‘BE THE BEST YOU CAN BE’

Chipstead Valley Primary School and Nursery

School Prospectus

"This is a happy, caring and thoroughly inclusive school."
Ofsted 2024

CVPS

Welcome from the Headteacher

It is a great pleasure and a privilege to welcome you to our school.

Chipstead Valley is a three-form entry primary school and nursery, with Enhanced Learning Provision for children with physical and complex medical needs. We are fortunate enough to be based in superb grounds with ever-evolving facilities, both inside and out. These include a state of the art computing suite, sensory room, creativity suite, outdoor gym, swimming pool, library, reading garden, immersive learning suite, woodland, conservation and orchard areas and an award winning, extensive growing area, cultivated by both staff and children. Our school prides itself on outdoor learning, technology and global learning; three of the core threads which run through all aspects of our curriculum.

Our talented and dedicated staff work closely with our pupils and parents to ensure the highest quality provision, within a fully inclusive environment. We value all our children equally, celebrating their right to be different and excel in different ways. We encourage them to embrace their individuality, to think for themselves and to strive to be the best they can be, in all that they do.

All Different
All Equal
All Special

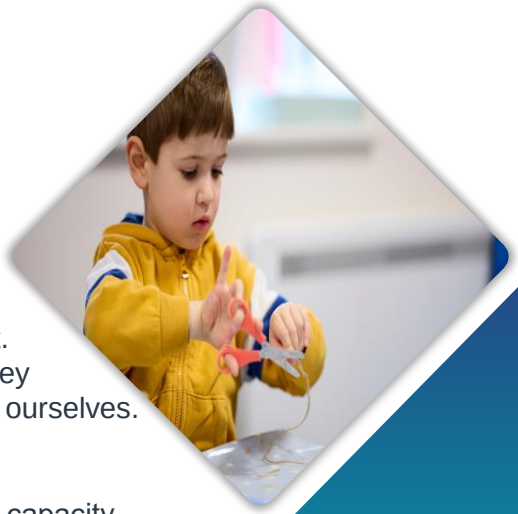
Our school is a thriving community, where staff, parents and governors work closely together to ensure that every child receives the best education and school experience that we can offer. Our partnership with families is essential in helping to build a clear picture of every child as an individual, and in meeting their social, emotional and learning needs.

It is our hope that every child will leave Chipstead Valley having grown into confident, compassionate young people, with strong values and a desire to make a positive difference in the world.

Although I hope that this prospectus will give you an insight into who we are as a school, I warmly encourage anyone interested in joining our school, to come and visit us and experience for themselves our wonderful children and all we have to offer.

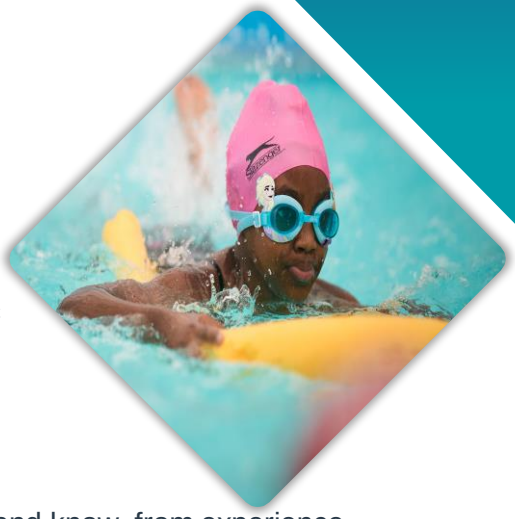
Mrs Clare Rackham
Headteacher

Our School



Chipstead Valley is a highly successful three-form entry primary school, with just over 700 children on roll, between Nursery and Year 6. In April 2014, we became an academy, now known as the PACE Academy Trust. The trust comprises of 4 schools across Croydon and Mitcham: New Valley Primary School, Keston Primary School, Beecholme Primary School and ourselves. PACE Academy Trust is headed by our Chief Executive, Zoe Harris.

Our 'Enhanced Learning' provision opened in 2013 and currently has the capacity for 13 children with physical disabilities. In 2017, we opened a brand new nursery provision, with space for 2 and 3 year olds.



We are proud of our many achievements; academic standards are high and all pupils are encouraged to strive for their best, through carefully planned learning opportunities, provided by an excellent team of staff. Children are given a broad range of opportunities and experiences during their time with us, not just through a rich and broad curriculum, but also through the wider opportunities available to them throughout each year. In addition to our dedicated focus on the academic subjects, sport, music, technology, art, drama, outdoor and global learning, featuring prominently within our provision.

We strongly believe in developing close links between home and school and know, from experience, that children's learning clearly benefits from this effective partnership. We are also a listening school, and actively encourage parents and children to come and see us if they have any concerns.

We have a hugely successful PTFA who work tirelessly each year to raise valuable funds for projects throughout the school.

OFSTED

In May 2024 the school experienced a very successful OFSTED inspection and was judged to be 'Outstanding' in all areas. The inspector had the following comments to make:

Inspectors commented that pupils are "incredibly" well-behaved, and pupils work hard to be "the best they can be".

"Pupils enjoy the wide range of enrichment activities on offer, such as choir, gardening, and football club. These opportunities help pupils to develop their talents and pursue their interests." We are also proud to have received praise for our "ambitious curriculum".

Vision 2026

As a school, we are constantly striving for excellence and every three years, alongside representatives from across the school and wider community, we renew our vision for the future. Under the title ‘Vision 2026’, we have set out our goals and aspirations through four key pillars:

- Provision
- Standards and Achievement
- Wellbeing
- Partnership and Community

Provision

We foster **resilience** through a progressive and dynamic curriculum, nurturing confidence with a positive mindset and empowering everyone to make a difference. Our inclusive, rich and purposeful learning environment actively supports and encourages **adaptability**, ensuring access for all.

Standards and Achievement

We celebrate every child for their unique identity, valuing both who they are and what they can achieve. Encouraging curiosity and **enquiry**, we provide essential tools for achievement, supporting all to explore their full potential and to be the best they can be.

Wellbeing

We demonstrate **respect**, **thoughtfulness** and consideration for all, valuing and appreciating our diverse school community. Everyone had a voice and feel safe, confident and heard.

Partnership and Community

We work together to develop, nurture and strengthen partnerships, emphasising cooperation, effective communication and shared commitment to morality. Through our collaborative efforts, we contribute positively to our school community, local area and the wider world.

Our Values

Respect
We care for other people, animals and the environment.

Communication
We express our thoughts, ideas and feelings in many different ways.

Enquiry
We look carefully, ask questions and investigate the world around us.

Morality
We think about the choices and decisions we make and we always try to do the right thing.

Co-operation
We work well with others in a range of different situations.

Adaptability
We change our behaviour and learning styles to suit different situations.

Thoughtfulness
We think about others and care for those around us.

Resilience
We always try our best and never give up.

At Chipstead Valley Primary, we have developed a core set of school values; personal goals that enable us to 'be the best we can be'.

Behaviour

We believe that effective learning can only take place where there is a high standard of positive behaviour. We also acknowledge that part of growing up is learning what is acceptable and unacceptable and gradually taking responsibility for one's own behaviour. Every pupil has the right to be educated in an atmosphere which is conducive to learning, and there is an expectation that every pupil has a responsibility to contribute to the creation of such an atmosphere. Our approach to discipline is to encourage and celebrate good behaviour and positive achievements in all children.

Chipstead Valley Golden Expectations

As members of our school community, we show ***respect and consideration*** for all.

We do this by following the Golden Expectations:

Be kind
Be helpful and polite
Being honest
Be good listeners
Be safe and sensible around the school
Be thoughtful of others while enjoying your free time

We always aim to '**Be the Best We Can Be**'!

Curriculum

Curriculum 2023: A shared vision for PACE schools

‘We engage and challenge all learners through an inspiring, relevant and ever-evolving curriculum. Through a rich and varied range of opportunities, we empower children to become resilient, reflective learners, equipped with the knowledge, skills and motivation to enable them to become the best they can be as young people and adults.’

Curriculum Design

As a trust, we have worked together to develop a curriculum befitting of the 21st Century. We offer a curriculum that is interesting, stimulating and relevant to the needs of children growing up in a fast and ever-changing world. Core threads run through all aspects of our curriculum: technology; outdoor learning; global learning; safeguarding and equality and diversity. Each school interprets and personalises the curriculum design to respond to the needs and interests of the children within their provision. We believe that all areas of the curriculum are important in developing knowledgeable and inquisitive minds.

Our Pupil Outcomes: Preparing Children for Life

Attitudes, Attributes and Values

As young people:
Our children are open-minded, considerate, respectful, confident and happy.

As learners:
Our children are curious, enthusiastic, reflective, resilient and ambitious.

As citizens:
Our children understand their place in both local and global communities. They are beginning to understand how they can contribute to society and help others.

As individuals:
Our children are able to make informed choices to keep themselves healthy and safe.

Knowledge and Skills

As learners:
Our children are literate and numerate, allowing them to succeed in their future education, work and life.

Our children achieve the highest possible standards across the curriculum.

Our children are equipped with a wide range of curriculum skills.

English

Speaking and Listening

At Chipstead Valley Primary our aim is for children to learn to communicate their thoughts, ideas and opinions clearly and succinctly, as well as to listen to and reflect on the ideas of others. We encourage children to turn-take in conversations and adapt their speech to a range of situations and audiences.

Reading and Phonics

Our aim is for children to develop a life-long love for reading. We want our children to become independent, fluent and enthusiastic readers, who enjoy reading a variety of texts.

We teach phonics using the systematic phonics programme FFT Success for All. Our children participate in daily phonics lessons, learning the common sounds in the English language, how to blend and decode for reading and develop skills in spelling. They also develop comprehension, grammar and sentence construction.

Children have access to a wide range of reading books, which they change regularly, and are encouraged to share with parents and carers.

We want children to develop enjoyment of reading and encourage them to read for pleasure. We have a dedicated library area that all classes have access to, which is generously stocked with age appropriate, diverse and popular texts, to encourage reading for pleasure.

Writing

Writing is developed from an early age by mark making and activities to develop fine motor skills.

We aim for our children to develop their ability to write in a wide range of genres, both fiction, non-fiction and poetry.

In KS1 children are taught the basic skills, such as how to use full stops and capital letters, and progress to using other forms of punctuation such as question and exclamation marks. They are taught about using engaging and meaningful vocabulary to make writing interesting and by the end of KS1, pupils begin to evaluate and make some improvements to their writing.

In KS2, pupils build on the earlier foundations, developing competence in the accuracy of grammar, punctuation and spelling and the structure of text composition. They plan and draft extended pieces of writing and learn to evaluate and edit these. Pupils develop their skills through a range of genres, considering vocabulary and structures appropriate for the purpose and audience.

Maths

In line with the new National Curriculum, maths teaching at Chipstead Valley Primary School aims to develop children's fluency, reasoning and problem solving. We follow a 'Mastery' approach, which gives all children the opportunity to deepen their mathematical understanding, make connections and reason maths through varied and stimulating lessons. Wherever possible, learning is linked to real-life contexts and consolidated through outdoor learning opportunities.
Lessons incorporate a range of mathematical representations, practical resources and opportunities for children to communicate mathematically when justifying, proving and explaining their thinking. In addition, children participate in regular investigations, to enable them to demonstrate deeper understanding of their mathematical knowledge and skills.
By the end of their primary years, our aim is for all of our children to be confident, able and curious mathematicians.

Science

Our children are taught to be young scientists, encouraged to explore how science can be used to explain what is occurring, predict how things behave and analyse causes. Our approach is based on scientific enquiry and its five main components: comparative and fair testing, observing over time, seeking patterns, identifying, classifying and grouping, and the use of secondary sources. We challenge children's curiosity through engaging and investigational activities, set in meaningful contexts, ensuring careful progression through detailed curriculum mapping. We often work outdoors.
Specialist vocabulary is introduced regularly and progressively and children are taught to communicate and question ideas through both teacher and child led, scientific discussions. We are committed to learning about scientists from a diverse range of ethnic backgrounds, both male and female, to encourage aspirations for all.

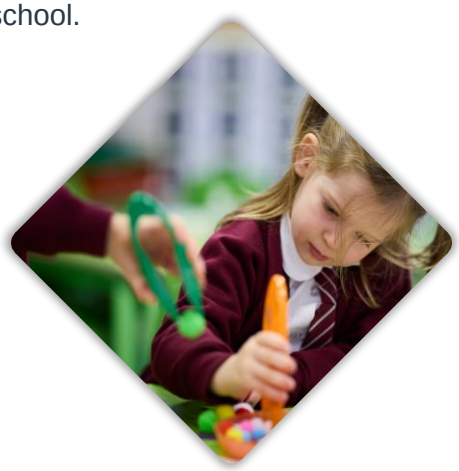
Sports

We consider sport and physical activity to be essential for all our children. We have excellent resources, including a swimming pool, cycle track and an all-weather jogging route, as well as extensive grounds for football, netball and athletics. Our PE and dance curriculum is wide ranging and we are fortunate to have a fully trained coach to deliver many of our activities. We have a large number of clubs and we enter numerous sporting competitions, often successfully. Children from Reception to Year 5, learn to swim in our training pool and they all participate in a weekly run. In the summer months children cycle for fitness on our own bikes.

Wellbeing and RE

At Chipstead Valley, safeguarding and well-being are at the forefront of everything we do. We continuously ensure that our staff have an excellent understanding of safeguarding and are able to identify children in need of support. Our well-being curriculum teaches children the importance of keeping themselves safe and speaking out if something is not right. For those children who are in need, we provide excellent pastoral care, including ELSA and emotional support sessions with one of our Designated Safeguarding Leads, who has a Place2Be counselling qualification.

We actively promote diversity through our understanding and celebrations of different faiths and cultures. Religious Education lessons and PSHE lessons reinforce messages of kindness and respect for others. Our curriculum and our links with other schools, both local and global, illustrates our commitment to exploring our school community and local community. Members of different faiths and religions are encouraged to share their knowledge to enhance learning within classes and the school.



Enriching the Curriculum

The Arts

The school is very fortunate to have a specialist art teacher. Lessons are taught through the elements of art (line, tone, colour, form, texture, shape, space, value and pattern) while encouraging creativity, self-expression and the ability to communicate ideas visually. Children study a range of artists, developing their cultural awareness. Through various mediums – such as drawing, painting, sculpture and digital art, children are encouraged to take risks and collaborate, building confidence and helping to develop a lifelong love of the arts.

During music lessons, children develop their skills of listening, composing, performing and appraising music. We have a school choir and an orchestra. Many children take advantage of peripatetic music lessons learning to play a range of instruments including piano, violin, cello, flute, clarinet, recorder, trumpet, saxophone and drums. Our summer and Christmas concerts give children the opportunity to showcase their musical skills and every year, certain year groups present music events with high standards of singing, acting and dancing. Throughout the school, children are given the opportunity to take part in musical productions and the whole school take part in our annual concert at a local church.

Outdoor Learning

Learning outside the classroom has a wealth of benefits, including improved mental and physical health. Our school grounds play an integral part in the delivery of our curriculum and we take many of our lessons outside throughout the year. Whether it's investigating life cycles next to our pond, maths in the orchard or creating poetry in our woodland area, pupils learn to enjoy and respect the outdoor environment. These sessions help our pupils develop a love and understanding of nature. They become more confident, take risks, solve problems, communicate, cooperate with their peers and just as importantly, have fun!

Technology

At Chipstead Valley, we are fortunate to have a range of technology such as IPADS, Chromebooks, desktop computers and our Digiverse. We recognise the importance of computing within our curriculum but also value the impact technology can have on learning opportunities. The Digiverse is an immersive suite, which can transport pupils to a period in history, another country or even travel through space. It is used regularly as an introduction to a new topic, opportunity to explore a theme or even inspire creative writing.

Global Learning

International projects and global learning are woven in to our dynamic and forward-thinking curriculum, where children are encouraged to explore their role in the community, both locally and on a much wider scale. Global learning is one of the core threads in our curriculum and links to our vision that pupils will leave our school equipped with skills and experiences that will make them more open-minded, considerate, respectful, confident and happy. We teach our pupils to be curious, enthusiastic, reflective, resilient and ambitious. Through project-based learning, our pupils begin to understand how they can contribute to society and help others.

Early Years Foundation Stage (EYFS)

Nursery

Chipstead Valley has a purpose-built nursery housed within the extensive grounds of the school. Our Nursery consists of four key group classes: Caterpillars, Ladybirds, Butterflies and Bumblebees. Each provides a safe, friendly, happy and stimulating environment.

Our nursery is set within a caring and supportive learning environment, which takes up to 63 children, age two and three. We immerse the children in a combination of child led and teacher focused activities and challenges, within both the indoor and outdoor environment, building a lifelong love of learning and nurturing the development of the social skills they need to succeed.

Our aim is for every child at Chipstead Valley Nursery to benefit from the consistency of teaching and learning routines, to ensure they are best prepared for starting school and beyond. We offer our youngest children the opportunity to learn and develop through play, helping them to feel confident and safe within the school environment. We aim to ensure they are given the best start to their educational journey and are supported with their transition to Reception.

Reception

Our Reception classes provide a welcoming, supportive, and stimulating environment, where children are given equal opportunity to develop and learn. Children follow the Early Years Foundation Stage (EYFS) framework, working throughout the year towards achieving the Early Learning Goals, in a way and pace appropriate to them as individuals.

Early Learning Goals set high expectations within seven key areas of learning and at Chipstead Valley, we aim to meet the diverse needs of each individual child, so that all will develop, progress and achieve. The aims of the curriculum are to help the development of the whole child and to secure a foundation for happy, confident, well-adjusted, independent and educated children.

Pupils will be encouraged to explore, question, reason and communicate and also to express their ideas and feelings through a range of music, drama and imaginary play. The whole school motto, of all children aiming to 'be the best they can be' encompasses all we do, in both work and play, providing the foundations in which each and every child can be supported and encouraged to achieve their full potential.

Enhanced Learning Provision

In addition to the classes in our main school, we are also fortunate to have an Enhanced Learning Provision (ELP) for children with physical and complex medical needs. Our ELP has 13 full time places for Reception to Year 6 pupils.

We offer a broad and balanced curriculum and learning is based on the individual needs of the child adapting the school day and curriculum to offer personalised delivery. Some of our ELP children are fully-integrated into our mainstream setting and we also have our Treehouse classroom, a smaller class that provides key children with specialist support so they can access the curriculum and wider school life in a way that is adapted to meet their specific needs. We provide children with support and strategies which enable them to develop their independence, whilst also making progress against their own personal targets and specific needs.

We work with a wide range of specialist professionals including speech and language therapists, physiotherapists, children's hospital at home team and occupational therapists, who work with us to develop our inclusive provision, as well as working directly with pupils. We also work closely with other supporting services such as the Educational Psychologist Team. Our work with these agencies supports us in monitoring the progress individuals make and tailoring our provision to meet individuals' needs.

As a fully inclusive school, our ELP children have regular access to all of the facilities across the school.

Our School Community

Parent Teacher and Friends Association (PTFA)

We are very fortunate to have a PTFA at Chipstead Valley who take a highly active role in fundraising for the school. Throughout the year, we have a wide range of successful events and fundraisers, which are organised for all year groups and within our local community. Currently, these events include the Christmas and summer fairs, school discos, fireworks, a pantomime and a school quiz. We also raise funds through 'Your School Lottery' and 'Easy Fundraising'. Over the past few years, the PTFA have raised a considerable amount, which has resulted in purchases to enhance our children's provision, such as a reading garden, an interactive immersion suite (Digiverse), playground equipment, music resources and much more.

Extra-curricular Activities

Extra-curricular activities help children to learn about themselves and develop and use their skills and knowledge in different contexts. Here at Chipstead Valley, we offer a wide range of clubs for children to enjoy, to support enhance and embed transferable skills relating to children's interests, including ballet, Taekwondo, chess, football, choir, orchestra, coding, swimming and many more. In addition, we also provide children with a multitude of experiences and opportunities to enhance their topics through trips and workshops. In years 4 and 6, children get the opportunity to participate in residential stays, away from home.

Wrap Around Care

Breakfast and after-school club are available for all children from Nursery through to Year 6. Breakfast club is open from 7.30am and after school club is available until 6.00pm.

CVPS

Contact Details

For any further information, please feel free to contact the school. Our members of staff are happy to help with any queries from parents, carers or other members of the public. In addition, if you are aware of any parents or carers who may require accessibility support in any way, please do contact us.

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Academy Converter - PACE Academy Trust

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