



Our Children - Our Future



# Calmore Infant School Vision

Our school is a happy, safe and nurturing environment for our children, staff and wider community.

We work together in partnership to understand and embrace our community and wider world.

It is a place where we respect ourselves and value each other, working and learning together as a team.

Our children learn to be resilient, resourceful, independent and successful learners.

They will leave us equipped with the skills to be life-long learners.

In times of a challenging world, we learn to keep ourselves and others safe.



**our children**  **our future**

# Welcome

Dear Parents,

Welcome to Calmore Infant School,

We are a school that is welcoming, vibrant and constantly improving. We value every child as an individual and will make your child feel secure and happy so that they can flourish in our caring and stimulating environment. We believe that it is our role to ensure that every child reaches their potential.

We are very proud of our supportive school and friendly ethos, which is commented upon by all who visit. Our staff, who are approachable and committed, together with dedicated and effective Governors work to provide the best possible start **to your child's school life.**

Equally, we recognise the key role that you have, **and continue to play, in your child's** development. We look forward to strengthening this important process by building a supportive and co-operative partnership with you.

At Calmore we firmly believe in our motto – Our Children-Our Future - and for us every child really does matter. We seek to nurture the whole child, encouraging self-confidence, self-discipline, consideration for others, and to develop their natural curiosity and enthusiasm into a love of learning that will stay with them for life.

Sarah Willes

Headteacher

*"Pupils achieve highly because you are determined they do so. You use your in-depth knowledge of how children learn best to create a learning environment which nurtures their talents successfully".*

*"Pupils leave the end of key stage 1 having made strong progress to attain standards which are above the national average in reading, writing and mathematics."* Ofsted 2018

# What is special about our school?

We believe that learning is a lifelong process and that laying secure, solid foundations is paramount for building towards an individual's future success. That individual is your child and the route to achieving that goal needs to be fun, engaging and relevant.

Our staff skilfully and confidently blend teaching basic skills and a creative curriculum, where children's interests are taken into account. We make links with and build on prior learning, taking children's learning forward from their individual starting points. We encourage creativity and focus on the whole broad and balanced curriculum, in particular the music, arts and sport.

We know that every child matters, they are unique. We celebrate their strengths and see them as experts, able to support their peers in sharing their knowledge and skills. We celebrate diversity and the similarities and differences that make us individuals. We want all of our children to challenge stereotypes and see role models from cultures other than our own.

School is a safe and secure environment where children can be challenged to enable them to make good progress. We spend a great deal of time, thinking about how we learn and the effort that goes into being a learner, not just the end result.



# How do we make it special?



We offer the children first hand experiences, so we ensure that children have many different opportunities to explore and experiment. We support our hands on learning with real life opportunities and events. During the school year, we will often have themed days or weeks, for example our 'Gruffalo' or 'Mud and stick' weeks which help to launch a topic or have a particular whole school learning focus.

We are aware that all children have different life experiences, it is important that no child is missing out and so we plan exciting days out or invite visitors in to school. This brings the context of what the children are learning into the real world.

We are very fortunate to have extensive grounds including a woodland area which we use for outdoor learning. The use of the outdoors helps our children to develop an awareness of the importance of sustainability.

Most of all though, we recognise each child's learning style and adapt our methods to meet the needs of the individual. Consequently children are taught in small groups, 1:1, in classes or across year groups. We know your child as a unique person.



# Everyone Matters

## Assessment

The school is committed to raising standards and children's progress is carefully monitored so that teachers and children can identify targets and areas for development.

Teachers regularly assess children's work. This is done during lessons and through regular cross school moderation exercises. In this way we can ensure that each child is making expected progress and that we are providing sufficient challenge in the core subjects of English, Reading / Writing, Maths and Science. Personal, social, emotional and behavioural development is equally important and we support children to develop in these areas.



## Responding to individual needs and abilities

### Children with Additional Needs

Sometimes children need extra support to ensure they are developing in all areas of their learning. The Inclusion Manager (INCO) oversees the learning and support that we offer.

All children identified as having special educational needs and needing additional support have an Individual Education Plan (IEP) which is set by their class teacher. They may be supported and implemented by the class Learning Support Assistant for additional activities to support their targets on the IEP. This could be additional support in Maths and English activities as well as multi-sensory phonics, listening and thinking skills programmes and social skills.

**We are proud to have an award winning Nurture group called 'Rainbow Group' where children are able to work in a small group with our highly trained members of staff to develop social, emotional and communication skills.**

The school works closely with other professionals, such as the Education Psychologist, Hampshire Ethnic Minority Achievement Service, School Nurse and various outreach workers. Children with additional needs make very good progress, many achieve in line with national expectations.





## Gifted and Talented Pupils

Those children who are very able or talented have their needs met through extension activities. Our Inclusions Manager (INCO) manages the provision which is regularly reviewed in light of their needs. We have been fortunate to run many enrichment workshops and projects, where these children have worked alongside other local school children, coming back to our school as the 'expert' and sharing their learning with their peers.



# Everyone Matters

## Home School Communication

We greatly value the home / school relationship, we actively encourage parents to take **an integral part in their child's learning; this can include helping in school, attending Parent Workshop and Parent Forums.** The more involved you are the better we like it!

We canvass your views on issues and act on good suggestions. We like to keep in touch with parents and consequently have regular parent / teacher meetings through the year to discuss progress, as well as holding curriculum meetings to inform parents about ways to support the children at home.

**We operate a daily 'open door' policy where we make ourselves available and no matter is considered too trivial.** We are friendly and welcoming to all members of our school community.



## Homework

The school has a homework policy and work is differentiated for each year group. We know how young our children are and how hard it is to 'teach' at home. The focus on homework is largely 'consolidating and reinforcing' Literacy and Numeracy skills. We expect all of our parents to support their child with home learning. This may include, hearing the children read, sharing a library book, practising phonics sounds, researching topic information, accessing online learning platforms or tasks. We will support parents that find this difficult, it is a partnership.

## Parent Teacher Association – Friends of Calmore Infant School (FCIS)

We are fortunate in having an extremely enthusiastic and hardworking PTA who fundraise through various activities for the benefit of all the children and provide us with welcome, additional resources. These have included play equipment, reading books and iPads.

### Keeping you Informed

To keep you updated, regular newsletters and information is sent out via email using our online messaging service. This saves letters being left in book bags and makes sure that you have the relevant information straight away. We also publish lots of useful information on our school website.



### Praise

Praise and encouragement are vital for all of us and at Calmore, we seek to give children a positive experience so it forms part of our culture. We identify the achievements of all pupils, be it academic, personal or social and we use their successes to reinforce learning. The sense of pride and valuing of each other is shared and recognised by the entire school community in our Well Done Assemblies and Star of the Week Awards.

# Wrap Around Childcare



For parents with early starts and late finishes at work, we are able to offer high quality wrap around childcare shared with our Junior School on our school site. Both clubs offer caring trained staff and activities to entertain the children.

## Breakfast Club

This is run by Calmore Junior School but open to children from both schools. After a breakfast and fun session, the Infant children are brought to their normal class drop off points by the breakfast club staff.

## After School Care- Flamingo Club

This is hosted in our school and is open to children in the Junior school too. There are two options for timings;

3.00 - 4.00 - Short session, stay & play – no snack

3.00 - 5.30 – Full session, with snack



## After School Clubs

As well as childcare clubs we also run after school clubs in addition on various days throughout the year. They include sport, yoga, cooking, gardening and board club for an hour after school.



*“Our Children – Our Future” is the school’s mission statement.*

We at Calmore Infant School firmly believe that each and all of our children matter, because ‘Our Children Are Our Future’.

# School Information

School Day- Our doors open at 8.30am

Morning session            8.40 – 12.00

Afternoon session        12.00 – 3.00

The school office is open between 8.30 am and 4.00 pm. An answer phone is available at all times. We also have ways that you can leave a message via text or email.

## Property

All items of clothing, bags and water bottles etc. must be clearly named. Anything found is brought to the school office and kept for one term. Items are displayed at the end of term and anything unclaimed is taken to a charity shop.

## Lunchtime - School Dinners

All school lunches for Infant children are free and we expect all of our children to have a cooked lunch. Our cook will adapt the menu for children with specific allergies and we go to great lengths to ensure that all children have a happy lunchtime. Children have an option of 3 different lunch choices each day and a menu is available to parents so you can see what food will be available on each day. We have several children with a nut allergy and so we ask that nothing containing nuts in any form is sent into school.



## Water Bottles

Please send water into school in a named water bottle. No juice, fizzy drinks, squash or flavoured water is allowed.

## Playtime snacks and school fruit

We are a 'Healthy School' and therefore only have fruit or vegetables as snacks at break time. We are lucky enough to be provided with a piece of fruit or vegetable for each child daily. Therefore children will not need to bring in a mid-morning snack.

## Jewellery

In the interests of safety, jewellery should not be worn in school at any time. The school can take neither responsibility nor accepts liability for damage caused to individuals as a result of wearing jewellery.

If children have to wear earrings they must be studs and not hoops. On PE days earrings need removing or they will need to be covered by tape which must be provided by parents.

## Milk Scheme

All children are entitled to free school milk until they are 5 years old. Children that are in receipt of pupil premium are also entitled to free milk each day.

If parents wish to pay for milk they can do. The school uses 'Cool milk at School Scheme' and all monies are payable half-termly in advance.



# School Uniform

Our children have a very practical and active curriculum. Therefore our school uniform needs to be practical and fit for purpose. We sell jumpers, cardigans, fleeces and the shirts ourselves. We do this to keep the costs down for parents.

We no longer get changed at school for PE, we wear our PE clothes all day, this saves time in lessons spent getting changed and gives the children more time to do their PE. The children need to make sure that on PE days they are wearing shorts or trousers and not skirts and dresses.

- Plain black shorts / leggings or tracksuit trousers- no logos on please
- Navy jumper, cardigan, or school fleece / sweatshirt
- White polo shirt
- Navy & White striped or gingham summer dress (not to be worn on PE days)
- Black or white trainers ideally need to be worn on PE days (plimsolls get wet easily on the field)
- Black shoes that are suitable for running, no open toe sandals / flip flops.

The children will go outdoors in all weathers, we do not stop going outside if it is cold or raining. Therefore all children also need the following:

- Wellington boots to stay in school
- A mud suit / waterproof trousers / coat if possible
- All children need a named set of spare clothing to stay on their peg in school.
- If your child wears earrings, **please provide a roll of tape (clearly named)** so that the earrings may be covered during PE/dance sessions.



## Uniform available to buy from school

The following items of clothing can be ordered and paid for via Arbor:

|             |        |
|-------------|--------|
| Sweatshirts | £9.60  |
| Polo Shirts | £7.50  |
| Cardigans   | £11.00 |
| PE T-Shirts | £5.50  |
| Fleece      | £12.50 |
| Book bags   | £6.20  |
| PE Bags     | £4.10  |

## Behaviour and Discipline

We have high expectations of behaviour which we are proud to achieve, this is frequently commented on by visitors to school. Our school rules are:

- ❖ Be Ready
- ❖ Be Respectful
- ❖ Be Safe

We encourage self-discipline, tolerant attitudes and showing care and consideration for others. Our behaviour policy praises and rewards appropriate behaviour; however the framework does provide consequences if necessary.

We would expect to resolve most issues within school, but should a misdemeanour be of a more serious nature, or very frequent, parental co-operation will be sought so that a united plan can be successfully implemented.

We have an anti-bullying policy and any issues are dealt with positively but firmly.

The school strongly believes it is vital for parents and school to work together.

# Our Learning Heroes

We spend a great deal of time looking at how we learn and the effort that goes in to learning. We teach children that learning can be hard, especially when we are learning **something new**. We acknowledge that we all make mistakes, or 'muddles' which we can learn from.

To help model this we have 4 learning heroes in school to help us learn to learn. The 4 learning attitudes of resilience, reflectiveness, reciprocity and resourcefulness are important to develop so we can learn to be life-long learners and prepare us to be successful for the world of work.

## Toby Tortoise

- I like a challenge.
- I always keep trying.
- I show resilience.



## Emily Elephant

- I think carefully about what I need to learn.
- I know my targets so I can pass any obstacles in my way.
- I can talk about how I could get better.
- I am reflective.



## Sally Squirrel

- I like asking questions and finding things out.
- I can use what I know already to help me.
- I am resourceful.



## Bert Bee

- I can work well in a group or on my own.
- I am always ready and willing to learn.
- I have good relationships with others.



## The school visits and visitors

The varied educational visits we make and visitors we have are exciting and relevant to what the children are learning. We try hard to keep the costs of these experiences to the minimum as these need to be met through parental voluntary contributions.

## Liaison

Getting to know your child is important to us. We make frequent visits to local pre-schools to talk to staff and see the children, as well as set up meetings in school for parents and opportunities for the children to visit and become used to what will be their new surroundings.

If children transfer from or to other schools we liaise with the school to ensure that important information is shared to fully support each child. Equally, when children leave us for Junior School we operate a careful induction programme to smooth transfer and maintain the continuity of learning.



# Caring for your child

## Contact information

It is vital that we have:

- up-to-date details of home addresses, phone numbers and at least 2 emergency contacts as well as information on any medical conditions

so that we can effectively care for your child and contact you in the case of an emergency. The school reserves the right to act in 'loco parentis' in order to ensure a child receives medical help.

## Medicines

If medicines need to be administered during the school day, parents must complete the necessary paperwork at the school office and provide medicines in a named box. This needs to be delivered and collected from the school office by a parent.

## Medicals

The School Nurse undertakes a health check on all new entrants to which parents are invited. This provides a good opportunity to discuss health issues. Follow up checks take place for some children.

## Routine Checks

Head lice enjoy coming to school but we don't enjoy their company! Please regularly check your child's head and treat the whole family immediately should you detect lice. Advice on treatments is available from the school office, chemist or surgery.



## Holiday and Attendance

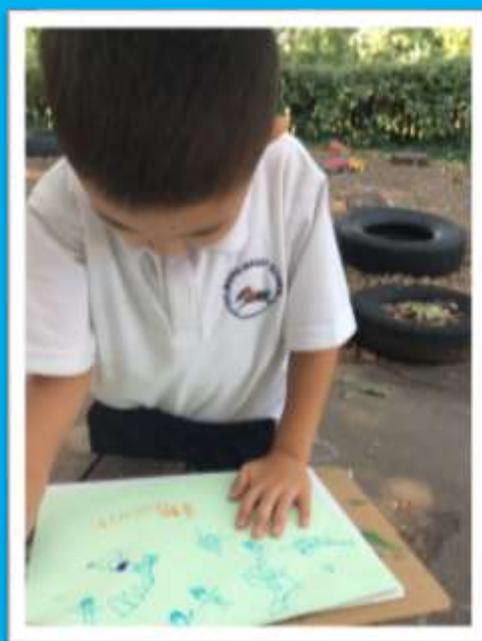
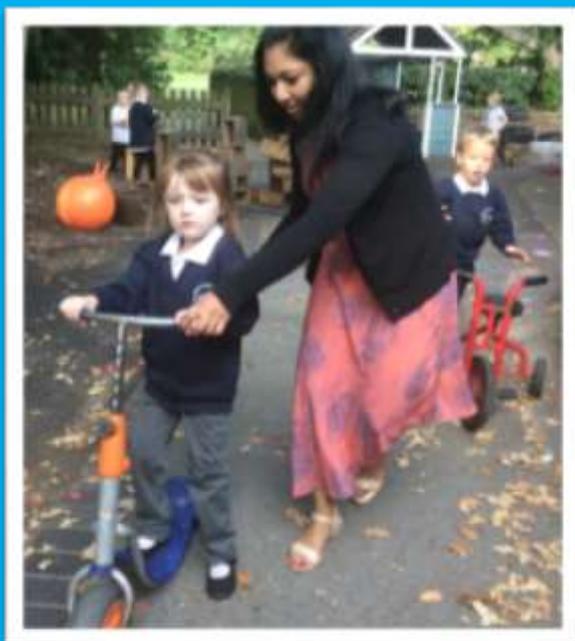
Holidays during term time cannot be authorised unless there are exceptional circumstances. Please complete an absence information form and return it to the school office. Unauthorised absence during term time can result in penalty fines.

It is really important that children are in school on time, we start learning the moment the children get into school. It is really hard for children to walk into the classroom when the learning has started and can make it very stressful for young children if they are late.

## Coming in and going home

School starts at 8.40am. Children are requested to stay with their parents as they wait, as there is no staff supervision before this time due to staff getting ready for the school day.

Each class has a 'Going home Message book' for parents to record any changes at home time, this is held at the office. The school office must be informed of any changes to collection either in the book or via other means as children will not be released without parental permission in order to safeguard our children.



# School Term and Holiday Dates

## Autumn Term 2022

1st September - 21st December

Half-term - 24<sup>th</sup> October - 28<sup>th</sup> October

## Spring Term 2022

3<sup>rd</sup> January – 31<sup>st</sup> March

Half-term- 13<sup>th</sup> February - 17<sup>th</sup> February

## Summer Term 2023

17<sup>th</sup> April – 21<sup>st</sup> July

Half-term- 29<sup>th</sup> May – 2<sup>nd</sup> June

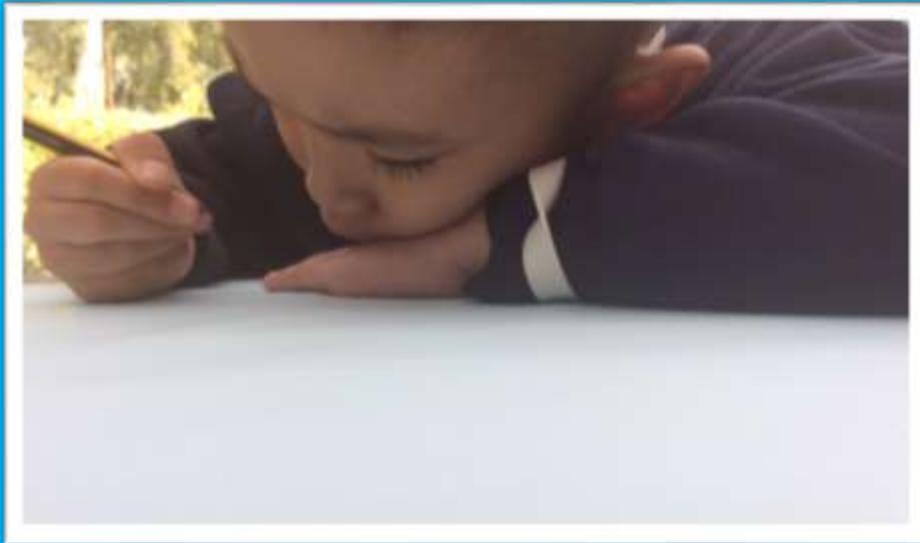
## Day Closures

Five days are also available for professional closures during term time. We try to work with our junior school to share the dates, to make it easier for families.

The days are specified by the Headteacher and Governors of the school and are listed below:

|          |                                 |
|----------|---------------------------------|
| Thursday | 1 <sup>st</sup> September, 2022 |
| Thursday | 21 <sup>st</sup> October, 2022  |
| Tuesday  | 3 <sup>rd</sup> January, 2023   |
| Friday   | 10 <sup>th</sup> February, 2023 |
| Friday   | 23 <sup>rd</sup> June, 2023     |





We hope you and your children enjoy your time at our school!



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**our children**  **our future**

The banner features the text 'our children' on the left and 'our future' on the right, both in a bold, black, sans-serif font. In the center, there is a simple line drawing of three children holding hands. The child on the left is a girl with pigtails, the middle child is a boy, and the child on the right is a girl with pigtails. They are all standing on small circles representing feet.

