



THE B@M TRUST

PROSPECTUS

**THELWAL INFANT SCHOOL & NURSERY,
PELHAM ROAD,
THELWALL,
WARRINGTON.
WA4 2HF
Telephone: 01925 267172**

**E-mail: thelwall.infant@thebeamtrust.co.uk
Web Site Address: www.thelwallinfantschool.co.uk**

Age range of pupils	:	3+ years to 7+ years
Number of children on roll as at September 2021	:	116
Head Teacher	:	Mrs Alison Rostron
Chair of Governors	:	Mrs L Hollingsworth

WELCOME

The details contained in this prospectus are intended to provide basic information which will help you to make decisions about your child's education. However, a school is part of a living community and only by visiting us can a true impression be gained of the quality of education and relationships for which we strive. An appointment can be made to see our school during the school day.

It is every child's right to be educated to their full potential and we ensure that all children are provided with the opportunities to develop their knowledge, skills and attitudes to the full. Learning takes place in an atmosphere which is stimulating yet secure and in which each child is valued as an individual.

The education of the children will be further enhanced if there is a partnership between home and school. We encourage parents to be involved in their child's learning, value their support and we look to build a partnership based on trust and mutual respect. Parents are warmly welcomed to help in school.

The school's Ofsted Inspection of July 2008 was judged to be "Outstanding". This report is available on the school or Ofsted website – www.thelwallinfantschool.co.uk

Children are our future; we must ensure that, together, we provide a strong foundation on which they can build.

If you require further details or would like to visit the school please do not hesitate to contact us.

Alison Rostron
Headteacher

ETHOS AND VALUES

We have a strong belief that children should be developed into confident and resilient learners. We are all part of a school community and as such each individual is valued for the contribution he/she makes as part of our school. Our core principles underpin the way that the staff and children work and learn within our school.



Achieving through.....

Challenge • Adventure • Discovery

Our Core Principles

We see problems as opportunities to learn

We understand the purpose of our learning and are actively engaged

We know it is about the journey not just the destination

We use and apply what we already know

We are independent and confident to make choices

We are not scared to make mistakes

We learn from the past to build our future

OUR SCHOOL

The school caters for children from the ages of 3+ to 7+. Children can enter Little Explorers Nursery, which is part of the school, as soon as they turn 3 (15 and 30 hour funded places are available the term after they turn 3). Nursery admission information and admission forms can be found [here](#).

Children are then admitted into reception during the Autumn term after their fourth birthday. Applications are done through the online Local Authority admissions system (reception places must still be applied for even if your child attends our nursery). Please click [here](#) to reach the local authority admissions page.

STARTING NURSERY OR SCHOOL

Parents and children are invited to an induction meeting prior to children starting at Little Explorers. Staff will help parents to decide the best way to introduce their child to nursery, which can include building up sessions over a half term if preferred.

Staff liaise with other nurseries and pre-schools prior to the children starting in reception. Parents are invited to an intake meeting during the summer term. Home visits are available if parents wish Foundation Stage teachers to meet with them in their own homes.

Children continue in the school until they are seven, after which they transfer to Thelwall Junior School. (This is an automatic transefer and places do not need to be applied for).

THE SCHOOL DAY

A school week will normally comprise of 21 hours 15 minutes teaching time for Foundation Stage and Key Stage 1. This excludes morning break and lunch time as well as daily collective worship. A break of 15 minutes is taken each morning. Snacks are provided at a cost £1.50 each week and children can chose from toast, crumpet, tea cake or fruit. Snack money is payable half-termly. During the afternoon all children are provided with a piece of fruit and a short informal break is taken when this is eaten.

8.45 a.m. Children enter school for 'morning challenge'

8.55 a.m. Registration and lessons

9.00 a.m.	School gates are locked
10-10.15 a.m.	Morning break (15 mins)
12.15-1.15pm	Lunch
3.00 p.m.	School finishes

ABSENCE

We are required to keep registers of all absence, particularly unauthorised absence. Parents are asked to contact the school in the event of a child being absent. It is essential that parents notify the school as to the reason for absence. A telephone call or email on the first morning of absence ensures the safety of all our pupils.

For safeguarding reasons the school will telephone the home of any child that is not in school when we have not been notified of their absence.

TEACHING ORGANISATION

On entry to school, children are split into two Reception classes for registration but all 45 children work together in open plan teaching area with the reception staff team of two teachers and a teaching assistant. Children in the Reception classes follow the Early Years Foundation Stage Curriculum. Further information on our curriculum can be found on the [curriculum](#) pages of our website.

Once the children finished their year in Reception they move into Key Stage 1, going into Year 1 and then Year 2. Our Key Stage 1 classes are organised into 3 classes- a Year 1 class, a mixed Year 1 and Year 2 class, and a Year 2 class. Children in Years 1 and 2 work on the Key Stage 1 National Curriculum.

Teachers are supported by highly trained Teaching Assistants and teach every age group at different times. Our teachers enjoy the chance to work with each of the different year groups.

THE CURRICULUM

The aim of Thelwall Infant School is to help each child in our care to develop to their full potential, laying a sound basis upon which each child can build throughout their life.

Children are taught the importance of being part of a caring community within the school. Children are expected to treat everyone in school with respect and consideration and to always do their best in all areas of school life. The school provides an atmosphere where children's successes are celebrated so that each child feels valued and develops confidence and enthusiasm for learning.



The school aims to provide an environment for learning which is stimulating and encourages independent learning throughout the Key stages.

Much emphasis is placed on developing the skills within English and Maths. Activities such as role play and story making tables support children in developing their ability to communicate.

We address the Curriculum in a creative and cross-curricular way which supports children in developing the skills of learning which they can apply in all situations. The cross-curricular elements have developed a high level of enthusiasm and the impact on children's ability and experiences of enjoying and achieving is very positive. All teachers aim to make the curriculum as creative and exciting as possible and many themed days e.g. World Book Day, and weeks e.g. Healthy Schools Week, support this. These, along with educational visits, enhance children's learning and enrich the curriculum.



The school aims for high standards of achievement in all areas of school life. The progress of each child is monitored carefully and records are kept. Parents are always kept informed of their child's progress and teachers regularly consult with parents.

When children start school they will follow the Early Years Foundation Stage Curriculum. Within the Reception class the children work towards the Early Learning Goals. There is a strong emphasis on

learning through play, both child initiated and planned play. The curriculum is delivered through a combination of whole class activities, adult led focussed activities and child initiated activities.

Children in Years 1 and 2 work on the Key Stage 1 National Curriculum.

A theme or topic is chosen for each half term and areas of the curriculum are related to it. Careful structuring of the learning programme and monitoring with regards to continuity and progression ensures a high quality education. The KS1 curriculum is delivered on a two year rolling programme.

Details about topics and work to be covered are shared on the school website every term. We hope that you will wish to become involved with your child's work in school and we will keep you informed as to how best support this. A variety of methods and techniques of teaching are employed by the teaching staff so that it is possible that your child will learn in class, group and individual situations.

At Thelwall Infant School we want learning to be engaging, enjoyable and meaningful. We believe that the atmosphere which fosters the most effective learning is a relaxed and happy one where children can become absorbed in their tasks. We also believe that making mistakes is part of learning. School is a learning place and here we learn new skills and concepts in an environment where it is safe to make mistakes from which we learn.



The school aims to help all children to achieve their potential. This means that children who are who have special educational needs are identified and suitable learning programmes are utilised. The assistance of outside agencies including the L.A. Speech and Language team, and Educational Psychology team are called upon when necessary. The school has a Special Educational Needs Policy which is available on our website, along with information about our SEND offer..

P.E. is taught to all children and our school grounds offer opportunities for outdoor games and P.E. when the weather is suitable. A "Sports Day" is held during the summer term to which parents are invited. We encourage our children to develop a healthy attitude to physical activity by taking part in a variety of activities thus developing their own potential and confidence.

After School Clubs including Football, Dance, Cricket and Tennis run throughout the year.



Religious Education is broadly Christian in its ethos. Assemblies are held every day and visitors are invited to take part and lead our assemblies. The school maintains links with the local church, All Saints, Thelwall.

Religious education is taught in accordance with the Education Reform Act 1988. Parents have the right to withdraw their child from such instruction and from school assembly. Alternative arrangements will be made for those children for whom withdrawal is requested.

EDUCATIONAL VISITS

Visits out of school, including residential visits, are an integral part of the curriculum. The school values the first-hand experience that such educational visits extend to our children. It is hoped that parents will continue to recognise the vital importance of such experiences and support the school in this way. Permission will be sought from parents on every occasion we take children out of school. When transport is required, coaches with seat belts will be used.



P.S.H.R.E.

At Thelwall Infants we believe that happy confident children make the best learners and therefore we strive to ensure that the environment we provide for the children enables them to feel safe and secure. Having created the best possible learning environment we find our children are enthusiastic and excited to learn through the varied experiences we offer.



Our Personal Social Emotional and Relationships Education is a priority and is delivered through our 'Values' curriculum which focuses on seven core values: Friendship, Co-operation, Happiness, Respect, Honesty, Thoughtfulness and Perseverance. Within this children learn about developing healthy and safe relationships as well as keeping a healthy mind and body.

The children are supported, as they learn to work and play together and begin to understand that they have the power to make choices in many areas of their lives. They consider different feelings and how to manage them. They learn to set simple goals, work to achieve them and evaluate how successful they have been.

The children are taught that all people are equally important and deserve respect. In line with their maturity they know how to help others who are feeling unhappy in any way. They understand the importance of rules and are supported as they learn that their behaviour has an effect on those around them.

The PSHRE curriculum also enables the children to consider different aspects of a healthy life style, how they grow and change, and the skills they need to thrive in the local community. A responsibility to care for the environment both within school and the wider community is considered. Children take part in Class and School Council meetings.

Sex education is not dealt with as a separate topic, however, children's questions which may arise out of issues being discussed, are answered honestly and sensitively, in a manner appropriate to their level of maturity.

All areas of the PSHRE curriculum are ongoing, reflecting and relating to the maturity of the individual child.

PARENTS AND THE COMMUNITY

We strongly believe that it benefits the child, not only in their work, but also in their attitude to their peers and the community around them if parents themselves keep in close contact with the school. At all stages of your child's education we ensure we share their experiences with you through

informal and formal methods, including our open door policy (parents welcome to come and speak to teachers at any time), parent meetings, our School communication app and our school Facebook page.

Parents receive a termly detailed update on their child's learning and progress in the form of a 'Record of Progress' which is emailed to parents in January, April and July.

We also have a parents association known as ***The Friends of Thelwall Infants School (FTIS)***

Parents, guardians, staff and governors are all warmly welcomed to all meetings and functions. The aims of the association are to foster relationships between staff, parents and others associated with the school and to engage in activities which support the school and its pupils.

Parents who wish to be involved in school life but do not wish to work within the classroom are welcome to come and carry out preparation tasks for teachers.

HOMEWORK

Supporting your child's education at home is very important and will benefit your child greatly. Each term the Curriculum overview (found on the school website) will help you to see what the children are working on at school and enable you to reinforce this at home.

We ask you to take part, with your child, in daily reading practice. You will do much to help your child if you share with us in reading development. A diary will be sent home with an appropriate book which your child can share with you. Please use the diary to make comments about the reading and thus communicate with his/her teacher.

Key Stage 1 children will also receive a 'homework project' each half term.

SCHOOL UNIFORM

We have a simple school uniform which consists of a grey skirt or trousers, red or white polo shirt and a red sweatshirt or cardigan. Fleece and waterproof coats are also available. In summer red and white dresses and shorts may be worn.

A school P.E. Kit is available to purchase online or children may wear a white T shirt and navy shorts. All children require trainers for outdoor P.E. These items can be kept in a named drawstring bag or equivalent. It is important that all items of clothing should be named.

All uniform is purchased online at www.touchline-embroidery.co.uk (password the14456)

THE LUNCH HOUR

Hot school meals are available free of charge for all those who choose to have them. These are cooked on the premises and are planned to ensure a healthy balanced diet (see website for [menu](#)). Children may also bring a packed lunch to school. Parents are asked to ensure that all containers for food and drinks are unbreakable and do not contain fizzy drinks or sweets.

Children sit in dinner families at lunch times and the older children help the younger ones to find their places and follow routines. Children eating hot school meals sit alongside those bringing packed lunches from home.



Unless the weather is very poor, children spend their break-times and part of their lunch break out of doors. Teaching staff and Teaching Assistants supervise the morning breaks and Mid-day Assistants and Teaching Assistants supervise at lunch-time. Children will need to have their coats in school at all times as they will go out onto the playground in all but the most inclement weather.

FIRST AID

Minor accidents are given First Aid treatment in school and, if necessary, parents are informed. In the case of the occasional accident requiring hospital treatment, every effort is made to contact parents, but if this is not possible, the Head Teacher takes the responsibility for taking the child to hospital.

A form will be sent home notifying parents if a child has sustained any kind of injury that has needed medical treatment.

MEDICINES IN SCHOOL

It is not the responsibility of the school to administer medicines. The Head Teacher, however, will accept responsibility where emergency medication or routine medication that needs to be administered during school hours is required, e.g. asthma, eczema, allergic reactions. In these instances an authorisation form must be completed and returned to the headteacher. **Please note that anti biotics will not be administered except in exceptional circumstances.** If a medicine needs

to be administered in school hours, parents are welcome to come into school to administer it. Please inform the class teacher if you are to do this. Parents of a child who suffers from asthma must complete the school's Asthma Form.

CHILD PROTECTION

Because of day to day contact with children, schools are particularly well placed to observe outward 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 required, as part of the Cheshire Child Protection procedures, to follow the safeguarding and child protection policy and procedures (See [safeguarding page](#) on our website).

SCHOOL WEB SITE AND FACEBOOK PAGE

You are invited to visit our school web site which can be found at www.thelwallinfantschool.co.uk and also to look at our school facebook page (link on website homepage)

You will see examples of children's work, photographs and lots of additional information.

GENERAL INFORMATION

For further information please see the school website at www.thelwallinfantschool.co.uk