

Welcome to Marshside Primary School!

Thank you for taking the time to make an enquiry about our school.

We are a small school which fosters a friendly atmosphere between children, parents, carers and members of our community. We take the time to get to know our families and put in the best possible support to enable our children to fly and achieve well.

We are so fortunate to be based on the edge of Southport's wetlands with such beautiful views of the wildlife and we often observe the birdlife from our very own viewing platform. We have a vast array of outdoor space that other schools envy and we use it to the max with our exciting Marshside curriculum.

Marshside has a caring ethos which is at the HEART of all we do! We hope you love our school as much as we do.

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Mrs Natasha Sandland

Headteacher

If we haven't answered any of your queries then please do ask.



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

Empathy and Tolerance

Achieve and Aspire

Respect

Thrive

Every child is an individual and they are treated as such. All our staff ensure that they know and understand the emotional and education needs of each child. Being a small school, all the staff and all the pupils know one another across the whole school.

Admissions

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

Pre-School Visits

We are always very pleased to accommodate visits for parents/carers and children. Starting school is a big step and it's important that you can get as much information in preparation for this milestone.



Our Location

Based on the edge of a nature reserve, our school boasts some fantastic outdoor spaces. We have a huge playing field that has its own bird watching platform so we can see the wonderful nature of the wetlands just next to us.

View from our viewing platform



We have outdoor classrooms, climbing walls, various garden areas and a large playground too. Our innovative Recycle Warriors Club maintain and develop our gardens.



Year 6 enjoying their PE lesson on our massive playing field

Our Classes

The Outdoors – Reception (Little Owls)

The Reception class have their own specific outdoor play areas which are used daily to support all aspects of learning and development. This area allows our children to experiment in the safety of their own space and children can access this freely across the day.



We are a one form entry school, each year group has its own classroom. All our classes are named after birds that are local to the area. Each class has a different layout and its own unique reading area and the classroom reflects our bespoke Marshside curriculum.

Reception	Little Owls
Year 1	Lapwings
Year 2	Kestrels
Year 3	Sandpipers
Year 4	Barn Owls
Year 5	Shelducks
Year 6	Robins

Our Staff

We are a small dedicated team of teachers, teaching assistants and support staff. Each class has its own teacher and teaching assistant.

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.

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

Our Pupils

We are a very close community school, our capacity is 210. Our children come from a range of areas in Southport. We treat children and families with an equal level of respect to enable them fulfil all aspects of school life.



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. These subjects are:-

English

Design and Technology

Music

Mathematics

History

Art

Science

Geography

Physical Education

Computing

PSHE

Modern Foreign Languages (KS2 only)

Children are formally assessed in primary school at the ages of 7 and 11. Their progress is measured partly on the basis of the teacher's assessment and partly by national tests known as Standard Assessment Tasks. You will be sent information regularly on how your child is making progress in the National Curriculum.

At different times children will be taught as a class, as a small group or individually, depending on the work they are doing. It has always been the policy at Marshside to have children working at a level that is correct for them. Some children have ability in particular areas which may be significantly greater than that of their peers. It is important that their needs are met, wherever possible, to ensure that they fulfil their potential.

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, balanced and differentiated curriculum helps us recognise and develop individual talents and interests. We support all our children to reach their potential.

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.

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.

Safeguarding and Child Protection

Parents and carers 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 well being we will follow the Local Authority Protection Procedures and inform Social Services. Parents and carers may not always be informed when we feel the safety of the child could be in jeopardy.

The School Day

School opens at 8:45am and children go straight into their classrooms on arrival. Registration will then take place. Children must not arrive to school unaccompanied before 8:45am.

	EYFS + Key Stage 1	Key Stage 2
Morning Session:	8:45am – 11:55am	8:45am – 12:05pm
Afternoon Session:	1:00pm – 3:00pm	1:00pm – 3:25pm

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 6 wish to walk home we require written consent from a parent or guardian.

Attendance and Illness

We aim for an attendance rate of above 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.

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.

Swimming

Children in years 4, 5 and 6 have the opportunity to go swimming at 'Swims'Cool', Marshside, Southport. Members of staff, along with a qualified swimming instructor, provide instruction.

School Teams

We have teams which compete with other schools for the following sports: - football, cricket, netball, athletics, cross-country and swimming.

The school provides special kits for teams when playing in competitive games.

Whilst we are very pleased when our children do well in competitive sports and we encourage them to do their very best, we are in fact more focussed on developing good sportsmanship and an enjoyment of the game.

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.

Out of School Care Club

An Out of School Care Club operates during term time from 7:30-8:45am and 3:20-5:20pm. We use a booking system, latest costs and booking information is available from the school office.

School Clubs

Through the generosity of the staff a range of 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. Often there will be a charge for these clubs.

Children's University

Children's University recognises and rewards children's voluntary participation in learning activities and experiences outside the normal school curriculum. The Children's University programme aims to raise children's awareness of University and the key differences between school and University, in particular the voluntary nature of higher education.

Children attending our extra-curricular clubs will gain credits, which they can bank in order to gain sufficient credits to graduate. 1 credit is awarded for each hour of attendance. (½ credit for ½ hour sessions). Children who gain sufficient credits by the end of a Key Stage will be invited to graduate from Sefton Children's University at a special ceremony held at Edge Hill University.

Our Uniform

We have summer and winter uniforms.



Boys

Grey trousers / shorts

White Shirt and school tie – winter

Red or white polo shirt – summer

Red v neck pullover

Black shoes



Girls

Grey skirt / pinafore

White shirt and school tie (winter)

Red and white check dress or red polo t shirt and grey skirt

Red v neck pullover

Black Shoes

PE Kit

Black shorts and white t shirt with pumps for indoor and trainers for outdoors. Jogging trousers in navy, black or grey are permitted for colder days.

Uniform with the school badge can be purchased from various local school supply shops as well as via <https://shopkeepeasy.com/104866>

Homework Policy

All children are expected to read regularly (every day) at home and you can help your child greatly, particularly when they are young, by hearing them regularly.

As far as other homework is concerned the school has a formal homework policy which may need to be changed from time to time. In addition, after parent/teacher consultation, children with difficulties in certain areas of work may need support from parents in doing work at home to help them to acquire certain skills, mechanics and facts. Older children are encouraged to develop private study habits as a preparation for High School.

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 and ask that children do not bring in fizzy drinks.

Snacks and Water

Children are asked to bring in a clear, labelled water with a sports top each day. This must go home each night and be washed and refilled. Infant children will receive a piece of fruit each day as part of the government incentive. Junior children are encouraged to bring in a healthy snack of fruit or cereal bar. Chocolate and crisps are not permitted.

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 poor 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 <https://www.marshsideprimary.org.uk/>. If bullying does occur we take immediate action to support the victim and the bully to correct their behaviour.

Educational Visits

Educational visits provide child the opportunity to find out about the world around them. Some visits do incur a cost, of which we are mindful. School ask for a contribution to help pay for the transport and admissions fees.

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. I have deliberately listed the roles in that order as the raising of funds is not the prime function of the PFA. The association organises various events during the year including Family Nights, Quiz Nights, Children's Discos, 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. I hope that you will support the work of the association by attending the various meetings and functions that it holds.

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