



# Marshside

## PRIMARY SCHOOL

### Welcome to Marshside

We are proud to be a small, one form entry, primary school that is growing and expanding. Our size allows us to know every child and family well, while our ambition and commitment to excellence ensures that all pupils are given the very best opportunities to thrive.

Our location, on the edge of Southport's beautiful wetlands, provides us with stunning views of local wildlife and a natural backdrop that enriches school life. We are fortunate to have wonderful outdoor spaces, including a large playing field and a dedicated Forest School area that play a key role in enhancing our curriculum and supporting children's wellbeing.

We are also proud to host four Resource Base Provisions that offer tailored support for children with additional needs. Inclusion lies at the heart of everything we do and we are dedicated to ensuring every child feels valued, supported and able to reach their full potential.

Known locally as *"the small school with the big heart,"* we are a warm and welcoming community school where children are nurtured, families are valued and staff work in partnership to ensure the very best outcomes for all.

We very much look forward to welcoming you and your child to our school family.

Mr Shaun Haughey (Headteacher)

**If you have any queries or questions – please ensure you ask!**



Marshside Primary – The little school with a big HEART and big ambitions!



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## Why choose Marshside?

We all refer to our school as the little school with the big HEART.

HEART is how we refer to the Values that everyone in the school lives up to.



### Honesty

- Know that school is a safe space where we can relax and be ourselves
- To be heard and express ourselves clearly and respectfully



### Empathy and Tolerance

- Respect ourselves and others
- To show empathy to others
- To spread kindness to others



### Aspire and Achieve

- To take educated risks and try new things
- Have confidence in ourselves; to believe we can achieve anything
- To have a positive attitude
- To be resilient, independent and self-sufficient



### Respect

- To be polite and courteous to others
- To take pride in ourselves and our community
- To spend time outdoors and care for the environment



### Thrive

- To feel loved and know that we matter
- To find our passion
- To feel safe and happy
- To love being in school and being part of our community
- Have fun

Every child is an individual and they are treated as such.

All our staff ensure that they know and understand the emotional and educational needs of each child.

Being a small school, all the staff and the children know one another across the whole school.



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## **Admissions**

The admission policy of Sefton Education Authority allows us to admit children into Marshside School in the September before their fifth birthday.

Admission into our Resource Base Provision is dealt with using a different criteria. Children who are provided a space into the Resource Base Provision go through a process of consultation and are required to have an EHCP.

## **Pre-School Visits**

We are always very pleased to accommodate visits for our families. We understand that starting school is a big step and it is crucial for our families to have the opportunity to ask questions and receive as much information as possible in preparation for this important milestone.







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## **Our Location**

Our school is set in a unique location on the edge of a stunning nature reserve, where the sound of geese flying overhead is part of daily life.

Many different species of birds visit our site and the surrounding wetlands which can even be observed from our playground.

We make the most of this special environment with excellent outdoor facilities, including an outdoor classroom, climbing wall, large playground, garden areas, a trim trail and picnic benches where children can relax and spend time with friends.

A real highlight is our Marshside Bus: upstairs, it houses our school library while the lower deck provides a welcoming community space, complete with a screen for meetings, workshops and coffee mornings.





### Our Classes

We are a one form entry primary school with four Specialist Resource Base Provisions.

Our classes are named after birds that are seen in our local area.

Each class has its own unique layout and access to outdoor space from their classroom which we promote all children to use to help and support their physical and emotional wellbeing.

<b>Reception</b>	<b>Little Owls</b>
<b>Year 1</b>	<b>Lapwings</b>
<b>Year 2</b>	<b>Kestrels</b>
<b>Year 3</b>	<b>Sandpipers</b>
<b>Year 4</b>	<b>Barn Owls</b>
<b>Year 5</b>	<b>Shelducks</b>
<b>Year 6</b>	<b>Robins</b>
<b>EYFS Resource Base</b>	<b>Wrens</b>
<b>EYFS Resource Base</b>	<b>Starlings</b>
<b>Y1 and Y2 Resource Base</b>	<b>Goldfinches</b>
<b>Y2 and Y3 Resource Base</b>	<b>Skylarks</b>





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### Our Staff

We are a small dedicated team of teachers, teaching assistants and support staff who absolutely love what we do! As well as classroom teachers, we have teachers that work outside of the classroom to deliver interventions and programmes of support to ensure all children thrive.

### Our Pupils

We are a very close community school and currently have 208 pupils who attend Marshside. Our children come from a range of areas across Sefton. We treat children and families with an equal level of respect to enable them fulfil all aspects of school life.





## The School Day

Classroom doors open at 8:45 and our resource base provisions open slightly earlier at 8:40. Gates open at 8:40 for children to enter the yard prior to the start of the day but children must not be left unattended.

	EYFS & KS1	KS2	Resource Base Provision
Morning Session	8:45-12:00	8:45-12:00	8:40-12:00
Afternoon Session	1:00-3:20	1:00-3:20	1:00-3:15

We encourage children to walk or cycle to school. Helmets must be worn and cycles must be wheeled in the school gates. Cycles/scooters are left onsite at the owner's risk.

If Year 5 or Year 6 children wish to walk home we require written consent from a parent or guardian.

## Out of School Club

We have wraparound care through our breakfast and after school club provision. This operates during term time from 7:30-8:45am and 3:20-6:00pm. You can book your child in using the school booking system. Prices and booking information can be obtained from the school office.





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## **National Curriculum**

Reception children study areas of learning working towards the Early Learning Goals. All children of statutory school age study the National Curriculum, which all state schools in England and Wales must follow.

English – Reading, Writing, Speaking and Listening

Maths

Science

Computing

Design Technology

History

Geography

PSHE (RSE) (LYFTA)

Music

Art

Physical Education

Spanish (KS2 Only)







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### **Assessments**

Children are formally assessed in primary school at the end of KS2.

Throughout their time at Marshside, progress will be measured partly on the basis of the teacher assessment and partly by standardised tests.

You will be sent information regularly on how your child is making progress in the National Curriculum and you will have the opportunity to visit school for parents' evening events to discuss your child's progress.

At different times children will be taught as a class, as a small group or individually, depending on the work they are doing.

### **Teaching and Learning**

We have designed our Marshside curriculum to immerse children in learning activities and focus on the key skills and concepts as required by the National Curriculum (2014).

This broad and balanced curriculum helps us recognise and develop individual talents and interests.

We support all our children to reach their potential and our staff are skilled to adapt the learning to suit the needs of all children.

When we can, we use a cross-curricular approach, developing skills and knowledge across a range of subjects. Educational visits and visitors to school help our children to understand the topics we cover.

All our children are taught to use technology confidently and safely at all times.

We use a range of resources to ensure that the curriculum provides sufficient rigour and progression of knowledge, understanding and skills.

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Children are taught as individuals, in small groups and in classes.

At every stage we monitor and assess children's learning to make sure they get extra support or challenge when they need it.

We keep in touch with parents and carers through informal meetings, parents' evenings and annual reports.

You are always welcome to come into school to discuss your child's progress informally throughout the year.





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## **Safeguarding and Child Protection**

Families should be aware that the school will take any reasonable action to ensure the safety of its pupils. Where we have concerns for a child's safety or wellbeing we will follow the Local Authority Procedures and make contact to the relevant external agencies.

Families may not always be informed when we feel the safety of the child could be in jeopardy.

## **Attendance and Illness**

We aim for an attendance rate of 97%+ in school and reward children when they achieve this. Holidays during term time will not be authorised and may result in a penalty notice being issued by the local authority.

From time to time it will be necessary for children to be absent from school. We ask that you you notify the the school office on the day of absence. If you child is unwell in school we will contact you at home or at work. If your child requires medicine during the school day, we ask that you come to the office and fill in the correct paperwork so that we can issue medicines following your consent.

## **Pupils with Special Educational Needs and the More Able**

Our school has an excellent Inclusion Manager who is responsible for ensuring that every step is taken to ensure that each child's individual needs are met and each child develops to their full potential. At Marshside we aim to encourage an environment where all children are valued by the whole school community whatever their individual needs and abilities. We also recognise that some children will have talents in specific areas and this is where we support children to exceed expectations related to their actual age. We celebrate strengths and talents through assemblies, through our school website and ClassDojo platform.



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### Physical Education

This is an important part of our children's education and development. We use the extensive outdoor facilities as much as possible. Activities include dance, net and ball sports, gym and swimming. We have a specialist sports coach who works with our children at various points throughout the year.

### Swimming

Children in years 1-6 have the opportunity to go swimming at the local swimming baths in Southport. Members of Marshside staff support in transporting the children to and from the swimming baths and lessons are conducted by a qualified swimming instructor.

### School Teams

We are fortunate to have competitions that our children are encouraged to take part in and compete with other local schools. These sports include: football, cricket, netball, athletics, cross-country and bowling.

We provide special kits for teams when playing in competitive games.







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## **Sex and Relationship Education**

A formal policy has been agreed by our Governors and may be seen on request. This is not compulsory in primary schools. However, primary schools are required to teach the elements of sex education contained in the science curriculum. If primary schools do teach SRE, they must have regard to guidance issued by the secretary of state as outlined in section 403 of the Education Act 1996.

## **Religious Education**

Schools must also offer religious education and provide daily collective worship but parents can decide whether their child takes part or is withdrawn. Christianity is the main religion in this country and will form the main part of both the lessons and the collective worship but other religious beliefs will also be discussed with the children.

Our school aims to make children aware of the importance of religious and moral values and to develop tolerance towards other races, religions and ways of life.

## **School Clubs**

Through the generosity of the staff a range of free extra-curricular clubs are offered to the children. These have included: Netball, Football, Art Club, Lego, Gardening, Homework and Craft Club. The clubs offered are subject to change on a half-termly basis. The majority of these clubs meet after school and children must obtain their parents' permission to attend them.

At times there are clubs that are offered in school but run by an outside provider. These will incur a charge from the provider.



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### Our Uniform

Grey Trousers / Grey Shorts / Grey Skirt / Grey Pinafore

White Shirt with School Tie or Red / White Polo

Red Jumper / Cardigan (with School Logo)

Black Shoes

Uniform is available from the school office or from Whitakers.

### PE Kit

Plain Black Shorts (Plain Jogging Trousers for colder days)

White T-Shirt

Trainers

Children wear their PE kit on the day they have PE. This will be shared with you each year with your child's class teacher.





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### **Homework**

All children are expected to read every day at home.

There will be other homework that is set each week and communicated to you via the class teacher. This will be set each Friday and returned by the following Wednesday.

There is a school homework policy which may need to be changed from time to time. In addition, with involvement from families, children with difficulties in certain areas of work may need support from a family member in doing work at home to help them. Older children are encouraged to develop independent, private study habits in readiness for their journey beyond Marshside.

### **Dinners**

Children can choose to have school dinners or bring in a packed lunch. We have a three week menu which provides children with various options for hot dinners. We eat our dinners in the school hall. Reception children have their lunch first and their teachers, teaching assistants and lunchtime supervisors stay with them and look after them the whole time.

### **Packed Lunch**

Children can choose to have a packed lunch made at home. We encourage healthy eating – including no fizzy drinks.

### **Snacks and Water**

Children are asked to bring in a clear, labelled water bottle with a sports top each day. This must go home each night and be washed and refilled. EYFS and KS1 children will receive a piece of fruit each day as part of the government incentive. KS2 children are encouraged to bring in a healthy snack of fruit or cereal bar.

Chocolate and crisps are not permitted.



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## **Personal Property**

Children should not bring to school anything of value. The school cannot accept responsibility for any items, articles or money lost or damaged in school. Mobile phones may be handed into the school office should a child have a genuine need to carry one (walking home alone).

## **Positive Behaviour Policy**

At Marshside we focus on the positive and reward challenge with praise, ClassDojos and certificates. We ensure that children recognise that behaviours are choices and ensure children are not stereotyped by behaviour choices. We have a clear policy available online which shows the rewards and sanctions attached to various behaviours.

## **Bullying**

In keeping with our Heart values we do not tolerate bullying. We have a policy that is available online on our school website [www.marshsideprimary.org.uk](http://www.marshsideprimary.org.uk). If bullying does occur we take immediate action and take time to support. We understand that there are different perspectives and aim to understand reasons behind actions to ensure we address this in the correct manner.

## **Educational Visits**

Educational visits provide children with the opportunity to find out about the world around them. Some visits do incur a cost and we will ensure you are informed ahead of time and support where we can. School ask for a contribution to help pay for the transport and admission costs.





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## **Photographs**

Children are often photographed or recorded in school as part of their learning. The images may be used as part of a display or as a record of learning. Occasionally these images may be used on our website or in local press. Please inform us if you do not consent to these images being used in this way.

## **Finance**

Every year the local authority grants each school an amount of money, which is largely based on the number of children in school. The Governors and Headteacher administer the budget with support from the Local Authority to provide the best possible care and opportunities for all children at Marshside.

## **Parents and Friends of Marshside School**

The Parents and Friends Association (PFA) is an organisation which has been set up to develop good relationships between home and school and also to assist the school by raising money to purchase equipment, etc.

The association organises various events during the year including Children's Discos, Summer Fairs, Gift Sales etc.

Officers and a committee are elected at the Annual General Meeting held in the Autumn Term.

At the AGM and at least one meeting per term, an open meeting is held and all parents are welcome to come along to have their say in the running of the Association.

The functions run by the PFA are always enjoyable as well as helping to raise money for your children.



## GDPR

GDPR is the data and information that we keep on file about your child or family. In accordance with our policy we ensure data is:

- Processed lawfully, fairly and in a transparent manner
- Collected for specified, explicit and legitimate purposes
- Adequate, relevant and limited to what is necessary to fulfil the purposes for which it is processed
- Accurate and, where necessary, kept up to date
- Kept for no longer than is necessary for the purposes for which it is processed
- Processed in a way that ensures it is appropriately secure

If you have any further questions – please get in touch.

Email: [admin@marshside-primary.uk](mailto:admin@marshside-primary.uk)

Phone: 01704 211177



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