



Valley Primary School Prospectus

**GROWING AND LEARNING TOGETHER TO BE
THE BEST WE CAN BE!**

We always...
ASPIRE for excellence
ENJOY learning
ACHIEVE success
CHALLENGE ourselves further.

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Welcome to Valley Primary School



Our school is an OFSTED rated GOOD school which is vibrant, happy and successful. I am delighted to be leading a team of dedicated staff.

Every child is treated as a unique individual. We cherish each child's talents and strive to ensure that their academic, social, spiritual and moral education is nurtured.

Our pursuit of excellence in teaching and enjoyment of learning is at the heart of all that we do. We believe that children learn best when they are excited by, actively involved in and have a clear purpose for their learning. Our curriculum emphasises key skills whilst also stimulating children's thinking skills.

We aim to ensure that our school evolves with the ever-changing world in which we live, meaning that our young people are prepared for their future and the increasing demands of today's society. We encourage all our children to become independent learners.

Our provision for curriculum enrichment is vast, including a variety of events throughout the year, educational visits and visiting speakers. We also offer various clubs outside of school time and dedicated enrichment time on a Friday afternoon where our children focus on their mental health and life skills.

Our strong working partnerships with parents, our high expectations and aspirations for all children and our clear and consistent behaviour management, alongside our inviting environment creates an ethos where every child can learn and flourish. We offer many opportunities for parents to come into school, attend workshops, information sharing events, SLT drop ins, more formal parent consultations, end of topic express events, children's performances, special assemblies and much, much more! We encourage parents to engage with school and have a dedicated Parent Liaison Lead who offers parents the opportunity to give feedback and raise any queries or concerns.

Our children grow and learn together with aspirational goals which enable them to be the best they can be. Our vision to *Aspire, Enjoy, Achieve and Challenge* runs through everything that we do!



Where is Valley

Primary School?

Valley Primary School is currently a split site primary school. Our Middle and Upper Phase children are on one site and our Lower Phase children are on the other.

Our school addresses are:

**Valley Primary School
Lower Phase (EYFS & Y1)
Fallowfield Road
Solihull
West Midlands
B92 9HQ**

**Valley Primary School
Middle & Upper Phase (Years 2-6)
Old Lode Lane
Solihull
West Midlands
B92 8LW**

**Telephone: 0121 743 4691
Email: office@valleyprimary.org**

Equal Opportunities and Diversity



Valley Primary School is fully inclusive and values all children for their unique personality. Our school focuses on the well-being and progress of every child, and we are committed to ensuring all members of our community are of equal worth.

Our Vision and Values and positive school ethos enable us to positively embrace diversity and improve the quality of life across our communities by making our school, it's curriculum and opportunities, openly accessible and welcoming for everyone.

We welcome our duties under the Equality Act 2010. Our School Policies reflect our commitment to equal opportunities and all our school leaders, governors, staff members and school volunteers are fully committed to treating all members of our school community equally. We are fully committed to ensuring we tackle issues of disadvantage and underachievement of different groups.

Our Staff lead by example and ensure that those they manage adhere to all school policies and our commitment with regard to equal opportunities and diversity. Our SMSC curriculum incorporates a range of different activities which teach the children about differences and the importance of equality. We embrace opportunities to teach about different religions and cultures and to celebrate diversity. We actively condemn all acts of violence and radicalisation.

Our school is a fully inclusive, happy community where our school vision, ethos and values permeate all that we do. Please take a look at our policies section on our website to find further detail about our commitment to equal opportunities for all.

Our Vision

GROWING AND LEARNING TOGETHER TO BE THE BEST WE CAN BE!

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Our Vision in practice...

<u>Vision aim:</u>	<u>What is this?</u>	<u>What does this look like in our books?</u>
ASPIRE excellence	Intent	Aspire Target I aspire to... starts every piece of work to show what our learning intention is.
ENJOY learning	Implementation	Learning Journey Our learning sometimes has learning steps, success criteria or key focus. It can be investigative, active or collaborative. The key is we always enjoy making progress and do our best to achieve.
ACHIEVE success	Impact	! WOW! A ! mark in our books shows that our teacher thinks WOW! This often means we have achieved the aspire target, success criteria, learning steps, key focus or progressed with a next step or individual target.
CHALLENGE ourselves further.	Mastery	~> Next Step We often have a next step challenge which helps us improve further or master a particular skill.

Our Vision helps us to aim high in our everyday lives as we grow and learn to become responsible, successful future adults.

Throughout life, we always aspire to do great things, enjoy opportunities to learn, achieve well and then challenge ourselves a little further!



Elliot Foundation Academies Trust Values

1. Put children first

- a. We trust and value your professionalism
- b. We share the responsibility for the learning and welfare of all of our children
- c. Our purpose is to improve the lives of children

2. Be safe

- a. Don't assume that someone else will do it
- b. Look after yourself, your colleagues and all children
- c. We are all responsible for each other's safety and well being
- d. Discuss any concerns with an appropriate member of staff

3. Be kind & respect all

- a. People are allowed to be different as are you
- b. Kindness creates the positive environment we all need to flourish
- c. This kindness should extend to ourselves as well as to others

4. Be open

- a. If you can see a better way, suggest it
- b. If someone else suggests a better way to you, consider it
- c. We exist to nurture innovators and support those who take informed risks in the interests of children

5. Forgive

- a. We all make mistakes
- b. Admit them, learn from them and move on

6. Make a difference

- a. Making the world a better place starts with you
- b. Model the behaviour that you would like to see from others

School Values

Our school ethos is value driven with good values taught integrally to all that we do. We want all our children to grow up valuing themselves, others and the environment.

Values are principles that guide behaviour.

At Valley Primary School all adults are encouraged to model values and to give time for reflective practices. We believe that this empowers individuals to be effective learners and good citizens.

We focus on six key values at Valley Primary School. We promote and teach these values to our children with a focus on one each half term to allow us to think about this in more depth.

Each half term begins with a special values assembly focusing on the half terms focus value. Throughout the half term, we particularly celebrate children's behaviour which embraces this value.

The values we have chosen are:

- Responsibility
- Collaboration
- Respect
- Honesty
- Kindness
- Courage



Please do ask for a copy of our Values map to see what each year group will focus on each half term.

British Values

At Valley Primary School, we take every opportunity to promote British Values, defined by the government as; democracy, the rule of law, individual liberty, mutual respect and tolerance of those of different faiths and beliefs. We aim to promote these values both in lessons and in extra-curricular activities to ensure our children leave school fully prepared for life in modern Britain.



British values are reinforced regularly and integrated into the curriculum.

Democracy:

Pupils have the opportunity to have their voice heard through a range of pupil leadership groups including the School Council. Each class has one child to represent them on the Council, and children understand the responsibility they have in articulating pupil voice. All children will have the opportunity each year to vote for the child in their class who will represent them. This is just one example of democracy in action. There are other opportunities throughout the year to exercise democracy also and opportunities are built into the curriculum whenever possible.

The Rule of Law:

The importance of laws, whether they govern the class, the school or the country, is consistently reinforced at Valley Primary. Pupils are taught the value and the reasons behind rules and laws; that they protect us and give structure to our lives and the responsibility we all have to follow them. They are also taught that breaking rules will result in a consequence. Visits from authorities such as the Police and the Fire Service help to reinforce this message.

Individual Liberty:

Pupils are actively encouraged to make decisions within a safe and supportive environment. They are encouraged to know, understand and exercise their rights and personal freedoms and are advised on how to do so safely. We aim to provide an empowering education for all pupils through the wider curriculum.

Mutual Respect:

Pupils learn that their behaviours have an effect on others and that they are responsible for ensuring all members of the school community are treated appropriately. They understand how we show respect through our actions and words.

Tolerance of Different Faiths and Beliefs:

Valley Primary is a diverse school, where we actively share our pupils' diversity through a range of celebratory events. Our extensive SMSC provision alongside our Religious Education and Personal, Social, Health and Economic education (PSHE) lessons reinforce messages of tolerance and respect for others. Members of different faiths and religions are encouraged to share their knowledge to enhance learning within the classroom and across the school. Pupils visit a range of places of worship during their time at Valley Primary School.

Class Organisation

We have a Nursery provision with groups of children for 15 hours or 30 hours. From Reception, there are three classes in each year group and children are taught individually, in groups or altogether as a class, depending upon the specific activity planned.

The School Day

Start of the School Day:

Lower Phase (Years N,R and 1) - Fallowfield Road Site

8.30am Self Registration and Early Morning Challenges

8.40am Formal Registration

8.50am Timetables Start

Please note: Doors open 8.30am and close 8.40am. Gates will open a few minutes before this. Any children arriving after 8.40am must sign in at the school office

Middle Phase (Years 2 and 3) and Upper Phase (Years 4,5 and 6) - Old Lode Lane Site

8.40am Self Registration and Early Morning Challenges

8.50am Formal Registration

9am Timetables Start

Please note: Doors open 8.40am and close 8.50am. Gates open a few minutes before this.

Any children arriving after 8.50am must sign in at the school office.

End of the School Day:

Monday to Thursday:

11.30am **Nursery 15 hour Children**, 2.45pm **Nursery 30 hour Children**.

3.20pm **Reception and Year 1**

3.30pm **Middle and Upper Phase (Years 2,3,4,5 and 6)**

Friday:

11.30am **Nursery 15 hour Children**, 1.40pm **Nursery 30 hour Children**.

1.50pm **Reception and Year 1**

2.00pm **Middle Phase and Upper Phase (Years 2,3,4,5 and 6)**

Gates open a few minutes before collection times.

Please be aware that SMBC operates a 'School Streets' system at the Fallowfield Road site. Please take care to check signage and be aware that restrictions apply between 8.00am and 8.50am and between 2.35pm and 3.35pm (Friday 1.05pm and 2.05pm).

Collection from School:

All children will have agreed contacts who parents agree can collect from school. This can be amended at any time but children will always only be released to adults on this list (and every contact must be a known adult to the child who is over 16 years of age).

Parents who transport their children to and from school by car are asked to give priority to the safety of our children and to show consideration for residents when parking. Please do not park on yellow zig-zag lines, on the pavement or in front of driveways. The school works closely with community police to implement this in practice.

Feel Good Friday Enrichment Clubs:

A wide range of exciting enrichment activities are available to extend the school day on Friday (contact the school office for further information). Optional Mental Health and Thinking Skills activities are encouraged for those who choose to go home.



Uniform

At Valley, we encourage all our children to be proud of their school and wear the uniform smartly and with pride.

The Valley school uniform consists of a mixture of school logo items and general items. Logo items can be purchased from Clive Marks in Sheldon, Midland Schoolwear in Acocks Green or School Trends which is an online retailer. General items can be purchased from most general retailers or supermarkets stocking school uniform items. Items such as bags, ties and water bottles being available from school via parentpay. Children in Lower Phase (Nursery, Reception and Year 1) require a book bag to keep their reading book and home learning activities in. This should be a clearly named Valley Logo book bag or a plain purple book bag of a similar size which fits into your child's tray.

Children in Middle and Upper Phases (Year 2, 3, 4, 5 and 6) require a small backpack to keep their reading book and home learning activities in. This should be a clearly named Valley Logo backpack or a similar sized backpack which hangs on your child's peg. It is important that this has a pocket on the outside of the bag for your child's water bottle to avoid any spillages when travelling to and from school.

Winter:

- Grey skirt, pinafore dress or trousers.
- Purple and grey striped school tie.
- White shirt/ blouse.
- School logo sweatshirt/ cardigan or plain purple V neck jumper/ cardigan.
- Grey/ white socks or grey tights.
- Black flat heeled shoes.
- Purple logo/ plain purple fleece (optional).
- Purple, grey, black or white head scarf (optional).

Summer (Summer Term and Autumn First Half term only):

- Dress with purple check or smart grey shorts with white logo polo shirt/ short sleeved white shirt with purple and grey striped school tie.
- School logo V neck sweatshirt/ cardigan or plain purple V neck jumper/ cardigan.
- Grey/ white socks.
- Black flat heeled shoes.
- Purple summer sun hat or cap (optional).
- Purple, grey, black or white head scarf (optional).

N.B. All items of clothing, including shoes, MUST be clearly labelled with your child's name.

Physical Education

P.E. Kit:

To be worn on P.E. days:

Purple logo polo shirt or plain purple polo shirt.

Black tracksuit bottoms, black gym leggings, black skirt or black shorts.

Grey/ white socks.

Plain black trainers.

School logo or plain purple fleece.

To be kept in school:

Valley logo P.E. drawstring bag or a plain purple or black drawstring bag.

Black pumps (without laces for the younger children) or black soft canvas lace up pumps (for older children where pumps are difficult to get due to sizing).

N.B. If you wish to send spare clothes in with your child in case of accidents, please put these in a separate black or purple drawstring bag to hang on their peg alongside their PE bag,

Swimming Kit:

A swimming costume/ swimming trunks and a towel is required in Year 4/ Year 5 at certain times.

You will be notified of the times for your child's swimming blocks.

Jewellery

Jewellery such as necklaces, chains, bracelets and rings are NOT to be worn in school. If children need to wear jewellery for religious or medical reasons, please ensure you notify the school. The accidental pulling and catching of such items during play can cause severe damage and the school will not be responsible for any injury incurred as a result of wearing such items. Children are allowed to wear a pair of single studs, but they will be asked to remove their earrings themselves, or tape over studs during P.E. and games sessions. Suitable watches may be worn. Smart watches (such as apple watches) are not permitted but a digital / analogue watch or simple exercise tracker can be worn.

Hairstyles, Make Up, Nail Varnish and Transfers:

Hair that is long enough to be tied back, should be tied back in school for reasons of health and hygiene.

Children should not have shaven patterns in their hair. Hair accessories should match the school uniform, for example, purple, grey, white or black. Nail varnish, make up and tattoo transfers are not permitted.

Pastoral Care

Pupils at Valley Primary School are encouraged to live a healthy lifestyle. They are taught about keeping themselves safe, appropriate behaviour and e safety to ensure they are fully equipped to protect themselves in the future. We encourage confident, safe, happy and healthy individuals.

All staff are consistent and fair. They ensure they are good role models for the children and that they recognise and value the strengths and talents of everybody in our school community. Children are encouraged to think for themselves, ask questions and find answers.



Our school ethos is one of trust where children feel confident being both challenged and supported in their learning journey. Where necessary, external services and advice is sought to enable individual children to receive additional support to enable them to fully access their learning.

We have a strong pastoral team and a high level of pastoral support is seen as a high priority for all of the children. We ensure that mental health is a priority and use a variety of strategies to encourage our children to talk about how they are feeling and support they need. We care about every single one of our children.



Attendance

We aim to ensure that all children attend school regularly and on time to enable them to take full advantage of the educational opportunities available.

Regular, punctual attendance is valued and positively encouraged for all of our pupils.

Attending school regularly and on time has a positive impact on learning and progress and therefore offers the best life chances for pupils.

Research shows that attendance and punctuality are important factors in school success. At Valley Primary School we expect all children to achieve attendance that is at least 96%.

It is important that pupils are punctual so that they do not miss out on the beginning of each school day. Children must attend on time to be given a present mark for the session.

If a pupil arrives late to school every-day, their learning begins to suffer. Below is a graph showing how being late to school every-day over a school year adds up to lost learning time.



Children arriving after 8.40am (Lower Phase- Nursery, Reception and Y1) and 8.50 am (Middle and Upper Phases Y2-Y6) will be late for school and will have to report to the school office.

School registration will close at 9.10am for Lower Phase and 9.15am for Middle and Upper Phases. Where a pupil arrives after the register closes, this will be classed as an unauthorised absence (code U as per DFE compulsory attendance codes).

The registers are monitored daily to identify pupils who are arriving late and regular late arrival for school will be challenged as not acceptable. Pupils who have 10 or more U codes will be referred to the Education Enforcement Team for the issue of a penalty notice.

Please refer to the school website (www.valleyprimaryschool.co.uk) to view the attendance letter which outlines the procedures for reporting attendance, making leave of absence requests and procedures for dealing with persistent absence. The school's attendance policy has also been included on the website.

School will monitor attendance closely and raise concerns with parents where necessary. School will utilise a range of interventions to try and work with families to improve attendance. However, where children accrue 10 or more unauthorised absences referrals to the Local Authority Education Enforcement Team for legal action will be made.

We also praise and reward children and classes with good attendance in school.

Safeguarding

Valley Primary School children are encouraged to live healthy lifestyles and adopt safe practices. Our safeguarding policies and practices help to ensure that they are safe, happy and healthy.

School policies are in place to ensure that there is a consistent approach to practices throughout the school and that they are followed by Staff, Governors and Volunteers.

Adults have a tremendous impact on young children and with this in mind adults at Valley Primary School:

- are good role models for children
- enjoy their work and working with children
- are conscientious and hard-working
- recognise and value strengths in each other and use these to support everyone
- work within agreed policies of the school
- promote a happy, caring and safe school
- encourage children to think for themselves, ask questions and find answers
- create an environment of trust whereby children are trusted to work seriously
- challenge and support children in their learning.



There are many policies in place to safeguard our children, including:

Child protection

This is a sensitive area in which all staff receive regular training. We work with other services for children and families to support the needs of our children. There is also a named governor for Safeguarding which includes Child Protection. The child protection policy can be viewed in our Policies section of the school website or a hard copy is available from the school office on request.

Child Abuse

Abuse can happen to a child of any age and social background, at home or in the community. It happens when

someone hurts a child directly - physically, emotionally or sexually - or indirectly, through neglect or failing to prevent harm.

Usually, the abuser is someone known to the child - maybe an adult, sometimes another child, and sometimes more than one person. Abuse can be stopped and even prevented, but this can only happen if someone knows about it.

If you have a safeguarding concern...

Safeguarding is everybody's responsibility.

If you are worried about a child being a victim of neglect, abuse or cruelty, you must tell Miss Milewski or Mrs Wilton or, in their absence one of the safeguarding team.

Alternatively, if you prefer or if you consider a child is in immediate danger, please phone 0121 788 4300 (outside office hours in an emergency: 0121 605 6060)

You can also call the NSPCC on 0808 800 5000 or contact [ChildLine](#) on 0800 1111 for further advice or support.

Behaviour

Our Behaviour System

The zone board system provides children with a visual tool to help them to understand the behaviour expected of them and celebrated within school, including behaviour towards peers and effort linked to learning.

The 'zone board' is simply a display with five colour zones going from gold, silver, green, orange to red. An example is shown.

The largest zone is the green zone which has the names of all the pupils in the class at the start of the day. Staff are encouraged to regularly praise the pupils who are staying in green by doing the right thing.

An adult/peer may decide that they have been spotted doing so well that their name is moved to silver and then to gold. If a pupil fails to keep one of the school or class rules or to meet expectations, an adult will then move the child down the zone board.

Should a child reach red on the zone board, there is a consequence. This usually involves a discussion with the Phase Leader and then a subsequent appropriate sanction such as missing their next playtime. If persistent instances of inappropriate behaviour occur parents will be informed. Parents may be invited into school to discuss how they might work with the school to enable the child to improve and agree appropriate rewards, sanctions and consequences.

Children can move up and down the zone board and all children are encouraged to work to improve their behaviour should they reach amber or red and move back up to green and beyond if possible.

House Points will be given as a reward to any child who is on gold by the end of the day and Golden Ticket Rewards are given for children consistently achieving Gold.

The pupils' names will return to green at the start of each new day.

Praise for Positive Behaviours and Celebration of Achievement.

At Valley, we believe that children thrive on praise. Encouraging all our children to achieve and praising them for their successes is crucial within our school ethos. We do this in a vast variety of ways including:

- School Achievement Awards presented in our whole school congratulations assembly



- Building Learning Powers Praise awarded each lesson
- Superb moment celebration where children are encouraged to show a senior leader something wonderful they have done.
- House Points given for positive behaviour and learning with the winning team at the end of each half term given a special reward.



Anti-Bullying

Valley Primary School prides itself on being an anti-bullying school. All the staff work tirelessly across both sites to support those who experience bullying and create an ethos of friendship, inclusivity and anti-bullying within school.

The Pastoral Team are there to offer support, advise and give strategies to ensure this is effective. We advocate friendship, kindness and compassion and do not tolerate any kind of discrimination or targeted, unkind behaviour.

Our Curriculum

Our Vision is evident in all that we do. Throughout our curriculum our intent is to aspire for excellence with each of our learning opportunities having an aspire target which the children aim to achieve. Our children then enjoy learning with a hands on approach through engaging and exciting lessons which teach key skills in an age appropriate way. Following this, our children achieve success and celebrate this and then challenge themselves further as they are constantly aiming to be the best they can possibly be.



Our curriculum is organised through a mainly topic based approach to foundation subjects which enables each year group to focus on a different topic each half term.

This stimulates interest and enables us to grow rounded, well developed young people. Alongside this, we teach English, Mathematics, Science, Computing, Music, PE and MFL as stand-alone subject areas, although these are also integrated into topic teaching as appropriate and cross curricular links are encouraged throughout.

We believe in every child. We regularly monitor each child's individual progress and our skilled staff, including dedicated inclusion leaders, ensure that interventions and additional support are put in place should a child portray a particular need.

Year Group Overviews

During Nursery and Reception, children of Valley will receive a topic-based approach to the EYFS curriculum. We will base their learning around the seven key areas: Personal, Social and Emotional Development, Communication and Language, Physical Development, Literacy, Mathematics, Understanding the World and Expressive Arts and Design but we will design our curriculum to suit the needs of individual children and we will not be afraid to teach some areas in isolation where needed e.g. Physical Education. We will always be flexible and ensure that our curriculum is shaped by the needs, interests and abilities of our learners.

From Year 1-6 (also known as Key Stage 1 and Key Stage 2), children of Valley Primary School will usually be taught English, Mathematics and Phonics (Nursery – Year 2) in the mornings and then will be taught Science, Computing, History, Geography, Art, D.T., P.E., R.E., P.S.H.E., MFL and Music in the afternoons. Our curriculum is based on the National Curriculum and covers all key skills from this. Each year group focuses on five topics across the year which serves to stimulate their learning whilst developing strong cross curricular links across subject areas. We assess our children regularly and make judgements about their progress against age related expectations. We also use an 'Around the World' Passport home learning project to enable our children to explore their learning further through targeted projects linked to their current topic whilst at home.

Further Information



If you wish to discuss any aspects of our curriculum or find out more, please visit our website <https://www.valleyprimaryschool.co.uk> or contact the school office and we will be happy to tell you more.

Pupil Premium

The Pupil Premium is targeted school funding given to publicly funded schools in England to raise the attainment of an identified group of pupils to narrow the gap. Research shows that this group are vulnerable to underachievement compared to their peers and were further disadvantaged by the pandemic.

Pupil Premium is paid to schools according to the number of pupils who are or have been:

- registered as eligible for free school meals at any point in the last 6 years
- a looked after child in the care of the local authority or recently adopted from care
- a service child



The amount received for each child varies depending on the category they fit into.

Pupil Premium spending and strategy

At Valley Primary School we aim to strategically use pupil premium funding to achieve our vision and ensure all children achieve excellence and reach their full potential. The school draws from national research alongside analysing individual and group school data to identify barriers to learning and ensure money is used appropriately to work towards overcoming these.

At Valley we produce a detailed Pupil Premium Strategy. This is reviewed regularly during the year in order that the individual needs of the children are met. We also produce a Pupil Premium Spending report annually detailing how this money is spent. If you would like a copy of this report, please contact the school office who will be happy to provide one.

Sports Premium

The London 2012 Olympic and Paralympic Games gave an opportunity to inspire the nation to enjoy sport. It highlighted the fact that sport should be an important part of every child's education. The Government were determined to secure a significant and lasting legacy from the games, and to develop children's enjoyment of sport and physical activity from an early age. As a result, schools are given additional funding to provide high quality PE and sports provision.



We use the funding we receive to focus on the five key indicators as outlined by the Government and provide additional opportunities for our children to enable them to achieve well in these focus areas:

- Key indicator 1: The engagement of all pupils in regular physical activity
- Key indicator 2: The profile of PE and sport being raised across the school as a tool for whole school improvement
- Key indicator 3: Increased confidence, knowledge and skills of all staff in teaching PE and sport
- Key indicator 4: Broader experience of a range of sports and activities offered to all pupils
- Key indicator 5: Increased participation in competitive sport

We complete a detailed Sports Premium Analysis each year, capturing our key achievements to date and areas for future development. We link this directly to the five key indicators as detailed above.



Special Educational Needs and Disabilities

Valley Primary School is committed to the inclusion of all children. We embrace the fact that every child is different and therefore the educational needs of every child may need to be different. In our school, pupils will be provided with high quality teaching adapted to suit the diverse needs of all learners. We believe that every child is unique and each and every one of our children has something very special to offer our school community.

We are committed to providing high quality education for all pupils with Special Educational Needs and Disabilities (SEND). We have strong systems for the early identification of pupils with SEND and always welcome and work in partnership with parents and carers. We have dedicated SEND leaders who endeavour to provide research-informed intervention and innovative resources, support and challenge and an inspiring adapted curriculum to children with additional needs. We aim to ensure all pupils aspire for excellence and have the opportunity to reach their full potential, in a positive, engaging and nurturing environment.

At different times in their school life, a child or young person may have special educational need or disability (SEND). The Code of Practice (2014) defines SEND as follows:

"A learning difficulty and/or disability which calls for a special educational provision to be made for him/her. A child of compulsory school age has a learning difficulty or disability if he or she:

-has a significantly greater difficulty in learning than the majority of others the same age, or

-has a disability which prevents or hinders him/her from making use of facilities of a kind generally provided for others of the same age in mainstream schools."

These additional needs fall under four broad categories: Communication and Interaction; Cognition and Learning; Social, Emotional and Mental Health; Sensory and/or Physical. These could include a wide range of needs such as: speech, language and communication difficulties (including DLD and Autism); emotional and social difficulties (including ADD and ADHD); specific learning difficulties (such as dyspraxia, dyslexia or dyscalculia); moderate learning difficulties; physical and sensory difficulties (including hearing impairment, vision impairment, cerebral palsy).

If you are considering Valley Primary School for your child who has an identified need (whether diagnosed or undiagnosed), please contact Mrs Heaven - our SENCo - to discuss how we can help your child to flourish as they grow into an independent young person. As a school, we will do everything we possibly can to ensure that your child receives the support they require to successfully access all areas of school life. For more information, please go to: <https://www.valleyprimaryschool.co.uk/inclusion-and-send/>

Health and Safety

Everybody at Valley Primary School works together to ensure the fulfilment of our responsibility to ensure that both the children and adults in our school community work in a healthy and safe environment. Risk assessments are in place and any individual needs will be catered for. First Aiders provide suitable care for children who are unwell or have an accident on the school site and there are regular reviews by our site services managers of safety at school. Our children's safety will always be a priority.

First Aid and Administration of Medicine

First aid treatment can be given on the premises. If your child has a serious accident at school or suffers a bumped head, one of our appointed First Aiders will deal with this and may contact you by telephone requesting you to come to school. To enable us to do so, please ensure we have up-to-date telephone numbers and contact details. If children are taken ill during the school day, parents are contacted in order that their child may be taken home.

In the interest of health and safety of all children and to prevent any errors being made, we only administer a small number of medicines in school. For example, we keep Epi-pens for emergency use when authorised by the child's GP and parents and will administer prescription medicine when given written permission should the dosage require 4 or more daily applications.

However, if your child requires medication that does not meet this criteria an appropriate time can be arranged with the school when you may administer this to your child or you may contact the office to discuss exceptional circumstances.

If there are any significant changes to your child's health, please also inform the school office.

School Medical Service

School Primary Care Trust provides a valuable service when dealing with conditions that might interfere with a child's progress during school life and beyond. The School Nurse may see a child if necessary, on request.

During the Reception year the School Nurse and Audiometrician come into school to assess children's vision, height and weight and inform parents of any concerns.

Sun Screen and Sun Hats

During sunny weather we would ask you to help your child to apply a high factor, long lasting sun cream BEFORE he/she comes to school. We encourage all children to bring a sun hat or cap to school each day when it is sunny to wear outdoors.



School Meals

Healthy school meals are prepared and cooked on the premises. We follow strict nutritional guidelines and serve a selection of vegetables and salads daily. Special diets are catered for as far as possible.

Details of entitlement to free school meals are available from the main office or the Local Authority.

We are proud of our healthy school status and ask that children bring a bottle containing plain water to access in the classroom. Other drinks are permitted at break and lunchtime only. We also encourage healthy packed lunches. Children of infant age at the Fallowfield Road site and in Year 2 at Old Lode Lane will be provided with a piece of fruit through the government's fruit scheme. From Years 3 to 6, children are permitted to bring a healthy snack such as a piece of fruit or cereal bar for break time.

No Nut Policy

Please ensure that you do not send your child with any snacks that contain nuts or traces of nuts. We have several children and staff with severe nut allergies.

After School Clubs

At Valley Primary School we believe that every child should receive a rich, varied and diverse curriculum. As part of this vision, we provide a varied programme of after school sports clubs for our children to choose to participate in if they wish after the school day. This is a subsidised offer which is provided on a first come- first served basis and is in addition to our wrap around care which is offered through Explorers.



Valley Explorers

Explorers offers wrap around care for our children before and after school. They organise a variety of activities to engage the children. This is a paid childcare provision and can be booked. Places are limited and are allocated on a first come, first served basis. Please see our school website for details and a booking form.

Scooters/Bicycles

We actively encourage the children to lead a healthy lifestyle, which includes walking, scootering and cycling to school. Scooters and bicycles can be left in the spaces provided on the playgrounds at the Fallowfield Road site and at the front of Old Lode Lane. These are left at your own risk, and we suggest a bicycle lock is used to secure them. We ask that as children enter school grounds, they walk their scooters and bicycles to this space for Health and Safety reasons.



Partnerships with Parents

At Valley Primary School our vision is to work in partnership with parents to enable the best possible learning experience for all of the children in our care.

We will aim to keep parents fully informed about the work of our school. This will be achieved in various ways including: regular updates to the school website, parent pay which includes a mailing system enabling us to email communication to parents directly and regular school newsletters and letters.

Alongside this, we have an open door policy for parents, inviting parents in to various events including parent workshops, information sharing events, curriculum evenings, celebration assemblies, productions, sports

events and many more activities throughout the school year. We also have more formal opportunities for parents to meet with their children's teacher and discuss progress during parent's evenings.



Financial Contribution by Parents

In order to provide a breadth of educational experiences we ask parents to make voluntary contributions to cover the cost of some activities which could not otherwise take place.

Parent Pay, Money and Other Valuables

We are a cashless school therefore all dinner money, trips etc. are paid online via Parent pay. There will be occasions when your child will need to bring money into school such as charity events when we ask that all monies are in clearly marked envelopes stating your child's name, class teacher, amount and intended purpose of money enclosed. Children should not otherwise bring valuable items into school.

PTFA

Valley PTFA works with the school to organise events which provide additional opportunities for the children at Valley whilst also raising money to buy additional resources for the children.

The PTFA welcomes new members and encourages anybody who is interested in giving some time, ideas or developing links with your business to join the group. Whatever you can offer will make a huge difference!

Working Together!

Valley Primary School is a well led, vibrant and happy school. We work closely with all stakeholders to enable us to provide the very best possible education for our children.

We are privileged to have a dedicated group of School Governors, a talented staff, parents who work closely with us and community and global partners who contribute to school life. We aim to teach our children to become good, independent citizens who are well prepared for the future that lies ahead.

Above all, we have fantastic children who enjoy learning together, look after one another and are proud to be part of Valley Primary School.

We would be delighted to welcome you to our school and encourage you to share some of the joys of Valley Primary School!

