



Sandy Hill
Academy

Prospectus

www.sandyhill.org.uk





We are all extremely proud of Sandy Hill Academy and the special teamwork that is evident here. Children, parents, staff and directors all work together to create the distinctive atmosphere that you will feel as soon as you set foot in our Academy.

We want your child to be prepared for the modern world and equipped with all the necessary skills to succeed as confident adults and our exciting curriculum reflects this desire.

It is all about the learning: happy learners make effective learners and we strive to make sure that the Academy is full with happy and vibrant children and staff who bring learning to life.

Welcome to Sandy Hill Academy.

Rachel Carter
Head Teacher

About Our School

Sandy Hill Academy is an exciting and vibrant primary school. Together with our superb onsite Nursery we have just over 300 children. Founded in 1972, Sandy Hill has a reputation for it's friendly and caring atmosphere as well as for excellent teaching and learning.



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Vision Statement

Sandy Hill Academy should be a centre of excellence for teaching and learning for all. Our pupils should be equipped for their future in an environment that is safe and reassuring, whilst enhancing and developing their desire to learn.

Sandy Hill will be a place where children's individual needs and abilities will be recognised and nurtured, their successes acknowledged and celebrated.

We aim to make Sandy Hill a place where children are happy, confident and secure in the knowledge that they are valued and listened to. A place where they can be excited and challenged in an environment that promotes learning at all levels.

The School's Mission Is:

Ambition

- We want every child to want to come to school.
- We want every child to achieve their full potential.

Courage & Confidence

- We want to educate young people for their world of the future, not our world of the past.
- We want resilient learners.
- We want creative learners.

Be the Best You Can

- We want to ensure all staff and children can be the best they can.

Trusting Relationships

- We want to be open and honest, and allow everyone to feel safe and secure in articulating their views, and allowing good relationships to develop.



Policy on Admissions

Both the main school and the Nursery are a locally popular choice of school. Because of this fact we are sometimes unable to offer places in the school or Nursery because particular year groups are full. The school's Pupil Admission Number (PAN) is 36 (children in each year group). For information regarding our admissions criteria, and applying for a place, please visit our website.



School Meals

We have a school kitchen offering a varied and healthy menu at reasonable prices, although children are welcome to bring and eat a packed lunch if preferred.

School Uniform

Our school colours are yellow and black. The Children wear yellow school sweatshirts and are available to order through the school office.

Boys and Girls P.E Kit

This should be kept in school throughout the week, in a named drawstring bag.

- White t-shirt
- Black shorts
- Black plimsolls or trainers for outdoors

Swimming Kit

Boys - Swimming trunks/shorts

Girls - One-piece swimming costume (not bikinis) - Navy or black

Long hair must be tied-back, at all times, for health and safety reasons.

Jewellery

Watches are educational and are encouraged, however they are brought to school at the owner's risk. No other jewellery should be brought to school.

We want every child to achieve their full potential.

Boys

White polo shirt

Yellow school sweatshirt

Black school style trousers/shorts

Black, grey or white socks

Black shoes

Girls

Summer dresses in yellow and white gingham or check.

White polo shirt/blouse

Yellow school sweatshirt

Black skirt, pinafore dress or school style trousers

White socks or white/black/grey tights

Low heeled black shoes. No open-toed sandals (for health & safety reasons)





Welcome Meetings

We encourage you to meet your child's new teacher at the beginning of each academic year. You will hear all about the class and what areas will be given special focus and how you can help at home.

If you have a child joining the reception class an extra welcome meeting will be held at the end of the term before they join their new class.

Open Afternoons & Progress Evenings

During the year the School hosts two open afternoons for you to view your child's work. Your child will lead these sessions and show you any work they're particularly proud of and discuss with you their targets and progress made.

A progress review afternoon/evening is held mid-year where you can book an appointment to discuss your child's progress with their teacher. These meetings are held both after school and through the school day and generally last 15 minutes.

Enquiries: 01726 75858

Staff



Miss R Carter
Head Teacher



Mr A Fielder
Executive Principal



Miss H Bingham
Assistant Head Teacher



Miss K Burt



Miss D Bussandri



Mrs H Davis



Ms C O'Brien



Mrs R Green



Mrs L Bawden



Mrs K O'Byrne



Mrs B Rundle



Mrs A Sandoe



Mr T Weale



Mrs S Jago-Spires

We want to educate young people for their world of the future, not our world of the past.

For more information: www.sandyhill.org.uk



Curriculum

Mathematics

Mathematics is not just arithmetic. Our Maths lessons aim to instil problem-solving skills that are useful in the real world and are stimulating to young minds. Home learning is extremely important and as a parent you will be encouraged to help with your child's maths learning.

Reading & Writing

Language is essential for communication and the understanding of all other subjects. Shared and guided reading, initially using letter and sound phonics during early years is an important focus, developing during junior years to match your child's interests whilst they read with you at home using the 'Home Readers' scheme. Writing is also invaluable. Creative writing and factual recording apply the English skills learnt across the curriculum.

Science

Science is where pupils can learn about the world around them and how things work. Fifty per cent of the teaching is topic-based with the other half practical science where pupils have the chance to experiment and discover for themselves.

Gifted and Talented Children (GAT)

Staff, pupils and parents identify children with special gifts and talents in different areas. These pupils are provided with enrichment activities within the classroom and extension activities beyond the provision for others. They are given suitably challenging work and are encouraged to take on additional responsibilities to further develop their skills. Some enrichment activities include the creative writing club, mathematics club and numerous sport opportunities. Pupils' progress is monitored and assessed regularly to identify ways to help develop their skills. This monitoring is continued with other local primary and secondary schools to develop the opportunities available to pupils with gifts or talents.





ICT

Sandy Hill is leading the way with the use of ICT across the curriculum. We have a modern computer suite and IT resources are available in many of the classrooms. The use of technology is vital to equip and engage our young people with their future. We are striving to provide the very best facilities to enable this. Each class maintains it's own blog on the school website and we are developing video links with schools in other parts of the world.

Special Educational Needs

Through careful monitoring of pupils and discussions with staff, it is our aim to identify any special educational needs at an early stage. Parents are informed of any concerns and kept informed of pupil's progress each term. Any concerns will be discussed with the class teacher and Inclusion Officer. Additional support from a teaching assistant or another intervention can be put in place to support the child. Pupils each have their own personalised target cards, which will suggest what pupils need to practise and work on.



Enquiries: 01726 75858

Religious Education

Our aim is to teach sound moral principles in a broadly Christian way. Parents have the right to withdraw their children from Religious Education and Collective Worship, but the Head Teacher should be contacted if they wish to do so.

Personal, Social, Health Education (PSHE)

PSHE is taught sensitively as a stand-alone subject and through other subjects as appropriate. The school has been recognised as an excellent place for children to learn and grow and the PSHE curriculum delivers many key elements that contribute towards this strength. Children are introduced to PSHE concepts and knowledge at levels that are appropriate to age and ability. Parents and carers are always welcome to discuss content of PSHE lessons with our teachers, with the option of withdrawing their child for religious reasons from some elements.

The PSHE policy is freely available on the website and we welcome your comments.



We want every child to want to come to school.



For more information: www.sandyhill.org.uk

What Else Are We Doing?

Healthy School Status

Sandy Hill has enjoyed Healthy School status for several years, and we take the physical and emotional wellbeing of our children seriously. We want our pupils to learn to live healthily, with strong self esteem and a desire to get on well with each other, and encourage this throughout the school with a wide range of projects.

Healthy Eating

We are a member of the Government's School Fruit and Vegetable Scheme. Each infant and Nursery child receives a free piece of fruit or vegetable each school day. We have a Healthy Eating Week to educate children in the nutritional value of different foods.

School Library

Use of the school Library is encouraged, where children can borrow books on a weekly basis. The Library offers a wide variety of books, and is regularly updated.



School Productions

Every year we have a Christmas nativity play for infants and Christmas plays performed by our junior classes. During the Summer Term we have a production which Years-5 & 6 take part in. Over recent years we have seen such spectaculars as: Grease, The Evacuees, Robin Hood, The Factory Children and The Big Green Adventure.

The productions are recorded and DVDs are available to purchase as a valuable keepsake.

Swimming

All classes have the opportunity to attend swimming lessons run by school staff. Children will have the chance to develop different swimming techniques and learn about safety in the water.

Enquiries: 01726 75858

The School Council

The School Council comprises of elected members from the Years 2 to 6 (two per year group) and Ms O'Brien (our Year-5 teacher). They meet twice a month to discuss a variety of issues, such as: How to raise money for the school? How to improve lunchtimes/break-times? In each meeting the reps also discuss any issues or suggestions that may have been raised by their classmates. As a result of meetings, changes have been implemented during lunchtimes and new play equipment has been purchased.

Visitors from other schools have attended our meetings and we currently hold the Silver School Council Award, on the way towards Gold.

Peer Mediators and Friendship Stops

Many of our Year-6 children operate a Peer Mediator scheme where they are available at 'Friendship Stops' during playtimes and lunchtimes to help younger children make friends and encourage them to join in. The Year-6 children act as older brothers and sisters, which works extremely well and benefits both older and younger children.

Playtime Pals comprises of Year 5 children who lead a range of fun activities at break time. Their role is to be a friend to everyone at play times.

For more information: www.sandyhill.org.uk



Welcome to Sandy Hill Foundation Stage 1 (Nursery)

At Sandy Hill Academy we recognise that children develop quickly in the early years. We aim to give children the best possible start to life, a secure foundation that their learning can be built upon. Children are born ready, able and eager to learn. We aim to promote their learning in our warm, caring and safe environment.

At Sandy Hill we recognise that every child is unique. We aim to support and structure their learning so they are resilient, capable, confident and self-assured. We encourage learning through the use of quality, stimulating and cultural resources within an enabling environment both inside and outside. We support children to develop positive relationships with each other, staff and the curriculum in order to become independent learners.

We recognise the importance of a strong partnership between parents, carers and staff. It is an essential ingredient to a child's success and we encourage parents to contribute to their children's development by sharing their child's learning diary and parent meetings.



Opening times

The nursery main teaching sessions are **8:30 to 11:30am** and **12:30 to 3:30pm** however we are able to offer nursery places from **8am to 4pm** for flexibility.

Funding

Children are entitled to funded 15 hours a week within the nursery starting the term after their third birthday.

For children wishing to access the nursery above the 15 funded hours we charge £4 per hour per child.

Admissions

An application form for the nursery can be obtained from the Academies office. There is a waiting list for places in the nursery. We offer places in birth date order when a space has become available, you will be notified by a confirmation letter asking you to select your preferred sessions and hours.

Foundation Stage 2 (Reception)

In our classes, we ensure that children learn and develop well in a healthy and safe environment. We promote outstanding teaching and learning to ensure children gain a broad range of knowledge and skills that provide the right foundation for good future progress through school and life and develop embedded learning.

These principles shape our practice:

- We understand that every child is a **unique child**, who is constantly learning and can be resilient, capable, confident and self-assured.
- We aim for our children to learn to be strong and independent through **positive relationships**.
- Through an **enabling environment children** learn and develop, we respond to their experiences and their individual needs. We like to develop a strong partnership between practitioners and parents and/or carers.
- We understand that **children develop and learn in different ways and at different rates**. We provide education and care for all our children in our early years provisions including children with special educational needs and disabilities.

The areas of learning and development

There are seven areas of learning and development in the Early Years Foundation Stage, three prime areas and four specific areas. The areas are all crucial for igniting children's curiosity and enthusiasm for learning and for building their capacity to learn, form relationships and thrive. The three prime areas and are:

- **Communication and language**
- **Physical development**
- **Personal, social and emotional development**

The four specific areas cover:

- **Literacy**
- **Mathematics**
- **Understanding the world**
- **Expressive arts and design**

Each area of learning and development is delivered through planned, purposeful play and through a mix of adult-led and child initiated activities. We believe that play is essential for children's development, building their confidence as they learn to explore, to think about problems and relate to others.

Activities are in response to the child's emerging needs and interest and we guide their development through warm, positive interaction.

School Day

Morning
8:20^{AM}

Children are allowed in the playground



8:30^{AM}
Wake and Shake

9:40^{AM}

Morning Playtime (15 minutes)

11:05^{AM}
Second Playtime (15 minutes)

12:00^{PM}
Lunchtime Infants

1:00^{PM}
Afternoon school begins

Afternoon
12:10^{PM}
Lunchtime Juniors

2:05^{PM}
Afternoon Playtime (Infants only 15 minutes)

3:00^{PM}
School day ends



We want to ensure all staff and children can be the best they can.

Enquiries: 01726 75858

Sandy Hill Kids Club

Sandy Hill Kids club is a breakfast, after school and holiday club for children between the ages of four and eleven years. The club is run by qualified and experienced staff, who organise fun activities for your children.

During the week children will have the opportunity to take part in cooking, art, crafts and games as well as doing their homework or reading to a member of staff.

The Holiday Club often has a theme and various activities are organised around this theme. The children also have the opportunities to go on local trips.



Breakfast Club

Times

7:45am until 8:25am

The children are offered breakfast.

After School Club

Times

3:00pm - 3:30pm

3:00pm - 4:15pm

3:00pm - 5:15pm

3:00pm - 6:00pm

Children are offered a snack which is included in the price.

Holiday Club

Times

8am - 5:30pm

For more information and for a summary of our prices, please contact us on **01726 75858 Option 2** or kidsclub@sandyhill.org.uk

Contact Us

Sandy Hill Academy,
Sandy Hill, St Austell,
Cornwall, PL25 3AT

 01726 75858

 info@sandyhill.org.uk

For more information and access to our
results and policies, please visit our website

 www.sandyhill.org.uk

