



Putting learning and the learner at the heart of everything we do...



Where everyone contributes to our success

Parents are their child's first and most enduring educator. We want to encourage and guide our parents' continual involvement in their child's education and to work together as a team to ensure continued success. We have an extensive induction programme into our school for new parents and 'open door' philosophy where parents can talk to the class teacher on a daily basis. On Monday teaching staff send a weekly email through our safe intranet portal on eschools which can be accessed through a login on our website or an associated eschools app. The Headteacher and our office staff communicate to our parents through a weekly email to your personal account. Our website is full of information for all parents and during our Literacy and Mathematics' days we offer meetings to explain more about how we teach the children.

Homework is routinely provided to reinforce and extend learning. Children have their homework posted on our electronic learning platform together with a wide variety of reading materials and Mathematical challenges. A wide variety of awards are linked to our pupils' achievements including Family Assemblies where the 'Headteacher's Award' is presented or the weekly 'Star of the Week' where children has lunch with the Headteacher. We host a variety of parent/staff/child consultations, and events where parents can see the classroom in action such as Mums and Dads into School. There is also an end of year report.

All parents are automatically members of the 'Friends of Braywood'. Our PTA plays a vital role in the life of the school. Throughout the year there are many events organised to ensure that everyone feels valued. They plan events where parents socialise together and the school invite parents into school to share events such as Sports Day & BBQ picnic, Summer Fair, End of year Concert etc. In addition, we have a strong, friendly and effective Governing Body who are always on hand to support our school. They attend many events and can always provide another point of contact.

We offer extensive 'wrap around care' for our parents. We have a comprehensive extended provision including a Breakfast Club 'Early Birds', and an After-School Club 'The Squirrel Club'. The Breakfast Club runs every morning from 7.45am until 8.45am and a heathy breakfast is included in the fee. Our After-School Club runs from the end of the school day until 5.30pm. This club is focused around the children's interests and activities are stimulating, enjoyable and quite different from the usual school day. Both clubs are organized by trained members of school staff to ensure that the Braywood ethos is integral.

WHERE THE LEARNING BEGINS

Braywood C of E First School

'From little acorns, mighty oak trees grow, watered and nurtured by God'

'God has you in the palm of His hands' Isaiah 49:16



Welcome to Braywood

"At Braywood our aspirations are for all children to become confident, emotionally resilient and compassionate individuals who achieve personal success through strength of character and a love of learning"

We would like to welcome you to Braywood CE First School and look forward to a very happy and successful partnership over the coming years. As parents you want the best education possible for your child and at Braywood we aim to meet this challenge. We have an excellent reputation for both our academic standards and our inclusive, nurturing and empowering learning environment. We provide strong educational foundations; a well-balanced and creative curriculum with innovative teaching methods. Learning at Braywood is exciting and stimulating so that children develop a love of learning that will last a lifetime.

A child's first school is concerned with the growth of the whole individual. Our enthusiastic approach within a warm, happy and friendly atmosphere is at the heart of everything we do at Braywood. We celebrate success at every opportunity and provide enough challenges to help promote a child's self-esteem and confidence. All children are treated as special individuals receiving direction, support and the recognition that they deserve.

Confidence in a school comes from knowing and understanding the ethos and vision. We hope that you will develop your knowledge of Braywood through contact and open discussion with either myself, our governors and members of staff. We invite you to take advantage of the many opportunities we offer to come into school. It is important that mutual understanding and trust should be the basis of our shared responsibility.

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Together we Aspire, Learn, Achieve



Braywood was built in 1857 by Jean Van De Wever, the Belgian Minister to the English Court and his wife Elizabeth. They built a grand house called New Lodge, a church and a small school with an integrated mortuary chapel and Headteacher's home on their Braywood Estate. Van De Wever wanted to build a school which served both as a place of public worship and as a place to educate the children on his land. The first service was held in the chapel on 21st February 1858 and the school was opened on Monday 22nd March 1858. At the time the school educated children from to age of 4 to 11 years old and had 140 children on role with an average of 120 attending. The Headmaster resided in the front

Our History



Our School Day

Our school day starts at 8.45am and has a staggered finish which is 2.45pm for Foundation; 3pm for Year 1 & 2 and 3.15pm for Year 3 & 4. The two school entrances are open from 8.30am for families to wait in the playground until the classrooms are open and the gates are locked from 9am to 2.30pm. Parents wishing to visit the school need to enter through the main door during these times. Foundation and Year 1 are collected from their classrooms at the end of the day whilst the older children are dismissed from the playground once we have seen their parent. The trim trail is out of bounds at the end of the day for safety reasons.

Our timetable is varied but offers children a mid-morning break with fruit and a drink; a lunch time and several PE bursts. At midday children can have a packed lunch or a freshly prepared school dinner. There is a three-week rotational menu provided and initially the little Acorns stay in their classroom for lunch. We avoid nuts in all our choices. Universal free school meals ensure that the Foundation, Year 1 and 2 pupils can have a lunch free of charge. We are a healthy school and our meals are enjoyed by the children.

Our Curriculum

The 'Little Acorns' Foundation Stage acts as a bridge between home and school- a happy introduction into life at Braywood. During the Early Years a stimulating learning environment through play delivers all curriculum areas including phonics, early reading and mathematics skills. The curriculum is offered through different themes often led by the children.

Fundamental skills in English and Mathematics form the foundation of all other learning. Being a good communicator is an important ability so opportunities to speak in front of an audience are regularly fostered. Children are strategically taught the fundamentals of reading and writing through engaging schemes of work which help develop these complex skills. Similarly, manipulating number is an integral part of everyday life. Mathematical knowledge is developed through a strong understanding of numerical concepts and secure number facts to enable children to apply these strategies to problem solving. Proficiency is developed using practical approaches to promote mental agility and confidence. Teaching and learning in these core subjects produce accomplished readers, writers and mathematicians who flourish at Braywood.

Just as important through, are a range of foundation subject to promote a more holistic curriculum package. All children learn to speak French through song, rhyme and games. The older children are taught this subject in more specific, interactive lessons. Through our Science curriculum we aim to give children a wide range of applied experiences in order to develop early scientific skills and attributes. Science helps children to understand more about the world around them and is often taught at Braywood in relation to the topic areas the children are covering at the time. Our Topics (History, Geography, Art and Design Technology) are covered using the International Primary Curriculum which is a lot of fun. The work aims to be on an International stage with 'wow' days, associated trips or visitors with an overarching sense of real purpose in the work. The learner is stimulated to discover more through these studies. We want learning to be inspiring and opportunities to be aspirational such as our Entrepreneurial day.

ICT and Computing is a popular subject and we have a wealth of technological resources to engage the learner. Children are taught how to use technology correctly and safely. Each child is encouraged to be active and get involved in a wide range of Physical Education. We pride ourselves in the opportunities we offer including specialist teachers. At Braywood we are passionate about The Arts and this forms a large part of our curriculum. Music is a strength and all classes have a dedicated music lesson every week. They practice drama and dance; these are used to perform on stage in front of an audience. All children receive Religious Education. The subject embraces all faiths; it is vibrant, interesting with plenty of visits to a variety of places of worship. The children are involved in a Nativity Performance, Harvest Festival and Easter Concert at St Michaels Church Bray. Collective Worship consists of a range of whole school assemblies embracing our Christian values, moral reflections and to celebrate together.

Our School Safety Procedures

At the heart of all we do is the welfare, progress and happiness of our children. Procedures are put in place with this aim in mind. We are a safe place for children, and we adhere to all national guidelines in order to safeguard our pupils. We ask parents to make sure that children attend school regularly and arrive on time. Government policy ensures that holidays cannot be authorised in school time unless it is extremely exceptional circumstances. Children who are unwell, their parents need to inform the school before 10am. If there is any change in personal circumstances or procedures regarding the collection/drop off of a child, we ask that you contact the school. If you have any questions, please talk to your class teacher. Most issues can be dealt with immediately.

Road safety is always important, and all parents are asked to abide by the Traffic Code of Conduct and be courteous to our neighbours. To reduce congestion outside our school we provide a 'kiss and drop' facility from 8.20pm onwards. Parents can drop their child off outside the Church House and a member of staff will safely deliver them to the classroom.

We do collect data about pupils and in accordance with the Data Protection Act we only collect data that is relevant to our need. We process this information safely and in accordance to GDPR legislation. There is a lot of information on our website at www.braywoodschool.co.uk. The office staff are very happy to help with any questions. The Governors and Headteacher are keen to hear feedback from our parents and they are always available to help if necessary.



Where everyone is valued