



P R O S P E C T U S 2 0 1 6 — 2 0 1 7



Westvale School

A warm welcome to Westvale

from the Headteacher . . .

I would like to extend a warm welcome from Westvale and look forward to seeing your child flourish and reach their potential with us.

Westvale is a very popular community primary school which caters for children aged between 3 and 11 years old. We provide a high quality education and our curriculum is enriched with real life experiences which encourage children to think imaginatively and make intelligent choices.

We pride ourselves in having a hardworking and committed team of professionals who strive to achieve the highest standards possible within a safe, happy and caring environment.

We see the education of our children to be a partnership between home and school and we work closely with parents as equal partners to ensure that the children's time at Westvale is both enjoyable and successful.

We hope that you find this prospectus useful to provide you with helpful information about our curriculum, our staff and our routines.

If you have any further queries or wish to arrange a visit, please contact the school office.

I look forward to meeting you.

Mrs Angela Afflick

Headteacher



Community Primary School



School Motto

Striving for Excellence,

Caring for All

Our School

Westvale was opened in 1956 and is a well established school with excellent facilities, high expectations and standards. Our environment is designed to meet the needs of all children. We are also a multi-agency site with a CLC (City Learning Centre), Family Learning Team and Eden Children's Centre.

We have well equipped classrooms which boast the very best in interactive whiteboards.

Learning is supported by our computer suite, class set of I-pads and a trolley of laptops, delivering information and communication technology to your children for the future. We have two school halls, one with a stage, where we will put on assemblies and productions, a separate dining hall and a study.

Outdoor facilities include hard play areas, a large school field, a quiet seating area (Olivia's Memorial Garden), an enclosed ball play area and an exciting, new climbing area (Rainbow Playzone). In addition there is a separate play area for our Foundation Unit children.



"Support for pupils' personal development, behaviour and welfare remain a central strength of the school."

*Ofsted Inspection
2016*

Admissions Policy

Children are admitted to Westvale Primary School in the September of the academic year in which they are five. The school can accommodate a yearly intake to a maximum of 30 children. A full copy of our Admissions Policy is available on our website.

"Pupils behave well in lessons, in corridors and on the playground. They are developing much respect for people who are different from themselves."

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Mission Statement

The staff at Westvale Primary School are committed to working together to contribute to the healthy growth and development of all our children. We create an atmosphere of care, trust and respect in which children and staff feel happy, safe, valued, enjoy coming to school and are supported by one another.

Through a stimulating, broad and child-centred curriculum we aim for all children to reach their full potential, to be confident and to develop a positive attitude towards their learning. We will provide a wide range of learning opportunities for the children to enjoy, encourage them to value their own achievements and to celebrate the success of others. Our high expectations include academic achievement, good behaviour, tolerance, co-operation and fairness.

We welcome the active involvement of parents, carers and governors in the life of the school and recognise their vital role and responsibility in laying the foundation of our children's educational development. This partnership is extended to the wider community, where strong, mutually beneficial links are valued.

School Governors

Chairperson	Mr B. Millington
Vice Chairperson	Mrs K. Smith
Local Authority Governor	Mrs. J. Greer
Co-opted Governor	Mrs. J. Haywood Mr. G. Lewis
Parent Governors	K. Smith L. Sheppey
Teacher Governors	Ms. E. Fealey
Headteacher	Mrs. A. Afflick



"Pupils develop great confidence and skill through their participation in a wide range of sports, musical activities and foreign language study"

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Staff Team

Headteacher	Mrs. A. Afflick B.A. (Hons.), P.G.C.E., N.P.Q.H.
Deputy Headteacher	Mrs. J. Haywood (KS2)
Leadership Team	A. Afflick J. Haywood (KS2) E. Fealey/(Rec) J. Harris (KS1) T. Kelly (SEND) H. Salkeld (Business Manager)
Teaching Staff	(Foundation Unit) Ms. S. McCleery Ms. E. Fealey
	(KS1) Mrs. T. Kelly Miss N. Kelly Mrs. J. Harris
	(KS2) Mrs. C. Munro Miss C. Kenny Mrs J. Bailey Miss C. Wilson Mrs. J. Haywood

Learning Support Teacher	Mrs. D. Lackey
Teaching Assistants	Mrs. P. Hodgson Miss R. Marsh Mrs L. Stewart Mrs A. Shelbourne Mrs D. Curran Mrs T. Millington Mrs K. Tracey Mrs K. Hughes Mrs M. McGrath Ms H. Nelson Mrs J. Donoghue Mrs. C. Lomax Ms. D. Aspinall
Learning Mentor	Mrs. Y. Melvin
Administrative Staff	Mrs H. Salkeld Mrs. S. Geddes
Site Manager	Mr J. Donnelly
Welfare Staff	Ms. A. Shelbourne (Lead) Mrs. D. Boland Mrs. S. Ferguson Mrs. A. James Mrs. S. Glenning Mrs. L. Baker Mrs. S. Pilkington Mrs. M. Wright Mrs. J. Ireland



School Uniform

The school has a uniform which we believe encourages and promotes pride in the school and prevents discrimination. All children are expected to wear uniform.

Girls:

- School navy sweatshirt or cardigan
- White shirt with school tie or polo shirt
- Grey or navy skirt or pinafore
- Blue and white summer dresses

Boys:

- School navy sweatshirt
- White shirt with school tie or polo shirt
- Grey or black trousers

All children to wear black, sensible school shoes - no trainers allowed.

Sweatshirts / cardigans with the school logo/badge may be purchased from Kids Kirkby in the town centre.

*“Teaching is good.
Many successful steps
are taken by staff to support
pupils’ personal development
and to make sure that pupils’
behaviour is good.”*

*Ofsted Inspection
2016*

PE

For P.E. and activity lessons children need to change into an appropriate set of clothes which can be purchased from the school office.

- White T shirt with school logo
- Navy shorts
- Black plimsolls
- Tracksuits may be worn for outdoor activities during the winter month.

Older children may need extra kit for outdoor games such as trainers or football boots.

All clothing should be labelled and brought to school in a drawstring bag that can be kept on their peg.

The wearing of jewellery including earrings is not allowed for safety and security reasons. Only studs for pierced ears are considered suitable. The school is unable to accept responsibility for any lost items.



"There is a strong focus across the school on the value of reading, with classes studying authors such as Michael Morpurgo and Roald Dahl with enthusiasm and understanding."

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Curriculum

At Westvale we deliver a broad and balanced curriculum, achieved through the National Curriculum and enriched by a variety of extra curricular activities and additional learning opportunities.

The Curriculum is comprised of:-

Core Subjects

Literacy
Numeracy
Science
Computing
RE

Foundation Subjects

History
Geography
Art and Design
Design Technology
Music
PE
PSHE
Modern Foreign Language
Spanish (Y6)

We organise the curriculum into a series of themes that are delivered in a creative and engaging way - with the emphasis on fun!

Classroom displays reflect the themes and learning is further enhanced through educational visits and visitors.

Religious Education

Religious Education lessons are Christian in character and we ascribe to no one denomination. The children will learn about other main religions to foster an understanding of our multi-cultural society.

We encourage all children to participate in RE and collective worship but parents are free to exercise their right to withdraw their children. If you are thinking of making this request you are very welcome to discuss the matter further with the Headteacher.



Early Years Curriculum

Our Nursery and Reception classes for the school are based in the Foundation Unit which is fully integrated throughout the year. This gives the children the very best start where they settle quickly and make rapid progress.

During the summer term, a meeting is held for parents of Nursery children who are to be admitted to the school in September as part of our induction programme. This is an opportunity to share relevant information and for you and your child to meet the Reception Class teacher.

For the two weeks in Reception, children only attend half day/lunch sessions. This enables the gradual introduction into school life and provides the opportunity for their teacher to really get to know them.

Parents and carers are regularly invited to Stay 'n' Play sessions with their children in the setting.

"Staff are focusing closely and successfully on developing children's language and communication skills, their physical abilities and their emotional confidence."

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Physical Education

A complete range of sport including gymnastics, athletics, football, rugby, netball, dance, swimming and outdoor activities are offered. We believe sport should be enjoyed by all, both in a competitive and non-competitive way, and our curriculum is designed to meet these aims.

Swimming

Swimming is part of the taught timetable for KS2 children who attend Kirkby Swimming Pool for ten sessions annually.

Outdoor and Adventurous Activities

At Westvale children are offered the opportunity to participate in a residential activity holiday. This enables the children to develop their skills in orienteering, climbing, raft building and particularly team-building.



Safeguarding

We take the safety and well being of our pupils very seriously. All staff have regular training and updates about safeguarding procedures. Mrs. Afflick is the Lead Safeguarding Officer in school., Mrs. Haywood and Mrs Melvin also form part of the safeguarding team in school. Mr Millington is our safeguarding governor.

As we have daily contact with your children, staff are particularly well placed to observe signs of abuse, changes in behaviour or failure to develop. Parents should be aware, therefore, that where it appears to a member of staff that a child may have been abused, the school is duty bound, as part of the Safeguarding/Child Protection Procedures, to report their concerns to the appropriate authorities immediately.



Inclusion

Westvale is committed to ensuring the best possible education for all pupils regardless of ability, background, ethnicity, gender or disability. We continually monitor the progress of all pupils and take steps to intervene where there is evidence that individuals or groups are falling behind. Our school Special Needs Co-ordinator (SENDco) liaises with parents and external agencies to provide additional support for children who require it. We also acknowledge that some children will be more able and we aim to ensure that these children's needs are also well catered for.



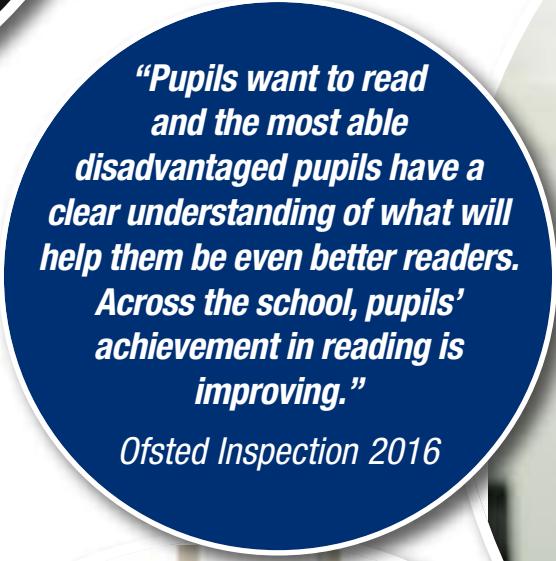
Accessibility

We make every effort to ensure that children with special needs and disabilities have equal access to the curriculum and facilities, and that appropriate individual support is available, either in terms of resources, adult support or making reasonable adjustments. Our special needs children are always carefully considered when preparing for educational visits and transition to new schools. The accessibility plan is available from school.

Good Behaviour and Anti Bullying Policy



We operate a positive behaviour and discipline policy at Westvale where we encourage and reward good behaviour. We expect a high standard of behaviour and courtesy from all our children both in and out of school. We operate the G2BG behaviour system. We ask you to support the school in matters of discipline remembering there are two sides to every story and facts can often get distorted by children. The school is best placed to judge and take appropriate action in relation to any discipline matter. If you are concerned about any aspect of school life please let your child's class teacher or the Headteacher know and help us to help your child.



"Pupils want to read and the most able disadvantaged pupils have a clear understanding of what will help them be even better readers.

Across the school, pupils' achievement in reading is improving."

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Pastoral Care

Children with any worries or concerns are able to approach staff at any time. We have a full time learning mentor, Mrs Melvin in school.

Links with other schools and Global Awareness

As part of the Kirkby Collaborative of Schools we work closely with the other primaries in our area to share learning opportunities, expertise and funding. Our work has focused on the Global Dimension, International Links and Community Cohesion. We have achieved Fair Trade and International School status.

School Lunch

All children in Reception, Year 1 and Year 2 are entitled to a free school lunch as part of a new Government initiative.

Lunch money is £1.70 per day (£8.50 per week) and should be paid in advance each Monday morning.

Packed Lunches

Please ensure that, if your child brings a packed lunch to school, they do not bring fizzy drinks, chocolate or sweets.



School Milk and Snacks

Milk is provided for all KS1 children free of charge in school and also available for KS2 children at lunchtime eligible for a free school meal free of charge too.

Infant children are also offered a piece of fresh fruit each day at morning playtime. Junior children are also able to bring their own fruit snack from home or occasionally buy a healthy snack.

Water

Children are allowed access to water during the day to aid concentration. We recommend transparent, plastic water bottles brought from home which can be labelled with the child's name. Water can be purchased in school for just 50p per bottle.



Communication

A newsletter is sent home regularly notifying you of future events and general information.

Class newsletters are sent out each term providing information on topics, activities and events for the term.

The school web site is regularly updated also (www.westvaleprimary.co.uk). This site includes an up to date newsletter and general information about the school as well as specific class pages.

The school also has a free, live Parentapp to download -Westvale.

Parents' afternoons are arranged three times in the year, normally in the autumn, spring and summer terms for you to discuss your child's progress.

An end of year report is provided in the Summer Term for all pupils. Parents are invited to discuss any aspect of the report at the summer meeting.

Informal discussions between parents and teachers can be arranged after school. We only ask that reasonable notice is given for our busy teachers.



Homework

Homework is an important part of children's' education. Initially this will be in the form of parents hearing their children read from Nursery.

A "Home Reading Diary" will be given to every child from Reception to Year 6 and parents are asked to spend about 10 minutes a day either sharing a story, listening to the child read or discussing a book. Please use the home reading diary as a way of communicating progress with the class teacher.

In addition children will be given work to do at home. This may be a spelling list, multiplication tables or finding out about a topic to help with class work. In year 6 the amount of homework will increase to support their SATs preparation. We ask parents to support and help their children ensuring homework is completed to a good standard.

Provision can be found for a child to have a quiet place in school to complete homework on request or where there is a need.

Homework clubs run each week. These are popular and provide a good environment to complete homework.

Extra Curricular Activities, Interests and Visits

Extra curricular activities are an important part of school life and enrich your child's education. These activities rely on the goodwill of staff giving up their time for your children. Activities change from time to time, but pupils will be informed and letters sent home providing details of activities. The following are examples of activities that have taken place:

- Football
- High Five
- Running
- Rounders
- Dance
- Drama
- Choir
- Keyboards
- Piano
- Homework
- Reading Club
- Badminton
- School Council
- Ukuleles
- Games Club
- Gardening Club

"Attendance has risen quickly and is now in line with the national average. The number of pupils who attend every day is good and improving."

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School Visits

Class visits are an integral part of the curriculum and are usually associated with topics being studied. A voluntary contribution is required to enable these visits to take place. The school does support these with Pupil Premium money also. Year 5 or 6 are offered the opportunity for an extended visit, linking with the Junior Achievement Award.

Parents and School

School is a partnership and your involvement is very important. Don't forget to help your child at home and talk to them about their school day. We very much welcome additional help in school even half an hour at the start of the school day can make all the difference. Please let us know if you can help.



Friends of Westvale (FoW)

We have an active Parents and Friends Association which we are keen to develop further. Come along to our meetings, offer help at our events or just support events on the day. Which ever you choose you will be most welcome. The children at Westvale have benefited from educational extras purchased through FoW funds. We welcome and encourage all new parents to be involved.



Attendance

Attendance at school is very important, every effort should be made to maximise a pupils attendance. We ask that all family holidays are taken during school holiday periods and not during school time.

Any medical appointments should also be made outside of the school day. Pupils should only be absent from school if they are ill. Please telephone the school office if your child is absent from school to inform us of the reason. In line with current legislation, we are unable to authorise any holidays in term time. In exceptional circumstances absence can be authorised, this would need to be discussed with the Headteacher. Please keep school informed of any changes to address or telephone numbers.



Partners on site

Eden Children's Centre

We share the school site with the Eden Children's Centre where a variety of courses and activities are delivered to support local families.

The Family Learning Team

The team are also based on the school site. They run courses for parents in a range of areas, such as: family literacy, family numeracy, Story sacks, etc.

Knowsley CLC

Provide training, lessons for children and a wide range of wonderful ICT equipment to schools in Knowsley.



Breakfast Club

Westvale Breakfast Club provides before school care and a varied breakfast menu for as little as £1. This is open from 8.00am each day.

A relaxed and friendly atmosphere provides a calm start to the day. Fun exercise activities are available for Key Stage 1 pupils daily.

For further information contact the school office during normal school hours (9.00 - 3.15).

After School & Holiday Club

Westvale has an after school club for pupils Reception –Y6. This is led by Ms. A. Shelbourne, Lead Lunchtime supervisor and teaching assistant in school. Miss Nelson, KS2 teaching assistant is also in afterschool club with our pupils.

A variety of interesting activities are available, from which children may choose, and a healthy snack each day.

"School information indicates that pupils across the school are beginning to make increased progress in their writing this year"

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Medicines in School

If for any reason medicines have to be administered during the school day, parents should contact the school office where they will be asked to fill in appropriate forms, we will then do our best to help.

In the case of asthma, or other severe allergies, we ask that parents give full details in writing to the school to be entered on the child information form. It is the parent's responsibility to ensure inhalers are kept in school and updated regularly.



Health and Safety in School

Occasionally children become ill in school. If we feel your child needs to go home we will contact you.

If your child should have an accident in school they will be treated by a qualified member of staff. Should your child require hospital treatment, you will be informed and arrangements will be made to take your child to casualty.

Please make sure all information we have on your child is up to date.

At certain times during the year the school nurse may visit to carry out medicals, hearing and sight checks. Parents will always be informed in advance.

Cars and Parking

Traffic congestion outside the school can cause serious problems and can create dangers for the children. Please do park sensibly with due regard for our neighbours. The school car park is for staff use only and should not be used by parents. Speed ramps and car park barriers have been installed to help control the speed of vehicles and to protect pedestrians on the site.

Secondary Learning Centre Links

We have a very close working relationship with our local secondary schools (Kirkby High and All Saints).

Children will have opportunities to visit Kirkby High for transition activities from Y3-Y6. You will be provided with full information to help you make your choice when your child enters Y6.



Complaints Procedure

Any parent who wishes to make a complaint should follow the procedure outlined below.

- In the first instance contact is best made through the class teacher where most problems can be resolved.
- For more serious complaints, or where it may be inappropriate to speak to the class teacher, contact should be made through the Headteacher or a member of the Leadership Team in her absence.
- For complaints where the Headteacher is unable to deal with the issues, contact may be made through the Chair of Governors in the first instance and the LA thereafter via the Clerk to the Governing Body.

A full copy of the school's complaints procedure is available from the school office on request.



School Term and Holiday Dates 2016/17

Autumn Term 2016

School Re-opens	Tuesday 6th September
Half term	Monday 24th – Friday 28th October Children return : Monday 31st October
School closes for Christmas Wednesday 21st December	

Spring Term 2017

School Re-opens	Tuesday 3rd January
Half term	Monday 13th – Friday 17th February Children return Monday 20th
School closes for Spring Break	Friday 31st March

Summer Term 2017

School Re-opens	Tuesday 18th April
May Day bank holiday	Monday 1st May
Half term	Monday 29th May – Tuesday 6th June Children return Wednesday 7th
School Closes for summer	Thursday 20th July





Headteacher: Mrs A Afflick



Westvale Community Primary School

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