Welcome

The staff and I warmly welcome you to Greenway Primary and Nursery School. Our school is an exciting, friendly place, where we want every child to feel happy and secure. The children at Greenway are at the centre of everything we do. Our principal aim is to ensure that each child’s contribution is valued and every potential is reached. We strive to encourage children to learn, develop and grow into active and responsible citizens, within an atmosphere of respect and understanding.

At Greenway we are proud of our academic achievements and are determined to raise our high level of attainment further still. We provide a stimulating and well-resourced learning environment with extensive outdoor space. We are fully committed to equality of opportunity and believe strongly in building and maintaining excellent working partnerships between pupils, parents, staff, governors and the wider community.

Children are encouraged to be supportive and caring towards one another. We want them to leave Greenway confident, independent and resilient. These important life skills are the building blocks for the next stage of their education and their future.

More detailed information on Greenway is available on our website. This prospectus provides you with a glimpse into how we work, but it is no substitute for coming to see the school and asking questions for yourself. If you would like to do so, please contact the office.

We look forward to working with you.

Katharine Ellwood
Headteacher

This is an outstanding school which makes a considerable difference to the lives of the young people in its care.

OFSTED November 2011
Values and ethos

At Greenway, the child is at the heart of everything we do. Our motto is ‘Caring to Learn, Learning to Care – Where every child counts’. We value the contribution that everyone can bring, not just within the school, but also in the wider community. We have a caring, understanding ethos, we welcome and celebrate diversity and believe that high self-esteem is crucial to a child’s well-being.

Our Golden Values are based on the word LEARN, because this is what the children tell us they come to school to do. The words and phrases which underpin the values are those which inspire our children to do this. They know that they learn best and their teachers teach best when they are happy and when everyone is behaving well. Values are embedded in all that we do at Greenway and underpin our approach to good behaviour management and a positive learning environment.

The head and deputy know every child and every child matters.

Year 5 parent/carer
Aims

• To ensure that each child’s contribution is valued and every potential is reached
• To have happy, secure children, who leave us ready for the next stage of their education
• To nurture children’s self-esteem and independence
• To foster a love of learning
• To ensure the safety of the whole school community
• To provide an understanding of and encourage a healthy lifestyle
• To promote equal opportunities for everyone
• To develop and celebrate a culture of respect and tolerance
• To create a climate of collaboration and mutual support
• To value different cultures and beliefs across our local and global community

All the staff are on the same page with everything.

Year 4 parent/carer
Building foundations

The Foundation Stage is an important part of a child’s school life and at Greenway we provide a nurturing environment which places a particular emphasis on children’s personal, social and emotional development. Here they start to acquire the basic tools of literacy and numeracy and to understand the importance of respecting each other and the sense of community that being a part of the school brings.

[I like]... doing drawing and puzzles and learning my letters.

Nursery pupil
Enriching

We aim to inspire and motivate our children, to encourage them to be curious and creative. At every stage of their time at Greenway, children are provided with many varied and stimulating learning opportunities, from specialist themed weeks and outdoor experiences to visits and residential trips. Through our external specialists we also provide a wide range of additional opportunities in music and sport.

Children at Greenway not only gain knowledge, but are encouraged to stretch and build the skills, attributes and confidence necessary to adopt a positive attitude to learning, high self-esteem and a belief that each and every one of them deserves success.

I like art week and all the clubs that we can join.

Year 5 pupil
Aspiring

Children develop their leadership and team-working skills in many ways, through Greenway’s school council, sports council and the appointment of school role models, such as prefects; house captains; and head girl and boy. Older children can apply to become Sports Leaders, a responsible role for which they receive training from Ashlyns – Berkhamsted’s secondary school, through its nationally acclaimed Sports Leader Academy programme. Sports Leaders manage, lead and support a wide range of lunchtime activities for our younger children.

I like best the team-working in the staff, they all pull together!

Year 5 parent/carer
Succeeding

Every child’s progress and attainment is discussed at least once every half term through an effective and robust monitoring process. We know each child well and together we strive to bring out their strengths and support them in tackling areas for development. We use ‘pupil voice’ to understand how confident and secure our children feel in terms of their own learning and we use this to identify where a particular focus is needed.

Where children have specific barriers to their learning we provide the necessary early support and tailored intervention required to help overcome those barriers. These interventions are regularly reviewed to ensure that the approach is the right one and is positively impacting on learning.

I enjoy learning and my teacher makes it so much fun.

Year 2 pupil
Working in Partnership

Good partnerships are vital in most walks of life and at Greenway we benefit from working closely with parents and carers as well as our partner schools in the town. Events such as parent consultations, ‘child shows parent’ and sharing assemblies provide you as parents and carers with the chance to see and hear about your children’s progress and share in their achievements. We also offer regular curriculum evenings to work through our teaching methods with you and help you understand how to support your child’s learning at home.

Greenway has a strong, established Governing Body, which is effectively involved in the strategic direction and development of the school. OFSTED commented that ‘The outstanding Governing Body has achieved an excellent balance between monitoring, challenging and supporting the school’s leaders.’ Greenway has a thriving parent/teacher association, the GSA, which works tirelessly to raise funds through a variety of events for both adults and children. There is also an active Parent Forum, a valuable tool for consulting across the school community.

The staff always exceed our expectations of care and kindness.

Reception parent/carer
Out of hours

Greenway provides a very popular Breakfast Club and After School Club (Waccy), offering a healthy breakfast and a balanced cooked tea respectively. With a wide variety of indoor and outdoor activities on offer, children can do as little or as much as they wish and have full access to the school’s facilities and equipment, both indoors and out. We try to make this experience as close to home as possible by creating a relaxed atmosphere where children feel secure and where they can take ownership of their club.

It is hard not to hug the teachers every day for their absolute determination to not only educate our children, but also to teach them to love learning.

Year 3 parent/carer