

Brackenwood Junior School



Prospectus 2010/2011



Brackenwood Junior School

BRACKENWOOD JUNIOR SCHOOL
NORBURY AVENUE
BEBINGTON
WIRRAL CH63 2HH

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GENERAL INFORMATION

HEADTEACHER	Mr T Lacey
CHAIR OF GOVERNORS	Mrs B Barrow (who can be contacted through school)
AGE RANGE	7 - 11 Years
NO. ON ROLL	215
CLASS SIZES	25 - 30
LOCAL EDUCATION AUTHORITY	Wirral
SCHOOL TIMES	8.55am - 3.30pm
TEACHING TIME	23.5 hours

ADMISSIONS POLICY

Each school has its own 'catchment' area and a 'standard number' of children which it can admit in each year group. Our standard number is 65 and all children who live within our zone are entitled to a place at the school. Out-of-zone admissions will be welcomed provided there is room within the standard number or with special approval from the Local Education Authority. Details of the school's catchment area can be obtained from the school office.

FREEDOM OF INFORMATION ACT 2000

The school is required to inform the public about the information it holds.
Brackenwood Junior School Publication Scheme is available from the school office.



Learning for Life

Brackenwood Junior School

AIMS & ETHOS

Mission Statement

The Governors and Staff of Brackenwood Junior School strive to provide every pupil and all staff with high quality learning opportunities, within a safe and stimulating environment. In doing so we allow each child to mature in all dimensions of their individual development, have a high self-esteem and as a result, achieve their potential in all aspects of their education to prepare them as citizens of the future. The Governors ensure that the school is a safe, secure place for all children.

The Governors' vision for the school:

The Governors of Brackenwood Junior School seek to continually develop and improve the school by:

- Delivering a broad, balanced and differentiated curriculum based on the National Curriculum through high quality, stimulating and enjoyable lessons.
- Providing a positive ethos which promotes Christian principles and fosters qualities of confidence, independence and co-operation so that all children have respect for themselves, others and the world around them.
- Offering opportunities outside the classroom to further enhance the education provided.
- Ensuring that staff are motivated and supported to work as part of a team and continue to develop their professional expertise.
- Ensuring that the management looks to make efficient and effective use of all resources and evaluates school performance through a process of monitoring and self-review.
- Promoting an open and productive relationship between the school and the parents, the community, local businesses, the media and other agencies.
- Providing high standard accommodation and resources which enhance children's learning.

The School Ethos:

The Governors and staff of Brackenwood Junior School believe that we must:

- Meet individual need through a fully inclusive and differentiated curriculum in which barriers to learning are removed so that all pupils can reach their full potential.
- Set high expectations and broaden horizons believing that every one can achieve great things.
- Seek out innovative teaching methods which promote high quality learning.
- Value and celebrate hard work, perseverance, success and high standards of behaviour.
- Provide a safe, secure and comfortable atmosphere by which to cater for the physical, social, spiritual and emotional needs of the children.
- Promote safeguarding practices throughout the school.

Aims:

The Governors and staff of Brackenwood Junior School aim to:

- Foster a love of learning.



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- Deliver a broad, balanced and differentiated curriculum based on the National Curriculum through high quality, stimulating and enjoyable lessons.
- Provide a positive ethos which promotes Christian principles and fosters qualities of confidence, independence and co-operation so that all children have respect for themselves, others and the world around them.
- Ensure that all children reach their full potential and become confident, disciplined and enquiring learners able to make informed choices and decisions.
- Ensure equal opportunities for all, regardless of gender, race, religion or ability, promoting an ethos of acceptance and understanding of others.
- Provide a safe, secure and happy work place.
- Promote an open, honest and trusting home-school relationship which supports the children's learning.
- Work as part of a team and continue to develop their professional expertise.



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THE SCHOOL

Brackenwood Junior School is a community controlled junior school catering for boys and girls aged 7–11.

The school is housed in a single story brick building that was opened in 1953. Within the building there are 9 spacious and airy classrooms decorated and furnished to a high standard. The school hall is large and well-presented. It is used for assemblies, PE, drama and social events. All classrooms have Interactive Whiteboard facilities. A portable computer trolley, holding 30 laptops is available for use in each classroom. There is a well organised and inviting library offering the opportunity for the children to undertake research. There is ample storage space throughout the school and well-appointed office and administrative areas. The school has its own kitchen providing hot and cold meals daily and a separate dining room.

The school is deemed to have "special needs capability" and the building has been adapted to accommodate wheelchair users to all areas. Specialist toilet and shower facilities are also provided.

The school is surrounded on two sides by extensive fields which enable a wide variety of sporting activities to take place and provide pleasant areas for children to play during the summer months. A tarmaced playground provides space for sport and play in wet weather.

Brackenwood Junior School is a two form entry school. Every child is assigned to one of two classes in each year group. They are taught in these classes for every area of the curriculum except maths for which they are set according to ability.

The School Day

8.45	Children allowed in to hall on wet days
8.55	Children line up to be collected from the playground by their class teacher
9.00	Registration
9.05	Lesson 1
10.15 - 10.35	Break
10.35 - 11.45	Lesson 2
11.45 - 12.00	Assembly
12.00 - 12.30	Lesson 3
12.30 - 1.30	Lunch
1.30	Registration
1.35	Lesson 4
2.30	Lesson 5
3.30	Home



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THE STAFF

Teaching:

Mr Tony Lacey	Headteacher
Mr Conal Holmes	Deputy Head
Miss Lucy Hammond	Year 3
Miss Sarah Worthington	Year 3
Mrs Lindsay Webster / Mr Tony Bailey	Year 4
Miss Jane Woolley	Year 4
Mrs Wendy Ward / Mrs Kathy Stokell	Year 5
Mrs Lynne Somers	Year 5
Mrs Claire Arnold	Year 6
Mr Conal Holmes	Year 6
Mr Tony Bailey	Year 3, 4 & 5 cover
Miss Jo Hall	Year 6 cover

Non-teaching:

Mrs Jillian Moss	Teaching Assistant
Mrs Julie Nevin	Teaching Assistant
Ms Wendy Jones	Teaching Assistant
Mrs Jayne Wallis	Teaching Assistant
Mrs Nicola Butler	Teaching Assistant (part time)
Mrs Diane Egan	Teaching Assistant (part time)
Mrs Claire Gray	Teaching Assistant (part time)
Mrs Joan Dorrity	Administration Officer (part time)
Mrs Diane Kershaw	Administration Officer (part time)
Mrs Diane Egan	Clerical (part time)
Mrs S Jadeja	Reprographics (part time)

Governors

Mrs B Barrow	Community Governor (Chair)
Mr C Pierce	Parent Governor (Vice Chair)
Mr J Highton	Parent Governor
Mrs K Green	Parent Governor
Mr D Stanley	Parent Governor
VACANCY	Community Governor
Mr P Edwards	LEA Governor
Mr L Thomas	LEA Governor
Mr C Holmes	Staff Governor
Mr D Wingate	Associate Governor



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THE CURRICULUM

The children study the National Curriculum 'core' subjects of English, maths and science and the 'foundation' curriculum of ICT (information & communication technology), DT (design technology), history, geography, art, music and PE (physical education, including swimming). The National Curriculum programmes of study are followed through planned structured schemes of work, with a linked approach, across the curriculum, or as discrete subjects, as appropriate.

The cross-curricular themes of PSHE (Personal, Social & Health Education) and Citizenship are used to enhance the curriculum and develop the pupils as citizens of the 21st century. French is offered to children in Year 3 and 4.

Religious Education

Religious Education is provided in accordance with the Agreed Syllabus for Wirral schools. Religious, moral and multi-cultural education all play an important part in the life of our school and as such are taught through assemblies, class teaching and situations which arise during the school day. If parents do not wish their children to take part in Religious Education or assemblies then arrangements will be made for withdrawal to other suitable activities. Requests in writing should be made to the Headteacher.

Sex Education

The Governing Body has adopted the Wirral Education Authority policy on Sex Education, the contents of which have been incorporated into the syllabus. There is close involvement with local health centres and welfare agencies. Parents can view the policy and schemes of work and discuss the content of Sex Education with staff. They have the option to withdraw their children from Sex Education if they inform the school.

Extra-curricular activities

At various times, according to the skills, interests and availability of staff, many different clubs are held during lunch times and after school. At present football, rugby, netball, cricket and knitting clubs are available. Peripatetic music teachers visit school to teach woodwind, brass and strings. The children play together in the school orchestra. Pupils often participate in inter-school matches and competitions across a wide range of activities. The school also invites outside agencies to provide clubs at school for a small fee for participants. These include recorders, drama, fencing, judo and dance.

Special Education Needs

Children come to school with a variety of special needs which must be provided for so that they can reach their full potential. At Brackenwood we strive to provide a fully inclusive education in which barriers to learning are removed and the needs of every child are met. Staff and resources are made available to meet these needs as appropriate. Some children are withdrawn from their class to receive support in small groups for literacy and numeracy. At times our Teaching Assistants are used, under the direction of a teacher, to support children in their own class. At others the class teacher will liaise with colleagues and provision will be made as part of the general differentiation of teaching and learning that takes place in the classroom. Full use is also made of outside support agencies such as Learning Support



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Service, Schools Psychological Service and the School Nurse.

Mrs Stokell is the school's Inclusion Co-ordinator. She is responsible for organising and supervising the SEN provision within school. Full details of the SEN policy are available in school.

Complaints from parents concerning the SEN provision made by the school should be directed initially to the Headteacher and if a resolution cannot be found a letter should be forwarded to the Chair of Governors.

Visits & Visitors

We aim to enhance the curriculum by inviting visitors in to school to talk to and work with the children and by taking the children out on educational visits. Good use is made of visiting theatre groups. In the Autumn term of 2007 the whole school benefited from the visit of the Kinetic Theatre Group. The children in Year 4 have also visited Chester for the Dewa Experience to enhance their Roman topic. A theatre group have also visited school to present 'Living History' to both years 5 and 6. Each Christmas the whole school visits a local theatre or cinema. The children in Year 6 have a very enjoyable and challenging week away on a residential educational visit in the Lake District in the summer term.

Entertainment

Each year the children lead in our Christmas celebrations by staging a Christmas themed production. A spectacular show concludes our academic year.

Assessment

The school makes use of ongoing formative assessment to ascertain pupils knowledge, skills and understanding. Records are kept about children's attainment judged against key learning objectives. Assessments are used to measure pupil progress at regular intervals.

The school carries out its statutory requirements to administer Standard Assessment Tests (SATs) in Year 6 as the pupils reach the end of Key Stage 2. Results of the school's 2009 SATs are given below.

2009	% L4 +	% L5
English	85	33
Maths	88	47
Science	93	53



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EQUIPMENT

Uniform

We ask for parents' co-operation in ensuring that children are dressed in the correct uniform at all times and that all articles of clothing are named.

Trousers, skirt, shorts - Grey or black
Shirt, blouse, polo shirt - White
Sweatshirt, jumper, cardigan - Bottle green
Summer dress - Green/white striped or check
Shoes or sandals - Black
(Trainers are not allowed to be worn throughout the day)

Items of uniform are available from Wirral Uniform Shop in Birkenhead.

PE & Sports Clothing

Children must have an appropriate P.E. kit available in school to be able to take part in PE. The kit should be kept in a suitable bag and all items should be labelled with the child's name.

Parents are asked to provide children with the following:

Indoor - Black or green shorts
 White T shirt
 Black pumps

Outdoor - Track suits/sweatshirts for cold weather
 Trainers or football boots
(Designer or club kits are not allowed to be worn in school)

Swimming - boys - trunks (not shorts)
 - girls - swimming costume (not bikini)

Jewellery

Jewellery is not to be worn, in the interests of safety and security, except for stud earrings that must be removed for PE and swimming.

Hair

Long hair should be tied back. Extravagant hair styles are discouraged.



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PASTORAL CARE & DISCIPLINE

We aim to create an atmosphere in school where the children can be happy, feel secure and develop a caring attitude towards the other members of our school community and beyond. Therefore, the School Rules aim to encourage self-discipline and common sense in order to ensure the safety and well-being of everyone. The rules are discussed frequently with children in the classroom and the school assembly. A high standard is expected of the children at all times.

We sincerely believe in a system of positive behaviour management and use a well-structured and understood system of rewards and sanctions.

Code of Conduct

The children are expected to keep to the few rules at all times.

- Treat visitors with respect and make them feel comfortable in school.
- Show respect to all adults and children.
- Always try your best in your work.
- Walk around school quietly and calmly.
- Keep the school and classroom environments tidy.
- Treat the school building with respect.
- Behave sensibly on the playground, using balls and equipment only when it is your turn.

We ask for your co-operation in enforcing these rules.

BEHAVIOUR

Summary of Behaviour Policy, Sanctions and Rewards

It's Great to Stay Green

We discuss "It's Great to Stay Green" with each class, emphasising our whole-school approach, links with Golden Time, and the importance of being a golden child.

Missed Breaks

For the small number of children who from time to time need to miss part of their break, a "Missed Break" classroom is set up from 12.30-1.00 each day.

Golden Time

Children who follow all school rules and meet our expectations enjoy 40 minutes of Golden Time each Friday afternoon. A range of enjoyable activities are set up and run by teaching staff, and children are able to sign up for any activity that they wish.

Golden Children

All children begin each half term on the "Golden Child List". Any child who remains on this list for the duration of the half term is rewarded with a certificate and small prize in a special assembly.

Headteacher's Awards

Each week, up to 3 children from each class are nominated for a Headteacher's award. These are usually awarded for attitude and good work in class.



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HEALTH & SAFETY

The Health and Safety of the children and staff is paramount.

Security

As the public's awareness of the importance for security measures to protect children have been raised our school has responded in a number of ways.

Visitors to the school are directed to the main entrance where a digital locking system is in use to control access to the main building. A 'Visitors Badge' is issued to authorised personnel who need to be in the building and all staff and pupils are encouraged to report unfamiliar people seen in school to the Administrator, Headteacher or senior member of staff.

When children are required to leave the school during the day due to illness or other reasons, the adult collecting the child must sign the pupil out of school. **Children are not allowed to leave the premises unattended during the school day.**

Medicines

Parents are discouraged from sending in medicines, but if necessary they can be left at the office and will be administered by the administrator or the senior supervisor at lunch time providing written instructions are provided by the parent/guardian. All medication must have the child's name clearly written on the pack/bottle. A log is kept of all medication administered.

The school should be notified of all allergies or medical conditions.
Children with asthma will have access to their inhalers at all times.

First Aid

The school's nominated first aiders are Mrs Donnity and Mrs Egan. Most non-teaching staff have emergency first aid training. The first aid box is well-equipped. If the children bump their heads a note will be sent home. All accidents resulting in injury are recorded.

Healthy Eating & Drinking

The school encourages the children to think about what they eat and tries to promote a healthy diet. Children are encouraged to bring a water bottle daily to keep their brains hydrated. They are invited to bring in a healthy snack for morning break, such as a piece of fruit or a cereal bar. Toast, milk and fruit are available to buy at morning break.

