

Prospectus

Farsley Farfield Primary School



2014-15



Welcome to our school...



Farsley Farfield
Primary School



Welcome



We are very proud of our school.

Farsley Farfield Primary School has a huge amount to offer your child; our unique qualities will combine to offer an engaging, rich and varied education.

Assessments across the school continue to show strong academic standards and OFSTED gave us another 'Good' report in February 2013.

There is no substitute for coming to the school and seeing for yourself – schools have changed since we were children! Please contact us and we will be delighted to show you around and discuss your child's future at Farfield.

Very best wishes,

Peter Harris
Headteacher



- Highly skilled, committed, caring staff;
- Happy, well-mannered, motivated children;
- A rich cultural mix;
- Outstanding school grounds including a locally unique 'farm' project;
- Strong academic standards;
- Wonderful extra-curricular opportunities;
- Wide sporting opportunities and consistent competitive team success;
- A firm commitment to the arts;
- Cutting edge IT throughout the school, an outstanding website/learning platform and strong use of tablet technology;
- A love of 'school trips' and our own school minibuses;
- A close working relationship with our Children's Centre.

Key reasons to choose Farsley Farfield





Foundation Stage

Our Foundation Stage is a fabulous place for any child to start their education. Consisting of spacious, renovated Nursery and Reception classes, the Foundation Stage has a very creative and play-based curriculum. Areas of provision are carefully planned to provide your child with a broad range of experiences; some of these are teacher directed, many of these self-directed. This is supplemented by group phonics and sessions promoting early number skills.

We have a 26 place Nursery with children attending either the morning session, 8.45am-11.45am or the afternoon session, 12.30pm-3.30 pm. There is also the option of 2 1/2 day places (Mon-Wed or Wed-Fri) including lunch*. You can arrange with our on-site private nursery 'Little People' for your child to be taken to Nursery (or any other year group) and be collected as necessary (see section on Extended School).

"The school is amazing and we can't say enough how impressed we are at your imagination, energy and dedication of time to the children."

Parent of Reception child 2013

"I am very pleased with (child's) progress and am so happy that he had the best experience of nursery at Farfield."

Parent of Nursery child 2013

"(Child) has had a wonderful year in Reception with so many fantastic experiences."

"We have been really pleased with the progress that (child) has made - he's made huge steps this year - particularly with his readiness for learning."

Parents of Reception children 2014



When the nursery is over-subscribed, the school adopts the same admission criteria as Leeds Children's Services uses for older children, i.e. siblings and proximity (children with acute special needs, 'Children Looked After' and those referred to us directly through Social Care have priority beyond this).

"Equal opportunities are at the heart of the school's provision. Each pupil is known as an individual and their personal needs are met."

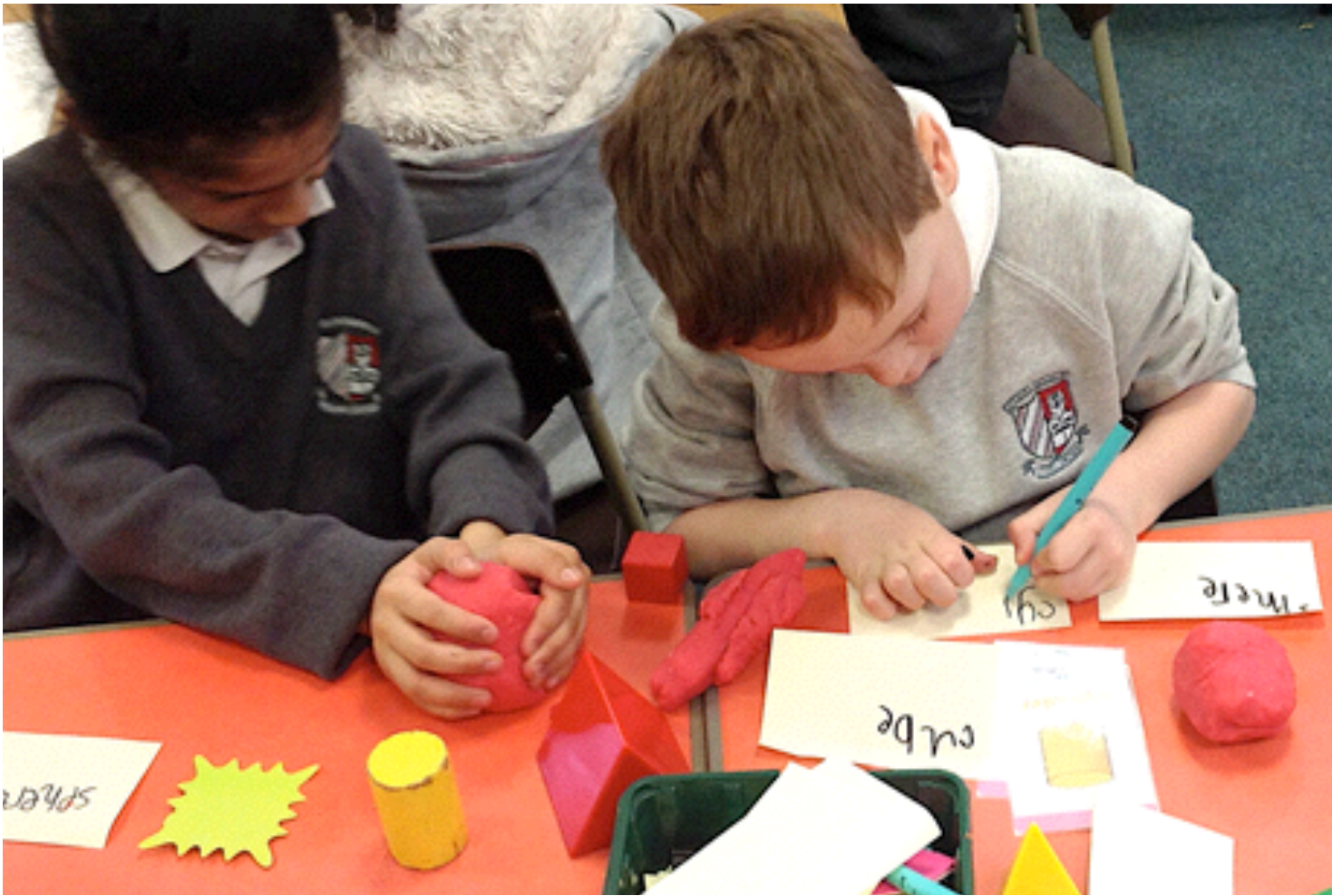
OFSTED 2013

The Reception classes build upon the curriculum as established in the Nursery. By the end of this Reception year, your child should have achieved a wealth of 'Early Learning Goals', and be well prepared for the increasingly demanding curriculum of Key Stage 1.

Children have on-going access to a wide range of imaginative outdoor spaces. Fresh air and the stimulation of senses and the enquiring mind are cornerstones of our vision for early years education.

* We have to make a small charge for the additional 90 minutes per week that this represents.





Key Stages 1 and 2

We are a split site school on one campus.

The North building consists of the Foundation Stage and four Infant Key Stage 1 classes. The South building is currently made up of seven Junior Key Stage 2 classes.

Since September 2011 we have had an annual intake of 60, providing two classes per cohort.

The North building, for infants (Key Stage 1), has very large, renovated classrooms, its own hall and dining room, plus plenty of different playground spaces. There is a conservation area and sensory garden. The infant part of the school also hosts the Farsley/Calverley Children's Centre.

The infant school day runs from 9.00am - 3.15pm, although doors open at about 8.50am to allow parents to come into the school with their child and ensure a very positive start to the day.

“... Learning is fun and is a key reason why standards in mathematics are good and rising quickly.

OFSTED 2013





The South building has its own dedicated Studio for creative arts and is being further expanded for September 2014. The main Key Stage 2 classrooms have already benefitted from renovation and some extension. There is a principal school hall, a café, a 'Farm' classroom and greenhouse. The junior school day runs from 8.45am-3.20pm.

Academic standards at the end of Key Stage 2 are strong and our 'average points score' is usually well above the national average. Our 'value added' has also consistently placed us above average overall nationally for pupil progress.

We have high proportions of children achieving above average level 5 standards – particularly in reading (see Academic Standards).

"Pupils make good progress overall and achieve well."

OFSTED 2013





“I like the Farfield Learning Code because it encourages the children to behave and be the best that we can be.”

“The Learning Hive and Class Dojo are good because wherever you look you see it and the words help you through lessons and through life.”

“Class Dojo is amazing because you can record how well you are doing in class and get better.”

Our Learning Hive

Our 'Farfield Learning Hive' pulls together key aspects of a child's personal development in our school.

We have weekly school ethos statements that are linked to the six key 'Learning Hive' themes. These are promoted widely and shared with families – our aim is to use common language at both home and school to with the children to encourage positive behaviours and good learning habits.

We use an online system called 'Class Dojo' to capture your child's behaviour records; this is available to you online and is the basis of our reward and sanction systems.



“Positive points make you feel great!”

“When you get a dojo point you feel proud and you want to get some more. If you get a negative point, it makes you work harder.”





Admission to School

Prospective parents are strongly encouraged to telephone or email for an appointment to meet the headteacher or a senior teacher and view the school. We do not have a specific 'Open Day'; please come on a 'normal' school day and see what we have to offer! Part time attendance at school can usually begin in Nursery when your child is three. We admit all children into our Reception class at the beginning of the school year in September.

After your child has started Nursery, you should receive a School Preference Form from Leeds Children's Services. This must be completed and returned by the given date in the autumn term. Places for school are centrally allocated by the Education Authority; having a Nursery place does not guarantee a place in school. If you live outside the Leeds area you will not automatically receive a form and must apply directly to Pupil Admissions: 0113 2224414.

"(My child) has been given an outstanding education from Farsley Farfield – lots of support and kindness through his many years with you. Thank you."

Parent of a child leaving after Year 6



The Great Outdoors

The school's huge grounds are magnificent, and a literal breath of fresh air in these days of concrete and congestion. We have a total of three adventure playgrounds, a huge number of trees, a conservation area with two ponds and a range of habitats. We have plenty of space for dens!

Most spectacularly, the school has a unique Apple Sculpture where children can relax and chat. Infants have a fort and 'tyre park' as well as a sensory garden and we have erected an exciting 'tree house' close to the Junior yard. A wind turbine installed on the top field provides some of the school's electricity needs and is a focal point for environmental education.

Whenever possible, children get onto the grass at playtime, thus promoting a healthy, active lifestyle. Some children may, occasionally, come home a little muddy – wellies are essential!





Farfield Farm

Our school's award-winning farm project is an outstanding element of the school's provision - it really is unique and a very special part of the school's offer. We have large areas of fruit and vegetable planting, including an orchard, two huge polytunnels, an accessible garden and raised beds.

Every child spends time on the farm, joining in with seasonal work such as sowing, planting, weeding, watering and harvesting. We have a number of chicken compounds that children look after – eggs are on sale from the school foyers.

A dozen families have 'Community Garden' plots as part of the farm project.





Sport

Farsley Farfield is a very strong sporting school. We aim to provide a broad and balanced curriculum for all children both through PE lessons during school time and our wide variety of sporting activities out of school hours.

We aim to provide two hours of good-quality PE for each child each week supplemented by extra curricular opportunities.

Our school grounds are second-to-none locally, and we have two artificial cricket wickets and nets to further promote that sport. We are very proud that our cricket team were West Yorkshire champions in 2006, Leeds cricket champions in 2012 (the first West Leeds school to attain this accolade) and West Leeds champions in 2013.





Our football team has been West Leeds champions for five of the past nine years. We also compete in rugby, netball, athletics and cycling competitions.

If your child enjoys competitive sports, they will enjoy Farfield.

In Key Stage 2, our minibuses allow us to regularly use local specialist sports facilities such as Gym Magic, Rawdon Tennis Club, The Depot Climbing Wall and Pudsey Judo. We also have fantastic links with East Bradford Cycle Club, Farsley AFC and Pudsey and Bramley Athletics Club.





Leaders in Learning with IT

Whilst Farsley Farfield is a traditional school in many of its values, it is very much 'cutting edge' in terms of some of its teaching styles. We have been recognised for our work in IT with a regional award and we have hosted IT training for other Leeds schools. We are one of only a handful of Leeds schools with the prestigious IT Mark.

As well as a weekly IT lesson, children in the Juniors have an additional one hour 'Computer-Aided Learning' session each week to promote personalised, more independent use of IT to accelerate progress. Children are strongly encouraged to access sophisticated online learning resources at home.

We have an exceptionally active school web site that can be accessed at www.farsleyfarfield.org.uk.



“(Parents) particularly appreciate the excellent school website that enables them to ‘talk’ to teachers and to help with their children’s learning at home.”

OFSTED 2013





In 2013-14, we invested heavily in mobile technologies – laptops and ipad minis – and we aspire to 1:1 deployment over the coming years. Use of tablet computers can be hugely valuable in your child's academic development if their use is carefully managed!



Each class or year group has a very active blog on which teachers post

information about work covered in class and examples of children's work may be show-cased. Parents, carers and wider family are very strongly encouraged to engage actively with their child's class blog - please do post comments and feedback. If you register your email, you will receive regular notifications to alert you to new content on the blogs.

"I have been enjoying the class two blog that has such a diversity of information and gives a very clear insight into your KS1 work. It takes a lot of effort and a clear vision to do so many things of such quality. Congratulations to you all."

Comment on website 2014





Academic Standards

We have very good academic standards; our children achieve very well.

Our Key Stage 2 SATs results for recent years are as follows:

Percentage of Children Attaining Level 4 or above *(national expectation or above)*

Subject	2009	2011	2012	2013	2014
English	86	76	84	88 Reading 81 Writing overall 74 Spelling, Punctuation & Grammar	92 Reading 87 Writing overall 75 Spelling, Punctuation & Grammar
Maths	96	79	92	84	87

Percentage of Children Attaining Level 5 or above *(above national expectation)*

Subject	2009	2011	2012	2013	2014
English	30	38	60	65 Reading 26 Writing overall 60 Spelling, Punctuation & Grammar	53 Reading 28 Writing overall 49 Spelling, Punctuation & Grammar
Maths	52	43	48	51	25

“Most pupils make good progress in Key Stage 2 to reach standards above those expected in mathematics and well above in reading.”

OFSTED 2013

Please note: Farfield's headteacher, along with many local colleagues, supported the successful KS2 SATs boycott in 2010.

From 2013, there is no longer an overall English grade for Y6 pupils.



Special Attention

Every child is special, and every child is welcomed to our school. We aim to meet any child's special needs wherever possible, and we have resources such as large care suites and platform lifts in order to help us to include as many children as practicable. We have a very good local reputation for inclusion.

We have an SEN team that works to identify children for whom established educational provision and intervention programmes are insufficient to secure appropriate progress. Where school action is required, we devise individual education plans and provide extra resources as required. If a child's special needs are very significant, it may be possible to access further resources from Leeds City Council. Regular contact is made with appropriate support services to help us with diagnostic assessments and educational programmes of work.

In partnership with the Children's Centre, we run an Additional Needs Support Group for families. This meets monthly and has activities and events throughout the year, including holidays.

Our Inclusion Team is led by Mr Cooke, our Assistant Headteacher, and he can be contacted via the office or by email: david.cooke@farsleyfarfield.org.uk. More information about our provision for SEN, and Leeds' 'Local Offer', can be accessed on our website.



Partnership with Parents

We encourage parents to help in school both in and out of the classroom in a variety of ways. Any help, whether it is single gesture or a regular occurrence, is valued highly by the staff as there is always something to do in our busy school! Please contact the office if you would like to volunteer.

Any teacher will be glad to meet with parents throughout the year although an appointment may sometimes be necessary for mutual convenience. There are two formal consultation evenings, usually in the autumn and spring terms, a brief mid-year report in March and an end of year report in July. If you have any concerns, please don't wait until a consultation evening - contact us as soon as possible.

Parents can expect weekly updates from class teachers via email and you may get a personalised email when your child has a special moment...

“Links with parents are outstanding so that almost all parents who completed the questionnaire would recommend the school to others.”

“The school cares for its pupils well. Procedures to ensure pupils' safety are thorough.”

OFSTED 2013





Smart Children

All children from Reception upwards wear school uniform. The children may wear:

- a grey sweatshirt, jumper or cardigan;
- white polo shirt, blouse or shirt;
- grey or black trousers, skirt or pinafore;
- red or burgundy check summer dress.



Badged uniform is available from 'Uniformity' in Farsley. Other items can be sourced anywhere. Badged uniform is preferable but not compulsory.

All children from Year 3 upwards are required to wear indoor shoes to help keep our school clean. Younger pupils may bring a change of footwear if they wish. PE kit is a white t-shirt and black leggings or shorts. For outdoor PE, all children will need suitably warm dark clothing and footwear depending on the time of year and activity. Junior children can wear a branded red 'hoodie' for PE.

Children are encouraged to bring wellies when it is wet.

Our former uniform (burgundy, with our old logo) continues to be acceptable.



More to Life

We are able to offer a wide range of extra-curricular activities, many of which make use of our magnificent grounds. Most of these clubs are staffed by our own teachers and support staff, but we also supplement the provision by occasionally employing some specialist coaches. Some parent volunteers also support or run their own clubs after school.

Activities vary according to the time of year, but have recently included:

- Sports including football, netball, rugby, cricket, cycling, athletics and gymnastics;
- 'Dancercise' and Y1 Fitness Fun;
- Arts, craft and pottery clubs;
- Games Design/Digital leaders/Mathletics;
- Gardening

“The curriculum has outstanding features. The head teacher, while successfully driving up standards, ensures that pupils undertake many worthwhile creative and sporting experiences”

OFSTED 2013





After school clubs are generally run voluntarily by staff and others in their own time. Most after school clubs are freely provided, but where costs are incurred these have to be passed on. We use our minibuses to access sports facilities further afield eg, Gym Magic, Farsley AFC hall or Pudsey Judo.

Residential are currently held in Years 5 and 6. Year 5 spend two nights in self-catering accommodation in the Dales and go caving and mountain biking, whilst Year 6 spend a week at a Youth Hostel in Northumberland including a visit to Hadrien's Wall. Our fleet of minibuses allow us to go on a huge range and number of inexpensive 'school trips'.

We have a partnership with Roundhay Music to provide small group instrument tuition for short lessons every week. Children are taught to read music and get the chance to perform and take grade exams. This provision is currently subsidised by school and costs an average of £3.50 per week (dependent on group size).





Extended School

Farfield is very much an 'extended school': we have a Children's Centre, private on-site childcare, a café, a youth club and a wide range of extra curricular activities.

The Farsley/Calverley Children's Centre, based at the front of our infant building, runs both universal and targeted support services for local families with children 0-5 years old. Working with partners such as the NHS, the centre hosts pre- and post-natal services, a flourishing baby and toddler group in partnership with the school, and a wide range of other activities and courses for parents and families. In the school holidays, the centre puts on a range of exciting events for families to enjoy.

The Children's Centre also provides targeted support to families and children in need of assistance. The Children's Centre can be contacted on **0113 2058134**.



**"Links with other partners
are outstanding and
greatly enhance
provision."**

OFSTED 2013





Farsley Farfield has a privately run before-school, after-school and holiday care facility on our premises that is run by Little People. Parents may book their children in, subject to places being available, for any number of sessions on a regular or one off basis. The facility is open 7.30am – 6.00pm every weekday and every day during school holidays except bank holidays. The children have access to a wide range of indoor activities and can use the school's super outdoor facilities. Children can be taken directly to, and collected from, school by members of Fun Club staff.

Little People also have a wonderful brand new building for private nursery care for children 3 months to 4 years situated in front of our junior building. Children who attend our school Nursery may be taken to and from a morning or afternoon session by Little People. This wrap-around service works very well and integrates seamlessly with our main school provision. Children may combine attendance at 'Fun Club' with an extra-curricular club run by the school; where this is the case it is very important to inform the 'Fun Club' staff.

Telephone 0113 2566495 (private nursery) or 0113 2559233 (Fun Club) or visit www.littlepeopleleeds.co.uk for more details. Mrs Walton, the North building administrator, and our Children's Centre staff, also have details of local child-minders.

"The children in the whole setting are very happy. They feel safe, welcome and valued."

*Little People
OFSTED 2013*



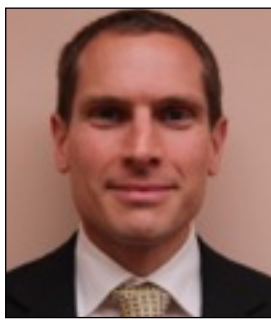
Key Contacts



Farsley Farfield
Primary School



Peter Harris
Headteacher



David Cooke
Assistant Headteacher



Rob Coldicott
Chair of Governors



Hannah Stewart
Foundation Stage Leader



Jane Fisher
Phase Leader (Y1-3)



Andrew Wilkinson
Phase Leader (Y4-6)



Loraine Lambert
Learning Mentor



Sarah Sykes
Learning Mentor



Janet Spencer
School Business Manager

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