



MOORLANDS PRIMARY SCHOOL

PROSPECTUS 2026/2027



Church End Lane, Tilehurst,
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www.moorlandsp.s.org.uk

WELCOME

At Moorlands, we are committed to nurturing curious, resilient and independent learners who are fully prepared for life beyond school. In an ever-changing world, we strive to equip our pupils with the skills, confidence and adaptability they need to thrive and succeed.

We aim to develop confident, respectful individuals who are not afraid to question, challenge and think critically about the world around them. Our children are encouraged to learn from their mistakes, seeing them as valuable opportunities for growth, and to take pride in both their academic and personal achievements as they become the very best versions of themselves.

Our curriculum is dynamic and responsive, designed not only to deliver strong academic foundations but also to teach essential life skills. We believe education extends beyond the classroom, and we place great importance on developing social awareness and emotional intelligence. Pupils learn to work collaboratively, show empathy and respect for others, and appreciate diverse cultures, beliefs and perspectives. Through this, they grow into thoughtful, responsible members of society.

At Moorlands, we provide a broad and balanced curriculum that fosters creativity, physical development and a genuine love of learning. We are dedicated to ensuring every child flourishes, celebrating achievements across all areas of school life.



ABOUT US

Moorlands is a welcoming, single-form entry primary school with a nursery provision for children from the age of three. We are proud to offer a nurturing and inclusive environment where every child is known, valued and supported to achieve their full potential.

Our school benefits from extensive grounds, providing children with ample space to learn, play and explore. These include a large playing field, two spacious playgrounds, and a well-equipped outdoor learning environment for our Nursery and Reception classes, designed to support high-quality continuous provision.

Our dedicated team of highly experienced staff are committed to ensuring that every child succeeds, both academically and personally. We strive to create a positive and engaging learning environment where children feel inspired and confident.

We are well-resourced to support learning across the curriculum, with a large, well-stocked library that promotes a love of reading, and a range of Chromebooks to enhance teaching and learning through technology.

At Moorlands, we understand the importance of a healthy lifestyle. Nutritious meals are freshly prepared on site each day, supporting our pupils' wellbeing and readiness to learn.

We also offer a wide range of extra-curricular opportunities, including sports clubs, art clubs, board games and choir, allowing children to develop new skills and interests beyond the classroom.

To support families, we provide both a breakfast club and an after-school club on site, run by Junior Adventure Group, offering high-quality care in a safe and familiar environment.



OUR VISION



01 We follow instructions with thought and care.

02 We show respect and good manners at all times.

03 We care for everyone and everything.



VALUES

	What we do...	What it means to us...
R	Respect everyone	☺ Keep hands and feet to ourselves ☺ Speak politely to everyone ☺ Always use good manners, verbally and in behaviour around the school
E	Encourage each other	☺ Give praise (say well done) ☺ Give genuine feedback to help our friends' (and peers') learning improve ☺ We celebrate differences
S	Speak truthfully	☺ We are honest ☺ We speak truthfully about others and what they have done/ we have done to them ☺ We say/recognise/admit when we have done something wrong / made a bad choice and apologise for this
P	Practise, persevere and make progress	☺ We try again and again to improve our skills ☺ We do not give up ☺ We use our purple pens with pride
E	Embrace mistakes	☺ We learn from our mistakes ☺ We look at mistakes as a way of moving our learning forward
C	Consider our choices	☺ We think before we act ☺ We know we always have a choice ☺ We can say "no"
T	Thrive together as a team	☺ We work together ☺ We help each other and celebrate achievements of other children as well as our own ☺ We include everyone

SAFEGUARDING



The safety and wellbeing of our children is at the heart of everything we do. From maintaining a secure school environment to prioritising the welfare of every individual pupil, we are committed to ensuring the highest standards of safeguarding at all times. Clear procedures and robust systems are in place to support this, and all staff, volunteers and visitors are required to hold up-to-date DBS checks before working within our school.

Our Principles

- The wellbeing of every child is paramount. We carefully consider pupils' views, needs and feelings when planning and delivering all aspects of school life.
- Every child has an equal right to protection and support, regardless of race, age, ability, gender, language, religion, culture or sexual orientation.
- All staff and volunteers share a collective responsibility to recognise and respond to concerns, acting promptly and appropriately to ensure children are kept safe.



EARLY YEARS

Our Early Years curriculum is thoughtfully planned in line with Development Matters, with a strong focus on each child's individual needs, interests and stage of development. Learning is delivered through rich, hands-on experiences and purposeful play, creating an engaging environment where children explore, discover and develop key skills—often without even realising how much they are learning.

We value strong partnerships with parents and carers. Through our online learning platform, Tapestry, families can regularly see what their child has been learning at school, as well as share achievements and special moments from home, helping us to build a fuller picture of each child's development. Our experienced Early Years team is led by a dedicated EYFS leader who works closely with staff to ensure high-quality provision across both Nursery and Reception. Together, they are committed to giving every child the very best start to their school journey.

We are particularly proud of our carefully planned transition process, which helps children settle quickly and confidently into school life. As a result, our pupils arrive each day feeling happy, secure and ready to learn.

The areas of learning that we focus on are:

- **Personal, Social and Emotional Development** – Making relationships, self-confidence and self-awareness, managing feelings and behaviours.
- **Communication and Language** – Listening and attention, understanding and speaking.
- **Physical Development** – Moving and handling, health and self-care.
- **Literacy** – Reading and writing.
- **Numeracy** – Numbers, shape, space and measures.
- **Understanding the World** – People and communities, the world, technology.
- **Expressive Arts and Design** – Exploring and using materials, being imaginative.

A Typical Day in EYFS

- Doors open, fine motor
- Wake up dance
- Phonics
- Small group work and child initiated learning
- Snack
- Physical play
- Story time
- Lunch
- Whole class carpet session
- Group activities and child initiated learning
- Story / songs
- Home time

Our EYFS team is led by Mrs Gough.



Nursery

Our nursery provision offers up to 30 hours. All children attending are given the 15 hours in the mornings, with an option to increase this in the afternoons to include the 30 hours. We take an initial intake in September with further intakes at Christmas and Easter where we have space. Children can start the term after their 3rd birthday. Places are awarded using our admissions criteria, which can be found on the school website.

Our nursery is staffed by an experienced team, led by our nursery teacher, Mrs Murdoch.

THE PRIMARY SCHOOL STAGES

Reception

The September after their 4th birthday, children are welcome to join our lovely reception class. Admissions are arranged through Brighter Futures for Children:

<https://brighterfuturesforchildren.org/for-parents-carers/schools/primary-admissions/>

Key Stage 1

Years 1 and 2 make up key stage 1 and are set up in two classrooms. Both classes have access to the infant playground and extensive school grounds for outdoor learning. In year 1, the children begin to transition into whole class teaching with short focused teaching sessions followed by group work, all of which are engaging and stimulating.

In year 2, children do more formal teaching, but still have plenty of time for group work and exciting learning opportunities. Each class has an additional adult who assists the class teacher in providing appropriate support to the children.



Key Stage 2

Key stage 2 (years 3, 4, 5 and 6) are based in classrooms at the rear of the school. All classrooms have a workroom area for small group work. Each class has an additional adult who supports with the learning. They share a large playground, adventure area and have the opportunity to use the school field when dry. Teaching continues to be engaging and builds upon the philosophy and work from key stage 1.

THE SCHOOL DAY



8:40-8:55

Registration - classroom doors open at 8.45 and children enter from the playground. Registers shut at 8.55.

8:55-10:45

Key Stage 1 - Session 1

8:55-11:00

Key Stage 2 - Session 1

10:45-11:00/11:00-11:15

Break time - children in Key Stage 1 have fruit during this time. Key Stage 2 are allowed to bring in a healthy snack to eat.

11:00-12:00

Key Stage 1 - Session 2

11:15-12:30

Key Stage 2 - Session 2

12:00-1:00/12:30-1:30

Lunch

1:00-3:20

Key Stage 1 - Session 3

1:30-3:20

Key Stage 2 - Session 3



ASSEMBLIES

The school holds assemblies in a variety of year group combinations. Assembly themes are based on our school values and are determined as appropriate each term to fit in with significant religious festivals. Reception and nursery do not come to assemblies to begin with, but as the year progresses reception join in more, ready for their transition to year 1.

Assemblies are as follows:

Monday

9:05am - 9:30am

Key Stage assembly linked to school values

Wednesday

9.05am - 9.30am

Whole school assembly linked to religion and world events

Friday

9.05am - 9.30am

Alternate weeks - singing/awards (class teacher and values linked)

BREAKFAST & AFTER SCHOOL CLUB

There is a breakfast and after school club which is run by Junior Adventures Group (JAG) each day from 7.45am until 8.45am and from 3:20pm until 5:30pm. The children get a good choice for breakfast which includes cereal, toast, yogurts and sometimes a croissant can be spotted! The children have plenty of activities to keep them busy during breakfast and after school club. This is booked through JAG's online booking system.

There is also a wide variety of after school activity clubs run by both staff from the school and outside clubs. These change termly and we try to offer a variety for different age groups but include clubs such as football, multisports, drawing & colouring, board games and forest school. These are usually free of charge.





ATTENDANCE & PUNCTUALITY

Consistent attendance helps children feel secure and ensures they never miss out on the vital learning and social moments that make school special. When children are away, catching up can feel a bit daunting, so we strive for a minimum attendance of 96% for every student.

- The Morning Routine: Our doors open at 8:45 AM. We ask that you wait with your child at the classroom door until the teacher welcomes them in.
- Punctuality: Registers close at 8:55 AM. If you arrive after this time, please sign in via the main office so your child can receive their mark.
- End of Day: School finishes at 3:20 PM. Please collect your child directly from their classroom door.

Absences & Appointments If your child is unwell, please call the office to update us on their symptoms and expected return date. We kindly ask that routine appointments (dentist, opticians, etc.) be booked outside of school hours. If an appointment during the day is unavoidable, please notify the office; we encourage children to attend school before or after their appointment whenever possible

- Holidays during term will not be authorised and could result in parental fines

CURRICULUM

At Moorlands, our children are characterised by their curiosity, exemplary conduct, and a genuine thirst for discovery. In an increasingly digital world, we prioritise meaningful, first-hand experiences that inspire pupils to look outward and engage deeply with the world around them.

Cultivating Critical Thinkers

We empower our students to be more than just consumers of information. Through a curriculum rooted in oracy and independent thinking, we encourage children to question, challenge, and refine ideas. We believe that in a modern society, views should not be fixed; therefore, we provide a safe, secure environment where pupils learn to speak with confidence while maintaining a profound respect for the perspectives of others.

A Bespoke, Localised Curriculum

While we follow the National Curriculum, our approach is uniquely "Moorlands." Many of our units are bespoke, drawing inspiration from our local area and community. While we maintain a rigorous focus on Excellence in English and Mathematics, we are committed to a broad and balanced education. By weaving subject links together through termly themes, we ensure a clear progression of skills and knowledge that prepares children for a lifetime of learning.

English

Learning to read and write is the key that unlocks the rest of the curriculum. From the very first day your child joins us, we embark on a journey that turns curious learners into confident, "impressive" authors by Year 6.

The Joy of Reading

We are a school of bookworms! Whether it's exploring our library or diving into a classroom book nook, we celebrate reading at every turn—especially during our vibrant February Book Week. Each week, your child will bring home books to practice their growing skills, alongside "sharing books" for you to curl up with and enjoy together at home.

Our Phonics & Reading Journey

- Early Years & KS1: We use the Read Write Inc. programme to give children a flying start with phonics. In small, supportive groups, they build the foundations of decoding, fluency, and expression.
- Key Stage 2: As they grow, children explore whole books and rich extracts. We focus on "book talk," encouraging them to question, debate, and sharpen their comprehension skills every single week.

Inspired Writing

We believe that great writers are inspired by great stories. That's why our writing curriculum is uniquely tailored to engage every child:

- In KS1: Our bespoke curriculum is built around awesome picture books that capture young imaginations.
- In KS2: We use The Write Stuff by Jane Considine, a creative approach that helps children craft beautiful, high-level sentences and structured narratives.

Spelling & Handwriting

To ensure their work is as beautiful as their ideas, we follow the Read Write Inc. handwriting scheme, moving from careful letter formation to a fluent, joined style. Spelling is taught through phonics in Key Stage 1 moving onto learning rules and using morphology in Key Stage 2.

Maths

We aim to grow confident, curious mathematicians who don't just "do" maths, but truly understand it. By following the White Rose Maths scheme and utilizing expert NCETM mastery materials, we ensure our curriculum is rich, challenging, and consistent for every child.

Our Practical Approach

To make maths "click," we follow a "build it, draw it, talk it, write it" approach. We believe children learn best when they can physically explore concepts. Using a variety of resources—from Numicon to bead strings—children move from concrete objects to drawing models before moving into abstract calculations. This "mastery" approach ensures their understanding is deep and flexible.

Building Strong Foundations

- **Mastering Number:** In EYFS and Key Stage 1, we place a special emphasis on the Mastering Number programme. This daily practice builds a solid "number sense," helping our youngest learners become fluent and flexible with numbers from the very start.
- **Place Value Experts:** We prioritise place value at the beginning of every year. When children truly understand the value of numbers, they have the confidence to tackle any mathematical challenge.
- **Daily Fluency & TT Rockstars:** Every morning begins with quick-fire fluency to keep basic skills sharp. We also love seeing our pupils challenge themselves on TT Rockstars, and we encourage families to join the fun at home to help master those essential times tables!

Bringing Learning to Life

At our school, we believe that some of the best lessons happen beyond the classroom walls. We are passionate about making the most of our vibrant local community, inviting inspiring visitors in and taking our children on exciting visits out to bring their learning to life.

Memorable Experiences

These experiences are "the icing on the cake" for our curriculum. We strategically plan at least one trip or visitor each term to spark curiosity or celebrate a topic. Whether it's a local expert sharing their knowledge or a hands-on field trip, these moments create a "wow" factor that our children truly value and remember.

To make these days possible, we rely on the wonderful support of our families:

- **Your Support:** We ask for voluntary donations to cover costs and provide plenty of notice for upcoming events.
- **Join the Adventure:** Our trips couldn't happen without our parent volunteers! We love welcoming you along to share in the discovery and help keep our explorers safe.



Uniform



To help promote a sense of pride and positive attitudes towards school and learning, children from Reception - Year 6 are expected to wear school uniform. High standards in learning are reflected in high standards of appearance. All uniform can be obtained from the school office or local supermarkets.

- White or blue polo shirt
- Royal blue jumper or cardigan
- Black shoes - no trainers
- Water bottle
- Blue, flat book bag
- Grey or black trousers, pinafore, skirt or shorts
- Blue and white gingham dress

PE kit - to be brought to school in a drawstring bag

- Black shorts
- White T-shirt
- Plimsolls or trainers
- Hair band for longer hair
- For outdoor games – jersey / tracksuit- black with no large logos
- Outdoor learning (reception / nursery)
- The following are not allowed:
- Large and colourful hair accessories incl hair piece
- Hooped or dangling earrings (only plain ear studs)
- Heeled shoes/ open toed sandals
- Tracksuits / jeans
- Extreme haircuts / styles



SCHOOL LUNCHES

We know that a well-fed child is a happy, focused learner! At our school, we pride ourselves on offering delicious, wholesome meals that fuel the school day. Our meals are freshly prepared right here in our own kitchen by Caterlink. They provide a healthy, nutritious, and varied menu with plenty of options to suit every palate.

- To make mornings easier, families choose meals together online via the ParentPay app. This ensures your child gets exactly what they fancy and gives you peace of mind about what they are eating.
- All children in Reception, Year 1, and Year 2, as well as those eligible for Pupil Premium funding, are entitled to a free school meal every day. We warmly encourage you to take up this wonderful offer!
- If your child prefers, they are more than welcome to bring a healthy, nutritious packed lunch from home.

We love to keep energy levels up throughout the day:

- Fruit & Milk: Children in Reception receive free milk, and all children in KS1 (Reception, Year 1, and Year 2) are provided with a fresh fruit snack every day at break time.
- Healthy Choices: Children are also welcome to bring their own healthy snack from home to enjoy during their break.

Safety is at the heart of our kitchen. If your child has any allergies or dietary requirements, you can provide this information directly to our catering team. Our school office will guide you through this process before your child's first day to ensure everything is perfectly in place.

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