



Slimbridge Primary School
Prospectus
January 2017



Slimbridge Primary School
St Johns Road
Slimbridge
Glos
GL2 7DD

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Head Teacher: Alison Cooke

Chair of Governors: Dr Laura Price

Current no on roll: 114

Care, Support, Aspire, Achieve.

Our vision

Slimbridge Primary School:

Providing high-quality education by valuing children as individuals, encouraging aspirations, building strengths and providing support, opportunities and new experiences in a happy school community where everyone matters.

We achieve this through partnerships between children, parents, carers, staff, governors and the wider community.

Introduction

Welcome to Slimbridge Primary School. We are a happy, caring school, well established within the community. Our aim is to help each child reach his or her full potential and to provide a firm learning foundation.

Slimbridge Primary School was built in 1906 at a cost of £2,000! The school sits just off the A38 on the edge of the villages of Slimbridge and Cambridge. The school has close links to the nearby Wildlife and Wetlands Centre which the children visit regularly. The Forest School resource at Redwood, Halmore is also close by, and is visited regularly by all children.

Our aim is to create a supportive but challenging environment, where children develop as independent and collaborative learners who can set targets and aspirations for their future. With your support and encouragement, your child's school days at Slimbridge will be happy and successful ones.

If you have any questions about the school or would like to arrange a visit then please contact the School Business Manager Mrs Nikki Elliott to arrange an appointment.

Mrs Alison Cooke
Head Teacher

When referring to "parents" in this document we include parents, carers, and guardians.

Our aims

At Slimbridge primary School we:

- Ensure all children enjoy and are challenged by their learning and are successful and confident learners.
- Ensure children are interested, excited and motivated to learn.
- Have high expectations of every child in all aspects of school life.
- Equip all our children with attitudes, values and skills needed to become responsible aspiring citizens.
- Deliver a broad and balanced curriculum that meets the needs of all learners.
- Work in close partnership with our parents to support their children as learners.

School sessions

Morning:	Foundation & KS 1	8.45 am – 11.55 am
	KS 2	8.45 am – 12.00 pm
Afternoon:	Foundation, KS 1 & KS 2	12.55 pm - 3.00 pm
Break time	Foundation, KS 1 & KS 2	10.35 am – 10.50 am
	Foundation & KS 1	2.20 pm – 2.35 pm

We ask parents to arrive promptly to deliver and collect their children. A member of staff is on duty from 8.30am each morning on the playground; however we don't take on the responsibility for the children until 8.45am (unless they are in the care of the breakfast club).

Please see our website for term dates. <http://slimbridgeprimaryschool.org.uk/>

Organisation

Little Otters	Playgroup		Mrs Jo Jenkins Mrs Caroline Charnley – Heaton Mrs Allee Arkwell-Smyth Mrs Heather Smith
Class 1	Foundation	Reception	Mrs Kathryn McNamara Mrs Tia Clune Mrs Lisa Pearce Mrs Jo Jenkins
Class 2	Key Stage 1	Year 1 & 2	Mrs Josie Wood Mrs Tia Clune Miss Jenna Gilbert Mrs Carol Wilde Mrs Caroline Sutton

Class 3	Mixed KS	Year 2 & 3	Mr Chris Ford Mrs Lynne Davies Mrs Allee Arkwell-Smyth
Class 4	KS 2 (Lower)	Year 4 & 5	Mr Craig Clarke Ms Jane Wilkins Mrs Kirsty Lucia
Class 5	KS 2 (Upper)	Year 5 & 6	Miss Rhiannon Randall Mr George Macklin Mrs Ali Priday Mrs Kirsty Lucia

We will have a five class structure of small classes to provide the best possible education for the child

Pre-School – Little Otters

We offer sessional care for children aged 2 years and 9 months to 4 years, when they enter full time education (see sessions below). In addition we run a Parent/Carer and child group session for 2 year olds, to introduce the children to the Pre-School environment with the security of a parent/carer present.

The aims of the Little Otters are to:

- Provide first class care and pre-school education led by our Foundation stage teacher.
- Establish a positive transition from home to pre-school and onto full time education.
- Develop a partnership between parents/guardians, children and staff.
- Offer a secure, caring and simulating environment where children's self confidence is nurtured and their achievements are valued.
- Recognise and build upon skills and knowledge of the children and develop all aspects of learning within the guidance of the Early Years Foundation Stage Framework.
- Maintain an ethos of equality and inclusion.

	Morning Session 9:00am – 12:00pm	Lunch 12:00pm – 1:00pm	Afternoon Session 1:00pm – 3:00pm
Monday	✓	✓	✓
Tuesday	Toddlers 9:00 - 10:30		
Wednesday	✓	✓	✓
Thursday	✓	✓	✓
Friday	✓		

Slimbridge Out of Hours Provision

The school provides care for Slimbridge School children before and after the school day to support working parents and provide social opportunities after the school day.

The '**Early Birds**' club is open from 8:00am until school starts at 8:45am every day, at 8:30 the children are accompanied onto the playground by a member of Early Birds staff until they line up.

The '**Owls Club**' is from 3:00pm until 5:30pm by 'Superstars' and runs Mondays to Thursdays.

Early Birds and Owls will only be cancelled in extreme circumstances and will still run when school clubs are cancelled.

The out of hours' clubs provides a safe, caring and structured environment in which your child can play. There are fun activities, sports activities and quiet activities.

Breakfast is provided in Early Birds and drinks and a snack in Owls Club.

We also have a holiday club provider 'Superstars' who run week long child care provision during holidays. These are booked directly through Superstars. **This is available to all local children.**

Foundation stage

At Slimbridge School we feel that the Foundation stage is crucial to the children's development and learning later in the school. We teach the children in a single age class, which allows us to provide a rich variety of teaching and learning experiences that cater for individual needs. The Foundation stage focuses on the development of key learning skills such as listening, speaking, persistence, resilience, concentration, independence and learning to co-operate with others.



The six areas of learning that make up the Foundation stage curriculum are:

- personal and social development
- communication, language and literacy
- mathematical development
- knowledge and understanding of the world
- physical development
- creative development.

Outdoor and 'free-flow' play are integral parts of the Foundation stage curriculum and we have a specially equipped area that is in constant use.

Much of the children's learning is through carefully planned 'structured play', it is an important way to develop new skills and build up relationships with other children individually and in groups. We run more formal activities to develop phonic skills and this helps children to quickly pick up skills in reading and writing.

The staff assess the children's progress against the early learning goals through careful observations, keeping records of their achievements and sharing these with parents via the online system "Tapestry" to record their children's achievements so we can share children's experiences.

Key stages

Children at key stage 1 are aged 5 – 7 years.

Children at lower key stage 2 are aged 7 – 9 years.

Children at upper key stage 2 are aged 9 – 11 years.

Slimbridge Primary School teaches the National Curriculum September 2013.

Every state-funded school must provide a balanced broadly based curriculum that:

- promotes the spiritual, moral, cultural, mental and physical development of pupils at the school and of society.
- Prepares pupils at the school for the opportunities, responsibilities and experiences of later life.

Children study the subjects below as part of the national curriculum.

- English
- Maths
- Science
- Art & design
- Computing
- Design & technology
- Geography
- History
- Languages
- Music
- Physical education



Slimbridge School provide a daily act of collective worship, weekly RE lessons. Assemblies are non-denominational but, in line with the national curriculum, promote Christian values within a multicultural society.

The National Curriculum provides pupils with an introduction to the essential knowledge that they need to be educated citizens. However, it is just one element in the education of every child and at Slimbridge School we also plan exciting and stimulating topics looking at the local area, with a particular emphasis on the outdoor environment, giving children the opportunity to find out about the history and geography that has shaped the area they live in. We also develop an 'Aspirations' theme throughout are planning, giving the children an insight into the wider world that waits for them. We place emphasis on developing values and attitudes towards each other and our diverse community.

Alongside the knowledge base of the National Curriculum the school promotes a skills-based curriculum and we track the children's progress across key skills.

For further information see our curriculum published on the website and look at the National Curriculum on the DFE website.

Religious education

We follow the Gloucestershire syllabus for our RE learning. Children, through their lessons, learn about the similarities and celebrate the differences of the main religions. Children also have the opportunity to reflect upon their own feelings and beliefs during these sessions. Assembly is an important part of the school day when we meet together as a community.

Parents who wish to withdraw their children from religious worship or classroom religious education are asked to discuss this with the Head Teacher. Arrangements are then made for children to be withdrawn. We welcome regular monthly visits to our assemblies from our local vicar and other religious groups.

Extra-curricular activities

We offer a wide variety of clubs that take place before school, during lunch time and after school. These are run by members of staff, parents and outside agencies. We are always looking for ways of extending our provision, so if you have a skill, interest that you could share in a club please get in touch.

Some of the clubs currently on offer are:

- orchestra
- netball
- knitting
- lego
- cross country
- code
- chess



Educational visits

We believe that much can be gained from visits and each class teacher periodically arranges school visits, which usually form an integral part of the children's work. Each year we organise a residential and believe that children benefit from the opportunity to explore and be challenged outside the classroom in the company of their peers and children from other schools.

All classes visit Redwood Forest School during the year. This is a great opportunity for outdoor learning.

Home learning

Parents have an important role in supporting their children's learning and home-learning tasks that are manageable, enjoyable and interesting are an important part of this. Parents will be notified at the beginning of each term of the topics their child is learning and how they can support their studies at home. Children are encouraged to read or share a book daily and parents are asked to comment in their child's reading diary. Additional activities are sent home at the discretion of the teacher. Older children will have weekly spellings and times tables to learn, and in Classes 4 & 5 homework is set on a more formal basis, each class will have a homework grid on the website and they are required to choose an activity each week. Children can complete homework in lunchtime sessions at school if they need to use the school's facilities. A homework policy is available from the school office.

We set a summer holiday 'Scrap book Challenge'; this is an opportunity for the children to use their independent learning skills to study a topic of their own choice. We also provide key maths and reading challenges to keep skills current. This is an opportunity for parents, carers and children to learn together and is valuable in reducing summer holiday skills regression.

Monitoring children's progress

Teachers are constantly assessing the children against year group Age Related Expectations. This allows us to set their next challenge accurately at the correct level. All children should be aware of their next target and what they have to do to achieve it. In lessons, teachers set a learning challenge or target and children are asked to assess themselves against this.



At intervals during their school career we carry out formal assessments in the form of tests. These are either organised internally to check progress or set by the government to compare children's progress against similar schools locally or nationally. We report children's progress formally in parent/teacher meetings in the autumn and spring and in annual reports in the summer. If you would like to talk about your child's progress, please make an appointment with their class teacher or the Head Teacher at any time.

Special educational needs

From time to time children may need extra help and support if they are experiencing difficulties in a particular curriculum area or socially and emotionally. We endeavour to identify learning difficulties early and the SEN Coordinator works with the class teacher to develop a programme of study or structures tailored to help the individual pupil. This may include working with a trained teaching assistant or an outside agency (e.g. an educational psychologist or speech therapist). Parents are always asked for their permission prior to any additional support and are kept informed throughout, having regular meetings with class teachers. Often children work in very small groups for set periods until the difficulty is overcome. The code of practice for special educational needs issued by our local education authority is used to guide the school's policy for additional provision. This is available from the Gloucester County Council website. www.gloucestershire.gov.uk. Also see the schools 'SEN Offer' on our website, this details the work we currently undertake and provides a link to the Gloucestershire Local Offer sendlocaloffer@gloucestershire.gov.uk

More Able and Gifted and talented pupils

The school identifies pupils with high attainment and talents across the curriculum. It is the aim of the Governing Body to initiate programmes that further develop/support these pupils. We provide enrichment sessions at local secondary schools or within the Tyndale Cluster and encourage the children to take leading roles in initiative programmes, such as sports leader. We provide opportunities for children to work with similarly talented pupils within the school or from other schools. Where the school cannot provide for an individual talent or ability we will signpost where additional provision is available outside the school. All More able children are closely tracked and their progress monitored.

Intake arrangements

Children new to the area or those wanting to enrol for the Foundation year are encouraged to visit the school and find out more about school life at Slimbridge. All Reception enrolments are handled by the admissions team at the local authority; once the local authority has allocated a place, the school makes arrangements for more formal meetings and induction activities.

Parents of Foundation stage children registered to start school in September are invited to an introductory meeting during the summer term with staff, representatives of the Governors and FOSS (Friends of Slimbridge School). You will receive information that will help you to find out about our school and its activities so that we can work together to ensure your child settles in as quickly as possible. Children at Slimbridge Pre-School 'Little Otters' currently attend weekly 'Pals' sessions in Class 1 through the summer term.

Schools are currently in charge of their own **in year transfers**; please contact the office for further information. Parents need to be aware that they will need to appeal to the Local Authority to gain a place in year groups that are oversubscribed.



School uniform

Details of the school uniform are outlined below:-

Girls	Grey skirt, pinafore dress or smart trousers
	Maroon sweatshirt/cardigan/pullover with school logo
	White blouse/Polo shirt. Red check summer dresses Sensible black shoes, white, grey or black socks
Boys	Grey trousers/shorts
	Maroon sweatshirt with school logo
	White shirt/polo shirt Sensible black shoes, white, grey or black socks
PE Kit	White t-shirt, black shorts, plimsolls or trainers Suitable tracksuit Suitable bag

Maroon school sweatshirts, cardigans, reversible shower/fleece jackets and white polo shirts with the Slimbridge Primary School logo are available to order online from <http://www.stroud.trutex.com/store> over the phone on 01453 751133 or by visiting the Trutex store at NSC Stroud, Merrywalks Shopping Centre, Stroud, Glos. GL5 1RR. Parents are asked to provide plimsolls for their children, an art/craft apron/old shirt and appropriate bags for these. We also suggest that children have a pair of wellington boots in a strong bag, a waterproof coat or all in one and a large T shirt (for the messy kitchen) to protect them whilst enjoying playing outside.

All articles of clothing must be clearly marked with the child's name.

School meals

Children can order a cooked lunch. This is cooked off site and delivered to the school. Currently a two-course meal costs £2.20. The menu is published termly and is available from the office or from the school website. Orders need to be placed the week before to ensure the caterer can purchase the fresh product needed. Payment for meals is made online through Parent Pay, and further details are available from the school office. An administration fee is incurred against each transaction made to ParentPay, therefore we encourage parents to make termly payments to reduce costs.

All children in Reception, Year 1 and Year 2 will qualify for a Universal Infant Free School Meal from September 2014. Please be aware you still need to order your meal.

Children can also bring their own packed lunches. We encourage the children to eat healthily and therefore do not allow sweets, chocolate bars or fizzy drinks. The school is committed to showing that it values healthy eating within the curriculum through cookery sessions, farm visits and 'tasting' opportunities.

If you qualify for Free School Meals, including these children in Reception Year 1 & 2, please contact the office, as this provides additional funding for your child. The form is available from the school office and we can advise you on which documents you will need to provide to make your claim. Please be assured that all the information provided will be treated in the strictest confidence and will be used only to process the free school meal application. Please do not hesitate to contact us for advice.

Complaints procedure

We hope that you will have few complaints while your child is at Slimbridge School. If you do want to discuss an issue of concern, please come into school to discuss it with us. In the first instance, please see your child's class teacher, and if you are still unhappy please come and see the Head Teacher. It will usually be necessary to make an appointment for before or after school, as all staff have teaching commitments during the day.

The school's complaints policy is available from the School Office.

Rewards

The school operates a system called 'Learning Powers' this encourages them to develop the skills necessary to become an independent learner. We focus on Perseverance, Creativity, Reflection and Communication, as key skills to learning. Pupils who have worked hard or made a particular effort in some way receive a sticker, towards a certificate. Certificates are awarded at our Celebration Assembly at 2.30pm on a Friday. All parents are welcome.

Behaviour

We expect high standards of behaviour from children, staff, visitors and parents while in the school, and aim to develop attitudes of tolerance, honesty and understanding in our pupils. There are general rules for the safety and the well-being of the school community, and children are made aware of these. Our expectation is that all members of the school community will be polite, supportive and caring. The class home school agreements inform parents of class expectations and these are displayed in each class.

Everyday lapses in behaviour are dealt with by staff as they occur, but more serious disciplinary problems are brought to the attention of the Head Teacher and, where necessary, parents are contacted. Sanctions include loss of play time, working in another classroom or with the Headteacher. The school's behaviour policy is available from the school office.

Bullying

We take the issue of bullying very seriously at Slimbridge Primary School. Bullying is defined as occurring if a child is deliberately being made unhappy over a sustained period of time. We use STOP to help children identify bullying in themselves and others – Several Times On Purpose. Such actions include name calling, threatening, teasing, taunting, being left out, made to feel different, physically hurt, subjected to extortion or when possessions are taken.

School strategies to stop bullying include:

- using praise and a positive reward system in class and on the playground
- reminding children that certain behaviours are unacceptable
- using circle time sessions
- Supervising class and playground activities in a positive and proactive way.
- Peer mediation

Incidents of bullying are recorded in the welfare file and reviewed regularly by the Governing body. Should our strategies fail to make the expected difference, the Head Teacher will contact the parents of the children involved to discuss and implement further action.



Medical conditions

The school deals with children's medical needs on an individual basis and will fully involve parents and medical professionals in plans. Please keep the school informed if your child has an acute or chronic condition that may affect them while at school. This includes Asthma.

Accident and illness

In any school, accidents – usually of a minor nature – do occur from time to time and sometimes a child is unwell during the day. It is **essential** that the school has an up-to-date telephone number through which a parent can be contacted in any emergency situation. Prompt action is always taken and the parent informed as soon as possible. If a child has bumped their head we will contact parents/carers, there will also be a letter sent home, we ask parents to return the tear of slip so we can see if any further action was needed.

Attendance

If a child is absent for any reason, parents are asked to notify the school on each morning of absence by telephone **and to give the child a note of explanation on his/her return**. All absences that have not been notified will be followed up with a phone call during the morning. Unauthorised absence can result in a home visit by the education welfare officer. For more information on school attendance please refer to our attendance policy. Attendance less than 90% is considered 'Persistent' and the school will ask parents/carers to attend a meeting with the Headteacher and/or Family Support Worker to establish ways we can support the child and family.

School Council

The pupils' representatives meet termly with a member of staff to discuss any issues arising from school life. All children are able to apply to be their year group representative and these will change annually. They will be asked to discuss with their year group any new initiatives and make suggestions on how to improve the school.

School/community/parents

Our School welcomes both formal and informal contacts. Parent consultation afternoons are held in the autumn and spring terms, when your child's progress can be confidentially discussed. We run regular sessions where parent/carers can come into the classroom to look at books and share topics.

Teachers are normally available to talk to parents on most days. A written report is sent to parents at the end of the school year. Regular fortnightly newsletters are sent out to parents by the Head Teacher. All newsletters are published on the website.

A number of parents help teachers in the classrooms helping with reading, artwork and other activities.

We have a thriving school association (FoSS – 'Friends of Slimbridge School') whose activities benefit all of the children. FoSS has provided much valuable equipment for school as well as promoting social and fundraising events involving the whole community. See their page on the school's website.

Tyndale Cluster

Hillesley, Coaley, Stone-with-Woodford, North Nibley, Kingswood and Slimbridge form the Tyndale Cluster. Staff and Governors combine for formal training and to exchange ideas and expertise and deliver an outdoor learning based Local Curriculum. A range of 'cluster' parent information evenings are also held throughout the year providing parents with detailed information about current educational initiatives.

Primary/secondary transition

Slimbridge Primary School enjoys close links with Rednock School, to which most of our pupils transfer at the end of year 6. However, children from the school go on to a variety of other neighbouring secondary schools and we encourage parents to look at all the options.

The Governors

Our Governing Body sets the direction of the school, supports and, when necessary, questions the Head Teacher and is accountable to stakeholders. It monitors delivery of the curriculum through activities including:

- termly meetings of its Committees
- focused visits to monitor the progress of the School Improvement Plan
- an annual school evaluation meeting.
- parental surveys

Equal opportunities

The Governing Body ensures that the school does not discriminate against any pupil on the grounds of disability, sex or race in deciding admissions; in providing the curriculum, teaching and guidance; in applying standards of behaviour, dress and appearance; and the allocation of resources and other benefits which the school provides. The school is wheelchair accessible.



Safeguarding

Our **Code of Conduct** and **Safeguarding Policy** sets out our expectations and procedures for staff to follow – these have been put in place to keep everybody safe. Our **Child Protection Policy** also ensures that where a child makes a disclosure about an event outside school, there are appropriate mechanisms in place to ensure that action is taken to support the child.

A wide range of additional procedures ensure that children are kept safe:

- First Aid Policy, procedures and training
- Health & Safety Policies and procedures
- Anti-Bullying Policy
- Race and Disability Discrimination Policies
- Fire Safety Procedures
- Behaviour Policy
- E Safety Policy
- Risk Assessments

We are lucky enough to have a numbers of volunteers visit school over the course of the school year. This includes parent volunteers, students, specialist teachers and enrichment providers. For regular volunteers we check suitability to work with children by requesting DBS.

2016 Attainment

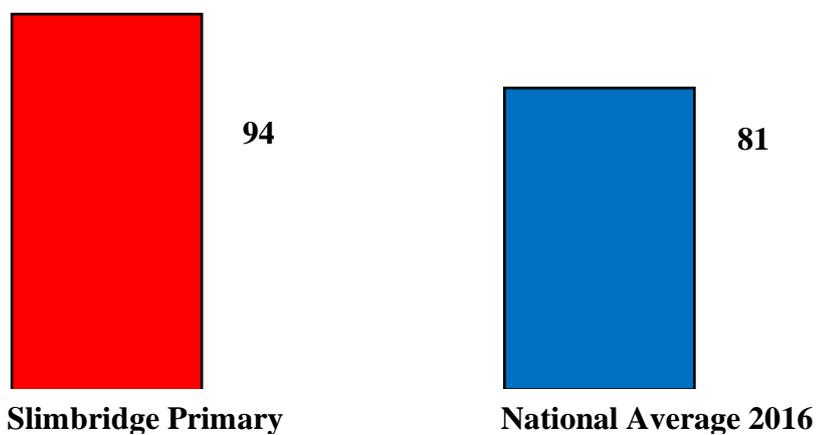
The children at Slimbridge Primary School are tested to allow direct comparisons between other children nationally in Year 1, 2 and 6.

Children in Reception are assessed against the Early Years Foundation Stage to achieve a “good level of development” a child needs to be at “expected” in communication and language, literacy and maths, personal social and emotional and physical development.

At the end of Year 1 children are tested on their Phonetic knowledge using both regular and nonsense words. This year we equalled the national level.

Early Years Foundation Stage Profile 2015/16		
% of pupils achieving good level of development		
	School	National
All pupil	79	66
Boys	100	59
Girls	67	74
FSM	60	52

Year 1 Phonics Screening Check



Phonics Testing Data by Gender

		Achieved level	Working towards level	Achieved level	Working towards level	Achieved level	Working towards level
		2016		2015		2014	
All Pupil	Slimbridge	94%	6%	74%	22%	83%	17%
	National	81%		74%			
Boys	Slimbridge	88%	12%	100%	0%	80%	20%
	National	77%		70%			
Girls	Slimbridge	100%	0%	60%	40%	86%	14%
	National	84%		78%			

KS1 Attainment

At KS1 (Year 2) all assessments are based on Teacher Assessment, although Slimbridge School does use Statutory Assessment Tests (SATs) in reading, grammar, punctuation, spelling and maths to support teacher assessments.

Results of Teacher Assessment at KS1						
Percentage at each level						
Attainment			Below Expected Standard			
		Exp	Greater depth	Below pre KS1	Foundation	Working towards
Reading	Slimbridge	78	6	0	0	22
	National	74	24	2	5	19
Writing	Slimbridge	72	6	0	0	28
	National	65	13	2	5	27
Maths	Slimbridge	67	6	0	0	33
	National	73	18	2	5	21
Grammar & Spelling	Slimbridge	47	17	0	0	58
Science	Slimbridge	67	-			
	National	82	-			

National % is based on 2014 Raise on line data.

KS2 Attainment

Most pupils are expected to achieve a standardised score of 100 or above by the end of key stage 2, this is an “expected achievement”. Assessments are based on standard assessment tests, except for writing which is teacher assessed.

	Attainment				Progress	
	% of pupils attaining Expected or above				% of pupils making expected progress from KS1 to KS2	
	Exp		Greater depth			
	Slimbridge	National	Slimbridge	National	Slimbridge	Floor Standards
Reading	38	66	15	19	-2.88	-5
Writing	77	74	15	15	0.68	-5
Maths	62	70	8	17	-1.2	-7
Combined - reading, writing, maths	31	53	0	5	---	---
Grammar and spelling	54	72	15	22	---	---
Science (TA)	72	81	---	---	---	---

National data is taken from the 2016 Raise on line