

# Welcome to Staplehurst School!

## Nurturing and developing your child whilst they grow

Our wide range of facilities provides the perfect springboard from which your child is sure to find their talent and progress. Staplehurst School strives to be an effective learning organisation in which everyone is improving and extending their learning skills.

We provide a broad and balanced curriculum within the framework of the Early Learning Goals and the National Curriculum. We aim to:

- Encourage our children to develop lively and enquiring minds with positive attitude in order to develop as independent learners and achieve their full potential.
- Safeguard our children and ensure they feel safe and valued.
- Encourage pupils to listen and respond appropriately and respect the opinion of others.
- Maintain a good relationship with home and school and work in partnership with parents/carers and the community.
- Encourage an ethos where pupils have a mutual understanding of religious, cultural and moral values, and tolerance of others.

## Our Staff

We feel very fortunate to have built an established team of staff that are not only hardworking, professional and committed, but multi-talented, a must for the primary school environment. We also have a dedicated Inclusions Manager and Family Liaison Officer to support our children and their families. We are Kent's Every Child Counts training provider and employ a dedicated Numbers Count Teacher. Please refer to the School website for more details of our dedicated teaching and support team.

## Our Governing Body

The Governing Body is the School's accountable body. It is responsible for the conduct of the School and for promoting high standards. The Governing Body aims to ensure that children are attending a successful school, which provides them with a good education and supports their well-being. The Governing body is made up of representatives from the local community, parents and school staff. Please refer to the School website for more details of our Governing Body.

## Our Buildings and Grounds

Staplehurst School was established in 1873. The original school building is now the Village Centre. The present school was built in three phases, the latest in 1988. The School is set in attractive grounds in the middle of Staplehurst. There are eighteen classrooms with interactive whiteboards, an infant and junior hall, computers, laptops and IPADs, children's kitchen and infant library. We also have three well equipped playgrounds and a large sports field.

## Admissions

Criteria for admission are laid down by the Local Authority and can be viewed on the [www.kent.gov](http://www.kent.gov) website. The published admission number (or PAN as it is commonly referred to) is the number of pupils in each year group that the admission authority has agreed will be admitted without causing problems for the School. The School's PAN is 75

Children are admitted on a part time basis initially. After this initial period they attend on a full time basis. This is to help them become more secure and happy in their class and school environment and to allow time for children to get to know their teacher and teaching assistant, in a smaller group. In the year they come into school they are known as Early Years where they follow the Foundation Stage curriculum. They then move on to National Curriculum Year 1 (Y1) Year 2 (Y2), in progressive years, up to Year 6 (Y6).

## Pre-school Arrangements

Parents considering sending their child/children to this school are welcome to make an appointment to meet the Headteacher and tour the School before placing their child's/children's name/s on the admission list. Children with confirmed places for admission are invited to 'Open Sessions' to see the children at work during the day. A series of story/activity sessions are arranged during June and July for new entrants to meet with their teacher and to become

familiar with the classroom. The Early Years Leader and Inclusions Manager also endeavour to visit the children at their playgroup/nursery if within the Staplehurst area.

## **Secondary School Liaison**

At the end of Year 6, children transfer to an appropriate local secondary school. There are single-sex grammar schools and mixed high schools in our area. Grammar schools determine their entry by a selection test at age eleven, and there is a co-educational grammar school in Cranbrook, which admits pupils at age thirteen by selective examination. There are other options that parents can explore and the School or Area Education Office will be pleased to advise you about these.

We maintain close links with all the secondary schools to which our children transfer. All secondary schools offer parents and children the opportunity to visit when deciding on their preference for secondary schooling. Some schools may offer pupils a 'taster' day in Year 5 or early in Year 6.