



WELCOME
to our
School



Marston Montgomery Primary School

Dear Parents / Carers,

The Governors, staff and parents extend a warm welcome to Marston Montgomery Primary School.

Our prospectus is designed to help you to become familiar with the many aspects of our small, village school.

Marston Montgomery school is situated in the heart of the village and has been part of the communities of Cubley and Marston Montgomery for many years. It continues to thrive and grow on these strong connections to its surroundings.

Being small gives us the advantage of a happy, family atmosphere in which your child can learn respect and care for others. Through individual attention we provide an environment in which children are encouraged to flourish and achieve high standards in the many aspects of the modern curriculum.

The Governors are an enthusiastic body of people representing the local community and parents concerned with the development of Marston Montgomery School. Together they manage and extend the range of resources at the school so that our children have access to the best possible education.

We confidently expect your child to have a happy and fruitful time with us that will lay down the best foundations and preparations for their future.

Yours sincerely,

Teresa Bosley, Head teacher.

If you need this brochure in a different format please contact the school office.
Thank you.



Marston Montgomery Primary School

Applying for a Primary School Place for September 2015

You can apply on line by visiting the Derbyshire County Council Website

www.derby.gov.uk/education-and-learning/schools-and-colleges/primary-school-admissions/

If you want to apply for the intake year of an infant, junior or primary school starting in September 2015 you can apply from November 2014. To make an application you can:

- apply online - it's quick and easy and lets you track the progress of your application
- apply by phone on 01332 642730 - this takes around 10 minutes and you will need to know the name of the school you are applying to
- apply using a paper form - telephone 01332 642730 to ask us to send you one.



Welcome to Marston Montgomery



We hope this booklet will give you the information you need to introduce you to our school. Nothing can replace first-hand experience so we hope you will feel free to come and meet us and judge for yourself the merits of our very special school.

Headteacher: Mrs Teresa Bosley
Chair of Governors: Mrs Doreen Hall
Business Administrator: Mrs Mandy Lovett
Head of Key Stage 1: Mrs Wendy Haslam
Head of Key Stage 2: Mrs Janet Beloe
Telephone and Fax:
01889 590373

Address:
Marston Montgomery Primary School,
Thurvaston Road,
Marston Montgomery,
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Marston Montgomery Primary School

...is maintained by Derbyshire County Council Local Authority catering for children from the age of rising five up to the age of eleven when they transfer to secondary school. The school can take up to 70 pupils. These are currently taught in two classes; infants and juniors. Children enter full time education in the Autumn term of the academic year that they are 5. Children's birthdays from 1.4 to 31.8 also enter full time at the beginning of the Autumn term but may attend part-time until Christmas. The Local Authority is the admission authority and is responsible for school admissions. Please refer to the Derbyshire County Council website or our 'Admissions Policy' on our website for more information.

Times of Opening

9.00am – 12.15pm, 1.15pm – 3.30pm.
Children may arrive in the morning at 8.45am and will be supervised in the playground from this time.

Office Hours

The Head teacher has weekly non-contact time. Please make an appointment by contacting the school and speaking to our business administrator, Mrs Lovett.



Marston Montgomery Primary School

What is Special about a Small School?

The village school can:-

- Develop close, friendly, relaxed relationships between child and teacher and parent and teacher.
- Create a 'family' atmosphere based on co-operation rather than competition.
- Act as a centre of community for village life.
- Provide good continuity for each child's education.
- Offer a greater degree of flexibility in organisation of teaching and the arrangement of the school day.

Naturally it is also important to create time when we can be available to answer your questions and generally chat about our school. Starting school can be a big change for everyone in a family and we do realise how precious your child is. Let us reassure you that it can also be an exciting time and we welcome everyone to become as involved as they wish to be!



General Ethos and Values of our School

Through the enthusiastic support of parents and Governors, Marston Montgomery Primary School prides itself on everyone feeling valued as an individual whilst at the same time, enjoying a strong sense of belonging in the family setting of our rural community school. In this happy atmosphere we help your child to flourish academically and personally through the provision of a stimulating curriculum of balance and breadth, closely matched to your child's needs and offering the degree of continuity and flexibility possible in a small school. We have a positive attitude to equality and opportunity for all, regardless of gender, race or disability. Furthermore, we are keen to foster a well-ordered, well-mannered school society of equal opportunity that actively encourages the development of personal responsibility and concern for others in the school and the wider community.

We are highly committed to supporting the Governments "Every Child Matters" agenda. Through our daily routines, procedures and activities we endeavour to meet the 5 Children's outcomes:

Being healthy, staying safe, making a positive contribution, enjoying and achieving and achieving economic wellbeing.



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It is our aim that everyone is well motivated with an energy and excitement in their own learning that will serve them well, long after their school days are over thus, enabling our children to face the future in further education and the world beyond with confidence in themselves and their abilities.



The Teaching of Literacy

Our philosophy echoes the recommendation of the new National Curriculum. A considerable amount of time is given to speaking, listening and responding, drama, reading and writing. Often our literacy is linked to other curriculum topics using a whole class and sometimes group work approach. An extensive range of materials are used to teach Literacy, which includes an emphasis on ICT and presentation skills. Our children take part in a daily phonics, spelling or grammar session. Children bring home an appropriate reading book and a reading record for parents to add comments.

Spelling lists are sent home as appropriate and activities are used in school to support learning of spelling and grammar rules. Drama and role play are of high importance. We perform school concerts each year where every child plays a part.

The Teaching of Mathematics

Mathematics should be enjoyable, and it is the aim of the school to instil good mathematical practices that will equip the child for life in the 21st century. The school implements the New Curriculum for mathematics. The children spend approximately 45 minutes in KS1 and 1 hour in KS2 on maths each day. Mental maths skills are given high priority.

Mathematics work is designed to give a grounding in such concepts as counting and calculating, securing number facts and relationships, understanding shape and handling data and measure. There is an element of problem solving underpinning this learning. Where appropriate, maths is included in other areas of the curriculum.

The Teaching of Science

In our science work, pupils acquire scientific knowledge and understanding, through experimentation and investigation. Children are encouraged to approach science by devising investigations, observing, measuring and evaluating.

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The Teaching of Computing

Computing is now playing a major role within the curriculum. In Computing lessons the children learn skills so that they can apply them to other subjects in the curriculum. They also learn programming skills at a level that is appropriate to their age.

The children have ready use of the internet and its endless resources and use interactive whiteboards and laptops as an integral part of teaching and learning.

Other Areas of the Curriculum

Children are taught to develop an appreciation of the surrounding environment and to care for their school, village and homes. History and Geography skills are taught through a topic based approach, which enables children to learn about life in the past and the world around them. These subjects are supported by educational visits, visitors, artefacts and a variety of media.

Children are encouraged to develop their creativity through Art, Design and Technology, Music and Dance.

Physical education is introduced to the children in the form of gymnastics, games, dance, athletics and swimming for older pupils. We hold an annual sports afternoon with all the children taking part. The children have an opportunity to take part in a wide range of tournaments.





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During years five and six children have the opportunity to go on a residential visit.

We have a policy on Relationships and Sex Education and the teachers do attempt to deal factually and honestly with children's questions about physical differences between the sexes and about human reproduction. Such questions might arise as part of the wider curriculum when children are working on projects concerned with themselves and human development.

If you wish to discuss any policies you are most welcome to do so. All policies are on file in the office and you are welcome to read them at any time to give more detail about specific areas of learning.

Does my child receive Religious Education?

Religious Education is part of the curriculum as a statutory requirement and at Marston there is a non-denominational act of worship held every day. Close contact is kept with the local vicar and other local religious leaders. If you wish your child to withdraw from any act of worship it is your right to do so. It is important for all of us to appreciate the differing beliefs and cultures that exist in our world and to understand other points of view. Dealing with feelings of anxiety, jealousy, temper and sadness are often difficult for children, particularly young children, to understand, hence our format for assembly is often to come to terms with, express, share and deal with life's difficulties and celebrations.

Homework

Our Homework Policy acknowledges that education is something that happens at home as well as at school. Expectations are different for each year group and this will be shared with you at the start of each year.

We do ask parents to support the school by taking in interest in the work being done, whether it be listening to a child read, learning spellings or completing a maths activity. Your support is invaluable in helping your child.



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We have a home school agreement which we ask parents, children and the Governors to sign when your child starts school.

How will my child be taught?

The foundation subjects of the National Curriculum are taught at Marston in accordance with the statutory documents. New National Curriculum Core subjects are English, Maths, Science, R.E, Computing. The Foundation Subjects are Technology, History, Geography, Music, Art and Physical and PHSE Education. It is our intention that by the end of their primary schooling the pupils will be in a position to relate the National Curriculum to their growing knowledge of the wider world and beginning to realise the part they can play caring for it.

This lends itself to the cross-curricular approach we use at Marston Montgomery Primary School.

Rules

We feel it is important that we work in partnership to develop the children's approach and ability to deal with life's pleasures and problems. We are keen on good manners and respect for others. Good effort in all school activities, good attitude to work and others and a willingness to try their best are qualities that we reward. We use a system of merits recorded in their own personal log to encourage and promote positive behaviour and work routines. On rare occasions we do have to apply sanctions if an unacceptable behaviour or attitude occurs. Our full policy is available in school or on the website.



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Child Protection

Parents should be aware that the school will take any reasonable action to ensure the safety of its pupils. In cases where the school has a reason to be concerned that a child may be subject to ill-treatment, neglect or other forms of abuse, staff have no alternative but to follow County Procedures for safeguarding of children, and to inform the social services of their concern. We hold a safeguarding and child protection policy in school, which is available on our website. We do not wish to alarm you with this statement but remember it is necessary to make sure all pupils are safe at all times.

How do I see the school about my child?

We have a parent interview evening twice a year, usually in the autumn and spring terms. A written annual report is sent out in the summer term. These will give parents the opportunity to discuss their child's progress and achievements throughout each year. On occasions we open the school for open days or curriculum workshops and you would be invited to these as appropriate.

If you have any concerns you are welcome to make an appointment with the class teacher or headteacher at a mutually convenient time to discuss these.

Special Needs

The Local Authority is the admission authority and is responsible for school admissions. The school has in place an Equalities and Special Needs Policy which states no child with disability or special need will be treated less favourably than those without, in considering applications for admission. Our policies are reviewed annually.

We do have wheelchair access and disabled facilities on both levels of the school. We have in place a Disability Equality Scheme and Accessibility Plan. A copy is available on request.

Absences

Please telephone on the first day of your child's absence to explain as we are required to compile records of absences. Regular attendance at school is essential if your child is to be given the opportunity to make at least satisfactory progress.

The school has a commitment to provide the best possible education for your child and this cannot be achieved if attendance is poor. We have a duty to provide attendance data to the local authority. The school will inform parents if attendance or punctuality becomes a problem.

You should contact school on the day of absence to let us know of the reason. In this way we are aware of where your child is on the day.



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First Aid and Medication

We have first aid facilities and competent staff at school who undergo regular training. We will always contact you should the need arise in cases of ill health or injury. We only administer prescribed medication and only following local authority guidelines.

We do have a full policy on the administration of medicines available in school and on the website. Should you need further advice please contact the school office before sending any medicine to school with a child.

Dress

There is a school uniform. The suggested colours are grey/black trousers or skirts with white/red blouses or shirts, with red sweatshirts. Sweatshirts with the school logo on which can be purchased from a local supplier. All the children need a pair of plimsolls, a white T shirt and blue or black shorts for P.E. Other sports clothes such as track suits for outdoor games on the field are useful; Trainers are suitable for activities such as football or hockey. All clothing must be labelled with your child's name as should coats and bags. The children will need a small draw string bag in which to keep their kit on their peg.

Bags for books and homework etc can be purchased from the office, again bearing the school logo.

Jewellery that could cause injury or despair, if lost, would be better kept at home. Children with long hair need to have it tied back at school.

Educational Visits

These form part of our varied curriculum. Visits often support our topic work and help to bring it alive and make it interesting.

Children also have the opportunity for collective musical experiences on and off site. All are involved in a concert at Christmas or the end of the year and the Harvest Festival held at either Marston or Cubley Church. The children always design and decorate a well for the annual Well Dressing fete in June.

We do have to ask for a voluntary contribution towards the cost of some educational outings.

Holiday

Headteachers can only authorise term time absence if there are exceptional circumstances. Please contact the school office if you need to discuss an absence, at your earliest convenience.

These are new regulations which have been made by the Government and not by the school. The school has to adhere to these new regulations to avoid being in breach of the law.





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School Meals

Meals are cooked on the premises. They are optional, payment for these being made on Mondays. Cheques can be paid to Derbyshire County Council. If your child is coming in late it is essential that we know if a meal is required, by 9.15am, at the latest. Children going home for lunch may leave at 12.15pm and must return by 1.15pm.

All children in Reception and Key Stage 1 (Years 1 and 2) are entitled to a free school meal. This is a new government initiative.



Parental Involvement

Parents are busy people but we do welcome help in many areas of our extensive curriculum. If you have a regular slot you can offer us each week for an hour or half a day that would be wonderful, if not then there are always incidental openings at all our events and fund raisers! Areas in which parents have helped are many – reading, computer work, sewing, apparatus etc. If you have a talent and want to help then let us know.

Fundraising at Marston School

There is an industrious group who work ceaselessly for the benefit of the school. They have provided many much needed resources and help for the school. Without their efforts our school would not be as privileged or as well resourced.

They welcome new members.



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Before and after Marston...

Marston Tots

This is a relatively new group who meet every other week in school. Please come along and join them, there are plenty of activities out and one of these is always a craft activity.

Pre-School

Pre-school visits will be arranged with you; usually your child will receive an invitation to join in with the infants for a few sessions in the preceding term and will be welcome for lunch if you feel they are ready for this. Every child has different needs, therefore this arrangement is totally flexible and you will always be consulted. It is natural you will be enthusiastic to hear all about your child's first day, sometimes they don't want to tell you! They are often absolutely exhausted, you can reassure yourself by popping in, or a phone call. Always say goodbye to your child even if it is difficult for you

as this establishes trust and a routine. If you think your child will be upset come and let the teacher know so that she can be on hand to reassure.

Secondary Education

Most of our children transfer at the completion of Year Six to Queen Elizabeth's Grammar School (QEGS), in Ashbourne.

We have regular contact with QEGS to make a large school less daunting to children from small village schools such as ours. We also have plenty of liaison between the schools to ease the transition. We have contact with other small schools through various activities allowing children contact with peers from other areas. Staff from QEGS will visit and meet year 6 pupils during their final year.

Things to add –
Reference to SRE Policy

Medical Conditions Policy

Policy statement

Marston Montgomery Primary School is an inclusive community that aims to support and welcome pupils with medical conditions.

We aim to provide all pupils with all medical conditions the same opportunities as others at school.

We will help to ensure they can:

- be healthy
- stay safe
- enjoy and achieve
- make a positive contribution
- achieve economic well-being.

The school ensures all staff understand their duty of care to children and young people in the event of an emergency and all staff feel confident in knowing what to do in an emergency.

Marston Montgomery Primary School understands that certain medical conditions are serious and can be potentially life threatening, particularly if ill managed or misunderstood.

We understands the importance of medication being taken as prescribed.

All staff understand the common medical conditions that affect children at this school. Staff receive training on the impact medical conditions can have on pupils.