



WESTONING LOWER SCHOOL
Part of the Pyramid Schools Trust



commitment



“
They are very caring and supportive and this gives the school a homely & safe environment for pupils and parents alike. They have brought out the best in our child and been part of his incredible life journey, I couldn't have asked for more from everyone at the school.
”

Welcome to...

...a stimulating, caring and secure environment in which your children will be happy, achieve success and reach their full potential.

At Westoning Lower School we offer high standards of teaching in a caring and supportive environment. We cater for 3 to 9 year olds with one form per year group from Nursery class onwards. This allows us to really know our pupils. We also offer excellent Before and After school care on site to further support pupils and parents.

Our aim is to provide for pupils' emotional, spiritual and cultural needs, developing self-esteem and confidence in addition to fostering a love and excitement for learning. Children are encouraged to work both independently and as part of a team and to lead healthy, active lifestyles. We promote positive values and tolerant attitudes towards others in school and in the wider community and in the world.

We value academic achievement in all areas of learning and are careful to equip children with the skills necessary to operate in a technological society. We work jointly with our parents and all members of the school and wider community.

At Westoning Lower School, we value every child as an individual and celebrate childhood. We give them the skills to go on and lead happy and successful lives.

Westoning Lower School is a founder member of The Pyramid Schools Trust. This Multi Academy Trust (MAT) is made up of local lower, middle and upper schools. Membership of this MAT brings academic, financial and professional support to our pupils, staff and governors.



“ They have settled in my son extremely well, helped him make friends and taught him so much in the short time he has been there. ”

The Early Years

A happy and successful start in our Early Years provision sets the foundation for your child's academic future.

At Westoning Lower School we aim to ensure that starting school is a positive and happy experience for our pupils, that they settle easily into school life, and quickly progress with their education. We are delighted to be able to offer an Early Years provision from the age of 3 which ensures a smooth transition into full-time education by the time pupils reach school age.

Our Early Years setting consists of a nursery and reception class. Both follow their own age appropriate Early Years curriculum and frequently mix for a range of activities. This ensures an easy transition from nursery class into their first statutory year of schooling in reception class. Pupils from any other pre-school settings are also given the opportunity to visit the school on Open Days and prospective parents and children are welcome to come and visit the Early Years provision at any time.


We offer home visits for all children starting in our Early Years provision so that pupils feel very secure about the adults whose care they will be

in. This allows us to get to know our new Early Years children quickly and for them to soon feel comfortable and confident in the school.

When children are settled, the Reception year is a very busy year and we aim to ensure that pupils get the very best start to their education. We ensure that the government prescribed "Early Years" curriculum covering 7 learning areas is adhered to and we apply all the best practices recommended for Early Years children. We monitor the children very closely and ensure that any extra support they may need is quickly identified and provided.

We take a topic based approach to learning, made up of regularly taught lessons, adult guided activities and self initiated learning opportunities. We strongly value play and our ever changing provision and set up provides ongoing opportunities.

Our Reception children leave the class really well-prepared to face the Key Stage 1 curriculum in Years 1 and 2 and the KS2 curriculum in Years 3 and 4.



encouragement

All friends together



It's the village experience

Our pupils benefit from being part of a small village school, which allows for a cohesive, values-driven education whilst promoting close links with the local community and confirming those traditional British values.

Westoning Lower School is a traditional village school and is very proud of its community "family" feel. It is an integral part of the area's history, having served generations of local children. There has been a school in Westoning since 1880, when it was sited at the current Westoning village hall, and it has been on the current site since 1913.

At Westoning Lower School our pupils are known individually by all the staff, and pupils know all the children in other year groups well as we actively encourage cross-year activity/ learning groups.

We are a "Values Education" school, actively promoting those essential values such as respect, responsibility, patience and friendship – and many other qualities designed to enable children to succeed on their own and alongside others, achieving their full potential at school and preparing them for life in the future.

The school promotes a different "value" each half term and this is discussed in the classroom and in assemblies. We ensure good behaviour through our "Good to be Green" behaviour policy.

The school encourages interaction with parents and the local community. Working parents are supported by Before and After School provision on site. There is a strong parent presence on the governing body and several other governors are drawn from the local community. Parents are involved in an active PTA body, organising events and raising welcome additional funds for their school. Numerous activities are organised where pupils go out into the community and the school has regular links with local churches and businesses.

Being part of the Pyramid Schools Trust, along with other village schools, has enhanced opportunities for our pupils and staff. Pupils are invited to events and have access to facilities/resources at our partner schools. The staff across the Trust work together on curriculum, assessment and training to develop the best outcomes for all pupils.

We believe our pupils benefit from these links with the village community.



“My child adores her teacher. She has made very good progress this year and the teacher has been approachable, easy to contact and very helpful and informative.”

Quality learning

A varied curriculum addressing those key core areas to ensure excellent results for our pupils and extending to wider subject areas and topic based activities. Committed teaching staff dedicated to bringing out the best in every pupil.

Westoning Lower School has historically produced better academic results than the national average and is continually striving to improve performance. Our teachers review individual pupils' performance with senior leadership half termly to ensure that a tailor made plan is formulated for each pupil. Extra support is arranged for those pupils requiring extra help and extension work is organised for those pupils needing an extra challenge.

Our teachers work closely with teaching assistants and other support staff to ensure consistently good teaching in the classroom.

The governing body work closely with the Head teacher to ensure a rigorous level of support and challenge to teaching staff.

Westoning is a caring school and we pride ourselves on good pastoral care. We are always mindful of the whole pupil and by offering a wide curriculum we seek to ensure that all children have the opportunity to show their talents. There is still room amongst the serious study to have some FUN!!

Happy pupils who enjoy their learning make the best progress!





“The school builds good relationships between staff and pupils, with good mixing of pupils of different ages so it builds a real community.”

And another thing...

...there are many other activities at Westoning Lower School.

Before and After School Club

Our out-of-school care is available from 8am till 8.45am and from 3.30pm until 5.30pm, offering varied activities in a relaxed environment with caring and pro-active staff.

Sports

The school offers various sporting activities in school such as gymnastics, dance, cricket, hockey, tag rugby and has external sports partners who come in to offer additional opportunities. Football teams are run for all year groups under the adjacent umbrella of Westoning Football Club.

Extra-curricular

Outside the school curriculum we offer numerous activities such as STEM Club, Games and Gardening Club and we have visiting music teachers offering tuition in different musical instruments.

Concerts and Open Afternoons

There are numerous celebration assemblies and concerts. In addition to formal parents' consultations with teachers there are lots of opportunities to come into school and see pupils sing or perform in concerts and to see their work in the classroom on Open Afternoons.

School Council

We have an active pupil School Council which has two representatives from each class participating in lively discussions with staff and pupils on topical issues. The Council liaises between pupils and staff on various projects.

PTA

We are fortunate to have a very active Parent Teacher Association who raise funds to go towards paying for school resources/activities such as computer equipment, books, school trips, arranging the Year 4 leavers' party etc. Fund-raising events include coffee afternoons, Christmas Fairs, Secret Shops, school discos and quiz nights.



enjoyment



Open Door...

We hope you like what you have seen in this brochure and would welcome the opportunity to show you around our school.

We look forward to meeting you!

For more information please contact:

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