



Maple Primary School

Information for Admissions to Reception Class 2022

Maple Primary School



- ▶ Maple Primary School is a single form entry school for children aged 4 to 11, with a double cohort in the current Year 5.
- ▶ There are on average, 30 pupils per class and we currently have 249 on roll which includes 10 pupils from our Specialist Provision for the Deaf Base.

Teaching Staff



- ▶ We pride ourselves in having an extremely committed and hardworking teaching staff which, we believe, is one of the main reasons for the ongoing success of the school.
- ▶ We currently have full time teachers in Year 1, Year 4 and Year 5 and job shares in Reception, Years 2, 3 and 6.
- ▶ In addition, we have one full time and one part time teacher of the deaf within our Specialist Provision for the Deaf Base.
- ▶ At Maple, we are fortunate that each of our classes have close to a full time Teaching Assistant or job share equivalent.
- ▶ Our Reception class has two Teaching Assistants for most of the week. This extra help and support is invaluable to the children's ability to settle and their subsequent development and progress throughout the year.

Welcoming Parents



- ▶ We are mindful that Covid restrictions have limited opportunities to encourage parent helpers in school. However, where possible, we welcome parents to help with a variety of tasks, including reading and support with special activities.
- ▶ A positive relationship with parents is key to supporting a child to reach his or her potential.
- ▶ We have a very active Parent Teacher Association promoting a real sense of community as well as encouraging fund raising to provide additional resources for the children.

Maple School Pupils



- ▶ At Maple Primary School, we provide a broad and balanced curriculum, focusing equally on academic achievement, mental and physical wellbeing.
- ▶ We want our pupils to feel safe, secure and happy, to have wonderful experiences and to achieve to the best of their ability.
- ▶ We encourage children at Maple to be individuals whilst being an integral part of their class.
- ▶ We enjoy watching individual personalities blossom as they develop self-confidence, self-esteem and the ability to become part of a team.

The Curriculum in Reception



- ▶ The Reception class follow the Early Years Foundation Stage curriculum.
- ▶ This means that the children's learning carries on from nursery school with priority given to the teaching and learning of English and Maths through purposeful play activities.
- ▶ Throughout, there is a strong emphasis on the personal and social development of the children.
- ▶ Prior to your child starting at Maple, our Reception teacher will explain in detail about the organisation of the curriculum for the year ahead.

Transition Arrangements



- ▶ In order to provide a smooth transition to the start of Reception, we arrange initial visits to Maple in the term before your child starts.
- ▶
- ▶ This encourages familiarity of the classroom, teacher and other children in the class which, in turn, helps to build confidence and trust.
- ▶ The Reception teacher will also visit as many of the children's nurseries as is possible and meet with the children's key workers.

The first weeks...



- ▶ We carefully timetable a gradual build up for our new entrants when they start in September.
- ▶ This means that they attend up to lunchtime until the end of the first full week, stay until after lunchtime the second full week and finally complete the full day from the third full week. The feedback from parents of this approach to induction has been very positive.
- ▶ It is always lovely to see the children build both their stamina and enthusiasm for school as their time in the classroom increases.
- ▶ We do have an option for children to remain part-time up until Christmas if it is the best interests of the child. However, it is expected that all children will be full-time after Christmas.

Beyond the classroom...



- ▶ Undoubtedly, we are proud of our Year 6 SATs results for our oldest pupils, but Maple is more than just preparing children for statutory testing.
- ▶ We are acutely aware of the value of learning beyond the classroom and throughout the children's time at Maple, we seek to build on the children's cultural capital through organising external visits, class trips and, of course, the highly anticipated residential journeys in Years 5 and 6.
- ▶ Each year we organise several special Events Days and one of the school-wide highlights of the year is the Special Events Week prior to the Easter Holiday.

Extra Curricular opportunities



- ▶ Maple has a strong music tradition. We offer music lessons including guitar, violin, cello and recorders as well as - once restrictions are fully lifted - encouraging singing in a choir and musical ensembles.
- ▶ We offer a wealth of extra-curricular activities including a choice of traditional sports, cheerleading, street dancing, fencing, gymnastics, chess and magic club to name just some of the activities that we host.

Wrap-around care



- ▶ We are mindful of the need for wrap around care and in order to provide this we have Re:Play, our well established Breakfast and After School club.
- ▶ This is available for children from Reception to Year 6 subject to availability. Further details are available on request.

Allocations



- ▶ Currently, for September 2022, we have 30 places. Usually around 50% of places are allocated to siblings.
- ▶ The admissions rules and procedures are set out by the Local Authority. You will be able to find these rules, including how to identify your nearest school, at www.hertfordshire.gov.uk.
- ▶ When you make your application for a primary school place, you will be asked to list 4 schools in order of preference. If you decide that Maple School is your school of preference, we would encourage you to put it first, even if it is not your closest school. As a school, we do not have any say in the allocation of places.
- ▶ January 15th 2022 is the deadline for applications and April 19th 2022 is National Allocation Day. If you have been allocated your desired place, you will need to let the Local Authority know that you are accepting this place as soon as possible, but certainly no later than 3rd May.
- ▶ If you do not obtain your desired place, then we would encourage you to go onto the continuing interest list operated by the Local Authority. This means that you may get into the school at a later date as invariably there will be movement.

Contact us



- ▶ If you do have any questions, then please do not hesitate to email us at admin@maple.herts.sch.uk or telephone the school office on 01727 859053 where we will be happy to answer any queries.

Thank you



- ▶ Choosing a primary school place for your child is an important decision and you need to feel confident that this is the right school for your child and you.

- ▶ We would be delighted if this is the case and, if you are successful, we look forward to the opportunity to welcome your child and you to Maple Primary School in September 2022.