



Bowerham Primary and Nursery School

Stand Tall. Reach High. Love Learning.



Prospectus



Welcome to Bowerham Primary and Nursery School, where all children are encouraged to achieve their potential in an exciting, learning environment.

We believe passionately in education. We know every child very well and use this knowledge to motivate, encourage and care for them during their time at school.

Children at Bowerham have access to a high quality education in the National Curriculum subjects, together with excellent music provision and enrichment activities such as French and global citizenship. All children are exposed to creative, sporting and cultural opportunities, along with a rich diet of extra-curricular activities and class visits.

We are proud of our outdoor areas which boast an outdoor classroom, orchard, allotment, sports field, trim trail and wildlife area.

We have close links with Cumbria and Lancaster Universities. As part of the Lancaster and Morecambe Cluster, we have great working relationships with a family of local schools.

Bowerham Primary School is in the national top 10% and our academic success is very important to us. Our children are tracked and assessed throughout their time at school to maximise potential.

Parents receive termly curriculum letters and targets for their children which detail both the work being done in school, and also identify help which can be given at home.

Gifted and talented students are identified and stretched in all subjects. Academic students are offered support for the local Grammar School entrance examinations, with approximately 30% of children choosing this route.

Other popular destinations are Ripley St. Thomas Academy, Central High School and Garstang High School.

Our OFSTED report (2012) commended the outstanding teaching in our school and noted that:

“Pupils’ attitudes to learning and behaviour are outstanding. Pupils are polite and show respect for each other and adults. They feel safe and have a clear understanding of the school rules.” Ofsted 2012

We have an “open-door” policy and many parents help in school. Parents are sent newsletters to keep them involved with events and achievements. All classes present assemblies throughout the year, to which parents, carers, relatives are invited, along with Christmas, Spring and Summer performances, sports days and parents’ evenings. We cannot overstate the value we place on regular contact with our parents, for the education and care of our children.

All children leave prepared, academically, emotionally and physically, for secondary school. They go with our love and aspirations for the future.

We are very proud of our school and we hope that your child will be happy here.

Jo Longworth

Head Teacher





A Short History

Bowerham School was the first school to be built in Lancaster and Morecambe in 1894 by the Education Authority after the 1890 Education Act made education free for all children. Pupils in Key Stage 2 are taught in the original Victorian building.

Our Foundation Stage children are located in our 'new' building, which was added in the 1970s. We have a popular nursery unit which opened in 2005.

In 2013 we expanded with the addition of four new classrooms, improved IT suites and library and a wide variety of green & outdoor classrooms.

Oral History

Each year the children work with community members and relatives on oral history of their memories of 'the olden days'. Many of our childrens' parents and grandparents have Bowerham memories of their time spent here.



A Community School

- Various community groups use our premises, such as Enjoy -a-ball, Keep fit, Street Dance, Community Steel Pans, Activ8 Jujitsu, Bowerham Karate Club, Rosemary Conley, and Wadu Ryu Adult Karate
- We believe that it is essential to nurture civic pride and strong community values, therefore, we work in partnership with local groups, business and families.
- The Community Police use school as their base and we support our neighbourhood consistently at all times.
- We also produce a community newsletter

Our Mission Statement

The Bowerham School Community is proud to nurture aspiration, inspire love for life-long learning and prepare children for a changing society.

At Bowerham we:

- **Enable every child to achieve their full potential through a broad and creative curriculum.**
- **Teach children how to work both independently and collaboratively with others.**
- **Encourage honesty, trust and responsibility.**
- **Respect differences in gender, ethnicity, religion and ability.**
- **Challenge through the provision of fun and adventurous activities at home and school.**
- **Nurture children's confidence and self-esteem.**

Bowerham is a fun place to learn and to make friends for life.



Bowerham School combines its creative curriculum with cutting edge technology.

There is an extensive Wi-fi network throughout the entire grounds, connecting our children and staff with each other and allowing appropriate access to all the resources of the world wide web.

From EYFS through to Year 6, children have hands-on access to a range of digital devices, including:

- Netbooks
- Digital Cameras
- I pads
- Ipad minis
- Tablet computers
- Laptops

Our children's work, progress and achievement is recorded digitally, to be used as a learning resource or shared with our wider community to celebrate their successes.



Celebrating our heritage whilst embracing the future.

Our classrooms contain an impressive range of multi-media resources to aid the inclusion of all preferred learning styles.

Smart-boards allow our children direct access to both monitored sites on the internet and their own area of the school server.

Visualizers allow teaching staff to share children's work with the class instantly as well as providing exciting opportunities to examine artefacts and objects of interest.

The embedding of ICT skills into our creative curriculum continues outside as children from all years benefit from our comprehensive grounds. In spring and summer, children enjoy the freedom of our large grass field. For year long learning opportunities our wooded area, beautifully sculpted wooden trim-trail, amphitheatre-style seating and embellished playground provide ideal outdoor classrooms.





The outstanding stonework of the extension, built 2013, reflects our Victorian pedigree whilst the light, fresh classrooms provide a more modern legacy.

Just as the relationship between children and adults is crucial in successful learning, at Bowerham we also recognise the fundamental interaction between children and their environment.



Whenever and wherever possible, staff will base the children's learning on the real world.

Learning opportunities can be found anywhere and everywhere.

Tracking Children's Progress

Every child is different. Our aim is to understand and develop the potential of each individual child.

We track each child's progress from their first day in Nursery or Reception, right through to when they leave.

Children are assessed by class teachers. There are informal, on-going assessments and more formal reading/spelling tests, Pips and QCA Literacy and Numeracy tests.

Children in the Foundation Stage are assessed using Development Matters which builds a detailed picture of achievement and progress.

Grade reports are sent home each term and parents receive a detailed written report at the end of the school year.



Communication

Parents are invited and are expected to attend:

- a learning evening in the Autumn term
- a parents' evening in the Spring Term
- an Open day in the Summer Term.

Communication Diaries

Parents, pupils and teachers are all invited to write comments, notes, and/or concerns in your child's communication diary. These are checked every day.

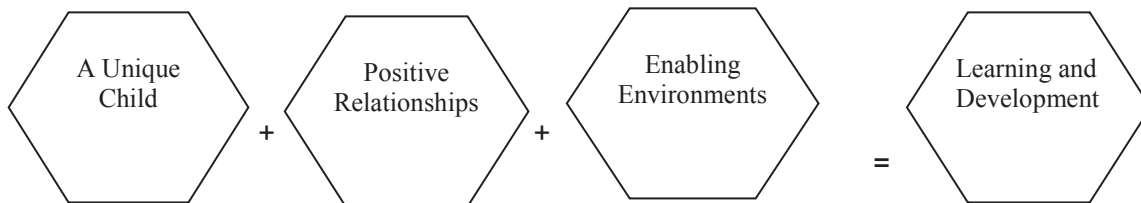


“The consistent high-quality marking throughout the school makes it very clear to pupils what they need to do to improve their work and this contributes much to the achievement of all pupils. “ (OFSTED 2012)

The Early Years Foundation Stage: Nursery and Reception

The four themes of the EYFS express important principles underpinning effective practice in the care, development and learning of young children.

The four themes are:



- * Each of the underlying principles is supported by the Key Person and it is through these principles and commitments of the EYFS that we base our practice.
- * Children are born ready, able and eager to learn. They actively reach out to interact with other people, and in the world around them.
- * Development is not an automatic process. It depends on each unique child having opportunities to interact in positive relationships and enabling environments.
- * There are seven areas of learning and development that shape our educational programme. All areas of learning and development are important and inter-connected. Three areas are particularly crucial for igniting children's curiosity and enthusiasm for learning, and for building their capacity to learn, form relationships and thrive. These areas are the *prime* areas - Communication and Language, Physical Development and Personal, Social and Emotional Development. We also support children in the four *specific* areas, through which the three prime areas are strengthened and applied. The specific areas are - Literacy, Mathematics, Understanding the World and Expressive Arts and Design.



Key Stage 1 (age 5 - 7 years) and 2 (aged 8 - 11 years)

The core curriculum at Key Stages 1 and 2 comprises English, Maths, Science and ICT.

Children also study Art and Design, Design Technology (DT), History, Geography, Music and Physical Education (PE) as part of the National Curriculum. These are foundation subjects for all children. Children are also taught Personal, Social, Health and Citizenship Education (PSHE) in lessons.



A Creative Curriculum

Our curriculum is ever-changing in order to meet the demands of an ever-changing technological world.

New Technologies

ICT is embedded into the very heart of our creative curriculum and threaded through all our subjects.

Music and performance

We regularly hold dance and drama performances and our music provision is second to none. We have a steel band and all of our children are able to play a variety of musical instruments.

Performing to one another is part of our enriched and varied curriculum for children.



The teaching of mathematics is exceedingly strong and parents are positive about the quality of teaching across the school
(OFSTED 2012)



Sports

Sport is an important aspect of school, providing a good opportunity for children to learn social and physical skills.

A sense of fair play is essential in all sports and we encourage this ethos in all school life. To link with health and well-being we encourage others to think of the importance of exercise in a healthy lifestyle.

Children in years 5 and 6 have free swimming lessons at Lancaster University.

Sport Achievement

In many sports, including football, cross-country, netball and swimming we have achieved some excellent results locally and beyond.

Individual successes are notable in marshal arts, league football, swimming and dancing.

Languages

To encourage our pupils' future role as European citizens, we now teach French to Year 3, 4, 5 and 6 children, on a weekly basis.

All Year 6 go to France for an annual 5-day residential trip in order to engage in French culture and language.



Extra Curricular

Our children have the opportunity to take part in a wide range of extra-curricular activities during lunch time or after school. Some of the clubs we have held are:

Art, Book, Computer, Film, Cross-Country, Guitars, Keyboard, Sewing, Choir, Athletics, Chess, Cricket, Dance, Football, Karate, Netball, Rounders, Steel Band, Street Dance, Science Club, Homework Club, Photography, Magic and Remote Control Club.



Homework

All children are set homework. This includes daily reading at home and, for older children, spellings, times-tables, maths sheets and hand-writing practice.

The whole school does "Talk Homework" with parents once a week to prepare for "The Big Write" every Friday.

We have a great school library which is refreshed every year.

Religious and Moral Education (RE)

Our pupils come from homes of differing faiths and creeds and we believe very strongly in fostering tolerance, understanding, friendship and trust through religious education.

Religious education includes stories, projects and celebrations of all the major religious festivals.

Weekly 'achievement' assemblies celebrate the successes of pupils both in their school work and in their outside activities.

We are a values-based school and each month we focus on a value. Children then receive certificates each Friday linked to the value. A star of the week is chosen from each class for their work.



Special Educational Needs

The school's aims underpin our commitment to the learning support for children with Special Educational Needs.

A Special Needs Co-ordinator ensures that children's needs are met and individual education programmes drawn up in liaison with the class teacher. Parents play an integral role in the formation of the programme and are regularly up-dated on progress.

Able and Talented Children

Our school is also committed to extending the learning of very able / talented pupils and Mrs Longworth monitors their progress carefully. A register is kept of children who fall into these categories in each year group and challenging targets are set to ensure that potential is maximised in all aspects of learning. We have some exceptional mathematicians, musicians and sports gifted children in our school and we celebrate their different talents.



The quality of teaching is good overall and much is outstanding (OFSTED, 2012)

Sex Education

In accordance with section 18(2a) of the 1986 Education Act, the Governors decided that formal sex education should be provided in Years 4, 5 and 6.

The School Nurse and other appropriate professionals help teachers with lessons, which are delivered with understanding and with sensitivity.

The school informs parents prior to lessons commencing and invites parent to view the content of the sex education lessons. Parents are offered the right to withdraw their child from these lessons if appropriate.

Achievement

To view our End of Key Stage Exam Results, please go to the School Information section on the school website. Results can be viewed under the Results tab.

Safeguarding

At Bowerham, we take children's safeguarding and child protection very seriously. All parents/carers will be made aware of the schools responsibilities in relation to safeguarding and that the school will refer all cases of suspected abuse to Children's Social Care via a statement in the prospectus. Our current, up to date child protection policy can be found on the school website under the School Information section—Policies tab.

Nursery (3-4 yrs)

- 15 hours flexible care
- Separate morning and afternoon sessions or full days
- For children 3 and above by September start, January and Easter.
- Additional care over lunchtimes

School (4-11yrs)

- Admission to Reception class is at the beginning of the Autumn Term following their 4th birthday.
- During the first term, admissions arrangements are flexible to suit the needs of individual children.
- Children can be taught more easily according to ability rather than simply according to their age.

Transition to Secondary School for Year 6

Details of local schools and forms for parents to express their preferences are distributed to every child during the Autumn Term of their final year in primary school.

Towards the end of Year 6, children spend a considerable amount of time on transfer activities between our school and their new school and they also visit their new school for between half a day and a full day.



**Year 6 Final Days
Together**

School Meals

Your child may have a school dinner or bring a packed lunch.

School meals are prepared on-site and offer a balanced and nutritious choice. You do not need to have a school meal each day, but can specify which days you want your child to have a school meal. Children select their menu option from a choice on a daily basis.

Meals need to be paid for in advance. This is done via the ParentPay system. Log onto <https://www.parentpay.com/parents/login>

If you think your child may be eligible for free

school meals, please contact the school office for a form. The form is also available on our website under the school's meals section.

Packed lunches should be in a clearly labelled container. Please do not send your child with fizzy drinks, glass bottles, cans or thermos flasks, as these items can be dangerous in school.

We participate in the National Fruit Scheme. All under-7s receive a free piece of fruit daily if they would like one. Older children may bring a healthy snack to school for morning playtime.

Milk is available to order for your child. Under 5's have subsidised milk. Parents need to register with the supplier directly. Please register and make payment, if applicable, on www.coolmilk.com

School Uniform

White Polo Shirt or Blouse

Grey or Black Trousers/Skirt/Pinafore

Red Sweatshirt or Cardigan.

Safe, black, low-heeled shoes.

In summer girls may wear a red and white gingham dress for school. Boys are allowed to wear smart shorts.

Headscarf—black or white only

For a full list of all items available to buy in our school shop please see the Uniform link on our website.



PE Kit

Black shorts or black track suit bottoms

T-shirt in the colour of your school team

Black pumps

Elasticated pumps are preferable for Infants. Juniors must have **black trainers** and/or **football boots** for outdoor games.

Each year group has a designated PE day. Children must attend school in their PE kit and a school sweatshirt. They will stay in their PE kit all day.

We request that the children do not wear items of jewellery. One stud earring in each ear is allowed, but for safety they must be removed for P.E. lessons.

Swimming

Children in Year 5 + 6 have free swimming lessons at the university. Girls need a one piece bathing costume, and if hair is long, a swimming cap. Boys need swimming trunks (not shorts).

The School Day at Bowerham



School Hours

Nursery

	Time
Morning	08:45 - 11:45
Afternoon	12:30 - 15:30

Reception

	Time
Morning	09:00 - 12:00
Afternoon	13:00 - 15:20

Infants

	Time
Morning	09:00 - 12:00
Afternoon	12:55 - 15:15

Juniors

	Time
Morning	08:50 - 12:00
Afternoon	12:50 - 15:10

Bowerham Kids Club Breakfast and After-School Provision

- We currently host a thriving Breakfast and After-School Club, which is open to pupils of Bowerham School and to other children from the area.
- If you contact the school office they will be happy to provide the contact details. You will then be able to contact the club direct to ask any questions or queries that you may have.
- Please see the school website for more information about Bowerham Kids Club.

Pupils' attitudes to learning and behaviour are outstanding. Pupils are polite and show respect for each other and adults. They feel safe and have a clear understanding of the school rules. (OFSTED 2012)

Behaviour and Care

At Bowerham everyone is expected to treat one another with consideration and respect, so that our school is a happy place to learn and work.

We have a Behaviour Policy that helps us to promote rewards for good behaviour and take sanctions where appropriate. This Policy can be found online on the school's website.

We expect children to behave in a polite and disciplined manner. Children are kept informed of simple rules and regulations and we ask parents to support us. The parents of a child whose behaviour gives cause for concern in any way will be invited to discuss the problem with staff to reach a joint decision to resolve the problem.

Buddying

Buddying is an important feature of the school where older children look after younger ones. Buddying gives children confidence and helps to ensure that adults are made aware of any problems.

Every child in the school has a 'buddy' and they work together once a week. Where necessary, we arrange for the older child to support his/her 'buddy' with friendships.

Prefects

All of our Year 6 pupils adopt the role of school prefects. This teaches them the importance of responsibility and consistency. Prefects play an important role in the assistance of younger children, monitoring corridors and the library and contributing to a happy and safe school environment.

School Council

Our School Council consists of two elected representatives from each year group, our Head Boy and Girl and Deputy Head Boy and Girl and a governing committee of Chairperson, Secretary and Treasurer.

They work with all our staff and pupils to help decide where improvements can be made.

One of the ideas School Council has implemented is Dress Down Fridays.

The School Council also canvass pupils on a wide range of topics such as which charitable activities to hold, suggestions on guest speakers for assemblies, finding different uses for play-areas, to which value of the term the children wish to celebrate.



Governing Body

The Governing Body consists of Parent Governors, Local Education Authority Governors, Community Governors and Staff Governors. Please see Governor section on our website for a list of our Governors.



Hi. I am Alan Wills the Head of the Governing Body, and also a Dad to children in the school. My oldest child has recently left Bowerham and is happily settled into the Boys' Grammar School. Most of our Governors are also parents, or former parents, and we became Governors to make sure this school strives to be the best school for every child.

Our responsibility as a Governing Body is to be a critical friend to the school, to ensure that the school provides good quality education and to be concerned with such areas as the delivery of the National Curriculum to children and management of the school's budget.

Our mission at Bowerham is to make this an outstanding school academically, whilst also retaining the special fun and caring ethos which we think makes Bowerham a really distinctive school in the local area.



Adult Involvement in the Classroom

A number of adults provide help in school on a voluntary basis. Adult helpers are a welcome and valuable addition to the school. Teachers and children really appreciate their assistance with activities like reading, baking, swimming and school trips. If you, or a relative, would like to help in any way, please contact the school office for details of our Volunteer Co-ordinator.

Any adult who wishes to help in school has to have a Disclosure & Barring Service certificate. You will need to provide proof of identity, proof of address and an up to date photograph. DBS clearance is essential for any adult working with young people and we have procedures in place to monitor its implementation at all times.



How to Find Us

Bowerham Community Primary and Nursery School is situated on the outskirts of a small city, so we are in walking distance of the city centre. The City of Lancaster has good train and bus links but you can also find us by car. If you are using a sat nav, please use our postcode, LA1 4BS. This should take you directly to us.

By car from the South:

Exit the M6 at junction 33.

Follow the Lancaster signs on the A6 for about 3 miles (5km).

You will pass through Galgate village and then see Lancaster University on your right. You will get to a roundabout. Take the third exit off the roundabout (Bowerham Road). The School is approximately 300 metres up this road on your right, opposite the University of Cumbria.

By car from the North:

Exit the M6 at junction 34.

Follow the signs for Preston and the South to join the A6.

Proceed past the Royal Lancaster Infirmary on your right. You come to a large roundabout. Take the first exit off the roundabout (Bowerham Road). The School is approximately 300 metres up this road on your right, opposite the University of Cumbria.



The Bowerham Primary and Nursery School Children's Promise

- I will always be willing to try new things. This will help to broaden and challenge as well as help me to learn new things.
- I will always work hard.
- I will concentrate in school.
- I will try and understand others.
- I will try and improve my work.
- I will use my imagination.
- I will try and reach my targets.
- I won't give up.

The Bowerham Primary and Nursery School Parents' Promise

- I will make sure that my child attends school everyday on time. If absent, I will contact the school office.
- I will contact school, and discuss any school, family or home concerns.
- I will attend parents' evenings and information-sharing events.
- I will support the school values, both academically and behaviourally.
- I will ensure that my child wears the correct school uniform.
- I will support my child in their reading and homework, and to the best of my ability, provide a quiet place for them to do their work.
- I will celebrate and praise my child on their achievements.
- I will make sure that I keep my child safe.
- I will make sure my child looks after their own and school's equipment.
- I will, to the best of my ability, ensure that my child has the chance to participate fully in all school activities.

The Bowerham Primary and Nursery School Staff Promise

- We will make sure our lessons are interesting, exciting and support you through all challenges you may face.
- We will expect you always to work hard.
- We will help you to focus on your work to achieve your best.
- We will ensure we are respectful and accepting in all we do.
- We will continually support and challenge you to improve your work.
- We will give you opportunities to really use your imagination.
- We will make sure we will always have high hopes for you.
- We will always support you to help you reach your full potential.

The Bowerham Primary and Nursery School Governors' Promise

- We will commit our time, energy and skills to help improve Bowerham School.
- We will ensure that the school has up-to-date, accessible and inclusive policies and targets for all.
- We will attend Governors' meetings and get involved in school activities when we are invited to do so.
- We will encourage the open expression of ideas and will govern the school transparently.
- We will regularly evaluate our effectiveness as a Governing Body.
- We will support and challenge the Head teacher and staff in their work delivering a creative and fun curriculum which meets the needs and interests of every child.
- We will act on feedback from staff, pupils and parents.
- We will undertake training which will help make us better governors.
- We will help develop partnerships between Bowerham and the wider community.
- We will act fairly and respectfully towards all staff and pupils.