



Nothing is Impossible



ATWOOD
PRIMARY ACADEMY

SCHOOL PROSPECTUS



We believe that all children can achieve excellence and that a quality primary education provides the platform for a successful lifetime of learning.

'We are extremely proud of our child's achievements this year and feel they have made fantastic progress.'

– Parent of a Year 4 pupil



WELCOME TO ATWOOD PRIMARY ACADEMY



Atwood is a highly respected, over-subscribed, diverse and thriving academy. All of our stakeholders: pupils, parents, teachers, support and administrative staff, governors and the local community, truly believe that 'Nothing is Impossible'. In practice, this means that Atwood is an ambitious and vibrant learning community in which children are placed at the very heart of all that we do. Partnership with parents is also very important. Through our regular newsletters, workshops and community and celebration events, families and staff work together for the benefit of the children.

Working with a wide range of partners in education, our high expectations and innovative curriculum make for a well-rounded education.

Children must always come first and we must ensure that all pupils at Atwood feel happy and safe. Our children will be the leaders and world citizens of the future and we actively promote the independence, confidence and team work they will need. We value honesty, respect and kindness in all that we do.



Rob Veale
Headteacher

At Atwood we lead by example, our staff model the values of respect for others, self, and the school environment.



A SHARED UNDERSTANDING

We set clear boundaries for behaviour through consistent and fair consequences, so that children can learn whilst feeling confident and safe at Atwood.

All staff understand that providing the best possible start helps ensure lifelong learning success. This is why we place great emphasis on ensuring that children feel happy and secure from their very first day. Learning is designed to follow their interests and each transition - from our nursery into reception; through infants and into juniors - is carefully planned to ensure a smooth and worry free progression here at Atwood.

TO SUPPORT AND GUIDE

Throughout their time with us, we provide an excellent range of opportunities to develop each child's interests and talents - including music, sport, art, drama, debating, chess, engagement with UNICEF's Rights Respecting Schools' agenda, charitable works, and a thriving School Council, which includes our Head Girl and Head Boy. This ensures that all our pupils are heard and know that their opinions are valued.



'We are very proud of our child's report. We are extremely grateful to all the teaching staff who have helped them progress this year and we are looking forward to another good year at Atwood.'

– Parent of a Year 1 pupil

ENGAGING LEARNING EXPERIENCES

Atwood strives to engage pupils in a range of rich learning opportunities that enable all children to excel.

Our staff collaboratively plan and deliver lessons that give children exciting and memorable experiences, both in the classroom and outside, in our extensive grounds, as well as within the wider community. This gives a wealth of practical opportunities that develop explorative, teamwork and problem-solving skills.

Teaching is matched to the learning needs of individuals or groups of children. Activities are designed to promote a rich dialogue between teachers and pupils, between children and their peers, and within the wider school community. Staff guide children on exciting learning journeys that culminate in secure understanding demonstrated in pieces of writing, artwork, projects, drama or music.

Atwood works in close collaboration with a range of other local primary schools to share good practice. Our innovative Enrichment Programme allows pupils to engage with each other whilst pursuing shared interests such as debating, computing, music and drama, creative writing and cookery.

*‘Tell me and I forget.
Teach me and I remember.
Involve me and I learn.’
- Benjamin Franklin*



OUR CORE VALUES

Atwood is a 'values based learning community', committed to the education of the whole child. The Values which we have adopted are based around developing our children to become successful learners.

We believe everyone needs values to guide them through life. Without values we have no anchor, nothing on which to base our decisions and priorities, and we recognise the huge role parents have to play in helping us embed our values.

We teach our values through everything we do and through our daily assemblies and PHSE curriculum. Our Values guide us in providing a good education for our children.

- ✓ **LEARNING**
- ✓ **TEAMWORK**
- ✓ **ENTHUSIASM**
- ✓ **DIVERSITY**
- ✓ **RESPECT**
- ✓ **ACHIEVEMENT**
- ✓ **FRIENDSHIP**



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'Pupils have lots of opportunities to discuss their ideas to develop their thinking, and work well together'

Year 2 Teacher





SPORTING EXCELLENCE



All Atwood pupils engage in a wide range of sporting activities and events. A carefully selected blend of competitive and non-competitive sports allows our children to experience success whilst promoting healthy lifestyles.

Pupils receive specialist teaching for PE, and a wide range of sports and activities are offered- including gymnastics, football, cricket, rugby, tennis, hockey and basketball. There are also adventurous activities such as orienteering, cross country and swimming. Younger pupils take part in a wide range of Forest Schools activities, such as: den building, camp-fire cooking and using woodland tools, whilst older pupils experience an overnight camp and two types of residential activity holidays whilst at Atwood.

Many of our pupils represent Atwood at a wide range of extra-curricular sporting events; our pupils have also represented Croydon and other sporting bodies such as Crystal Palace FC and Surrey County Cricket Club. In order to promote healthy competition, pupils take part in a wide range of inter-house events on a regular basis.



OUR CURRICULUM

Atwood offers a distinctive and inspiring International Primary Curriculum, linking English and mathematics with other subjects, to provide deep learning experiences.



International Primary Curriculum

Atwood follows the highly successful International Primary Curriculum which has a clear process of learning and specific learning goals for every subject, for personal learning and for 'international mindedness'.

The IPC allows Atwood to meet its educational vision. Children will enjoy their learning, develop enquiring minds, develop the personal qualities they need to be good global citizens, whilst developing a sense of their own nationality and culture. At the same time, children develop a respect for the heritage, nationality and cultures of others. Most of all, we want our children to develop the skills that they need to confidently face the world of tomorrow.

The IPC is now the curriculum choice in over 1,800 schools in over 90 countries around the world.

**'EDUCATION IS NOT THE
LEARNING OF FACTS,
BUT THE TRAINING OF
THE MIND TO THINK.'**

- ALBERT EINSTEIN.



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Music

Every child at Atwood will take part in our excellent music programme. Our music provision comprises of specific musical skills including singing, listening, playing instruments, theory, history and performance. There are formal music lessons each week based on the National Curriculum programmes of study and every child, as they pass through the school, is offered the opportunity to learn to play an instrument. There are wide opportunities to sing, dance and act as part of our co-curricular programme, too.

DEVELOPING A VERVE FOR LIFE...

Through specialist teaching and a host of additional opportunities, we nurture children's talents and passions in sport, the arts, as well as the world beyond.

Employing specialist teachers for music and PE enables us to offer excellent and highly focussed teaching in these subjects, as well as expert-led opportunities to extend learning beyond the school day. Atwood offers a broad range of after school clubs as well as providing breakfast club and after school care on site.

'Our curriculum is enriched with a range of clubs and visits that, as well as assemblies, aim to promote pupils' spiritual, moral and cultural development.'

- School Governor



Staff and governors encourage children to participate in the many and varied educational experiences available to them. These include residential stays, field trips, special events, plays and productions, sporting events and cultural and community activities.





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