

BIRKWOOD
PRIMARY SCHOOL

'We aim to do the best for those in our care'

School Prospectus 2006/2007

The Pupils, Staff and Governors
of Birkwood Primary School
invite you to find out about our school.

Look inside; we are sure you will want to join us!

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WELCOME TO BIRKWOOD PRIMARY SCHOOL

This booklet contains information about our school and is correct at the time of publication for the school year starting September 2005. Arrangements may be changed however during the course of the year, if unforeseen circumstances occur.

After reading the information about the aims of our school, its curriculum and its activities, you are welcome to visit Birkwood, find out more and see us at work. We hope you will take advantage of the occasions available for discussion and through contact with myself and the staff build up a knowledge and understanding of what happens in our school. I hope that this mutual understanding and trust will be the basis of our shared responsibility in the education of your child.

MRS. J. SHAW
HEADTEACHER

HISTORY AND DEVELOPMENT

Birkwood Primary School is situated on the edge of the Darfield Road housing estate, approximately a mile from the centre of Cudworth, a community to the north-west of Barnsley.

The school was built in 1957 as an Infant School later becoming a First School and in September 1990 becoming a full Primary School.

A Nursery was built in 1976 to accommodate 52 children on a part-time basis.

Extensive building work was started in January 2005 and is almost completed. A new Foundation Unit to accommodate 30 full time (4-5 years) and 52 part time (3-4 years) and 16 pre nursery (2-3 years) was opened September 2005 and a Children's Centre (Buttercup C. C.) with accommodation for 41 children from 0-3 years, wrap around care and integrated services is due to open the end of October 2005.

Refurbishment has also taken place with the addition of a new library and special needs resource area to add to our relatively new computer suite, a new reception area administrative rooms and meeting rooms.

There is a large school field and a playground area and another play area for the new Foundation Unit, plus additional parking for staff and visitors to school.

The environment of the school has been improved by planting trees, shrubs and bulbs and when building work has been completed there are plans to embark on improving the environment further.

Our School Vision

.....a creative, safe, learning community in which all our children can develop as a whole in preparation for life long learning.

The Aims of Our School

- That all stakeholders have a shared vision and commitment.
- To have an experienced staff who feel happy, confident and valued when working as a team.
- To provide a safe, stimulating and welcoming environment that reflects the caring attitude of our school.
- To offer each child equality of opportunity to reach his or her maximum potential through The Foundation Curriculum and The National Curriculum taught to the highest standard.
- For all to have high expectations, raise self esteem, value achievements and respect each other through an acceptance of fairness and firmness.
- To develop effective partnerships with parents, carers and the community.

WHO'S WHO?

NAME OF SCHOOL: Birkwood Primary School (and Buttercup Children's Centre)
The school is County controlled, co-educational and will cater for children from 0 to 11 years.

ADDRESS: Darfield Road
CUDWORTH
Nr. Barnsley
South Yorkshire S72 8HG.

TELEPHONE: 01226 710447 Children's Centre 01226 780105

FAX: 01226 712341

GOVERNING BODY

Chairperson Mrs. E. Rogers (community)
Vice-chairperson Mr. J. White (parent)
Governors Mrs. J. Shaw (Headteacher)
Mr. D. Wood (teacher)
Mrs. J. White (teacher)
Councillor C. Wraith (LEA)
Mrs. G. White (LEA)
Mr. T. Taylor (parent)
Mrs. L. Hugill (parent)
Mrs. D. Poulter (parent)
Father D. Nickleson
Vacancy still to be filled for a staff member

HEADTEACHER: Mrs. J. Shaw (Headteacher)

TEACHING STAFF: Arrangements for September 2005.

Foundation Unit	Mrs. J. Cattell / Mrs. G. Lawson / Mrs. H. Smith
Nursery Nurse:	Mrs. C. Dutton
Year 1:	Mrs. S. Winwood
Year 2:	Mrs. A. Exley
Year 3:	Mrs. R. Randall
Year 4:	Mrs. J. White
Year 5:	Mrs. J. Robinson
Year 6:	Mr D. Wood (Deputy Head)

NON TEACHING STAFF

Children Centre Manager Mrs. E. Gaskill

Secretary: Mrs. V. Bailey

Teaching Assistants:

These assistants support our teaching staff and the children in a variety of ways during school time and for extra curricular activities.

Mrs. A. Summerfield
Mrs. L. Baker
Mrs. L. Taylor
Mrs. G. Brown
Mrs. J. Porter
Miss K. Westlake
Miss K. Eland
Mrs. J. Birch
Mr. P. Fielding
Mrs. T. White

Caretaker: Mr. C. Donaldson- Potts

Cleaners: Mrs. K. Allott

Mrs. C. Partlett

Kitchen Staff: Mrs. M. Kenealy

Mrs. K. Allott

Mrs. T. Hodgson

Mrs. S. Jones

Lunchtime Supervisors:

Mrs. C. Wright

Mrs. N. Young.

Miss D. Jones

Mrs. L. Shepherd

Mrs. J. Hayhoe

Mrs. J. Pellow

Welfare Officer: Miss N. Birkby Tel: 711542

Attendance Assistant: Mrs. T. White

School Nurse: Mrs. J. Gillespie Tel: 777893

ARRANGEMENTS FOR ADMISSION INTO NURSERY

Parents of children over 2 years of age may complete form NI, which can be obtained from the school office or the Education office at Berneslai Close, Barnsley. The completed form should then be sent to the Schools Admissions Section, where the child's details will be entered on the appropriate nursery waiting list. Children are admitted to nursery in chronological age order.

Parents will receive written confirmation of a nursery place at least six weeks before the start of term. This letter will contain an acceptance slip, which parents must complete and return to the nursery.

The nursery staff will visit all new nursery pupils at home and invite them for a preliminary visit to nursery.

WHEN WILL MY CHILD START SCHOOL?

At present there is a two-term entry into school, usually in the term before the child has his/her fifth birthday.

New arrangements came into force for admissions from September 2004. Parents need to apply for three Primary Schools and children will be admitted as follows. If child is 5 years old September 2006 to December 2006 admission is September 2006. If child is 5 years old January 2007 to August 2007 admission is January 2007. The Authority's Handbook on Admission to Primary School outlines the new system and copies can be obtained from the Education office at Berneslai Close, Barnsley.

Parents have the right to apply for a place at any school in Barnsley or surrounding district, regardless of their address.

If the number of applications for places at the school exceed the number of places available, the following criteria are used by the Education Authority to allocate places, priority given in the following order:

- i) children with a statement of special educational needs where the school is named on the statement
- ii) children in public care
- iii) children who will have brothers or sisters in school at the time of admission
- iv) children living nearest to school (distance measured in a straight line)

When the school is full applications may be refused, although it should be stressed that in such cases parents do have the right to appeal via the Education Committee to an Independent Appeals Tribunal. In the absence of an appeal, parents will be expected to approach another school with an admission request.

All decisions regarding the admission of children to the school rest with the Local Education Authority.

Parents should be aware that attendance at our nursery does not guarantee a place in our school.

INFORMATION YOU NEED TO KNOW

The School Day

Morning session	9.00 - 11.30	Nursery (Foundation 1)
	9.00 – 12.00	Foundation 2 and Key Stage 1
	9.00 - 12.10	Key Stage 2
Afternoon session	12.45 – 3.15	Nursery (Foundation 1)
	12.55 – 3.15	Foundation 2 and Key Stage 1
	12.55 – 3.15	Key Stage 2

There is no supervision in the playground before school begins. Please try to bring your child to school no earlier than 8.50am. The doors will be opened at this time if it is raining. Staff are not available to supervise your children before this time, as they are either busy preparing for the day's lessons or in a staff briefing.

VISITING SCHOOL

Parents may visit school at any time but sometimes it may be advisable to make an appointment out of school hours.

All visitors to school must register first at Main Reception before approaching the headteacher or individual teachers.

If you have any administration queries (e.g. application for free school meals, change of address or transferring to another school) you may see the secretary at any time.

We ask all visitors to note that we do not allow dogs or bicycles on school premises for safety reasons and we are a non smoking establishment both internally and externally.

PARENTAL INVOLVEMENT IN SCHOOL

When children are in our infant classes parents are usually daily visitors - either bringing their children to school or collecting them at the end of the day. These daily visits should help us foster good relationships to form a home/school partnership, working together for the benefit of the children. You are welcome to come with your child into the classroom at the start of the school day to help them settle but if you need to talk to the teacher at length it is advisable to make an appointment for after school.

As children get older they become more independent and we see less of their parents, however we still welcome the interest and support parents can give us and we would like parents still to be involved in areas such as reading both at school and at home. So please, you may have a particular skill to offer, and we welcome your interest.

Parents or carers are usually invited to school each term to meet the class teacher and discuss the progression of their child and the next steps in learning. However if you need to discuss anything between these visits you may make an appointment to see the Class Teacher or the Headteacher.

The Friends of Birkwood is an association that was formed in May 1993 and is currently involved in many fund-raising activities from which the school as a whole benefits. They are always ready to welcome anyone who is willing to share in their interests and work, so please contact the school if you are interested.

CLOTHING

We encourage our children to take a pride in what they wear, to look clean and smart and be proud to wear our school uniform which consists of the following:

- Boys: Grey / black trousers
White shirt
Red jumper/sweatshirt/fleece
Black shoes/trainers
- Girls: Grey / black skirt/trousers
White shirt/blouse
Red jumper/sweatshirt/cardigan/fleece
Red check dress (Summer)
Black flat shoes /trainers

Red sweatshirts/cardigans/fleeces/whiteT-shirts and white polo shirts with the school tree logo on are available from Mrs Shaw.

We discourage the children from wearing items which inhibit their work or play in school.

Eg. Shoes or boots with heels, piercings and ear-rings which may cause injury especially in P.E. lessons. Only small studs are allowed for the normal school day and these and any other jewellery must be removed for P.E. and swimming. Therefore we ask you to limit any jewellery to a watch as some items are a hazard in a busy school day, while others cause a time consuming problem if they are lost.

School activities involving glue, clay or paint can be messy so it may be advisable to provide an apron or old shirt for children to wear to cover their school clothes.

NAMING CLOTHING

We encourage children to be careful with their clothes but still find lots of misplaced items. It helps us considerably if all removable items of clothing, including coats and P.E. kit, are clearly marked with the child's name.

ORGANISATION OF THE SCHOOL

Classes are not streamed but are usually organised according to age. The placement of any child within a class is at the discretion of the Headteacher. Sometimes the unequal size of age groups and limitations of class sizes make it necessary to have children of mixed school years in one class, but for September 2005 all children of the same school year, September to August, will be in the same class.

Children's Centre

As mentioned previously this is due to open at the end of October 2005. At present a manager has been appointed (Mrs E. Gaskill) and other staff are being recruited shortly.

Any enquiries about the Centre and its provision should be made to the school in general and to the manager in particular.

ADMINISTRATION

School Meals

A healthy eating option is now in operation where children can choose from a traditional cooked meal, a jacket potato with a choice of fillings and dessert plus drink or a 'grab a bag' which contains a choice of sandwich, home baked item, crisps and a drink. School meals cost £1.50 per day, £7.50 per week and it would help considerably if dinner money is paid every Monday morning for the whole week. Class teachers do not handle money now so it would be helpful for the correct money to be brought in a named envelope.

Children may bring a packed lunch instead of buying a school meal. This should be sent in a suitable solid container and they may bring a cold drink in a carton or plastic bottle. Glass bottles and cans are not allowed.

Milk

Milk is available every day at a cost of £6 per term, payable in September, January and April at the start of each new term. Any child receiving free school meals is also entitled to free milk every day.

Mid –morning/afternoon snacks

Children will be supplied with biscuits at morning break and some fruit at afternoon break by their class teacher for which we ask them to bring 50p per week. Children are not allowed to bring crisps, sweets or chocolate to school.

Water

We do allow children to bring a small plastic bottle to fill with water for drinking throughout the day as long as they are sensible. Children are encouraged to drink as much water as possible as research has shown this to improve concentration levels and so aid learning, as well as the obvious health benefits.

Attendance/Absence

Regular attendance is obviously very important for the education of your child, and punctuality also enforces a good start to the day. A child arriving late at school disrupts the classroom routine with a consequent effect on his own and other children's education. However, we would rather a child arrived late than not at all.

If your child is unable to attend school please inform us personally by telephone or by a written note. It is the parents responsibility to officially authorise any absence. It is an important part of our caring partnership to know where children are and in the case of longer absences it is important to keep us informed so that our Education Welfare Officer is fully aware of the situation as we now have to monitor and log reasons for absence.

We have an Attendance Assistant working in school, Mrs. T. White, who accepts telephone calls every morning. All particulars of lateness and absence are placed on pupil records.

The average attendance for 2003/4 was 93.42% and for 2004/5 was 92.9%

It is important that your child misses as little of school as possible. If parents wish to take their children out of school during term time for holidays we would discourage it and wish you to note that the maximum time allowed is ten days in any school year only at specific times of the year can this be authorised.(See LEA policy adopted by Governing Body) Additional days are classed as unauthorised absence. If your child's attendance falls below 94% the school has the right to refuse authorisation of absences. May is the month in which end of Key Stage assessments are taken so we ask you to try not to take your child out of school during this time especially if they are in Year 2 and Year 6.

Pupils needing to go out of school during the day will only be allowed to leave if parents or another named adult collects them. You are asked to report to reception so we can keep a track of pupils in and out of school, information which is required in case of emergencies.

Education Welfare Officer

The Education Welfare Officer works with the school to support children and their families and is available to advise you about assistance with school meals, clothing and other benefits. Parents wishing to see the Welfare Officer should contact the headteacher who will arrange an appointment or contact the Welfare Officer directly.

Scheme of Aid

Scheme of Aid surgeries are held every alternate Monday afternoon in term time from 2 p.m. to 3.30 p.m. at the Acorn Centre, Grimethorpe. Parents may receive further information by calling Barnsley 773513.

Illness in School

If a child is ill or has an accident in school then we will make every effort to contact parents. Therefore it is important that you supply us with up to date information of where we can contact you during school hours e.g. home or work. If this is not possible it is essential for us to have an emergency telephone number or address of another member of your family e.g. grandparent or close friend who we can contact.

We will always act in the best interests of the child and deal with the problem if we cannot contact parents.

Medicines in School

Medicines can only be administered by the Headteacher or Deputy Headteacher. A form APM3 must be signed by the parent, giving permission for staff to give medicine to their children.

All medicines will be stored in the staffroom kitchen. Liquids may be kept in the refrigerator.

Copies of this form APM3 are available from school.

Inhalers are kept in the classroom during the day. Please ensure that these are clearly labelled with your child's name.

School Security

In the interest of security all of the external doors have had their handles removed. Access to the building is by the main reception where a bell push has been installed. Regular fire drills are carried out in accordance with Fire Regulations.

ACCESS TO SCHOOL DOCUMENTS

The school's Governing Body meets regularly to discuss all matters relating to the running of the school. Parents and teachers are represented on the Governing Body. All documentation relating to Governors meetings, including agendas, minutes and policy documents are available in school and may be viewed by arrangement. Should a parent require a copy of any of the above documents we will be happy to supply one with a charge of 10p per sheet to cover photo-copying expenses.

10.

EDUCATIONAL VISITS

At Birkwood we value the importance of first-hand experience and therefore from time to time visits are arranged out of school to enhance the children's learning and enrich the context of their classroom work. We make full use of the many valuable local facilities and occasionally feel it is necessary to visit places further afield. If educational visits take place mainly during the school day and involve transport or admission costs we need to ask for a voluntary financial contribution from parents to make them possible. If we receive insufficient voluntary contributions we may be unable to go ahead with the visit. Any parents who experience difficulty in contributing financially at a specific time may discuss other arrangements with the Headteacher.

Extra-Curricular Activities

We are involved in a sports partnership and various activities such as, football, netball, dance, cricket, cross-country, hockey, athletics, karate and table tennis are organised out of school hours.

Our children are given the opportunity to participate in productions such as a Harvest Festival, Christmas Concerts and a Carol Service.

Events are organised by the Parents and Friends during the year such as discos, Summer/Winter Fairs, Jumble Sales, Bingo nights and visits to the cinema.

THE CURRICULUM

The school follows a National Curriculum which was revised in 1995.

The three core subjects are: English, Mathematics and Science.

The six foundation subjects are: Information Technology, History, Geography, Art, Music and P.E.

Compulsory subject: Religious Education.

Curriculum Responsibilities

English	Mrs. A. Exley
Mathematics	Mr. D. Wood
Science	Mrs. S. Winwood
ICT	Mrs. J. Robinson
Special Needs	Mrs. S. Winwood
History	Under review
Geography	Under review
P.E.	Mr. P. Fielding
D.T.	Mrs. J. Robinson
Health/Safety	Mr. C Donaldson-Potts
Art	Mrs. H. Smith
Music	Mrs. G. Lawson
R.E.	Mrs. J. White
P.H.S.E.	Mrs. J. White
Admissions	Mrs. J. Cattell
Assessment	Mr. D. Wood
Staff Development	Mrs. G. Lawson
Child Protection	Mrs. J. Shaw
Behaviour	Mrs. J. Shaw

11.

The school's curriculum at Birkwood is planned by the whole staff, taking into consideration the personal, social, academic and aesthetic development of every child. It is centred on the Local Education Authority's Entitlement Curriculum and also on National Curriculum requirements. By planning and teaching in this way we aim to provide a broad and balanced curriculum which will develop the skills and knowledge, and the values and attitudes of each child. We aim to provide opportunities for learning in many ways, often enriched with practical and firsthand experiences. This is achieved by the teachers planning for the whole school through the age and year groups using the National Curriculum and associated documents. Each year the children undertake a series of Topics chosen and planned by the teachers, which ensure continuity and progression throughout the seven years of study.

Our policies are being carefully developed and evaluated, to encourage, motivate, stimulate and educate our children in all aspects of the school curriculum. Should you wish to know more details about what your child will learn during any particular year please do not hesitate to contact the school. We will be pleased to discuss with you any further planned curriculum issues which may affect your child.

One of our aims is to provide a stimulating environment which will provide opportunities for each child to develop his or her potential to the full. We intend that each child will develop self-awareness and an understanding of the world in which he or she lives. We strive also to foster positive attitudes towards learning, raising attainment, working together and caring about others. We expect our children at Birkwood to develop the skills needed to respond creatively and appropriately in different situations.

Assessment takes place throughout the child's time in school with formal assessment at the end of Key Stage 1 (age 7) and Key Stage 2 from age 11. Optional Assessments are done at the end of Y3, Y4 and Y5 and Reading and IQ Tests for children in Y2 to Y6 every September. We are involved in intervention strategies for children with special needs which involve specific related assessments. Assessments are also in place which track children in English and Maths throughout school.

ENGLISH

Great emphasis is put on this area of the curriculum as mastery of language enables a child to think clearly and put those thoughts into words either spoken or written. It is important that each child masters the skills of listening, speaking, reading and writing so that he or she is able to use language with imagination, precision and accuracy. From January 1998 the school has been involved in the National Literacy Strategy. Each class is taught all aspects of language and literacy.

Speaking and Listening

Children are encouraged to convey their thoughts and meanings through speech in a variety of situations and also to question and reason in order to gain information.

We use a variety of reading schemes throughout the school. As each child reaches the reading readiness stage they will be given books from the schemes at an appropriate level and will progress through the schemes as their reading skills develop. At every stage your child will have access to lots of books and you will be encouraged to read with your child and to help their progress. Our aim is to foster a love of books and ensure that each child becomes a fluent, confident reader who enjoys reading for pleasure and for information. Guided reading is done in all classes, monitored by the teacher and work is reinforced by use of worksheets and computers.

12.

We have a range of modern and traditional reading material throughout school and a new library which will be increasingly stocked each year, so that higher reading skills can be employed and developed.

Handwriting is taught formally so that children are learning to form letters correctly from the earliest stages of writing. We try to ensure that by the time they leave the school all children are able to write legibly and fluently. We encourage them to be neat in all written work and present work appropriately for different purposes. We try to ensure that children acquire a basic spelling of a general vocabulary and rules of grammar.

MATHEMATICS

Mathematics is of great importance and our aims in teaching this subject are to help each child develop an ability to think clearly, logically and mathematically. Initially the understanding of mathematical ideas develops from a child's experiences using practical methods. As that understanding develops then each child will begin to record results. Apart from learning basic numeracy skills it is hoped to give children the confidence to investigate and solve real mathematical problems. Children will learn how to use a calculator and use computer programmes to solve problems too. Some attention is given each day to mental maths in order to improve children's thinking skills and ability in this subject. Children are taught numeracy during numeracy hour which takes place each day, building on the training that staff had after introducing the National Numeracy Project in 1996. All areas of maths, the four rules of number (addition, subtraction, multiplication, division), fractions, decimals, time, weight, length, capacity, shape, area, data handling, money and problem solving are introduced as and when, at an appropriate level bearing in mind the competence of the child.

SCIENCE

The school follows the Star Science Scheme of Work, which is closely linked to the QCA Science. These schemes offer complete coverage of the Science National Curriculum by including all the attainment targets

- Sc1 Scientific Enquiry
- Sc2 Life processes and Living things
- Sc3 Materials and their properties
- Sc4 Physical processes.

Science occupies 90 mins. each week in Key Stage 1 and 120 mins. each week in Key Stage 2.

INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY

We have a computer suite with 20 computers and at least one computer in each class which are used to enhance work across the curriculum. Each computer is connected to the Internet and each pupil has a personal Email address. We have a home/school agreement for I.C.T. Hardware and software are updated on a regular basis. An interactive whiteboard is in every classroom from Y1 to Y6 and forms an integral part of everyday teaching.

HISTORY

History is taught in school to give pupils the opportunity to develop their awareness of the past and the ways in which it is different from the present by being taught about changes in their own lives and those of their families and localities, and about notable events and people.

13.

Children in KS1 cover History through a range of stories from different periods and cultures by looking at artefacts and observing events through the lives of famous people.

Children in KS2 follow a cycle of topics:-

Y3	Romans, Anglo Saxons, Vikings
Y4	Tudors, Second World War, Egyptians
Y5	Victorians, Life since 1948
Y6	Greeks, A Famous Person

GEOGRAPHY

Geography is taught to help pupils to develop an awareness of their local environment as well as localities further afield. The majority of this work will be based on direct experience, practical activities and fieldwork in the locality of the school.

Children in KS1 cover Geography skills in topics.

Y1 Around the School/Local Area - (making it Safe).

Y2 An island home, Going to the Seaside

Children in KS2 follow a cycle of topics

Y3 The Local Area, Weather Around the World

Y4 Improving the Environment, Village Settlers, A Village in India

Y5 Water, Traffic Planning, A contrasting Locality

Y6 Rivers, Mountains, News/Global Eye.

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

As a school we are not affiliated to any specific church or denomination, but have contact with local churches and chapels. Religious education is taught either in its own right or as part of integrated topic work. In our curriculum and daily collective acts of worship we are broadly Christian based and try to emphasise a social and moral understanding of responsibilities within a caring society. We also feel that in a multi-cultural society children need to be made aware of other religions and cultures in order to develop their own tolerance and understanding of different communities. R.E. lessons are based on stories, themes and festivals from the principal religions represented in Great Britain.

Parents have the right to withdraw their children from Religious Education and collective worship if they so wish, under Section 25 of the 1944 Education Act. Parents are requested to consult with the Headteacher if they wish to do so.

SPIRITUAL AND MORAL DEVELOPMENT

This is an area of a child's development that must be seen as a joint responsibility. The parents and the home environment play an initial role before the child enters school life. The Governors of Birkwood and the school staff need to share the responsibility with the child and the home so that the spiritual development of the child plays a fundamental role in all areas of learning.

Moral development encourages the child to make valued decisions on the basis of what is right or wrong. We hope to encourage children to develop concepts of right and wrong from an early age so that moral behaviour becomes an instinctive habit as the children grow older not something which we are continually trying to enforce.

14.

PHYSICAL EDUCATION

Each child has to undertake physical education and games lessons as part of the National Curriculum in school. Swimming is part of the National Curriculum for some children in KS2. At present children swim at the Metrodome aiming to be successful in swimming at least 25 metres.

Every class is timetabled to participate in 2 lessons of P.E. every week. We follow the Val Sabine Scheme of Work which includes dance, gymnastics, games and athletics which develops physical skills throughout school. We are part of a sports partnership which enables our Key Stage 2 children to participate with other schools in extra-curricula competitions. Children will need to dress sensibly and appropriately for P.E. lessons.

Infant children should remove clothing to underwear i.e. vest and pants for indoor lessons.

Junior children are expected to change for P.E.

Indoor	Girls	Black leotard or White T/shirt and black shorts/skirt.
	Boys	White T/shirt/black shorts. Bare feet for all children.
Outdoor		Trainers/football boots Clothing as above with extra jumper/tracksuit depending on time of year.

Acceptable clothing is that which presents no risk of injury to the wearer or other pupils. In the interests of health and safety all jewellery and other personal effects must be removed by the child before a P.E. lesson. This includes earrings following advice given by the Department for Education in "Safe Practice for Education" adapted by the Barnsley Local Authority. Teachers are not responsible for the removal of any jewellery, this must be the responsibility of the child. We advise that children do not come to school in any jewellery on days when they have P.E.

TECHNOLOGY

Children are given opportunities to design and make a variety of objects as part of their topic work as it fits in with QCA scheme of work. We try to incorporate the expertise of parents and outside agencies for Robot Building.

ART

Throughout school children are given access to a variety of materials in order to extend their experience as well as developing an enjoyment for the subject.

MUSIC

Music, in the form of singing, playing, composition, performance and appreciation, plays a very important role within our curriculum, as it offers the children an opportunity for creativity and self expression. Through both key stages the children are encouraged to compose and perform music and notate their ideas. We follow the Music Express Scheme of Work and have recently bought ICT programmes to use with upper KS2. Emphasis is made on the development of listening skills and children are exposed to a wide range of music from a variety of cultures, allowing them to gain an improved knowledge of composers, musical styles and instruments, helping advance their skills in musical appreciation.

HOMEWORK

Homework is an integral part of school life from Reception class through to Year 6. Each class teacher will inform parents of the details, as time spent on homework and content will vary from year to year.

A Home School Contract is to be introduced in line with Government Policy. You will be invited to sign the agreement.

HEALTH EDUCATION

The school takes an active role in the health education of the children. Personal hygiene is encouraged and topics in this area covered in a number of year groups. In their final year at school (year 6) children undertake work on plant, animal and human reproduction. This work is related to the Schools Council Project 'Health Education', the purpose being to prepare children for the physical changes experienced at puberty. The material used is quite explicit and the children are given opportunities to ask questions. These are answered honestly as is appropriate to their age and maturity. School also undertakes work on "drug awareness" at a level appropriate to the age and ability of the child. In both matters, school works closely with the School Nursing Service and the Police in the community.

Parents have the right under the 1993 Education Act to have their children withdrawn from these lessons.

CHILD PROTECTION

The designated member of staff for child protection is the Headteacher, Mrs. J. Shaw. All staff at the school will refer issues of child abuse to the headteacher. In the event of an 'unexplained injury' or allegations of abuse, the school follows the procedures adopted by the Local Education Authority.

CHILDREN WITH SPECIAL EDUCATION NEEDS OR LEARNING DISABILITIES

It is the policy of the school to meet the needs of every child. Where possible children who have special needs will not be separated from their peers but will have their needs met within the normal classroom situation. If it appears that a child is experiencing difficulties or is not developing satisfactorily the class teacher, the special needs co-ordinator and the headteacher, will discuss the problem with the parent.

If additional help is required from other agencies within the Education service then further consultation will take place with the parents asking for their permission before an approach is made.

As a parent, please do not hesitate to come into school and talk to us about any concerns you have about your child's education. We are always ready to listen and willing to help if we can.

Our Special Needs Co-ordinator, Mrs. Winwood will always be available to discuss problems and worries you may have.

16.

DISCIPLINE AND PASTORAL CARE

The class teacher is often the first in line with dealing with any discipline problems concerning a child. It is in everyone's interest to make school a happy place and avoid any adverse behaviour. Class teachers try to form a warm and caring relationship with each child so that they can offer guidance and help as well as education. We hope that in creating a pleasant atmosphere for learning we can encourage children to show self-discipline, develop self-respect, respect others and care for our school. We feel that self-control courtesy and good manners are very important. Breaches of discipline will be recorded and reported to parents.

If a problem arises the class teacher usually deals with it. However, it is sometimes necessary to involve the Deputy Headteacher or Headteacher. On rare occasions the child's conduct may cause enough concern to consult with parents. If this becomes necessary it is hoped that problems can be approached in an atmosphere of mutual understanding and in the best interests of the child.

The aim of the school's Behaviour Policy is to promote feelings of personal worth, the rejection of prejudice and harassment, the fostering of respect for the individual and equal opportunity for all. The school places on emphasis on encouraging positive behaviour by using a system of acknowledgement and rewards. We also ensure that children are aware of the types of behaviour that will not be tolerated.

The D.f.E.E. made some important changes which were introduced in the school year 1998. Teachers are now allowed to use such force as is reasonable in all circumstances to prevent a pupil from:

- “committing a criminal offence including behaving in a way which would be an offence if the pupil were not under the age of criminal responsibility”;
- “injuring themselves or others”
- “causing damage to property including the pupil's own property”;
- “engaging in any behaviour which is prejudicial to maintaining good order and discipline at the school or among any of its pupils”.

(D.f.E.E) circular 10/98)

School now has the legal authority to detain pupils on disciplinary grounds after the end of the school session without the consent of the parent. Schools are obliged to give 24 hours notice to the parent. (Education Act 1997 Section 5)

The Headteacher has the power to exclude a pupil for up to 45 days in any school year. Generally a fixed term exclusion of from 1 to 3 days will operate initially.

Education Act 1197 Section 6)

School would like to point out that we have a good record in respect of pupil behaviour and discipline and that this fact has been acknowledged in the OFSTED Inspection Report.

In all matters we work closely with the parents of pupils.

The Headteacher will publicise the school's discipline policy each year and this will contain more detail in respect of the rewards and punishment structure.

COMPLAINTS PROCEDURE

Under Section 23 of the 1988 Education Act, each Local Education Authority has the responsibility to set up a complaints procedure regarding curriculum and collective worship. In the first instance, the school is expected to deal with any complaints. However if parents are still dissatisfied a formal complaint may be made with the Governing body for their consideration. After thorough investigation parents will be informed in writing of any decisions reached by the Governors. If a parent still feels cause for complaint then they may

make a direct application to the Education Officer, Education Department, Berneslai Close, Barnsley.

17.

SAT's Results End of Key Stage One

These show the % of children achieving Level 2 and above.

Year	Reading	Writing	Sp.	Maths	Science	Pupil No.
School 2003	42.9%	39.3%	N/A	75.0%	46.4%	28
School 2004	60.7%	57.14%	N/A	92.85%	N/A	28
School 2005	62.1%	65.5%	N/A	96.6%	N/A	29

In Year Group 2 for 2003 – 13 children (46.4%) were on Special Educational Needs register and had been identified for needing additional support.

In Year Group 2 for 2004 – 9 children (32.1 %) were on Special Educational Needs register and had been identified for needing additional support.

1 child (3.5%) had a statement of S.E.N.

In Year Group 2 for 2005 – 13 children (45 %) were on Special Educational Needs register and had been identified for needing additional support.

SAT's Results End of Key Stage Two

These show the % of children achieving Level 4 and above and level 5 and above.

	English	Maths	Science	Pupil No.
Level 4 and above School 2003	45.45%	50.0%	59.1%	22
Level 5 and above School 2003	0%	9.1%	9.1%	22
Level 4 and above School 2004	60.0%	76.0%	92.0%	25
Level 5 and above School 2004	0%	24.0%	36.0%	25
Level 4 and above School 2005	68%	75%	93%	28
Level 5 and above School 2005	14%	32%	57%	28

In Year Group 6 for 2003 – 11 children (50%) were on Special Educational Needs register and had been identified for needing additional support.

One child (4.5%) had a statement of S.E.N.

In Year Group 6 for 2004 – 11 children (44%) were on Special Educational Needs register and had been identified for needing additional support.

2 children (8%) had a statement of S.E.N.

In Year Group 6 for 2005 – 8 children (28%) were on Special Educational Needs register and had been identified for needing additional support.

2 children (7%) had a statement of S.E.N.

18.

The school aims to improve children's levels of attainment in English, Mathematics and Science as they progress through school. To try and ensure this progress we use a tracking system from Nursery to Y6 which incorporates Teacher Assessments, P.I.P's results and S.A.T.'s results where appropriate so that we can target individual and/or groups of children in order to improve standards.

Results shown in the tables depend on the general levels of ability of each year group, girls tend to achieve higher than boys, tests actually change from year to year, and so this needs to be taken into account when comparisons between years are made.

We would also like to be judged against other achievements and the happy environment we provide for our children. We enjoy participating in extra-curricula sporting events, community involvement, activities with parents and friends and high standards of behaviour and discipline lead by a strong committed staff, both teaching and non-teaching.

SCHOOL HOLIDAYS for 2005/2006

Sept 5th and 6th 2005 – enforced closure due to building work not completed.

		Return Wed 7 th Sept
Oct Half Term – Mon 24 th Oct to Fri 28 th Oct		
Mon 31 st Oct INSET DAY		Return Tues 1 st Nov
Christmas - Thurs 22 nd Dec to Mon 2 nd Jan		
Tues 3 rd Jan INSET DAY		Return Wed 4 th Jan
Feb Half Term - Mon 13 th Feb to Fri 17 th Feb		Return Mon 20 th Feb
Easter - Mon 3 rd April to Mon 17 th April		Return Tues 18 th April
May Day - Mon 1 st May		
Spring Bank - Mon 29 th May to Fri 2 nd June		Return Mon 5 th June
Fri 21 st July INSET DAY		
Summer Break - Mon 24 th July to Fri 1 st Sept		Return Mon 4 th September
	2 more INSET DAYS to be decided	

SCHOOL HOLIDAYS for 2006/2007

		Return Mon 4 th Sept
Oct Half Term - Mon 23 rd Oct to Fri 27 th Oct		Return Mon 30 th Oct
Christmas - Mon 25 th Dec to Thurs 4 th Jan		
- Fri 5 th Jan INSET DAY		Return Mon 8 th Jan
Feb Half Term - Mon 12 th Feb to Fri 16 th Feb		Return Mon 19 th Feb
Easter - Mon 2 nd April to Fri 13 th April		Return Mon 16 th April
May Day - Mon 7 th May		
Spring Bank - Mon 28 th May to Fri 1 st June		Return Mon 4 th June
Summer Break - Mon 23 rd July to Fri 31 st August		Return Mon 3 rd Sept
	4 more INSET DAYS to be decided	