



**HOLMBUSH
PRIMARY
ACADEMY**



University of Brighton
Academies Trust



PROSPECTUS



CONTENTS

- 01 Welcome
- 02 Our vision
- 03 Our values
- 04 Curriculum and learning
- 07 Governance and our sponsors
- 08 Admissions



Pupils' behaviour is good. They are polite and respectful to each other and to adults. Pupils are kept safe in this nurturing, welcoming school."

Ofsted 2018



My child has learnt so much since starting in September, not just with numbers and reading but in confidence and lovely friendships. I love how safe the school is and hearing my child say everyday how much they love school and the teachers too."

Parent

HIGH EXPECTATIONS FOR ALL

SMALL AND NURTURING

BREAKFAST AND

AFTER SCHOOL CLUBS



Principal, Susan Stickley and pupils

WELCOME

Do you want your child to be part of a school community where their unique qualities are nurtured? Do you want them to experience a creative, inspiring curriculum? Do you value learning through real experiences? At Holmbush, we pride ourselves on providing our children with all this and more.

We believe that by providing a secure and stimulating environment, maintaining high expectations and working in partnership with parents and carers, all children are able to make excellent academic progress and learn to be the best version of themselves.

If you would like to come in to Holmbush and see how we can be part of your child's learning journey, then please contact the school office who will be pleased to help you.



s. stickley

Susan Stickley
Principal

Achieving excellence together

Holmbush Primary Academy is part of the University of Brighton Academies Trust's network of 15 infant, primary and secondary academies, located across Sussex.

We believe that education transforms lives. Enriched by the University of Brighton's education expertise and our experience working with academy schools for almost 10 years, we want to ensure that our 7,500 pupils are inspired to meet their potential and develop a passion for lifelong learning.

It is important to us that our academies have a positive impact on their local communities and that parents and carers are actively engaged with their child's learning. We look forward to welcoming your family to Holmbush Primary Academy as we support each other – and your child – to excel.



[Signature]

Dr John Smith
Chief Executive
University of Brighton
Academies Trust

OUR VISION

**Learning and improving together
without limits.**

Holmbush Primary Academy aims for all members of the school community to:

- have high expectations of themselves and others
- feel empowered to be the best version of themselves
- develop and model a Growth Mindset
- embrace a culture of high aspirations
- experience a creative curriculum that is focussed on the needs of individual learners
- be part of a safe and stimulating learning environment
- be open-minded and independent
- make excellent progress; achieving beyond expectation
- know how and when to take appropriate risk
- be given support, challenge, praise and encouragement
- feel a sense of contentment and happiness.



At Holmbush we have lots of responsibility. We can be on the school council or even run for Head Boy and Girl. Being Head Girl has given me lots of opportunities. Everyone knows me and I know everyone!"

Pupil



The nurturing and community feel at Holmbush makes my child happy to come to school and me happy to send them. I know they'll be looked after."

Parent





OUR VALUES

The following four core values underpin everything we do at Holmbush.

RESPECT • RESILIENCE • REFLECTION • EMPATHY

Within this, we teach wider values in order to foster healthy relationships and to help our children become positive members of the community. Children are encouraged to question and consider ideas during whole school assemblies and the work they do in class.

Our commitment to upholding the British Values is included within this.

CHILDREN AS LEADERS

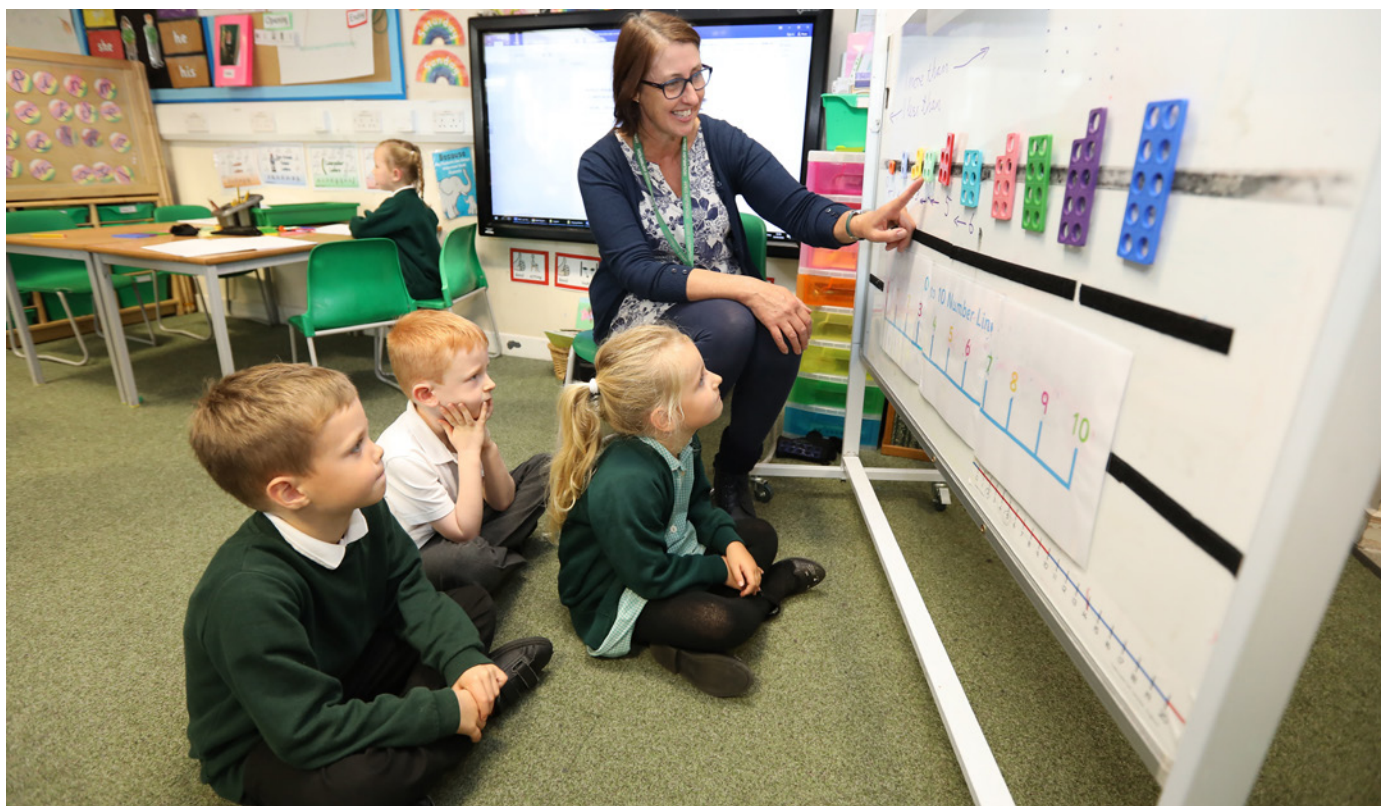
At Holmbush, we believe in giving children responsibilities and allowing their voice to be heard. Therefore, we work hard to make sure that children have opportunities to develop their leadership skills in a variety of ways including, but not limited to:

- each year, children in Year 6 apply for the position of Head Boy and Head Girl. Through this, the whole school learns about public speaking, debating and democratic voting.
- every class nominating two School Councillors. These children act as the voice for their class; passing their thoughts and views onto the Senior Leaders. They are involved in decision making and evaluating the work of the school.
- giving children ownership of the way playtimes are organised through the use of Play Leaders.

PARENTAL INVOLVEMENT

Children learn best when all their key adults are working together. At Holmbush, we use a variety of methods of communication with parents and carers. We use ClassDojo as a way of giving parents an insight into what is happening in their child's classroom on a daily basis; newsletters are used to celebrate all the great work that is happening in the school; parents are welcomed into the Academy at least once a term to share their child's learning journey; and every parent will have the chance to attend one of our celebration assemblies.





CURRICULUM AND LEARNING

Holmbush Primary Academy is committed to meeting the requirements of the primary National Curriculum, reflecting its content and challenge. We believe in providing children with rich, broad and creative experiences in order to engage and deepen their learning within a culture of high aspirations and expectations.

The whole school community work together to ensure that our curriculum is engaging, relevant, and progressive. It develops the academic abilities of each child whilst keeping the Holmbush Values at the heart of everything it does in order to nurture social, moral, spiritual and cultural understanding.

Our curriculum is inclusive and is taught with the consideration of the needs of all our learners. Each child is seen as unique and we aim to provide equity of opportunity and a challenging curriculum that builds on strong foundations.

Teaching and learning takes place through a wide range of exciting topics, designed to be relevant to the pupils we teach. We believe in developing individuals who are committed to lifelong learning. To ensure our pupils achieve this we provide them with the knowledge and skills that are essential to future success. We encourage them to ask questions, apply their knowledge in different contexts, link their learning to real life experiences and solve problems.

Our focus is on developing outstanding skills in reading, writing and maths because we believe this opens doors to many life opportunities and enables pupils to learn effectively across a wide range of subjects. We use high-quality texts as a stimulus to engage and motivate learners.

We also recognise the importance of developing and unlocking our children's abilities and talents in areas beyond this. Therefore, these skills are embedded within the teaching of the arts, humanities, sport and modern foreign languages. Through this, we improve the children's knowledge and understanding of both their local community and the wider world. It is important that the children in our community understand a range of cultures beyond their immediate experience so this is included within our curriculum.

At Holmbush, we believe that learning should take place both inside and outside the classroom. Therefore, we use Forest Schools and other visits to enrich our curriculum and provide meaningful experiences for all our children.



Holmbush is a lovely school. I'm pleased my son is showing great progress."

Pupil



CREATIVE CURRICULUM

As an academy we are able to enhance the curriculum in creative ways. We begin each term with a 'stunning start', designed to enthuse and inspire children and end with a 'fantastic finish' to celebrate achievement. Where possible we invite educational visitors, or go on an educational visit or exploration, to deepen the children's understanding of their topic.

Each term, parents are welcomed into our Academy to share their children's learning journey.

SUPPORTING SPECIAL EDUCATIONAL NEEDS AND DISABILITIES

Our aim is for all pupils including those with special educational needs and disabilities (SEND) to achieve their very best and become successful, well-rounded individuals.



Teachers plan interesting lessons which motivate pupils to enjoy learning. Consequently, all groups of pupils currently in school make good progress in reading, writing, mathematics and a range of other subjects."

Ofsted 2018

We believe that all children should have high-quality teaching and access to the curriculum adjusted to meet their individual needs. We have an inclusion coordinator who has responsibility for the SEND policy in the Academy: providing advice and support for staff, and working in partnership with parents and carers.

Pupils are regularly assessed so that SEND can be identified as early as possible. We follow an 'assess, plan, do and review' cycle to ensure individual needs are met.

WRAP AROUND CARE

We run a daily Breakfast Club which provides (for a fee) a child care service for children aged 4–11, in term-time only. Breakfast Club runs from 7.30am and children are offered breakfast and a drink.

Our After School Club runs on Monday to Thursday until 5.30pm. Children are provided with a healthy snack in accordance with our healthy eating policy, and take part in a range of activities. Parents can book their children in for a full session (3.15-5.30pm) or a half session (3.15-4.30pm). On Fridays children can attend our film club until 5pm.

EXTRACURRICULAR ACTIVITIES

We also offer a wide variety of extracurricular activities. These may include football, multi-sports, music and games. We have an active sports programme run by the Academy's Sports Coach and participate in the inter-school tournaments.



My daughter is very happy and I would not hesitate to recommend the school to other parents in the area.”

Parent



GOVERNANCE AND OUR SPONSOR

Our governance arrangements are set by the University of Brighton Academies Trust.

LOCAL BOARD

We have a Local Board that contributes to our Academy's vision and future strategy. It is responsible for ensuring that our Academy maintains strong community links and effective communication with all stakeholders including parents and carers. It is also responsible for monitoring student wellbeing, admissions, complaints and concerns.

Local Boards include individuals from the community, including parents and carers. They are accountable to the Trust's Board of Trustees.

Visit www.brightonacademiestrust.org.uk/locallink for information on volunteering as a Local Board member.

BOARD OF TRUSTEES

The Trustees are responsible for determining the Trust's strategic direction, including overarching responsibility for the three core functions: the Trust's vision, educational standards and financial performance.

Trustees are also responsible for ensuring the Trust complies with charity and company law, as well as its funding agreement with the Secretary of State. The Board of Trustees includes representatives from the Trust's sponsor and local people with a wide range of expertise.

ABOUT THE UNIVERSITY OF BRIGHTON ACADEMIES TRUST

The University of Brighton Academies Trust is a network of 15 academies in Sussex all supporting each other – and their pupils – to excel. It is a multi-academy trust and a not-for-profit charitable company limited by guarantee.

The University of Brighton is the Trust's sponsor. The University's commitment to improving educational opportunities by supporting academies began in 2008 in Hastings and St Leonards, and has since developed to include academies in East and West Sussex.

Visit: www.brightonacademiestrust.org.uk

ABOUT THE UNIVERSITY OF BRIGHTON

The University of Brighton is a leading provider of higher education in the south east. It has 21,000 students, 2,600 staff on four campuses across Sussex and runs 500 undergraduate and postgraduate courses including teacher training, medicine, mathematics, computing, engineering and fashion.

Its School of Education has an 'Outstanding' rating from Ofsted for all of its early years, primary and secondary teacher training and it is ranked in the top ten universities for education courses in England in The Times and Sunday Times Good University Guide 2019 and in the top 20 in the Guardian University League Tables 2020.

Partnership working is central to the University's mission and it has a deep commitment to helping to shape the futures and realise the potential of young people across the region.

Visit: www.brighton.ac.uk

A WORD FROM THE TRUST

We work collaboratively to help everyone connected to our academies achieve excellence.

By working together and sharing, insights and best practice, our academies support each other to improve. We value our staff, investing in their training and development at all stages of their careers.

It is important to us that our academies have a positive impact on their communities and that pupils understand the role they can play in the wider world. We also work to ensure parents and carers are actively engaged in their child's learning.

WE VALUE EXCELLENCE, INTEGRITY AND INNOVATION

We want **excellence** for our pupils and their families, our staff, and our academies' communities. We believe that education transforms lives, which is why each of our academies has a rich curriculum to ensure that pupils meet their potential and are inspired to continue learning.

We work with **integrity**. We recognise the unique character of each of our academies, and tailor the support we provide to suit the individual academy and its pupils. We respect all cultures and beliefs, and believe in honesty and openness.

Innovation is key. We constantly strive to improve. Our pupils' experience is enriched by the contribution of the University of Brighton and its School of Education. Our school improvement framework is informed by best practice and creative approaches.

ADMISSIONS

Holmbush Primary Academy will consider all applications for places.

Our admissions policy, which includes our admissions numbers and oversubscription criteria (which are applied when there are more applications than places) is available on our website: www.holmbushprimaryacademy.org.uk/further/admissions

NORMAL ADMISSIONS ROUND

Most pupils join in Reception and applications for this year group will be made in accordance with West Sussex County Council's coordinated admissions arrangements and will be made on the Common Application Form provided and administered by West Sussex County Council's Admissions Team.

A brochure describing the primary admissions procedure and application forms are available from West Sussex County Council or online at: www.westsussex.gov.uk/admissions. You can make your application online or by returning the completed form to the Schools Admissions Team at the county council.

IN-YEAR ADMISSIONS

The University of Brighton Academies Trust is responsible for the allocation of places outside the normal admissions round (including Years 1–6, and application to join the Academy part way through the Reception Year). The administration of these places is carried out on behalf of the Trust by West Sussex County Council. Details of these arrangements are posted on the Academy's website.

FURTHER INFORMATION

For further information please contact Pupil Admissions by email on admissions.south@westsussex.gov.uk or by phone 033 301 42903.



It's wonderful to see the children being rewarded and praised for good work or kind behaviour. Praising the individuals really did make them smile!"

Parent





ENQUIRIES

We are very proud of our Academy. If you would like to see more, please arrange a visit. We hope to see you soon!

CONTACT DETAILS

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