



Plumpton Primary School



Prospectus 2021/22

Address:

Southdowns
Plumpton Green
East Sussex
BN7 3EB

Telephone:

01273 890338

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plumptonoffice@skylarkfed.education

Website:

www.plumpton.e-sussex.sch.uk

School Assessment Data July 2019

(Due to Covid 19, School Assessment Data for the years 2020 and 2021 was not recorded)

End of Reception - % of children reaching a Good Level of Development (GLD)

| Plumpton % | East Sussex | National |
|------------|-------------|----------|
| 73% | 75.9% | 71.7% |

Phonics Screening Check – % of children passing the Year 1 Phonics Screening Check.

| Plumpton % | East Sussex | National |
|------------|-------------|----------|
| 86% | 81.8% | 82% |

End of Key Stage 1 Assessment – % of children reaching or exceeding End of Year 2 Expectations.

| | Plumpton | | East Sussex | | National | |
|---------|----------|---------------|-------------|---------------|----------|---------------|
| | Expected | Greater Depth | Expected | Greater Depth | Expected | Greater Depth |
| Reading | 83% | 25% | 77.3% | 26.9% | 75% | 25% |
| Writing | 83% | 17% | 72.2% | 15.6% | 69.2% | 14.7% |
| Maths | 83% | 25% | 77.6 | 22.2% | 75.7% | 21.7% |

End of Key Stage 2 Assessment – % of children reaching or exceeding End of Year 6 Expectations.

| | Plumpton | | East Sussex | | National | |
|---------|----------|---------------|-------------|---------------|----------|---------------|
| | Expected | Greater Depth | Expected | Greater Depth | Expected | Greater Depth |
| Reading | 100% | 84.6% | 71.9% | 25.2% | 73.1% | 26.9% |
| Writing | 100% | 23.1% | 78.7% | 17.1% | 78.4% | 20.1% |
| Maths | 93% | 46.2% | 75.1% | 21.7% | 78.6% | 26.6% |
| GPAS | 100% | 46.2% | 72.3% | 26.9% | 78% | 35.6% |

Executive Head Teacher
Head of School
Chair of Governors

Mr Stewart James
Mr Jonathan Hughes
Mr Peter Clark

Welcome to Plumpton School where we believe that every child comes first. Plumpton Primary School is proudly part of the highly successful Skylark Federation. We hope that your partnership with our school will be a happy one and we are confident that your child will thrive, grow and learn in our care.

This prospectus should give you a good sense of what Plumpton School is all about. We hope it will tell you all you need to know. If not, please just call and ask. We are very proud of our school, but don't just take our word for it; come and see for yourself. We will be delighted to show you!



Plumpton School Vision Statement



We are a small, rural primary school set in the heart of a thriving community with magnificent views from the school grounds over the South Downs - just two miles away.

At Plumpton Primary School we believe that every child is entitled to enjoy their childhood. They should be valued for their individuality, culture and heritage. We provide an environment which is caring, stimulating and challenging.

Our Vision

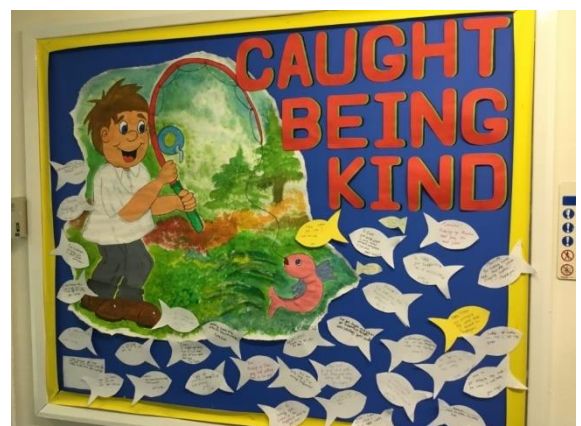
We're kind and outward looking

Learners today, leader's tomorrow

Our Values

At Plumpton School, we are:

1. Polite, friendly and helpful
2. Keen to take care of our school environment (and everyone in it)
3. Always try our very best
4. Respectful
5. Honest



Admissions to Plumpton Primary School

Admissions for a September start are coordinated by East Sussex County Council's Admissions Department. (Online at www.eastsussex.gov.uk/admissions).

The phone number for the admissions team at East Sussex County Council is 0300 3309472. Should you experience any difficulties, please contact us at the school, we will be happy to help.

Equal Access

Plumpton School is fully committed to equal opportunities within the admissions process and provision will be made for any pupils with special needs or disabilities who are to be admitted into the school.

Staff and Governors

Staff

Executive Head Teacher
Head of School
SENCO
Dep. Head of School/Class Teacher
Dep. Head of School/Class Teacher
Class Teacher
Class Teacher
Class Teacher
Class Teacher
Business Manager
School Secretary
Finance Assistant
Caretaker
Cleaner

Mr Stewart James
Mr Jonathan Hughes
Ms Sophie Shannon
Mrs Briony Williams
Ms Laura Newnham
Mrs Emily Matheson
Mrs Marianne Allen
Ms Margie Krijnauw
Miss Emily Jones
Mrs Ann Hill
Mrs Penny Ketley
Mrs Cecilia Jones
Mr Dave Higham
Mrs Heather Isted

Higher Level Teaching Assistant/
Sports Co-Ordinator
Teaching Assistant / MDSA
Teaching Assistant / MDSA
Teaching Assistant / MDSA
Teaching Assistant / MDSA
Individual Needs Assistant
Midday Supervisory Assistant

Mrs Emma Taplin
Mrs Helen Timmins
Miss Katie Dewar
Miss Amelia Carter
Mrs Gemma Rogers
Mrs Anne Cozens
Mrs Denise Bishop

Breakfast Club
After School Club

Mrs Maria Makonnen
Mrs Maria Makonnen / Mrs Anne Cozens

Governors

| | |
|---|----------------------|
| Chair of Governors (Authority Gov.) | Mr Peter Clark |
| Vice Chair of Governors (Co-Opted Gov.) | Mrs Jane Nurse |
| Foundation Governors | Mrs Sue Seymour |
| Foundation Governors | Mrs Anne Dunlop |
| Ex-Officio Foundation Governor | Rev. Sam Carter |
| Executive Headteacher | Mr Stewart James |
| Co-opted Governor | Mr Marc Munier |
| Co-opted Governor | Mrs Nathalie Miles |
| Co-Opted Governor | Mrs Carrie Parnell |
| Co-Opted Governor | Mr Mark Young |
| Parent Governor | Ms Sophie Groenendal |
| Staff Governor | Mrs Ann Hill |
| Clerk to Governors | Mrs Verity Brown |

School Organisation

| Class | Year Group | Teacher | Teaching Assistant |
|--------------|--------------------|---|---------------------------|
| Robins | Reception & Year 1 | Mrs Marianne Allen | Mrs Helen Timmins |
| Lapwings | Year 1 and Year 2 | Miss Emily Jones | Miss Amelia Carter |
| Woodpeckers | Year 2 and Year 3 | Ms Laura Newnham Mrs Bryony Williams | Miss Katie Dewar |
| Kingfishers | Year 4 and Year 5 | Ms Margie Krijnauw | Mrs Emma Taplin |
| Owls | Year 6 | Mr Jon Hughes Mrs Emily Matheson | Mrs Gemma Rogers |

At present the school consists of five classes. Plumpton has a strong team of highly-dedicated and professional teachers and teaching assistants who work closely together to ensure continuity of the teaching programme throughout the school. We are committed to personalising learning for our children.

Each class has a dedicated teaching assistant. They receive training and support for the many tasks they perform in school. Their work might be with the whole class, specific groups of children or individuals who require additional support or challenge.

Times of the School Day

| | |
|-------------------|--|
| Start times | 08.40am – All children arrive at school and head to the main playground where they will complete the daily mile before lining up to go in to school. Robins, Lapwings and Woodpeckers enter by the main gates at the front of the school and Kingfishers and Owls enter by the side gate. |
| Morning session 1 | 8.50am – 10.15am |
| Assembly | 10.15am – 10.30am |
| Break | 10.30am – 10.45am |
| Morning session 2 | 10.45am – 12.00pm |
| Lunch | 11.45am – 1.15pm (this is also staggered) |
| Afternoon session | 1.00pm – 3.00pm |
| Finish times | 3.00pm – Robins, Lapwings and Woodpeckers. 3.10pm – Kingfishers and Owls |



Our Facilities

We are fortunate to be situated in one of the loveliest parts of Sussex with magnificent views from the school grounds over the South Downs, some two miles away. Our outdoor environment is superb. We have a forest school area, an active allotment and large outdoor space for the children to play and learn in. Learning outdoors is a big part of our curriculum. We have a large field used for sport, games and playtime when the weather is dry.

The large playground and outdoor play area are popular with all year groups.

We have a wide range of equipment which encourages the children to be active. We also have a Quiet Area with tables which is used for creative play and an outdoor classroom.

Children in the Early Years class benefit from a secure outdoor learning area and playhouse.

Trained Play Leaders organise games and activities at lunchtime.



Technology

Our school is well resourced for ICT. We have computers, laptops and I-Pads for the children to use. Wireless technology offers children access to the server or internet anywhere around the school. Our staff teach with the support of interactive white boards which are in every room. We have an E-Safety Policy which ensures the safety of pupils and staff.

Children in Years 1 – 6 all have Google Classroom accounts. These are used for homework activities, sharing class and whole school celebrations and an online resource to support 'virtual learning'.

Parents of our Reception children are able to track their children's learning and development using Tapestry.



Accommodation

There are five classrooms: three in the main building and two housed in well-equipped separate classrooms connected by a covered walkway. We have additional spaces in the school including a space that we use as a multi-purpose community hub (The Perch) which is also used for our Breakfast Club and After School Club.



We have a well-stocked Library with a range of books provided for all ages, abilities and interests.

The school hall is used for assemblies, drama and music as well as our school lunches (which are cooked on site). The hall is also used for PE. We enjoy sport at Plumpton. Our children take part in a Daily Mile initiative.



Beyond The School Grounds

We are lucky to be positioned within a village that has many amenities and places of interest. We have links with Plumpton Racecourse and Plumpton Agricultural College, and often use their facilities for a range of purposes. Our wider community includes the historic town of Lewes and the city of Brighton.

Starting School

We want each child's time at school to be happy and secure. We invite parents of new Reception children to a meeting in the summer term, to find out the practical details of starting school. Through June and July the children are given the opportunity to spend a couple of mornings in school with the Reception Team. We have close links with the local playgroup, and playgroup children visit the school, accompanied by their helpers. Through these visits the children become familiar with the school environment and also get to know their teacher before they start school.

When children start school in September we phase their starting dates so that they can become used to people and routines without being overwhelmed. For older children we work directly with the parents and tailor a settling-in programme to meet each child's needs. Children in Reception are given a 'buddy' from Year 6 who supports and helps them throughout the year.



Moving on to secondary school

Many of our children choose to go to the local secondary school at Chailey. Our Executive Head Teacher, Mr. James, is a member of the Chailey Academic Cluster and he works closely with Chailey Secondary School. In recent years Plumpton and Chailey have forged excellent links through a planned programme designed to prepare our children for their transition into secondary education. The staff and children visit Chailey to experience their curriculum, and Chailey staff visit us to talk to children and teachers. We also have links with other local secondary providers.



Our Unique Skylark Curriculum

We are particularly proud of our unique Skylark curriculum. We have devised a curriculum that is meaningful, purposeful and relevant to the children who live in this area of East Sussex, nestled underneath the South Downs.

The area is rich with local history, Geography and creativity. We use these subjects as the drives for our curriculum allowing our children to truly immerse themselves in a project based curriculum where subject specific skills are explicitly taught in a planned, age appropriate developmental way.

Through the Skylark curriculum, children are taught the importance of analysis as the key to understanding.

We aim to put our children at the centre of their own learning and place great emphasis on nurturing skills and attitudes such as resourcefulness, resilience and co-operation. Our teachers bring the National Curriculum alive by making links between the individual subjects and applying them to whole school 'Projects'. Our children also benefit from specialist tuition in sport and music on a weekly basis.

In the Foundation Stage our experienced team focus on developing key learning skills such as listening, speaking, concentrating, persistence and learning to work and co-operate with others. They work within the prime areas of learning (communication and language, physical development and personal, social and emotional development) and the specific areas of learning (literacy, mathematics, understanding the world and expressive arts and design) that make up the Foundation Stage Curriculum.

English

We aim to develop literacy skills, reading, writing and speaking and listening across all curriculum subjects. Literacy is embedded into our learning journeys and children work with quality fiction and non-fiction texts through the year.

We use Talk and Drama for Writing as a way to inspire young writers to write for a wide variety of purposes. Guided Reading takes place in every class on a daily basis and children have numerous opportunities to read for pleasure and become independent readers.

Phonics and Spelling are taught daily for twenty minutes across the school. Children are grouped according to their need and make very good progress in this area.



Maths

The school follows the National Curriculum for Maths. Every class has a dedicated Maths lesson every day with a focus on using and applying maths in everyday contexts. We have a whole school calculations policy and run workshops to support parents in helping their children at home. Weekly homework tasks enable children to learn number bonds and times tables.



Science

Where possible, Science is taught in a cross curricular way as part of a learning journey. This approach creates a stimulating learning environment. Emphasis is put on investigative work and Scientific. Wherever possible we use our outdoor environment to support work in Science.

We are proud to boast links with local secondary schools (Cumnor House, Lewes Old Grammar School, Ringmer) who allow us to use their science laboratories and facilities.

Physical Education

All children participate in a wide range of activities including, gym, dance, dodgeball, netball, football, athletics and volleyball. Every class receives two hours of PE a week, one of which is delivered by our sports coach. Older pupils have the opportunity to participate in outdoor activities when on their summer residential trip.

We run a number of after school clubs including football, yoga, multiskills, dodgeball and tennis. There is a small charge for these.

We also compete in a wide range of tournaments and competitions, both within our Alliance and beyond. These are organised to give opportunities to as many children as possible.

In November 2021 Plumpton Primary School organised the Chailey Cluster Schools Cross Country Competition at the Plumpton Playing Fields.



The Arts

Plumpton prides itself on its provision for the Arts. Every class has dedicated time for music and art every week. This enables the children to cover the national curriculum for music, learn songs for assembly and rehearse for productions. The school has a dedicated drama and music specialist teacher who works with all children every week.

There are two productions at Christmas; the Key Stage 1 Nativity Play and the Key Stage 2 Carol Concert. We also hold a Key Stage 2 Production in the Village Hall during Term 6 and have concerts to celebrate Harvest and Easter.

All children have the opportunity to learn to play musical instruments. We provide teaching for violin, guitar, piano and drums at Plumpton.

In art, we aim to give the children a range of opportunities to work in both 2D and 3D media. The children are introduced to the work of famous artists and use sketchbooks to collate and try out ideas and techniques.



Computing

We are continually developing and increasing our IT resources. Children have access to computers, laptops and tablets which can travel from class to class to support learning. Each class has timetabled access to our laptop and iPad trolley to support computing across the curriculum as well as the new curriculum for computing. Every class has an interactive whiteboard.

E Safety is a priority for Plumpton with every child receiving e-safety education throughout the year.

Personal, Social, Health and Economic Education and Citizenship

Our PSHE curriculum is comprehensive and follows the *Jigsaw* scheme of work. It includes social and health education, Sex and Relationships Education (SRE) and Drugs, Alcohol and Tobacco Education (DATE). These themes are introduced to children at an appropriate level. For example Year 1 children will learn about lifecycles generally (for example, cats having kittens), whereas Upper Key Stage Two children will discuss and learn about puberty and human reproduction. We have an active School Council who help to make important decisions about life in school.

Religious Education

This is taught in accordance with the agreed syllabus for Religious Education in East Sussex. The children are taught the beliefs of Christianity and other world religions. An act of Collective Worship, which is of a broadly Christian nature, is included in our school assemblies. Parents have the right to withdraw their children from all or part of the Religious Education and Collective Worship provided. In this case alternative provision would be made in consultation with the Head of School.

Children with Special Educational Needs and Disabilities (SEND)

A pupil has Special Educational Needs where their learning difficulty or disability calls for special educational provision, namely provision different from or additional to that normally available to pupils of the same age. Our first response to less than expected progress is always quality first teaching targeted at the pupil's area of weakness; children may be supported in the classroom, in small groups or on a one to one basis where needed, either working with a TA or teacher.

In identifying a child as needing SEN support, the class teacher, working with the SENCO, will carry out a clear analysis of the pupil's needs and identify strategies for support towards independent learning. Slow progress and low attainment do not necessarily mean that a child has SEN. Equally, attainment in line with chronological age does not necessarily mean that there is no learning difficulty or disability.

We are committed to working in partnership with parents and carers and in involving them and their children in decisions about learning and progress. Arrangements are in place in school to support pupils with medical conditions. Pupils with SEND are encouraged to participate fully in the life of the school and in any wider community activity.

Despite intervention from the school, some children may still need additional support and, with parental consent, may be referred to outside agencies such as a counselling service, speech therapy or educational psychologist. We have a trained counsellor on site every week who works with individual children.

Where a child has had support from outside agencies and still has not made expected progress, consideration will be given to requesting an Education, Health and Care assessment.

More able pupils are identified by class teachers. They are given tasks and challenges appropriate to their needs within school. For older pupils, this is provided in conjunction with other schools and relevant outside agencies.

Extra-Curricular Activities

There are a number of activities which run at lunchtime and after school for the benefit and enrichment of our children. We aim to provide a range of clubs to cater for all interests and all ages.

These include football, karate, yoga, choir, recorder, gardening, and multi-sports.

In addition to these the school may also involve the children in production rehearsals, residential trips, curriculum visits and curriculum enrichment days.



Wrap-Around Care

The Plumpton Perch Breakfast Club and After School Club aims to provide excellent childcare for children in Reception through to Year 6. They are run in line with the values and ethos of Plumpton Primary School.

Breakfast Club runs from 7.45am – 8.30am each day.

After School Club runs from 3pm – 5.30pm Monday - Thursday

Educational Visits and Enrichment

Visits and enrichment play an essential part of our work. Each year group has an opportunity to learn through first-hand experience during educational visits. These visits, which may be to museums, heritage sites, nature reserves or the local area, give the children encouragement to develop observational, problem-solving and information-collecting skills. The visits enrich the curriculum work carried out in the classroom. Other enrichment may come through visitors to school.

Children in Year 6 have a residential visit to Bowles Activity Centre in Term 6.

The school has a charging policy which is based on one drawn up by East Sussex County Council in accordance with the requirement of section 110 of the Education Reform Act 1988 and chapter 32 of the 2002 Education Act. The policy is reviewed annually and applies to all registered pupils at Plumpton School. Parents are asked to make voluntary contributions to cover the cost of trips out or visits to the school. The full charging policy is available on the school website or from the school office.

Home Learning

At Plumpton School home learning is seen as an important aspect of the learning process involving parents, teachers and children in a partnership aimed at raising standards of achievement and maximising educational opportunity.

Work set will focus on key literacy and numeracy skills and will be linked explicitly to, and continue on from, the learning in the classroom. The expectations for home learning will increase as children move through the school as detailed below. Appropriate tasks will be differentiated to the ability of different groups. The expectations class are set out below:-

Year R

- Daily reading.
- Phonics work as outlined on Tapestry.
- A termly topic based project.



Years 1 – 6

There are weekly tasks posted for Years 1 – 6 on Google Classroom. We also encourage children to read daily and practise times tables daily using Times Tables Rockstars.



Partnership with Parents

We place a lot of importance on the communication and partnership with parents and keep in regular contact with home, both formally and informally. Class teachers play a very important part in ensuring that every pupil is learning well and feels settled and secure. Communication takes the form of:

- A class Curriculum letter at the start of each term, outlining the areas of the curriculum to be covered. This helps parents to understand what is expected of their children and to support their learning.
- A curriculum meeting for parents at the start of Term 1, Term 3 and Term 5.
- A whole school newsletter sent out three times a term.
- The website which has a range of information on a variety of subjects including letters that are sent home via the children.
- A text and e-mail service which informs parents of anything from emergency school closure to giving reminders about events and assemblies.
- Parent consultation evenings which take place twice a year, and a written report which is sent to parents annually in July.
- A member of staff is available on the gate at the beginning and end of each school day.
- Parent questionnaires.



PPTFA

There is a well-supported Plumpton Parents, Teachers and Friends Association (PPTFA). The PPTFA's main function is to raise funds for the school through a very varied programme of fundraising events. All parents are automatically members of the PPTFA and are actively encouraged to take part in PPTFA events, and to support the hard-working PPTFA committee however they can. They are always looking for new committee members!

School Food

A hot school meal, prepared on the premises, is provided every day with a vegetarian and jacket potato option. All children in Reception and Key Stage 1 are entitled to a free school meal at lunchtime. Special diets can be catered for if required. Some children prefer to bring packed lunches, which are eaten in the hall at lunchtimes.

Key Stage 1 children are provided with a free piece of fruit at morning break and many children across the school bring snacks of their own as well. We would ask that any snacks eaten in school are healthy, therefore no sweets or chocolate items are permitted. We are a nut-free school. Water and milk are provided at lunchtime and children have access to water fountains throughout the day. We would encourage all children to bring a named bottle of water to keep in the classroom.



Attendance, Absence and Illness

We have a good level of attendance at Plumpton.

There are strict guidelines and procedures regarding absence during term time set down by the Government and Local Authority.

A request for leave of absence must be applied for by completing a form available in the school office. Authorised absence will only be granted **in exceptional circumstances. It should be noted that we will not authorise any holiday during term time.**

If your child is unable to attend school we would ask that you notify the school office by 9.00 that they will not be in. On your child's return please send a written note explaining the absence. If your child needs to be collected from school during the day we must, for safeguarding reasons, have a note from you and they must be collected from the school office and signed out. We will never allow a child to leave the premises unless the correct procedures have been followed.

If your child's attendance drops below 95% you will be informed so you are aware that the attendance level is below what is expected.

Medicines in school

East Sussex County Council has advised us that we should not usually administer medicines. Children with asthma and associated breathing problems keep their inhalers in an accessible place in the classroom or the first aid cupboard in the medical room.

The school should be notified of any ongoing medical conditions, on the emergency contact form completed on admission and every September thereafter. Parents are asked to keep us informed of any changes when they occur.

Behaviour

The Plumpton Five

We have five key 'rules' which are agreed, known and understood by staff and children and underpin our behaviour system. All our rules are positive and reinforce desired behaviour. All staff consider praise and respect to be the principal that guides good behaviour.

- Be polite, helpful, friendly and always look after others
- Take care of our own and other people's belongings and keep our school tidy
- Work hard and always try our best
- Respect our school and everything in it on the inside and outside
- Always be honest



Our Behaviour Policy is reviewed annually and can be found on our website. Good behaviour is expected and rewarded through our in-class behaviour management system. Sanctions for inappropriate behaviour are fair and consistent. PSHE is used to develop the children's understanding of citizenship and their relationships with adults and each other.



If we are seriously concerned about a child's behaviour we would contact the parents to discuss issues and seek strategies to develop and support improved behaviour.



Plumpton Reward System

Children are rewarded for trying their best with both their learning and their behaviour. Children are regularly sent to the Head of School with good work and they receive a special sticker. Children enjoy receiving team points for good work, effort and good manners.

Every Friday we hold our Celebration Assembly where achievements across a wide range of subjects are celebrated.

These include:

- Extraordinary Effort
- Kindness



Each class has a reward jar where whole class behaviour can earn marbles. When the jar is full the class receive a reward such as movie afternoon or a picnic on the playing field.

Complaints

If you have any concerns about your child, please make an appointment through the school office to see the teacher.

Any serious complaints should be directed through the Head of School in the first instance. If you are unhappy with the response please contact the Executive Head Teacher. If you are still unhappy, a letter should be sent to The Chair of Governors via the school office. We would hope to resolve any issues long before this stage but if you wish to appeal against any decision by the Governing Body, an appeal committee will be convened whose decision is final.

The complaints procedure policy is available for inspection through the school office and on the school website.

Uniform

Children at Plumpton School all wear school uniform. Uniform is important; it is practical, appropriate and helps create a sense of community.

Please ensure all items of uniform are clearly labelled with your child's name. Small, stud earrings are the only item of jewellery allowed. Small watches may be worn but are the child's responsibility. Long hair must be tied back at all times.

- Grey skirt or pinafore, trousers or knee length shorts
- White shirt or polo shirt
- School sweatshirt or cardigan
- Blue and white gingham check dress (summer)
- White, grey or black socks or tights
- Black shoes (please note that trainers are not permitted other than for PE)
- Lighter shoes may be worn in the summer but must have a closed toe and strap around the heel

PE Kit

- Trainers for outdoor sports
- Plimsolls or bare feet for indoor sports
- White t-shirt
- Navy blue cotton pull-on shorts
- P.E. bag
- Plain navy tracksuit bottoms for winter
- Earrings must be removed or covered with micropore tape

