programmes of intervention, and timely access to pre- and post-teaching opportunities where necessary. Those with particular skills, gifts and talents are also encouraged and challenged with a wide range of resources, visits and other enrichment activities. To achieve and sustain these high standards, Nettlestone has developed robust monitoring systems which enable pupils to be regularly assessed and their progress to be tracked. This enables the appropriate level of challenge and support to be given to each individual.



Parents are provided with regular information about their children's progress through our termly mentoring meetings and reports.

### Ofsted 2014

**Leaders and managers, together with governors, are fully committed to providing a high standard of education for all pupils. Their actions are having a direct impact on the rapidly improving quality of teaching and pupils' achievement.**

### Behaviour

In our school, we teach the importance of valuing everyone as an individual. We expect every member of our school community to show respect and care for each other and for their environment. We set very high expectations for behaviour as we do for learning and we have clear rules, sanctions and rewards. We encourage children to take responsibility for their behaviour, to care for each other, respect the school environment and have exemplary manners. It is also our aim to create good citizens who actively contribute to our community and who are committed to making a better world. We encourage all staff and children to develop a clear understanding of what is right and wrong, recognise all people as fellow human beings without labelling them, develop and enhance the sense of community, unity and whole school ethos, and empower and develop each individual's sense of self-worth and confidence.

### Ofsted 2014

**Pupils' behaviour is good. Pupils have positive attitudes towards learning.**

### Safeguarding

All schools have a legal duty to uphold the highest possible level of safeguarding and Nettlestone is wholly committed to this. Procedures are rigorous and robust with clear policies in place, and we also work in line with the Hampshire and Local Authority guidelines as appropriate. At Nettlestone we take this matter of child protection and safety very seriously, using the Local Authority's guidelines in carrying out our duty of care to our children. We work in partnership with a variety of external professional agencies to ensure we maintain such excellent standards of awareness and constantly monitor this area of school life.

### Ofsted 2014

**Pupils are very proud of their school. They say they feel safe. This view is supported by the vast majority of parents. Pupils are thriving and developing into confident young people who are fully prepared for the next stage in their education.**