



The Laurels

PRIMARY SCHOOL

Prospectus for 2020-2021

The Laurels Primary School

Winterbourne Way
West Durrington
Worthing
BN13 3QH

Telephone: 01903 830901

E-mail: office@laurelsprimary.co.uk

Website: www.laurelsprimary.co.uk

Headteacher

Miss Charlotte Bull

Chair of Governors

Mrs Kerry Jones

Pupils on roll: 186

Age Range: 4-11 years, co-educational

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Dear Parents and Carers

Thank you for requesting information about The Laurels Primary School. Our school has a reputation for having a calm and nurturing environment in which we promote aspiration for the future. Our children learn that effort and hard work leads to achievement and we spread confidence and happiness by celebrating these achievements with others.

Starting school is one of the biggest steps you and your child will ever take. We firmly believe that children only get one chance at a quality education and The Laurels is firmly committed to having high standards for children in all areas of school life. As Headteacher, I keep the children at the centre of all we do and I will do my very best to ensure that your child receives the value, skills and knowledge they need for an exciting future.

At The Laurels, we have high standards of behaviour and good manners and we care for and support those around us. The development of core values, alongside the key skills of learning, are key factors in our ethos of being uncompromising in our aspirations for all. We pride ourselves on our innovative and creative curriculum and we shape our learning so that we offer a bespoke experience for each individual child. We also offer a busy selection of after school clubs, providing safe and exciting extended learning for all our pupils and have a breakfast club before school.

We hope this prospectus and our school website will give you an insight into our happy and vibrant school and the things you and your child can expect on becoming part of The Laurels community.

From all the staff and myself, we wish you and your child a happy and successful time at The Laurels Primary School and I look forward to working with you and your child.



Charlotte Bull
Head Teacher

Our Vision

At The Laurels we understand the needs of our children and create an environment that maximises the opportunities for them to succeed.



Believe, Achieve, Succeed

Believe - Believing in ourselves and others we –

Care for and support those around us
Promote aspiration for our future and the future of others
Remember that effort and hard work leads to achievement
Promote a love of learning and the intrinsic motivation to do well
Recognise our own abilities and our own ideas
Challenge and take risks with learning
Respect and celebrate difference understanding the unique child
Feel valued and value others
Understand and promote inclusion
Spread confidence and happiness
Make positive contributions to the school community, wider community and the world

Succeed - We will succeed academically, socially and emotionally by -

Showing resilience and resourcefulness
Showing reflective thinking and learning from mistakes
Demonstrating emotional intelligence
Developing a growth mindset
Deciding on the right goal and working towards it
An awareness of our own progress and how we learn
Putting effort into our thinking skills (caring, collaborative, critical and creative thinking)

Achieve - We achieve our goals in -

Core subjects, being ready for the next phase or key stage
A range of foundation subjects across the primary curriculum
A range of life skills
Setting targets and working towards quality outcomes
Celebrating our own and others achievements
Getting on with others and maintaining good friendships

This includes:

- Working closely with you, parents and carers, to understand your child as an individual, so we provide a personalised education
- Ensuring everyone is respected and recognised for their strengths and differences
- Using the latest research evidence so we provide the most effective teaching strategies
- Always evaluating and reflecting on what we are doing so that we can improve further

School Day

Age phase	School starts	Morning break	Lunch	End of day
Early years & Key Stage 1 (FS,1,2)	8.45	10.15-10.30	12.30-1.15	3.00
Key Stage 2 (3,4,5,6)	8.40	10.15-10.30	12.30-1.15	3.05

It is school policy that no pupils will be permitted to leave the school site unless with a parent or carer during these hours.

Foundation Stage

The children achieve well at The Laurels and leave the Foundation Stage prepared for the next step in their education. We achieve this by providing the children with a balance of daily adult-led group times, which focus on early reading, writing and maths and child-led play activities both inside and outside. We feel this approach gives children the firm foundations needed for later learning.

We have a purpose built outdoor area with a sand pit, water area, creative zone, mud kitchen, gardening area and large playground for physical play.

In Reception, the children will be engaged in the three prime areas of learning:

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

They will also undertake learning in the four specific areas of learning:

- Literacy
- Mathematics
- Understanding the World
- Expressive Arts and Design

The learning in all of these areas will be based around fun, interactive topics such as Dinosaurs or Mini Beasts that engage the children's interests. Wherever possible learning will be brought to life through visitors or trips such as visiting a farm or a day at the seaside!

Our Early Years Foundation Stage Policy can be found on the school website.



Learning at Key Stage 1 and 2

This follows on from learning in the Foundation Stage. The children further develop their skills and knowledge across a wide range of areas. We encourage an independent ethos across both key stages, where the children are able to make choices about their own learning and the routes they will take. Outdoor learning remains a key aspect across the two stages.

The School Curriculum

The school's curriculum is in accordance with the revised National Curriculum. Each year group plans topics based on the children's interests and tailor the curriculum to the needs of the individuals, ensuring that children make good rates of progress.

We provide a broad, progressive and engaging curriculum where creativity drives the themes we use to ensure that the children learn to the highest level. We provide a range of experiences to bring the curriculum to life including visits, visitors, drama, multimedia and a use of exciting artefacts. We believe children learn best when they are excited, motivated and most of all having fun.

The curriculum is broad and balanced and includes:

*English * Maths * Science * History * Geography * Art
Design and Technology * Computing * Music
Personal, Social, Health and Citizenship Education
Physical Education * Religious Education
Modern Foreign Language*

Children will access these areas of learning through a variety of whole class, small group and individual methods, working practically in and out of the classroom and in some cases more formally. Each class has a teacher and Learning Support Assistant to support learning and ensure children develop and extend their learning.

Enrichment

We encourage trips and visitors to enrich the curriculum and give children a range of first hand experiences. The children particularly enjoy our bedtime stories on the evening of World Book Day.



Residential visits

Children in Key Stage 2 have the opportunity to develop their talents and interests in our residential visits in Years 4 and 6.



Clubs

We are committed to providing a range of extra-curricular activities. Clubs allow children to develop new skills and access different learning opportunities. They can make new friends from other classes and year groups and develop their social skills in a fun and active way.



*Puzzle Club
The Outdoor Project
Craft * Cooking * Eco Club
Art * Choir * Guitar
Gymnastics* Ballet * Drama
Handball & Multi-Sports
Sports skills * Football
Code/Computing*



Starting School

The Laurels Primary School operates new entrant's parents meetings in the summer term prior to the date of admission, where general information will be given about the Early Years and you will be given the opportunity to meet the team working with your child. The children will later be given the opportunity to spend some time in school; familiarising themselves with the environment and staff.

We want to make the children's transition from home to school a happy, relaxed experience for you and your child. The class teacher and teaching assistant will arrange a one to one meeting with you and your child in the Autumn term before they are due to start school; to give you time to discuss your child's individual needs with them.

In-Year Admissions

Parents seeking admission for a child between the ages of four and eleven should apply to the Admissions Office at West Sussex County Council. Pre-visits for these children will be arranged by contacting the School Office.

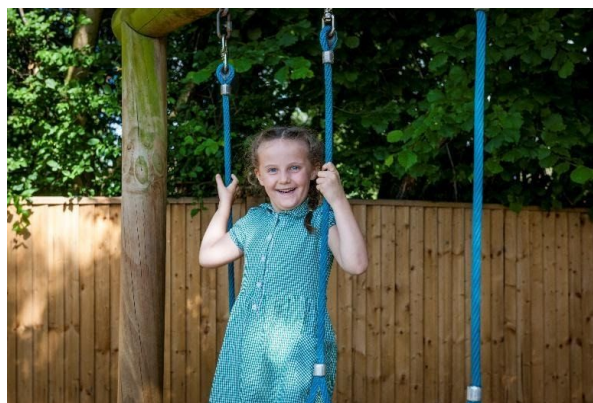
Moving On

We work with Durrington High School as part of the Durrington Multi-Academy Trust, which means our children have priority admission to Durrington High School. Together with the high school staff, we make the transition to secondary school as smooth as possible. As well as specific meetings with Durrington Staff to discuss pupils, we set up activities and visits which aid transition and familiarise the children with their new environment.

Behaviour

We aim to create a happy, stable and purposeful environment which is conducive to learning. Within this setting, the potential of each child may be developed fully, including good behaviour which we consider to be extremely important.

Good behaviour is necessary but cannot be achieved in isolation; parents and school must work together and have similar expectations.



In school, the children have agreed 3 rules – *be respectful, be ready, be safe*. If children follow the Golden Rules consistently they are invited to breakfast with the Headteacher and receive a 'postcard' home.

If any child's behaviour is starting to cause concern, we will contact you immediately to discuss possible reasons for the changes and to develop a plan using positive intervention strategies to support your child to make good choices about their behaviour. Our behaviour policy can be found on the school website.

Preventing Bullying

Any kind of bullying will not be tolerated. Our aim is to prevent incidents by ensuring that from their very first day in school our children understand that any kind of bad behaviour will not be accepted, condoned or ignored. All staff are involved and consider it their responsibility to prevent and stop any incidents whenever it occurs. To this end, we work closely together monitoring, caring and passing on relevant information to the Class Teacher, Head Teacher and Teaching Assistants where appropriate. Parents will be informed of any incidents and all incidents will be logged.

Child Protection

The school has a duty of care to its pupils. Robust policies and procedures are in place to ensure the safety and wellbeing of all pupils. The school will work closely with parents and outside agencies, including Children's Services, if there are concerns about a child's welfare. Our Child Protection policy is available on the safeguarding page of our website.

Working with Parents

We recognise the unique role the parent/carer has as the child's first educator. We wish to work in partnership with you to ensure future success for your child. Together we will:

- Manage carefully the transition from home to school and between different settings,
- Establish feelings of trust and respect with parents/carers and children,
- Treat children and families as individuals to ensure equal opportunities,
- Find out about the child's ethnic faith and cultural heritage and home experiences, so that familiar experiences and interests can be used as starting points for learning and teaching,
- Share our values programme,
- Promote self-confidence and a positive attitude to learning in all children, whatever their gender, ethnicity, home language, special educational needs, disability or ability.

Open Door Policy

If you have any queries about your child's progress or any other aspect of school life, we encourage you to speak to your child's teacher at the earliest convenience. Members of the Senior Leadership Team are available on the playground every morning from 8.30am. If you have anything you wish to discuss, please see them in the morning or arrange an appointment with the leadership team through the school office.



Pupil Progress

In the Autumn and Spring terms we hold Parents' Evenings when teachers will discuss your child's progress and share the children's learning experiences. In the Summer term your child will receive a written report which you will have the opportunity to discuss with the teacher.

Friends of The Laurels (FOTLs)

We are very lucky to have loyal and hard-working parents who work closely with the school, fundraising and organising fun and exciting activities for our children and their families. Please pop along to meetings and join the team if you have ideas and expertise to share!

Food and Drink

Children can bring fruit or raw vegetables for their morning snack.

For health and dental reasons, children are not allowed to bring in sweets or biscuits for their break time snack. Reception, Year 1 and Year 2 are provided with fresh fruit and vegetables by the school.

Regular drinks of water are vitally important for good health and to aid learning. Children can buy a school water bottle for £2.00 when they begin school at The Laurels and will need to have this in school daily.



Lunch Time

Hot meals are provided at The Laurels Primary school for all children up to the end of key Stage 1. Key Stage 2 children will have the option of buying a hot dinner directly through the hot meal provider Chartwells online www.mealselector.co.uk or by calling their office to register on 01243 836130. Pupils will also be able to bring in a packed lunch. We actively support healthy eating at The Laurels. For those children who wish to bring a packed lunch, we ask you provide a balanced meal including bread or pasta; meat, fish, egg or hummus; cheese or yoghurt; fruit and vegetables; occasionally crisps or biscuits.

- Sweets, chocolate and fizzy drinks are **not permitted** in lunchboxes.
- We have a 'no nut' policy in school. Peanut butter or products containing nuts/nut products are **not permitted**.

Wrap Around Care

The Laurels Primary School successfully run a breakfast club on the school site. We are pleased to be to offer wrap around care for your child at from 7.45am to 8.40am. Breakfast and games will be provided in the morning and at a cost of £2.50 per child per day, or £1.50 if you drop off from 8.15am without breakfast.

These are not the only opportunities you will have to see your child's work or talk to the class teacher. We encourage the children from the very start to bring you into school to celebrate their achievements. You are most welcome.

Special Educational Needs and Disabilities

At The Laurels Primary School ALL our children are special. However, we recognise that there are times when children have needs over and above those offered by the general curriculum. Our provision for Special Educational Needs and Disabilities can be found on our website as part of the West Sussex County Council Wide Local Offer document.

We are fully committed to the early intervention of Special needs; planning and learning is differentiated to suit the needs of both groups and individual children. For more information please contact the school office to arrange to meet with the schools Special Educational Needs and Disabilities (SEND) Co-ordinator.



Jewellery and Hairstyles

At The Laurels it is policy, for health and safety reasons that any hair, on any child male or female, long enough to be tied back should be tied back at all times whilst in school. Hairstyles that are unacceptable include Mohican, unnatural colours, hair patterns/shaving and hair pieces. Hairbands should be plain, dark school colours, with no flowers etc.

Children are not allowed to wear jewellery for safety reasons. For children with pierced ears, we will only accept a small stud and these will need to be removed before school on PE days for health and safety reasons. We suggest that the **summer holidays** are an ideal time to have new ear piercings; children can take their time to learn how to care for their new ear piercings, the ears will have healed and children will know how to take them out for PE.

Children are permitted to wear a sensible watch at their own risk. The school will do what they can to keep it safe but cannot be held accountable for lost or broken watches.

No makeup or nail varnish is allowed in school.

Mobile Phones in School

Children are not permitted to have their phones with them whilst in school.

However, we appreciate that it helps to keep children safe on their way to and from school. Children can bring their mobile phones to school, but they must be locked away in the safes located in the Year 5 and 6 classrooms.

Smoking

The Laurels operates a non-smoking policy. **No smoking, vaping or the use of any tobacco devices** is permitted on the school premises.

Dogs

Dogs (except for our school dog) are not permitted on the premises inside the main gates from the main road. Our school dog, Zak is everyone's favourite staff member and is wonderful with any children who may be nervous of dogs initially. Zak is wonderful for a cuddle or to share a reading book with.



Parking

Parking is not permitted in the school car park as access is required all day. This is for staff or emergencies only. We also ask you to be considerate to our neighbours when parking outside the school. We also ask that the car park is not used as a turn-around for vehicles as this stops regular pickups (such as the school bus) from accessing the school.

Baby buggies and Prams

Due to Health and Safety, and Fire Regulations, prams and buggies are not permitted inside the school building. We have a shelter outside that will keep them dry.

Bikes and Scooters

We encourage children to adopt healthy lifestyles and are keen for them to walk or cycle to school. If children bring a bike or scooter to school they can park them in the shelter on the

right hand side of the playground just past the entry gates. Please do not scoot or cycle on the school premises. Please dismount at the school gate and walk to the bike park. This is to avoid unnecessary accidents.

Leave of Absence from School

The Government has directed that Head Teachers may only grant leave for a holiday in term time where there are exceptional circumstances. Children must attend school regularly and on time during term time. Your child can only miss school if:

- they are too ill to attend school
- the Head Teacher has authorised the absence

If you do not obtain permission and subsequently take your child out of school, this will be recorded as an unauthorised absence.

West Sussex County Council may issue a Fixed Penalty Notice if a pupil accrues unauthorised absences from school. Please see the school website for more information on our attendance policy.



Complaints

Complaints from parents will be taken seriously. Please contact the class teacher in the first instance and then the key stage leader. After this, the Assistant Head Teachers or Head Teacher will be available to rectify any concerns that may have arisen in accordance with our school policy.

Charging and Remissions Policy

By law, education provided during school hours must be free. Although a charge cannot be made for school time activities, we do invite parents and others to make voluntary contributions.

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In special circumstances, a particular activity or trip may not be able to take place without such financial contributions. This will however, be explained to you at the planning stage. The essential point is that no pupil will be excluded from an activity because his/her parent cannot make a contribution of any kind. The Head Teacher invites any parent to discuss the matter with her in confidence in an effort to agree on some kind of contribution, no matter how small or over what period of time.



Staffing and Areas of Responsibility

Head Teacher:	Miss Charlotte Bull <i>Designated Safeguarding and Child Protection Lead</i>
Assistant Head Teacher:	Mrs Beth Collins <i>Deputy DSL and Child Protection, KS1 Leader</i>
Assistant Head Teacher	Miss Helen Pinney <i>Deputy DSL and Child Protection</i> <i>Assistant Head for Inclusion/SENDCo</i>
Reception Teachers	Mrs Emma Roberts
Year 1 Teacher	Mrs Lucy Fenton
Year 2 Teacher	Miss Laura Talbot
Year 3 Teacher	Mrs Claire Sutherland
Year 4 Teacher	Mrs Jacqueline Gough and Mrs Heather Luxford
Year 5 Teacher	Mr Luke Alderton
Year 6 Teacher	Mr Tom Edwards (<i>Key Stage 2 Leader</i>)

Administrative Support Staff

School Bursar:	Mrs Jo Dommett
Receptionist /Administrator:	Miss Dawn Lancaster
Administrative Assistant:	Mrs Carly Oliver
EA to Head Teacher:	Mrs Marica Walker

Classroom Assistants:

Reception	Mrs Gemma Hilton-Pope
Year 1	Mrs Kirsty Tait
Year 2	Miss Lianna Vaughan-Game
Year 3	Mrs Veryan Jennings
Year 4	Mrs Sam Rogers
Year 5	Mrs Marisha Gray
Year 6	Mrs Debbie Brackston
Higher Level Teaching Assistants:	Mrs Nicky Empson, Mrs Marisha Gray, Mrs Brackston and Mrs Hilton-Pope

The Governing Body

Our Governors are representatives of the parents, school staff and the local community. They meet at least twice each term and more frequently in their capacity as link governors for specific areas. They have responsibility for overseeing the strategic direction of the school. The day-to-day running of the school is entrusted to the Headteacher and staff.

Chair of Governors: Mrs Kerry Jones

Vice-chair of Governors: Mr Richard Reynolds

The Governors can be contacted through Mrs Marica Walker at mwalker@laurelsprimary.co.uk



Year 6 SATs Results 2019

We are delighted that our children have achieved higher than those nationally and to have some of the highest results in West Sussex.

Key Stage 2 (end of Year 6)

Expected standard	Laurels 2019	National 2019
Reading	86%	73%
Writing	81%	79%
Maths	86%	79%
Reading, Writing, Maths combined	81%	65%
Grammar, Punctuation and Spelling	81%	78%

- **16% more children achieved the expected standard in all of reading, writing, maths combined than those nationally.**

Higher attainers	Laurels 2019	National 2019
Reading	29%	27%
Writing	19%	20%
Maths	29%	27%
RWM combined	14%	11%
Grammar, Punctuation and Spelling	43%	36%

The Laurels is in-line with or above national achievement for those reaching the higher standard in all subjects.

Average point score	Laurels 2019	National 2019
Reading	107.5	104.4
Maths	105.2	105.0

The average point score for reading and maths is also higher than the national average

Believe Achieve Succeed



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(correct at time of October 2020)