



Thank you for showing interest in our lovely village school.

We hope you will see that Inkpen is no ordinary school. We are immensely proud of the friendly and intimate atmosphere our school provides, which we view as an extended family. We have a passionate team of dedicated staff and governors, who strive to provide an outstanding education for your child, enabling them to become the very best they can possibly be.

We strongly believe that at the heart of our academic achievement, is our small size. Small is personal, and will allow your child to build a close relationship with all of the teaching staff, including the head teacher. This supports achievement, as we are able to focus on every child as an individual, in a safe environment, creating a real sense of community within our school, the village and the wider world beyond. Your child will be provided with the opportunity to excel in our rich balanced and exciting learning environment. Children will be encouraged to have an understanding, sympathy and tolerance for cultures and societies other than their own. The care and concern shown for our children will instill in them both self-respect and sensitivity for the needs and values of others and of the world around them. To then help prepare children for moving on to larger secondary schools, we also participate in a range of extra-curricular activities with other schools.

We were very pleased with our latest Ofsted report, particularly with the outstanding grade for the behaviour and safety of our children. Don't just take our word for it though, please feel free to arrange a visit and see for yourself how we work.

We hope you will agree that our small school is indeed very special and would welcome the opportunity for you to join our community in the near future.

"This school is like one big happy family. Pupils' behaviour is exemplary. In the playground pupils of all ages play well together and older pupils demonstrate high levels of care towards younger ones. Teaching is good because small group teaching is matched well to the needs of each child."

Ofsted 2012

Organisation of the School

We are lucky enough to now have 4 classes within the school, allowing our youngest children the luxury of following the specialised Foundation curriculum in small groups, giving them the very best start to their education.

Our Classes consist of:

Silver Birch Class – Reception

Crocus Class – Years 1&2

Pheasant Class – Years 3&4

Red Kite Class – Years 5&6

The school day begins at 8.55am each day. All children have a 15 minute break at 10.20, with lunch at 12.05pm. Afternoon school begins again at 1.05pm and the younger children have a 10 minute break in the afternoon. The school day ends at 3.15pm.

We have a daily act of collective worship, usually led by the Head teacher or Senior teacher. Our Friday assemblies are particularly popular with the children as it is a time when the whole school comes together to celebrate and reward effort, achievement and good citizenship. It is also a time to share additional service to the school.

“Results of national tests in Year 6 are consistently above the national average”

“Pupils read widely, speak clearly and confidently. Pupils are well prepared for secondary school”

“The school operates as a highly effective, orderly and caring community!”

“The school operates exceptionally well with parents and the local community.”

Ofsted 2012

Teaching

The school follows the new National Curriculum, which staff have used to plan a broad and exciting creative curriculum. This allows teachers to cover a range of subjects, such as Geography, History and ICT, to extend the children's learning. Opportunities are also built in for children to apply their skills in Maths and Literacy within the topics being studied.

We also employ specialist teachers for Modern Foreign Languages, Gymnastics and Sport, which helps to raise standards and develop a passion for these subject areas.

In all subject areas, children are encouraged to develop their independence. To this end, we have a well-stocked library, which is regularly renewed, using Reading Library Services, and an IT Suite, where all children have access to a computer. Independence is also gained in Foundation and KS1, where the children are able to learn, both in the classroom and in our outdoor learning area.

Enrichment activities:

Our children also enjoy a range of enrichment activities throughout their time at school. Sometimes these are "one off" events, at other times they can be developed over 2 or even 3 terms.

One off events have included African drumming and dance workshops, French breakfasts, theatre visits and trips to a local pheasant farm.

Forest school:

Our Foundation children spend one afternoon a week in the woods, attending Forest School. This is a wonderful opportunity for the children, where they can lead the learning, follow their interests and engage in their own curriculum, while all the time, gaining in self-confidence. There are also plenty of chances for them to take this new learning back into the classroom.

Music and Drama:

We have also been lucky enough to have had whole class tuition through the Wider Opportunities in Music scheme, which has, in recent years, provided expert tuition in Brass, Strings, penny whistle and percussion.

The school choir is open to children of all ages and regularly sings at services in St. Michael's Church, as well as concerts with other schools throughout the year at St. Nicolas' Church, Newbury and the Anvil in Basingstoke as part of the Berkshire Junior Music Festival. Last year, we even made a trip with the choir to sing at the O2 arena in London.

School productions are highly valued as they are not only enjoyable, but develop the art of performance, team work, discipline and confidence. We present a Nativity performed by the Infants each Christmas and a Junior production each summer, either through a school-based performance or through our participation in the Confederation of Small Schools, professionally written and directed joint production at the Watermill Theatre

Pottery:

The school has its own kiln and art is an integral part of each child's experience of the school. Our pottery has even been sent to the Queen.

Year 6 Residential Trip:

Children in Year 6 are offered the opportunity to take part in a 5 day residential trip. Previous destinations have included Tregoyd in Wales and Beam House in Devon. This is a chance for children to develop their confidence and independence before heading off for secondary school, in a supportive environment, whilst undertaking adventurous and exciting activities, such as abseiling, climbing, raft building, surfing and zip wire.

African Drumming and Dance enrichment day



Drama activities based on "The Highwayman"



Outdoor Adventurous Activities at Beam House