



WEAVER PRIMARY SCHOOL



**Western Avenue,
Nantwich,
Cheshire
CW5 7AJ
Headteacher: Mrs G Price**

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PROSPECTUS 2023 - 2024



Mission Statement

We aim to provide a challenging, well balanced education in a safe, happy and inclusive environment.

Values Statement

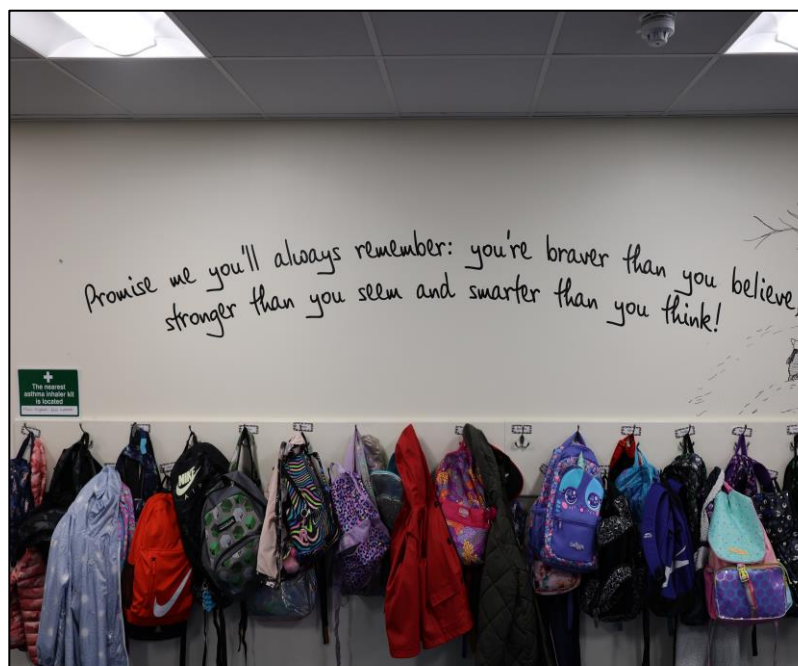
At the Weaver, we value these things:

A happy, safe, welcoming, inclusive environment where everyone is special, where effort is rewarded and success is celebrated

Self respect and respect for others, good manners, honesty, co-operation and friendship

The development of independence and the realisation of academic, physical, emotional and social potential

The generosity of all those who contribute to the school
Clear, fair, consistent rules that promote understanding and respect.





Dear Parent,

On behalf of the governors I would like to thank you for showing an interest in the Weaver School.

We are a happy school aiming to give the highest level of service to you and your children so that whatever their ability, they can enjoy learning and make progress.

We offer a broad curriculum which is delivered by a dedicated and highly competent staff. In addition to all the knowledge, skills and understanding which your child will acquire academically during their time in school, we will also encourage children to become more independent, confident and self-reliant. We encourage physical development through a wide range of sporting activities which form a major part of the school's life. We attach great importance to the development of social skills and relationships and we want all children to be happy and secure in a caring and stimulating environment.

Partnership with parents is a crucial part of our work and we will provide frequent opportunities to keep you informed how your child is progressing and about what is going on in school generally. Parents are always welcome to come in voluntarily to help in school and we attach great value to all the contributions that parents make to the life of the school. The class teachers and I are always willing to discuss concerns parents might have.

If, having read the Prospectus, you would like to visit the school, I shall be very happy to show you round. Please ring for an appointment.

If you decide to send your children to the Weaver they will receive an education of the very highest quality and we will do whatever we can to make them happy here.

Gill Price



Admissions

In accordance with the Cheshire Admissions Policy children will be offered a full time place in time for the beginning of the academic year in which they become five years of age. The Local Authority will oversee the allocation of places to primary schools. Our admissions limit is currently 30. Provided we do not go above that limit, any parent who wishes their child to attend the Weaver will be given a place. If available places are oversubscribed then Cheshire's admissions criteria will be employed.

Pre-school children entering the Weaver will be invited to come for a series of visits prior to entry. They will have the opportunity to join in a variety of activities and play. During the course of the visits they will become familiar with the school building, the school routine and find out the school is a happy and stimulating place to be. The parents of pre-school children entering the Weaver will be invited to attend an evening meeting to discuss their child's entry into school. The meeting provides an opportunity to ask questions, to find out about the philosophy and practices operating within the school, as well as meeting some members of the school staff. Parents are also welcome to visit the school during the day, by appointment.

In Year Admissions are dealt with via application to CEC. Parents can ring to the school to enquire if there are places available and if so visit the school by appointment.

The school has access for disabled pupils, parents and visitors.

Curriculum

Our curriculum is all the planned activities that we organise in order to promote learning, personal growth and development. Our curriculum uses the National Curriculum as its starting point. We have designed an ambitious curriculum with the aim of developing pupils' learning habits for life. It is inclusive and enables pupils with special educational needs and/or disabilities (SEND) to learn well alongside their peers.

Children in the Reception class follow guidelines outlined in the Revised Early Years Foundation Stage document which provides continuity of education for children from birth to five years. Activities, opportunities and experiences are planned to meet children's learning needs and styles to take account of their prior learning.

From Year 1, all children have a legal entitlement to the National Curriculum:

This consists of:

- ***The Core Subjects:***

English, Maths, Science and Computing

- ***The Foundation Subjects:***

Geography, History, Design and Technology, Physical Education (PE), Music and Art.

- ***PSHE – Personal, Social and Health Education and Citizenship.***

Religious Education

The School currently offers French to some year groups.



Homework

From their very first days in school, children will bring their reading books home to share with you.

The school's current practice for Year 1 – Year 6 is that homework, appropriate to the age of the children, is sent home on a weekly basis to be returned the following week.

Sometimes pupils may bring some of their work home. This may be to complete a piece of work or as part of some independent research.

Religious Education

The Weaver School is not affiliated to any particular religious group. However, we provide religious education, including a daily act of collective worship which is broadly Christian, as required by current educational legislation. This takes the form of whole school assemblies and class gatherings.

We aim to help the children in our care to:

Acquire and develop knowledge and understanding of Christianity and other principal religions of the world

Develop their own moral and spiritual awareness and their ability to make reasoned and informed judgements about religious and moral issues.

We respect the right of parents to withdraw their children from all or part of religious education or religious worship. This may be done by speaking to the headteacher who would ensure the class teacher is aware and provide supervision for these children elsewhere in school.

Sex and Relationships Education

The Governing Body is required to consider whether Sex and relationships Education should be included in the school curriculum. The Policy of our governors is that no lessons are labelled sex education. However, the areas of growth and development will be addressed within the Science curriculum and questions arising will be dealt with truthfully and in as much detail as considered suitable to the age and stage of maturity of the child.

Year 5 pupils are told about the changes which occur during puberty. The sessions are taught as part of the science curriculum and are handled with sensitivity. They are designed to meet the needs of 9 & 10 year old children.

Parents have the right to withdraw their child(ren) from these sessions and the headteacher would be pleased to discuss this with you.

Weaver Woodlanders

Our forest school, Weaver Woodlanders, enables our children to participate in a series of lessons in a woodland environment. It is a wonderful opportunity for children to learn in an outdoor setting by carrying out practical hands-on tasks.

The forest school provides children with small achievable steps suited to their own abilities, thus allowing everyone to succeed and therefore build their confidence, self-esteem and independence.



Extracurricular Activities

There are a variety of extracurricular activities on offer at Weaver Primary School. These are usually run by outside agencies for which a small cost is incurred.

Sports clubs and practices are run when required by teaching staff.

An Art Club is running for 3 days a week currently. We also offer Yoga and Dance.

Charging Policy

We value all those activities which broaden children's experience of education. Extra width is given to the curriculum by encouraging educational visits, residential visits and a variety of visitors into the school who can provide special expertise. It is important that all children have access to such experiences.

Unfortunately these activities bring extra costs. Parents cannot be asked to pay for visits or for materials used by the children during the school day. However, it is usually necessary to ask for voluntary contributions to meet the additional costs.

Residential trips outside school time are charged for but it is school policy that the experience of residential visits should not be dependent on the parents' ability to pay.

In either case if a parent is unable to pay the full amount of a visit or residential trip, an agreement can be reached with the Headteacher whereby the school budget, School Fund or Churchwardens' Donation will subsidise part of the cost at the discretion of the Headteacher. If the shortfall in funding is large, this is always subject to the proviso that the activity may have to be cancelled.

It is not the school's policy to charge for, or request voluntary donations for, swimming lessons. This is a curricular entitlement whose cost is met from the school budget. However parents are charged for instrumental tuition as this is not an activity that is available to all children.

Funding for qualifying children may come from Pupil Premium for any of these activities at the discretion of the Headteacher.



Special Educational Needs and Disabilities (SEND)

All children are special and share the right to a broad and balanced curriculum and education. However, some children experience more difficulty than others in accessing the curriculum. When there are concerns about a child's progress there are clear pathways to follow, involving at all times, parents, teachers, other school staff and where necessary, advice from services external to the school.

In most cases the usual teaching resources within the school can be used to respond appropriately to the needs of the child experiencing some level of difficulty. The school follows a nationally approved graduated assessment of special needs and at School Support level, the class teacher will differentiate work, matching task to ability and maintain detailed records of each child's progress. Using regular reviews parents are kept informed of their child's progress and new levels for attainments are set together. For the majority of pupils this level of intervention, with continuing praise and encouragement, are all that is required to move the child along.

For some children, however, concerns about progress may continue and specialist expert advice from other services may be utilised. This might include, for example, help from a specialist teacher, an educational psychologist, a speech and language therapist or the school nurse. To ensure that parents are consulted and involved at every step there is a teacher with the role of Special Educational Needs Co-ordinator (SENDCO) who will monitor the progress of each individual child and liaise with all involved in the care of that child.

There is a designated SEND school governor who maintains close links with the SENDCO and all staff, and reports to the full Governing Body on a regular basis; parents are able to see the school's SEND policy and the local offer of what support is available, is on the school website.

In summary, the Weaver School endeavours to provide an environment that enables individual needs to be met with encouragement, sensitivity, and respect for achievements, in an atmosphere in which all pupils can thrive, whatever their abilities.

Leaders have taken thoughtful steps to ensure pupils with SEND feel equally prepared for their next steps. OFSTED 2023

Pupil Premium

All schools now receive extra funding into their budgets for each child who is entitled to and claims free school meals (FSM). If you think you may be eligible for this please contact the school office for information about how to apply. Please be assured that there is no stigma attached to such a claim as this information is kept confidential and will in fact allow you to access further support such as help towards residential trips etc. Now that meals are provided for infant children it still remains important for families who think they may be entitled to free school meals to fill in the relevant forms so that this funding is made available for the children.

During that last academic year, we have used the money to support families, the cost of residential trips and provided extra support programmes using qualified teachers.

How pupil premium money is used is left to the discretion of the headteacher as some pupils will require different support at different times.

Pastoral Care

Your child's class teacher will be concerned for the progress of your child; this includes their personal and social development as well as their educational progress.

We try to combine high expectations with a sympathetic approach. If a problem does arise, however, we will involve parents at an early age.

The School Council

The Weaver School encourages the children to participate in the life of the class and the organisation of the school. Children contribute to decision making and the running of the class and school, through the School Council. The Council consists of elected children who meet regularly to address issues that have been put forward by the children. This process enables children to develop as individuals who can make a positive contribution to the school community. It also gives the children an opportunity to experience democracy and active citizenship for themselves.



RESIDENTIAL VISITS

We value the opportunity for our pupils to attend residential visits. Currently our Year 2 go to Llandudno, Year 4 go to Tattenhall / Robinwood and Year 6 go to York. These give our children the opportunity to experience activities such as outdoor pursuits involving canoeing, climbing and raft building or art and drama as well as developing their independence, sense of achievement and ability to work as part of a team.



SPORT AT THE WEAVER

At The Weaver we aim to provide opportunities for:

Fun and success in sport

Access to quality resources

Developing a range of sports skills

Developing good sporting attitudes through competitions

Encouraging a lifelong healthy lifestyle

Facilities:

Large indoor hall

Extensive games fields

Access to High School facilities (shared site)

All Key Stage 2 children have the opportunity to work with Brine Leas pupils in Brine Leas sports hall.

Year 4 undertake an 8-week swimming programme at Nantwich Baths within a short distance of the school.

The school participates fully in district tournaments and competitions.



Pupil Behaviour

A code of conduct has been agreed by the staff and pupils and you are asked to discuss this with your child to support our aim for a happy, caring, co-operative, respectful and tolerant community.

We also have a set of school rules which were drawn together by the children through the School Council. These are as follows:

- Look and listen without interrupting.
- Follow instructions first time.
- Put your hand up to ask and answer questions.
- Get on with your work and let others get on with theirs.
- Keep your hands, feet, objects and unkind words to yourself.

As well as these rules we also have a Home/School Agreement in line with national requirements. This details the responsibilities of us all and aims to encourage our children to behave in a way that will be credit to themselves, their family and the school community.



Food in School

Every child should bring a water bottle to school. This should be taken home each evening for cleaning and filling so that children have access to drinking water throughout the day. If children finish their bottles during the course of the day, they may refill it in school.

The school has a Healthy Snacks Policy. Children may bring a healthy snack in to the playground during morning break, e.g. fruit or cheese. No crisps or sweets at this time please.

The school is part of the Free Fruit Scheme and all children in their first three years in school receive a piece of fruit for afternoon break. Any surplus fruit is made available to the older children the next day.

Owing to the fact that a number of children have nut allergies, the school operates a **NO NUTS POLICY**. No nut products should, therefore, be brought into school.

Lunchtime

The school is able to provide a cooked meal at lunchtime from a multi-choice menu. School meals are provided by Cheshire East Catering.

All infant children are provided with a free hot school meal. Mrs Blackhurst, our school cook, prepares meals on our school premises and the menus are made available for parents so that they may see what is available each day. Children bringing a packed lunch from home are encouraged to eat all the food and what is not eaten goes home in the lunchbox so parents are aware of what is being eaten. We encourage parents to limit the amount of sweet/chocolate based items and for no fizzy drinks to be sent into school.

All children are supervised during lunchtime, whilst eating and on the playground. This supervision is provided by Mid-day Assistants employed by the school.

Keeping in touch

The school has an open door policy and your child's class teacher will be pleased to talk to you before or after school. If a longer discussion is required, an appointment can be made.

Our school website www.weaver.cheshire.sch.uk is used effectively as a means of communication by children, parents, staff, stakeholders and now the wider community. We share newsletters, homework, curriculum information, children's work and reports through the school website. The school prospectus is also available electronically. The feedback from parents has been positive as they feel that this has improved our home school communication. Each child has their own individual log on that parents use with them.

All the APPS that school currently uses are listed below in the appendix.

The school notice board by the footpath gate will also display the most recent information.

All parents/guardians will receive details of parents' evenings throughout the year. An annual report about children's progress is made available towards the end of the summer term.

Attendance

Weaver school enjoys a very high attendance rate. We are required to publish our attendance figures and therefore we need to know why a child is absent. If your child misses school through sickness or another circumstance, please let the school know as soon as possible by telephone.

We do not allow holidays during term time. Any parents wishing to take their children on holiday during school time should be aware that according to the DfE, absences will be recorded as unauthorised. A number of unauthorised absences may trigger a Fixed Penalty Notice of £60 per parent per child.

Absences falling below 90% could be seen as a safeguarding concern and school may act upon these concerns after investigation. The schools target for attendance is 97%.

School Uniform

Uniform was introduced a number of years ago at the request of parents and is as follows:

GIRLS

Grey skirt, trousers or pinafore, blue blouse (tie available) or school polo shirt, royal blue pullover/cardigan/sweatshirt. For summer a blue and white dress may be worn.

BOYS

Grey trousers/shorts, blue shirt (tie available) or school polo shirt, royal blue pullover/sweatshirt.

Please ensure that your child has suitable footwear for wearing to school. Fashion shoes are often notoriously dangerous for running around in the playground.

All children require a P.E. kit in a 'pump bag' – blue school tee shirt, navy shorts and pumps. Jewellery should not be worn for P.E. but if earrings can't be removed, children should bring in surgical tape to tape them up.

Ties, polo shirts, cardigans, tee shirts, sweatshirts, PE shorts, pump bags and reading bags are available for purchase on Wednesday of each week. Order forms are available from the school office.

With exception of stud earrings and watches, no jewellery should be worn in school. Extreme haircuts are discouraged.

Our uniform can be purchased from Schools In, Hospital Street, Nantwich (01270 618957). It can also be accessed at www.schoolsinuniform.co.uk.

Please ensure all items of clothing are marked with your child's name.

School Association

We are very pleased to have an active Association and parents automatically become members.

Weaver School Association supports the school in many different ways and organises a variety of fund raising / social events through the year. The association funds all those extra things that we would otherwise be unable to afford. The association has recently purchased a variety of equipment and your support or involvement in some or all of the events would be welcome.



SCHOOL ORGANISATION

Most areas of the curriculum are by class teachers with their own class groups, however there may be some interchange of classes in order to take advantage of individual teachers' specialist skills.

Our school is organised as follows:-

RECEPTION	Ages 4 – 5
Key Stage 1 Years 1 & 2	Ages 6 – 7
Key Stage 2 Years 3, 4, 5 & 6	Ages 7 – 11

The school is grouped for the academic year 2020/2021 in the following way:-

Mrs Gill Price	Headteacher
Mrs Charlotte Johnson	Deputy Headteacher/ Year 2 Class Teacher

Early Years

Mrs Claire Greaves	Reception Class Teacher
Mrs Andrea Burrell	EYFS Teaching Assistant (First Aid)
Mrs Claire Carter	EYFS Teaching Assistant (First Aid)

Key Stage 1

Mrs Dale Morris	Year 1 Class Teacher
Mrs Charlotte Johnson	Year 2 Class Teacher
Mrs Paul Dean	Teaching Assistant
Mrs Lisa Cope	Teaching Assistant
Miss Emily Warhurst	Teaching Assistant (First Aid)

Key Stage 2

Mrs Andrew Pownall,	Year 3 Class Teacher / SENCO
Mrs Claire Morgan	Year 4 Class Teacher
Mrs Andrea Horsley	Year 5 Class Teacher
Mrs Shiona Daniels	Year 6 Class Teacher
Mrs Kate Horton	Teaching Assistant
Miss Emily Warhurst	Teaching Assistant (First Aid)
Mrs Carrie Bailey	Teaching Assistant
Mrs Louise Bartram	Teaching Assistant (First Aid)
Mrs Lisa Ackerley	Teaching Assistant

We also provide language lessons with our French teacher, Mrs Jenny Sykes.
PPA Cover and sport is provided by Mr Jake Gibbons.

Other members of staff who look after your children and their welfare while they are in school are as follows:-

Ms Katy Walker	School Business Manager
Mrs Rachel Jobling	Administrative Officer (First aid)

Mrs Kath Blackhurst	Cook
Mrs Janet Arrowsmith	Kitchen Assistant

Mrs Janet Spencer	Midday Assistant
Mrs Susan Beckley	Midday Assistant
Mrs Patricia Wareham	Midday Assistant

Mrs Jean Garnett	School Caretaker (am)
Mr Peter Lynch	School Caretaker (pm)

GOVERNORS

Mrs Angela Beecher	-	Chair of Governors
Mrs G Price	-	Headteacher

Mrs C Johnson	-	Teaching Governor
Mrs L Cope	-	Community Governor
Ms Eve Merrill	-	Parent Governor
Mrs L Lemieux	-	Community Governor
Mr P Sweetman	-	Community Governor
Mr J Capper	-	Community Governor
Mrs E Latham	-	Community Governor
Vacancy	-	Parent Governor
Vacancy	-	Community Governor
Vacancy	-	Community Governor

What are Governors?

Governors are like a Board of Directors and make decisions about how the school is run. They meet at least once a term in school and have legal duties, powers and responsibilities.

Governors are appointed to help.

They decide what is taught
Set standards of behaviour
Interview and select staff
Decide how the school budget is spent

Governors work together, they cannot act individually.

School Governors are:

Teachers at school
Parents
Local council representatives
Community representatives, businessmen and women

Parent Governors:

Have a child in school
Are elected by parents of the school
Serve, as do other governors for 4 years

DATES AND TIMES

2023/2024 School Year

Session Times	Key Stage 1	Key Stage 2
Morning	8.45 – 10.30 10.45 – 12 noon	8.45 – 10.30 10:45 - 12 noon
Afternoon	13:00 – 14.00 14.10 – 15.15	12:55 - 14.00 14.10 - 15.15

HOLIDAY PERIOD	DATE OF CLOSING	DATE OF RE-OPENING
September 2023		Monday 4 September
Autumn Half Term 2023	Thursday 19 October	Monday 30 October
Christmas 2023/24	Friday 22 December	Monday 8 January 2024
Spring Half Term 2024	Friday 16 February	Tuesday 27 February
Easter 2024	Thursday 28 March	Monday 15 April
May Day 2024	Friday 3 May	Tuesday 7 May
Summer Half Term 2024	Thursday 23 May	Tuesday 4 June
Summer 2024	Tuesday 23 July	

INSET DAYS

1. Friday 1 September 2023
2. Friday 20 October 2023
3. Monday 26 February 2024
4. Friday 24 May 2024
5. Monday 3 June 2024

Appendix 1.

Guide to Apps and links to the school

To see school applications that we use here is a quick guide.



SIMS for Parents is an application for collecting information about your child. You will be able to enter their personal information, medical, dietary and cultural information. This enables you to share sensitive data with us in a secure manner and conforming to General Data Protection Regulations (GDPR).



School spider is available as an app so you can access school information as we publish it and also for surveys, term times etc. on the go. We will let you know if we publish something we need you to act on. New users can login with the email they gave up at registration and click <forgot password> to reset and get access.



Teachers to Parents is the way in which we generally contact you as a group, either by text or email. It will either be whole school information, class information or a specific group of children (i.e. a club). This is a one-way system so we do not accept replies and only the first contact will get the messages/emails. There is also an app available for this too.



ParentPay – This is our payments system that can be accessed online by parents to either pay for school dinners or trips that are running. Only KS2 parents currently pay for school dinners. Login details will be supplied when you will need them.



Seesaw – This is an online service where we record our *Reception Learning Journey*. We also use this for homework in Years 1-6.

School website – www.weaver.cheshire.sch.uk This is the main area for information about school, individual classes and policies. It is a site that holds all the information about the school that you should require.

Email – If you need to contact school for any reason, please use admin@weaver.cheshire.sch.uk to contact the office team. Individual teachers will have their email addresses displayed on their class page on the website.

