

Upton Junior School
One Childhood - One Chance

Our vision...

Our 'vision' is to provide a high-quality, rounded and creative education, through which every child can know the joy of learning, and be supported to reach his or her potential.

"We feel the school has gone from strength to strength in the last few years and long may it continue!"

Parent of Year 6 pupil



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Welcome to Upton Junior School

Our aim is, at all times, to ensure that every child makes the most of his or her abilities. Success is a great motivator and all children have the right to enjoy success.

All children have strengths. These can readily be seen in academic achievement or in artistic, musical, dramatic and sporting success. Equal to these are the abilities which help us to excel as people.

We aim to create a calm yet highly stimulating environment, within which every child can feel secure and grow in self-confidence, gaining the necessary personal, social and academic life-skills to succeed in a rapidly changing world whilst never forgetting the vital importance of such "traditional values" as courtesy and thought for others.

Upton Junior School stands at the centre of the community. The school is well-known in the area for its heated indoor swimming pool, which is used by many other local schools and organisations.

The school playing fields are used by our children, and many sports groups. The partnership between home, school and the wider community is integral to the success of Upton and we wholeheartedly believe in working together for the benefit of our children.



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Learning Aboard the Upton Ship

Exciting; Inspiring; Memorable

Within Upton we believe that pupils learn best if they enjoy school and their daily lessons. The corner-stones of learning - English and Maths - are taught every morning and also integrated within all subjects so pupils can have as many opportunities as possible to develop these key skills. PE, ICT and Music are taught by subject-specialist staff, while Science, DT, Art, History, and Geography come under the umbrella of overarching topics, so pupils have a theme that connects their learning and makes it more relevant to them.

All subjects are adapted to suit the different learning styles and abilities of our pupils and regular communication with parents helps ensure a joint focus on learning. Parents are regularly invited into the school to view their child's work or see them perform.

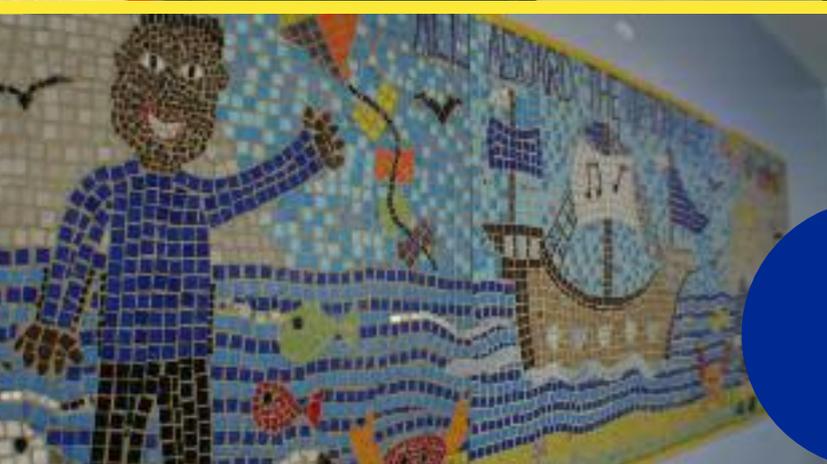
To enhance our curriculum to truly stimulate pupils, learning is brought to life outside the four walls of the classroom. Outside speakers, theatre companies and trips out of school all play their part in fulfilling our aim of ensuring that our curriculum is exciting, inspiring, and memorable for Upton pupils

"Upton has provided a positive and supportive environment within which our daughter has been allowed to work towards her potential while developing academically and personally."

Parent of Year 5 pupil.



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In the IPC, subjects that were previously taught separately, namely History, Geography, Art, Design Technology and Science, are integrated together into Topics rather than being taught discretely in order to make them more meaningful to the children.

At Upton our Core Values are integrated into our IPC Curriculum. They are: Thoughtfulness; Co-operation; Respect; Communication; Resilience; Enquiry; Morality and Adaptability. Each IPC Unit focuses on different core values and our Pupil of the Week is chosen based on these value

We strongly believe that pupils learn best when they enjoy learning. This is why our focus for IPC lessons is 'Exciting; Inspiring; Memorable'. We aim for pupils to learn through being active and engaged; through discussing and creating; and ultimately through performing and presenting. Parents are invited into school at regular intervals to see learning in action, especially during 'Exit Points' for each unit, when pupils present their topic learning to an audience.

International Primary Curriculum (IPC)

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Our Successes

As a highly successful junior school, we combine a broad, challenging and high-quality education with excellent pastoral care and extra-curricular opportunity. We take great pride in our pupils and what we help them to achieve, and they develop into confident, well-mannered and responsible individuals who respect others, the school and their environment.

At Upton our aim is to educate pupils in the broadest sense. We offer a firm foundation for life, a challenging but safe environment, a strong community spirit, and countless opportunities to experience success.

Academically, our results in the national tests at 11 are consistently well above national averages with twice as many children from Upton attending grammar school than from other Thanet schools. However, we attach equal importance to the atmosphere we foster, the care we take of each child, and the development of essential social and life skills



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We fully utilise all aspects of ICT to prepare children for the technologically-rich world in which they live. Lead by our specialist ICT teacher and dedicated computing support team, our purpose-built ICT suite contains 34 modern computers and is fully equipped to meet each pupil's needs within an exciting and stimulating ICT curriculum. All teaching rooms within Upton have interactive whiteboards and we have a bank of over 200 laptops and iPads to ensure that ICT is truly integrated within our curriculum.

E-Safety is fundamental in our quest to keep children safe - at home and school. Regular assemblies focus upon how children should use the internet safely and the risks if children have unrestricted access to sites they are too young for

ICT RICH ENVIRONMENT

We have a long and proud tradition of Music at Upton, employing a Music Specialist teacher to teach every class throughout the school. We see music as a performing Art with the aims of all activities being to promote understanding of the various forms and elements. During their time at Upton, children will learn to play ukuleles, recorders, violins, keyboards and djembes!

If they feel the need for more music, we run a variety of clubs - Choir, Recorder Club, Strings Group and Rock Band. Facilities for tuition from Kent Music School tutors and private teachers are also available. Together with our 'in house' music tuition, Upton School offers one of the highest standards of music in any school.

"Many thanks for allowing the 'Upton Rock Band' to visit us. The children were a real credit to your school. We all thoroughly enjoyed their performance and were inspired by their talent"

Local Headteacher

MUSIC



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STEP into Upton Sport

Sportsmanship; Teamwork; Enjoyment; and Participation (STEP) are the ethos of sport at Upton. We are well-known throughout Kent as a school that attaches true value to the positive impact of sport on young people and we work exceptionally hard to create opportunities and memorable experiences for our pupils. Pupils at Upton are proud of our reputation and the 'team' atmosphere that exists throughout the whole school.

The majority of our pupils take part in an after-school sports club or school sports team and we are regularly district champions in a variety of sports, often reaching county and national finals. We prioritise opportunity for pupils and use our extensive grounds and facilities to organise and host a large number of the main local school sports events. This serves the community and allows us to enter as many as eight teams in competitions, catering for all levels of ability.

Quality of teaching and provision of opportunity are exceptionally important to us. We hold Gold kitemarks from both the Youth Sport Trust and the School Games, have received numerous awards for our sports provision and excellence including National Primary School of the Year for Sport.

Situated on the coast, we attach great importance to swimming and have our own heated indoor pool. Swimming is a weekly part of PE lessons for all year groups and pupils also learn water safety and rescue skills during their PE lessons



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Our Extended School Day

Upton is open from 7:50am until 6:15pm Monday - Friday. The extended school day provides flexibility for working parents. Our Breakfast Club (7:50 - 8:40am) and Upton Ship After School Club, (3:15 - 6:15pm) have been set up to provide regular, consistent childcare provision for the parents of Upton.

In addition to the full extended day, we are in a fortunate position in that we provide a wealth of extra-curricular opportunities for the children of Upton. Clubs are run before, during and after school. There is something for everyone to choose from; Gym, Running, Lego, Athletics, Chess, Art and Drama are just a few! A Clubs Newsletter is produced termly detailing the host of activities available.

"My child is very happy at Upton. She loves the Arts and Sports. I like the way each child is exposed to lots of different activities"

Parent of Year 4 pupil.



Working Together

At Upton, we know that the key factor in determining a child's success in school life is to forge a longstanding and strong partnership with parents. We understand that children will achieve best when home and school work together. Effective communication and our 'Open Door Policy' underpin our strong parent relationship. Every parent/carer feels proud of their child's/children's achievements and knows exactly what these are.

We regularly invite parent, carers, even grandparents into our school be it to watch an assembly, join us for lunch, attend a parental consultation evening, a 'meet and greet' session or just an informal viewing of your child's work. Parents/carers are welcome to assist the teaching staff on a voluntary basis.

We have many volunteers who give a few hours every week to help in this way with activities such as listening to reading, an extra pair of hands in practical lessons or talking with a small group of pupils. We have a thriving Parent, Teachers and Friends Association. Regular events are organised to raise funds for the school as well as to provide opportunities for socialising. Planning and helping at these events provides parents, staff and others with a good way of getting to know each other better.

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What We Believe...

The foundation of our school is based on mutual respect, we will deal with each other in the way that we would like to be treated ourselves.

Our Core Values refer to those individual qualities and dispositions we believe children will find essential in the 21st century. They help to develop those qualities that will enable children to be at ease with the continually changing context of their lives.

Our Golden Rules are simple and can be remembered by all sections of our community: children, staff, parents and friends, and if we all stick to them then we will achieve our ultimate goal, for every child to achieve their full potential in school life!

Our Core Values...

Adaptability

Being respectful of people's differences and changing our behaviour to suit different situations.

Communication

Expressing our ideas, thoughts and feelings in many different ways.

Cooperation

Working well with others; taking part and doing your share.

Enquiry

Looking carefully and investigating the world around us.

Morality

Thinking about choices, making decisions and doing the right thing.

Thoughtfulness

Thinking about others; showing kindness and friendship.

Resilience

Never give up, even when it's hard.

Respect

Value yourself and others

Our Golden Rules...

Everyone is special and important

Treat everyone as you would like to be treated

Listen when others are talking

Try your best always

Take care of people and property

Use the school responsibly

"Our vision is to ensure every child achieves his/her potential through a relentless focus on high quality teaching and learning. Ensuring all children make good or better progress in reading, writing and maths is our core purpose. Our learning environment is vibrant, supportive and welcoming. Classrooms are full of children motivated by positive, well-paced and purposeful lessons. Our staff are passionate about the children's success and ensuring Upton provides a first class education for every child. All of this is done because, at Upton, our children and their education matter more than anything else.

One Childhood: One Chance!

Mrs Lewis, Headteacher



Upton Junior School

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