



**HAWKSMOOR**  
Learning Trust  
*Building Excellence*



# MARIE WELLER

## PRIMARY SCHOOL

### Reception Prospectus



NICHOLAS HAWKSMOOR  
PRIMARY SCHOOL



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Dear Parents,

We know that choosing the right school for your child is one of the most important decisions you will make as a parent. Marie Weller is a brand-new school with stunning facilities and is proud to be a part of The Hawksmoor Learning Trust, which has a very strong and long-established reputation for academic success, artistic and sporting excellence and a wide range of enrichment and extra-curricular activities.

There are no small things, we listen, and we work hard to establish strong and positive relationships so that we can do our very best for each child and family in our care.

We spend time getting to know each child as an individual. Our high expectations and levels of engagement with our pupils result in children who are respectful, proud of their school and enthusiastic about their learning: they are our greatest ambassadors.

In this prospectus for our Reception year, you will find information about our ethos and values and what's on offer here at Marie Weller Primary School.

Please follow us on Facebook @mariewellerprimary where you will find our most recent updates and photos including a promotional video which will give you a flavour of what's on offer when attending one of our Trust schools. Please do not hesitate to get in touch with us if you have any queries.

We hope you will choose us, and we look forward to welcoming your family into our community and giving your child a safe and happy 'flying start at four'.

With best wishes,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'A Curtis'.

Andrea Curtis  
Executive Principal

# The Hawksmoor Learning Trust Vision

## Our Principles

Within The Hawksmoor Learning Trust, we aim for academic, artistic and athletic excellence in a purposeful, lively, exciting and stimulating setting. We offer a broad and challenging curriculum, excellent facilities, wide range of activities, and talented, dedicated, and caring staff, we aim to ensure that every child has the skills, knowledge, understanding and attitude which will enhance their education in a pluralist society. In addition, we ensure they have an experience of school which is memorable; memorable because they laughed a lot as they learned within a happy, caring, safe and well-ordered environment in which every child matters.

Our Principles are **quality, enthusiasm, partnership.**

These principles guide our school in providing an education of the highest quality.

These principles demand that we think and act in highly constructive ways towards each other as colleagues, towards the children who are placed in our care and towards the parents and the community.

## Quality

- Quality in Relationships
- Quality in our Achievements
- Quality in Communication
- Quality in our School Environment



## Enthusiasm

- Enthusiasm for what we do



## Partnership

- Partnership with colleagues
- Partnership with parents
- Partnership with school governors
- Partnership with the community



# Building Excellence for Our Children

Our mission is to ensure that our children are well educated, know how to stay safe and healthy and are able to participate as active, thoughtful members of present and future society.

- **Excellence in educational standards:** We are driven by the moral imperative to ensure that our pupils receive the highest quality education to equip them with the necessary skills and knowledge. We seek to provide a rich curriculum experience that aspires to academic, artistic, and athletic excellence.
- **Personal Excellence:** We recognise that the best education is as much about developing young people's character strengths and virtues. We have the highest aspirations for every individual as they learn and grow with us. We value respect and consideration for others, equal opportunities, hard work and fair discipline. We seek to develop skilful, curious, and independent learners; foster individual resilience, confidence, and a strong sense of identity underpinned by integrity and responsibility, so that they are prepared to contribute positively to the communities and world that they belong to.

## Building Curriculum Excellence

Our aim is to educate the 'whole child', developing their academic, social, emotional, and physical skills, along with fostering a curiosity and willingness to take on challenges.

Our curriculum comprises detailed, planned activities that we organise in order to promote learning and personal growth and development. It includes not only the formal requirements of the National Curriculum, but endeavours to go beyond and include a rich range of additional experiences and a full programme of extra-curricular activities in order to enhance our educational offer. It also includes the 'hidden curriculum': what the children learn from the way they are treated and expected to behave and so our teachers are expected to model and have the highest expectations of each individual to support the best possible outcomes.

We ensure open access and inclusivity, providing opportunities for all, irrespective of their personal characteristics. There are no curriculum barriers – pupils have access to all opportunities and, where there is choice, they can select appropriately, and with guidance, according to their ambitions, interests, abilities and needs.

Our shared **Curriculum Intent** for all our pupils has 4 main strands:

- **Core skills and knowledge**
- **Creativity**
- **Character**
- **Community**



# Our School

## Reception Admissions

Our Reception class admissions are co-ordinated by West Northamptonshire County Council. This enables you to state three preferences for primary schools. Parents should apply for places by visiting the County Council's website [www.westnorthants.gov.uk](http://www.westnorthants.gov.uk) and going to Schools & Education, Admissions <https://www.westnorthants.gov.uk/school-admissions> where there is an online application form for you to complete. We advise you to complete **all three** school choices. We know you may have your heart set on a certain school, but it is important that you find a happy second choice should space not be available in your first choice. If you choose our school as your first choice and are not offered a place, please contact the school office to discuss this further and we will endeavour to help you.

Our Reception class has an admission number of 60 places to comply with the statutory class limits for Reception classes. Children are admitted to Reception in the year in which they have their fifth birthday.

## School Times

- Doors Open 8:30am
- Registration 8:45am
- Lunchtime 12:00pm - 1:00pm
- Gates open 3:00pm
- End of School 3:15pm

## Wrap Around Care



The Hawksmoor Learning Trust works with Crazy 4 Kids who operate our out-of-school club from the school premises. The club comprises of breakfast, after-school and holiday clubs and is offered to all our children subject to availability. You can find out more about the provision on their website: [www.crazy4kids.co.uk](http://www.crazy4kids.co.uk)

## School Meals



All children in Reception, Year 1 and Year 2 are eligible for a free, hot school meal under the Universal Infant Free School Meals initiative. These can be booked online, and a variety of options are provided each day. Our catering team can also provide meals for any special dietary requirements.



# Uniform

**To ensure that the children feel a sense of belonging in Reception school uniform is compulsory.** The Marie Weller school uniform can be ordered from our uniform suppliers, Price & Buckland.

To view and order your child's uniform, click on the following link: <https://www.pbuniform-online.co.uk/marieweller>.

The Marie Weller School Uniform consists of the following:

- MWPS V-neck cardigan or V-neck jumper.
- MWPS tartan skirt or pinafore dress.
- Black trousers or black shorts (summer).
- Optional summer dress – yellow gingham.
- White polo shirt with or without the school logo.
- Black socks, tights or knee-high socks, or white ankle socks in summer.
- Black sensible shoes or boots (winter) or plain sandals in summer.
- Optional tartan tie.



# Early Years Foundation Stage (EYFS)

Children in Reception experience free flow throughout our vast and exciting space whilst mixing with their friends throughout each of the sessions. Our Reception accommodates the space and facilities for a cohort of 60 children who are each assigned one of two qualified teachers along with additional support staff. Children will work with all adults within the provision and will experience all areas of the environment on a daily basis.

On entry to Reception the children will be given the opportunity to get to know all members of the team and all of the children in their cohort whilst the adults observe how the children settle into the environment. Adults acknowledge that the children quickly develop relationships with their peers and adults whilst settling into their new routine and this is used to support the class groupings.

Children will work on a range of exciting and stimulating activities both indoors and outdoors to support their learning needs. Each activity will have crucial learning underpinned whilst children engage in their learning through play. Your child's learning will take place in the Reception environment through both independent learning (where the children choose their own activities to engage in) and adult focused activities (which they will complete with one of the adults alongside whole class teaching experiences).

## Our Reception Day

Our Reception timetable will vary depending on the day of the week and scheduled activities for the term. However, all school days will include the following:

<b>Registration:</b>	Children will be registered in their class groups on the carpet.
<b>Independent and Adult Focused Activities:</b>	This is the time when the children freely access the environment and learning activities both inside and out. They will work either independently on chosen tasks or in small groups to complete an activity alongside an adult.
<b>Snack time:</b>	Children will be provided with a daily fruit snack.
<b>Carpet time:</b>	This will happen during each session and is the children's whole class teaching time. During this time new skills, concepts and information will be introduced and discussed as a whole group.
<b>Phonics/Mathematics:</b>	The children will have timetabled Phonics, Maths and Reading sessions in which they will work in groups to target their development in these key areas.
<b>Story time:</b>	Listening to stories is so important for children's development. Therefore, the children will have time to listen to and talk about a book on a daily basis.



# EYFS Curriculum

*"Play is the work of childhood"* Jean Piaget

Our approach is underpinned by the Early Years Foundation Stage Framework which explains how and what children will be learning to support their healthy development. At our school, children in the Early Years will be learning skills, acquiring new knowledge and demonstrating their understanding through 7 areas of learning and development.

## Prime Areas

Children should mostly develop the 3 prime areas first.

- Communication and Language
- Physical Development
- Personal, Social and Emotional Development

We recognise that these prime areas are those most essential for your child's healthy development and future learning.

## Specific Areas

As children grow, the prime areas will help them to develop skills in 4 specific areas:

- Literacy
- Mathematics
- Understanding the World
- Expressive Arts and Design

These 7 areas are used to plan for children's learning and activities. The Foundation Stage team will make sure that the activities are suited to each child's unique needs and interests allowing for bespoke learning opportunities.

Children in the EYFS learn by playing and exploring, being active, and through creative and critical thinking. These are known as the 'Characteristics of Effective Learning' and will be used to gain information on the way in which each child learns. Activities are then tailored to meet children's needs.

The Early Years curriculum involves a robustly planned mixture of whole class and small group formal teaching across basic skills; adult facilitated activities to maximise language and thinking and exploratory activities which are carefully planned to provide interactive, rich learning experiences.



# EYFS Enrichment

With the Early Years being the children's first experience of more formal schooling we want to make it memorable, exciting and engaging for all our children.

## Child Centred Themes

Whether it be dinosaurs, fairies, or outer space we are here to ignite children's interest and imagination. In Reception, thoughtful and precise curriculum planning happens on a weekly basis. Each week the children's learning takes on a different 'learning theme' these are derived through our observations and conversations with the children. We do not pre-plan any of our themes, these will always be decided spontaneously and with the current cohort in mind. The weekly stimulus for learning will be based on the chosen theme, however, the underlying learning steps will be closely linked to the Early Years Outcomes and provide the children with skill progression across each activity each week. Each week in Reception is different and an immersive learning experience for the children, with no day being the same!

Alongside daily theme-based curriculum learning the children will also have access to:

- **Daily outdoor provision**
- **Forest School**
- **Cooking**
- **Music**
- **PE**
- **Daily Snack**
- **Dough Gym**
- **Library facilities**
- **Termly trips and visits**
- **Regular visitors from the community**



# Extra-Curricular Enrichment

From Reception to Year 6 we provide an enriched timetable of extra-curricular clubs throughout the year. These clubs will be a mix of teacher-led run clubs or externally provided run clubs.

Teacher-led clubs are led by our dedicated staff following the school day and will provide activities that your child would not normally have the opportunity to do in class. Teacher-led clubs commence for Reception after the October half-term break.

Examples of clubs that we have run in previous academic years are as follows:

Day	Year Groups	Club	Time	Location
Tuesday	Reception & Year 1	Mindfulness Colouring	3:15pm – 4:00pm	Year 1 Classroom
Wednesday	Reception & Year 1	Reading for Pleasure	3:15pm – 4:00pm	School Library
Thursday	Year 1	Lego Club	3:15pm – 4:00pm	Reception Classroom

We have a number of close partnerships with leading sports and arts coaching providers that are able to offer extra-curricular activities for our children. In the previous academic year they provided the following clubs:

Day	Year Groups	Club	Time	Location	Teacher(s) in charge
Monday	Reception Year 1	Wellness and Movement Yoga and Gymnastics – Strong Acorns	3:15pm – 4:30pm	School Hall	Wellness and Movement
Tuesday	Reception Year 1	Freestyle Football	3:15pm – 4:30pm	School Hall	Freestyle
Thursday	Reception Year 1	Laszlo School of Dance	3:15pm – 4:00pm (EYFS)	School Hall	Laszlo School of Dance
Friday	Reception Year 1	Freestyle Gymnastics	3:15pm – 4:30pm	School Hall	Freestyle

# Parent Partnership

## Tapestry

In the Foundation Stage we use on-line learning journeys to document children's learning and achievement. We are very passionate about the impact that Tapestry has and the links that it builds between home and school for parents, children, and teachers. Each child will have an individual learning journey through a piece of educational software called 'Tapestry'.

By logging on to the website or app with a secure username and password, you will be able to safely view all of your children's observations, photographs and even video from their time in Reception. You will receive regular emails telling you when a new observation or piece of work is available for you to view. This will enable you to follow your child's individual progress closely and you can reflect upon achievements with your child. You can add comments so that we can find out about which activities your child really enjoyed and these can be fed back to the child whilst they are at school. You can also upload the learning they get up to at home so that we can share it with the children at school.



## Class Dojo

Class Dojo is our school communication platform that teachers, pupils, and parents use every day to maintain closely linked class and school communities. This is achieved by sharing what's being learned in the classroom and at home through photos, videos, and messages on class or school stories.

The Class Dojo classroom is where teachers and pupils develop their classroom culture together. Effort, skills, and values – things like creativity or teamwork – are rewarded and we share feedback on progress with families through awarding 'dojos' to the children.

Stories are instantly updating streams of pictures and videos from the school day. Every class in school has their own Story, all of which are shared with parents. School Story helps school leaders to share with all families connected to their school, whilst Class Story helps teachers to share with all families connected to their class.





Contact us via [enquiries@mwps.thlt.academy](mailto:enquiries@mwps.thlt.academy) or tel: 01327 552400  
<https://www.mariewelleracademy.com/>

