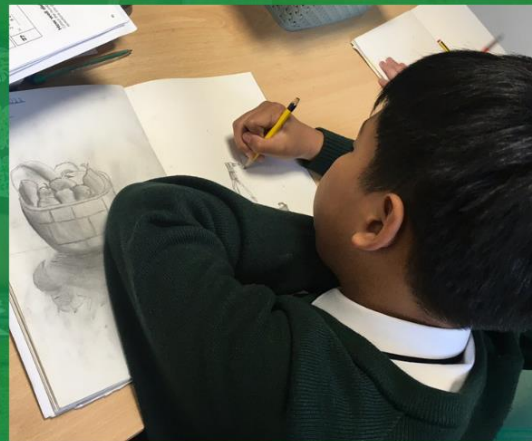




The Laurels

PRIMARY SCHOOL



Prospectus 2022

Dear Parents and Carers,

A very warm welcome to The Laurels Primary School. Our school has an excellent reputation locally for being a welcoming, supportive and caring school which is constantly working hard to achieve high standards in all areas of school life. We aim to provide an ethos where positive attitudes and values are fostered, where your child can feel confident and secure, and independence and motivation develops alongside an enriched, broad and balanced curriculum.

We firmly believe that children only get one chance at a quality education and we believe that all children should have an experience to remember, one that provides them with the foundation for a successful future. We have a strong team of staff who are committed to providing high quality learning experiences and strive to give children a whole range of opportunities.

We pride ourselves on our innovative and creative curriculum based on the latest research. Our staff shape the curriculum so that we offer a bespoke experience for each child so that they can move confidently onto the next stage of their education and ultimately make a positive contribution to society as adults.

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. We view education as a joint responsibility between teachers and parents. We believe that the best for your child can be achieved through a partnership between home and school. We hope that you will share with us in making this a successful period of your child's life.

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
Headteacher

We feel like we've been welcomed into a massive family, it's the most wonderful school and I recommend the school to every friend and family member. Not only are the children taught the curriculum but they are also taught values, life skills and always encouraged to be themselves and be confident.

- Parent 2022



The Laurels
PRIMARY SCHOOL

Our Vision: Uncompromising aspirations for all

At The Laurels we have uncompromising aspirations for every child in our care, empowering all pupils to embrace learning, achieve their personal best so they grow up to lead successful rewarding lives. This creates our motto: 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

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

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)

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 (year group)	School starts	Morning break	Lunch	End of day
Reception & Key Stage 1 (1,2)	8.30	10.15-10.30	12.00-12.45	3.00
Key Stage 2 (3,4,5,6)	8.30	10.15-10.30	12.15-1.00	3.00

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 group activities with an adult 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 linked to 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 or you are welcome to collect a copy from the school office.

Every child is made to feel important. Love how all the staff know each child by name. Parent 2022

Learning at Key Stage 1 and 2

The curriculum comprises all learning and other experiences that a school plans for its pupils. The National Curriculum forms one part of the school curriculum.

We have created a curriculum which promotes our school values (resilience, reflection, responsibility and respect) and ensures children acquire the knowledge to learn ever more complex skills.



We regard oral language skills as being vital for children's learning throughout the curriculum and subsequently for life skills. Competency in language grows through an interaction between listening, speaking, reading and writing in all subject areas. Vocabulary is taught formally to further develop communication and improve reading comprehension.

Reading at The Laurels

English literacy is at the heart of our learning and teaching and essential to every area of the curriculum. It is through literacy that concepts are formed and we are able to make sense of the world and our place in it. Children are taught to read in a variety of ways. Each week children read individually and in groups during guided reading lessons.. Guided reading focuses on the skills of comprehension and critical appreciation. Teachers read a huge variety of written material regularly with the children, fiction and non-fiction, stories, reports, diaries, poems etc.



Phonics

We place a strong emphasis on phonics (letter sounds) in the early years of learning to read because we believe this lays the foundations for successful reading. At The Laurels, we use Little Wandle Letters and Sounds guidance to teach the children in their classes. Some children may have additional phonics sessions to support them to keep up. In addition to phonics, pupils learn sight words by repetition and retrieval. Find out more at the Little Wandle website

<https://www.littlewandlelettersandsounds.org.uk/resources/for-parents/>

Writing

Writing skills underpin many elements of the school curriculum and is an essential life-skill. Writing is taught through inspiring texts, films and pictures to engage and immerse children in the genre they are learning. Grammar is taught within each unit to support the final outcome.



Maths

We teach maths using the White Rose Maths scheme. This program is not just about teaching maths, it is about developing mathematical thinking skills and to ensure that students are able to think mathematically and solve problems with confidence. Find out more at the White Rose website. <https://whiterosemaths.com/parent-resources>

Physical Education and Games

We promote a healthy lifestyle and are interested in the physical well-being of each child.

As part of the complete development of the children in The Laurels Primary we aim to provide every child with a range of physical activities. Each class is allocated two P.E. sessions during the week. Gymnastics, Games, Athletics, Dance and Swimming are all taught. In Key Stage 1 all of the fundamental movement skills are explicitly taught. These skills are then used in a range of contexts in Key Stage 2.



A wide range of sporting after school activities are provided for pupils so that they are able to develop their physical and team skills in a more meaningful way.

During the summer term a Sports Day is held for all children and family members are invited to attend.

We also hold our Key Stage 2 indoor athletics competition at Durrington High School and enter Time to Dance at The Pavilion theatre. The main emphasis is on fun but each child is encouraged to participate to the best of their ability.



Art and Design



In The Laurels Primary, the teaching of Art primarily encourages pupils to express their creativity in an enjoyable way. In the early years, children are presented with a wide variety of materials in order to create both 2 and 3 dimensional art forms. As the children's knowledge grows, they learn to exercise choice and control over the materials they use; this allows them to be creative and individual while still learning basic principles. They are encouraged to evaluate their own work and to appreciate the work of others.

Music

We use the Kapow scheme for teaching music which develops the children's knowledge and skills in performing, listening, composing, the history of music and the inter-related dimensions of music: pulse, duration, dynamics, tempo, timbre, texture, structure and musical notation.



Humanities



In history, pupils learn about cause and consequence, chronology and how to use historical evidence through units such as the Great Fire of London, Prehistoric Britain, Roman Britain and the Vikings. In geography, pupils learn about location and place, cause and effect and changes through units such as comparing countries of the UK, rivers, migration and biomes.

Science

We aim to make all children excited and curious about the material world so we take a practical approach to science using Pzaz Science. Pupils gain competence in the science skills of planning investigations, gather, presenting and analysing results and critical evaluation of their experiences.

Children will acquire and develop key knowledge as well as the application of scientific skills.

Computing

Pupils learn about digital literacy, online safety, computational thinking, computers and hardware and coding in our whole class IT suite. We also have laptop trolleys so laptops can be used in classrooms.



Modern Foreign Languages

We endeavour to instil a love of language learning and all pupils in Key Stage 2 learn French. French lessons utilise a variety of resources to maximise enjoyment and make as many connections to real-life situations as possible.



Being a small school the interaction between teachers of all years with all the pupils builds an amazing solidarity.

The communication and support is faultless.

- Parent feedback 2022

PSHE

Pupils are taught to develop knowledge and skills around creating and maintaining positive friendships, promoting good health and carrying out first aid, how to make independent choices and not be influenced by others and how to operate safely in a digital world.

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.



Forest Schools

We have a designated Forest School area where sessions are designed to help children build resilience, gain a sense of achievement and promote wellbeing.

The woodland is an open-ended resource and never fails to offer awe and wonder. This encourages motivation and creativity as it offers a diverse supply of materials through the seasons for children to challenge themselves.



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 make new friends from other classes 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*



*It's a small school where teachers know all students,
and teachers are always on hand to answer
questions*

Parent 2022

Starting School

The Laurels Primary School provides meetings for new entrants in the summer term prior to the date of admission, where general information will be given about the Early Years. 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 and visit them in their pre-school setting too.

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. Previsits 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 places at 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 optimal environment for learning; classrooms are calm, safe spaces where everyone can flourish. Being well-behaved is a combination of skills, aptitudes, habits, inclinations, values and knowledge which are taught through our Behaviour Curriculum.



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

The Laurels is an amazing school that offers children lots of opportunities.
- Parent 2022

Preventing Bullying

Any kind of bullying will not be tolerated. Our aim is to prevent incidents by ensuring that our children understand that any kind of bad behaviour will not be accepted, condoned or ignored. All staff implement our behaviour curriculum and consider it their responsibility to prevent and stop any incidents whenever it occurs. We work closely together monitoring, caring and passing on relevant information to the Class Teacher, and Teaching Assistants as 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.

The Laurels is a fantastic school, it offers my children so much and they are both doing so well, and most importantly they are happy going to school. I know I can approach any member of staff if I was to have any concerns, and all staff go above and beyond for the children.

- Parent 2022



I love the school is small so feels like my child is really well looked after. *Parent 2022*

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. Reception, Year 1 and Year 2 are provided with fresh fruit and vegetables through the government scheme.

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 are encouraged to bring it to 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 have the option of buying a hot dinner directly through the hot meal provider Chartwells online www.mealselector.co.uk.

Pupils may also bring a packed lunch.





I can't fault The Laurels, I'm so pleased with how both my kids are progressing. – Parent 2022

Special Educational Needs and Disabilities

At The Laurels Primary School, ALL of 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.



the teachers truly care about their pupils and want them to achieve their full potential - Parent 2022

Staffing and Areas of Responsibility

Headteacher & Designated Safeguarding Lead	Miss Charlotte Bull
Assistant Headteacher (Personal Development)	Mrs Beth Collins
Assistant Headteacher (Quality of Education)	Mr Neil Johnson
Assistant Headteacher (Inclusion) & SENDCo	Miss Helen Pinney

Administrative Support Staff

Administrative Assistant	Mrs Karen Warrington
Receptionist/Administrator	Mrs Dani Harris
EA to Headteacher	Mrs Carly Oliver

Teachers and Teaching Assistants

Class	Teacher	Teaching Assistant
Reception	Mrs Roberts	Mrs Hilton-Pope, Miss Prince
Year 1	Miss Helyer	Mrs Metcalf
Year 2	Miss Daggett	Miss Vaughan-Game
Year 3	Miss Wadge	Mrs Tait, Miss Dunn
Year 4	Mr Alderton	Mrs Brackston
Year 5	Mr Benham	Mrs Phillips
Year 6	Mrs Collins/Mr Johnson	Mrs Empson, Mrs Knapp
Higher Level Teaching Assistants who cover PPA time	Mrs Empson, Mrs Mayers, Mrs Hilton-Pope, Mrs Brackston	

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 the school office at office@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



The Laurels Primary School

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Facebook: The Laurels Primary School, Worthing

Headteacher

Miss Charlotte Bull

Chair of Governors

Mrs Kerry Jones