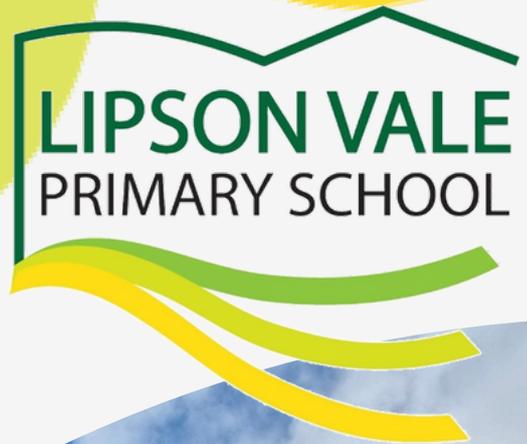


So, you are thinking of
joining **LIPSON VALE**
PRIMARY SCHOOL.

**GREAT
CHOICE!**



Lipson Vale
Primary School



Welcome



Hello, my name is Peter Lewis-Cole and I am the headteacher here at Lipson Vale Primary School. It is my privilege to welcome you to our lovely school and hope that the information contained in this prospectus gives you a true sense of our values and beliefs as a school community.

Lipson Vale Primary School is a very special place to learn. We believe passionately in being at the very heart of our community and ensuring that all teaching and learning meets the diverse needs of the community we serve. We are a popular school that accommodates 420 children from the Reception year through to Year 6.

Together we are inspiring a community with a bright future.

The Lipson Vale team work incredibly hard to meet the individual needs of our learners every day and we pride ourselves on the pastoral care we offer, as well as our relationship focused approach to supporting pupils through challenges that they face.

Our curriculum offers rich opportunities for pupils to develop in a wide range of subjects and follow their individual passions, whilst learning how to get along with each other and be active contributors to school life (and the wider community). We are incredibly inclusive and have the highest of expectations for all of our pupils to experience success and be successful.



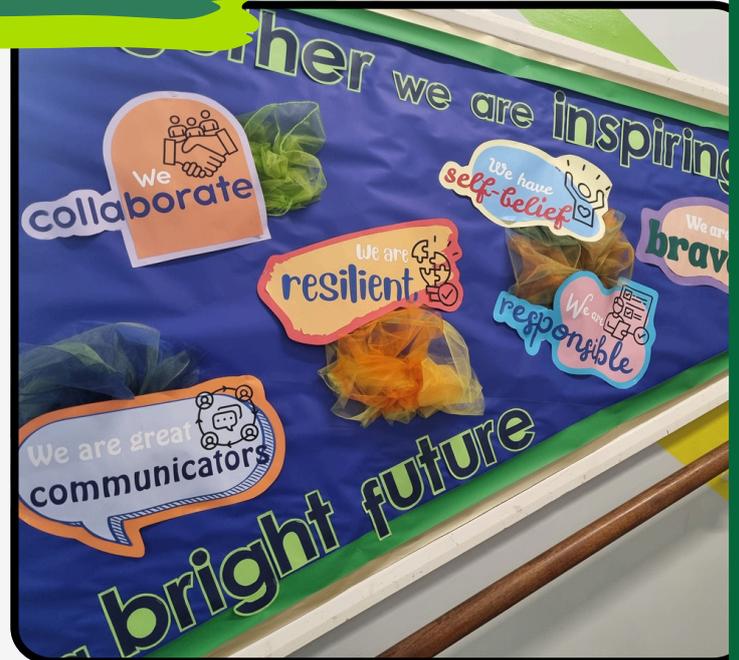
Our Ethos

Pupils, staff and families at Lipson Vale Primary School worked together on identifying 6 core values that underpin our approach to teaching and learning, behaviour management and policies.

These values are:

Resilience
Collaboration
Responsibility
Bravery
Communication
Self-belief

Through our vision, we have a renewed commitment and focus on our local community and provide an educational environment which develops resilient learners who have high aspirations for their futures. This vision is lived out through all aspects of school life and the curriculum that we offer to our pupils.



We invest in developing positive relationships with all our pupils and their families.

What do we do well?

The foundation teachers have been EXCELLENT at making the children feel welcomed to school. It was such an easy transition for my boy and I think it wouldn't have been as easy with different teachers. They're a real opening testimony to the rest of the school years that await us.

Parent 2024

Every member of the team receive high quality trauma informed training when they start.

DID YOU KNOW?

We believe that relationships are so important. Not only between pupils and school staff, but also between pupils and between the whole community itself.

Relationships

We deliberately have a Relationships Policy.

This is simply because we value human connection and know that children do so much better when they have trusting, meaningful and positive relationships with each other and adults.

Don't just take our word for it...

Very friendly and approachable teachers and assistants who support and understand my child.
Parent 2025

Provide a safe and friendly environment for the children along with patient and skilled staff to cater for all their different little personalities. **Parent 2024**

The Lipson Vale team are 'trauma informed' trained which helps us all to understand the importance of relationships when providing a **compassionate** and **empathetic** response to all our pupils and their families. Being trauma informed has helped us to develop new approaches to managing behaviour through a **relational approach** which encourages **restoration, collaboration** and consequences (rather than punishments).

Our team work with our pupils to provide **co-regulation** in times of struggle and the opportunity for **supported reflection** which leads to a better understanding, rather than judgement.

Underpinned by secure relationships are our **READY** expectations.

The 5 **READY** behaviour expectations provide a reference point for everyone and act as a reminder of how we can all work together to ensure that our school is a great place where excellent learning takes place. We believe that our **READY** expectations provide a deep understanding of how we can all be productive and contributing citizens that understand tolerance as an essential skill for life.



Great spaces



We are very proud of the wonderful spaces we have here at Lipson Vale Primary School, both inside and out.

We have invested significantly over the last few years in upgrading and improving our shared spaces. This includes brand new play equipment for all ages, new library facilities, our music bus, micro forest and so many more.

We make excellent use of our spaces and this is embedded within our curriculum. This means that learning is enriched through accessing learning in unique and purposeful environments.



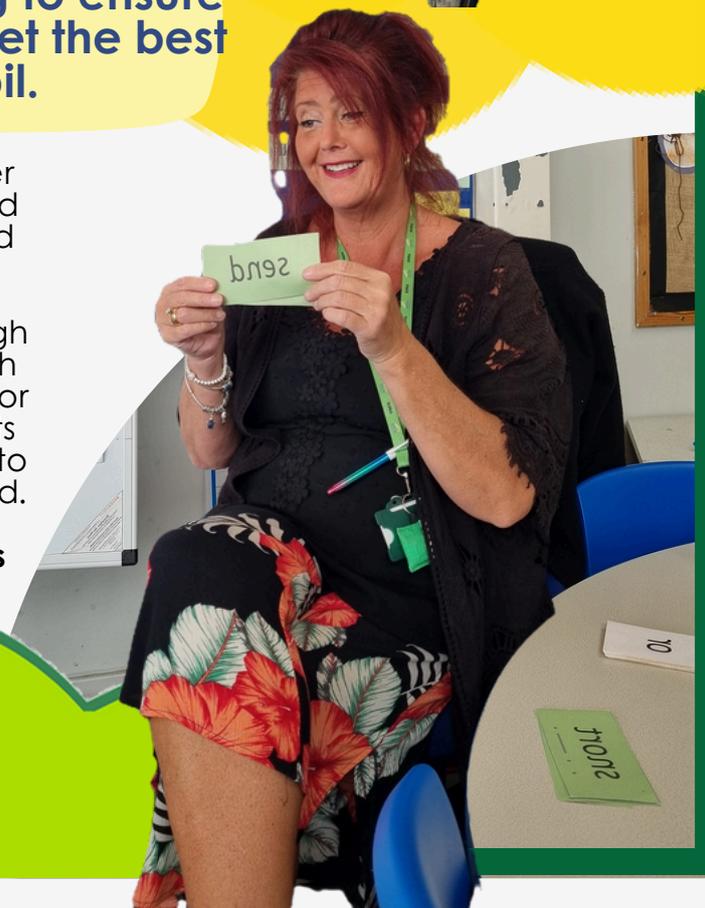
Great team

We invest in staff training to ensure they are well skilled to get the best out of each pupil.

We truly have a brilliant team here looking after the 400+ pupils in our care. The whole team hold incredibly high expectations for themselves and the pupils who they work with.

We, through prioritising our budget, ensure a high level of staffing as a minimum for all years which means that every class has 2 adults supporting for all core subjects. In addition, highly skilled adults deliver bespoke interventions in the afternoons to provide additional support as and when required.

Only the best join our team because our pupils deserve nothing but the best.



School Day

The school day starts at 8.45am. Pupils are greeted in their classrooms by their teaching teams. We provide a 'soft start' to our day with time to check-in and ensure all pupils are ready for the day ahead.

All pupils have a break in the morning with their year group peers (15 minutes) and a lunch break.

School ends at 3.10pm for Foundation, 3.15pm for KS1 and 3.20pm for KS2.

What do we do well?

Provide a safe and friendly environment for the children along with patient and skilled staff to cater for all their different little personalities.

Parent 2024

Support family and treats each child on their individual needs

Parent 2024

Clubs and trips

We offer a range of clubs throughout the school year. We have a strong partnership with Argyle Community Trust and they deliver high quality sport clubs for different age groups. In addition, our dedicated staff run different clubs (for example, craft club, Kin Ball), as well as other partner groups (e.g. Parkour).

We are committed to providing excellent trips for all pupils. These are linked to the curriculum and take advantage of what our local area has to offer (e.g. field trips, the zoo, Eden Project, Morwellam Quay). The school fully funds the vast majority of these experiences.

What to expect

Whilst no day is ever the same as the last, you can expect the teaching of the core subjects (maths, writing and reading) will take place during the morning.

Reading, including Read, Write Inc, take place at the same time across the school to ensure that all pupils can access the high quality teaching they need to make great progress.

In the afternoon, pupils take part in a wide range of subjects, including our commitment to physical education. All pupils experience a full and ambitious curriculum which **ignites passion and curiosity.**

A member of the team who works with your child is available at the start and end of the day for those 'quick catch-up' moments.



Curriculum



Our curriculum ensures that every pupil finds their passion.

We teach the full National Curriculum to all of our pupils. Our incredibly high expectations ensure that every pupil fully engages in learning and gains a secure foundation of knowledge before they move on.

We carefully structure our lessons and sequences of learning to ensure that all pupils can access age appropriate learning, are challenged to think deeply and that connections are made between what they already know and new learning.

Our curriculum is uniquely designed with all pupils in an apprentice role. This way, our pupils experience the curriculum through a deep understanding of how new learning relates to the world around them.

Our commitment to our pupils

We will give you the knowledge that you need to do whatever you want when you are older. The curriculum will be meaningful to you and the community you live in so that you are ambitious for your own future. We will help you to see your individual talents and celebrate these with you. We will help you see how you can help your community to be a great place to live.

Music is a real strength of our curriculum. Every pupil receives excellent teaching by a music specialist throughout the school year. This ignites a musical passion in so many who go on to join our established choir and orchestra.

Stand out subjects

Our strong partnership with Argyle Community Trust enables us to deliver an ambitious and inclusive PE curriculum. The expert teachers provide excellent skill development in many different sports.

Our families say

We have always been appreciative of the many clubs etc run by school with our children being offered music lessons, choir and sports club. Our child feels very much part of the school community and has a strong sense of pride in the school. **Parent 2024**

I love how much my daughter loves reading and how quickly she learnt to read. **Parent 2025**

Excellent music and sports within and outside of the curriculum. The school continues to work well within the wider community. **Parent 2025**



We are incredibly proud of our inclusive learning environment for all pupils.

Inclusion

First and foremost, we ensure that all of our classrooms are inclusive places to learn. As a school, we are continually developing our knowledge of how best to support pupils who present with a variety of individual needs. We also ensure that our classrooms and lessons are organised to get the best of each pupil. This includes personalisation for individuals (for example, specific resources to enable them to full engage with all learning)

Creative thinking

We recognise that some pupils need their learning to look a little different. We are continually working as a whole team to develop creative ways to provide great support whilst maintaining the benefits of being in a mainstream setting. A great example of this is our Nurture Provision.

Lipson Vale "get to know each child really well, make learning fun and accessible and are neurodiversity affirmative"
Parent 2025

We are able to provide **bespoke support** for speech and language, English as an additional language and emotional literacy through dedicated and skilled members of staff.



Mental Health

At Lipson Vale Primary School, we aim to **promote positive mental health and well-being for our whole school community:** pupils, staff, parents and carers, and recognise how important mental health and emotional well-being is to our lives in just the same way as physical health.

Our school counsellor works with pupils of all ages to develop positive mental health and well-being.

We strive to ensure that Lipson Vale is a school where pupils experience a **nurturing and supportive environment** where children are given opportunities to develop self-esteem and give positive experiences for **overcoming adversity** and **building resilience**. We recognise that, for some pupils, school will be a place of respite from difficult home lives and offer positive role models and relationships, which are critical in promoting pupils' well-being and can help to engender a sense of belonging and community.

DID YOU KNOW?

We have over 20 members of staff who are trained as 'Mental Health First Aiders' for adults and children.



Pastoral Support

Christie is our Parent Support Advisor. She is available to all families to support with navigating the many life challenges thrown our way. Christie is highly skilled at supporting and signposting which enables families to access the help they need when they need it.



We are proud to partner with the Mental Health in Schools Team (MHST) which we refer pupils to for therapeutic intervention. They also offer class interventions for those big life moments.

We employ 2 ELSA (emotional literacy support assistants) who provide regular and ongoing support to many children from across the school. This is in addition to our school counsellor who provides more intensive support when required.

DID YOU KNOW?

Our classrooms are places where **meaningful relationships are cultivated**. We actively teach children about emotions and provide them with discreet ways to signal when they need a little help.



Mrs Tucker is our SEND and Inclusion Lead. Her job involves coordinating the different support given to pupils. She ensures that support is directed to the right pupils at the right time so that we provide them with support when they most need it.

Pupils don't have to have special education needs to access the wide range of support we offer.



Safeguarding

Our school community has a duty to safeguard and promote the welfare of children who are our pupils.

We take safeguarding very seriously, and ensure that all relevant school policies are reviewed by the governing body on an annual basis. All our staff and volunteers are DBS checked, and two references are requested on appointment to a role. We also ensure governors are kept up to date with 'Safer Recruitment Training'. We report on all aspects of safeguarding to governors in an annual report.

Safeguarding is also about making sure pupils are safe to engage with a full curriculum and that our school site ensures they remain safe whilst in our care, as well as when we take them on trips.

Comprehensive risk assessments are completed when completing school activities and protective actions are always taken to ensure everyone is safe.

Sometimes we may need to share information, and work in partnership with other agencies when there are concerns about a child's welfare. We will endeavour to ensure that our concerns about our pupils are discussed with their parents/carers first, unless we have reason to believe that this is not in the child's best interests.

We are part of Operation Encompass – Operation Encompass is the reporting to schools, prior to the start of the next school day, when a child or young person has been exposed to, or involved in, any domestic incident and the police have been involved.



LIPSON VALE PRIMARY SCHOOL

Safeguarding Team

Keeping staff, pupils and visitors safe and free from harm is a responsibility of everyone.

If you have any concerns, please contact a member of the safeguarding team.

Alternatively, concerns can be reported directly to Gateway on 01752 668000 or by email MASH@plymouth.gov.uk

 Peter Lewis-Cole Designated Safeguarding Lead	 Christie Grosvenor Deputy Designated Safeguarding Lead	
 Abbie Naylor Safeguarding Officer	 Emma Stephens Safeguarding Officer	 Stephanie Brookes Safeguarding Officer

Together we are inspiring a community with a bright future.

Resilience, Collaboration, Responsibility, Bravery, Self-belief

Community

The school has a strong sense of community which we value highly.
Parent 2024

When you join Lipson Vale Primary, you become an important member of our community. You will receive a warm welcome that continues throughout your time with us. Our team are always available to provide support and answer any questions that you have, as well as give you any ongoing guidance that you need.

Our pupils learn what it means to be part of a diverse community that is tolerant and accepting of everyone. We celebrate our differences and how the things that make us different make our community a brighter place to be.

What do we do well?

Include each and every child in all learning opportunities. Give them a good balanced curriculum with plenty of different ways to learn. Communication from the school about activities and upcoming events is clear and easy to access if and when needed.
Parent 2025

Our Vision: Together we are inspiring a community with a bright future.

Our wonderful PTFA

Our PTFA enthusiastically create brilliant events for everyone to attend throughout the year. They are tirelessly working to bring everyone together as one big community and raise funds to improve the experiences of all pupils. New members to Lipson Vale are warmly welcomed to join and be part of this exciting group.

Bobtails Full Day Care provision provide our afterschool and breakfast club provision. We have strong links with them to provide a seamless service for our families.



Admissions

Plymouth City Council is the admission authority for Lipson Vale Primary School. The admission authority will comply with provisions within the Admission Code and the School Appeals Code.



For normal point of entry admissions, we collect all the information we need through the app 'My Child at School'. This app becomes your must have companion when enrolled with us. Through the app we send out communications, book appointments, select school meals and so much more!

Foundation admissions:

Plymouth City Council coordinates primary admissions on behalf of the school. Applications should be made via their portal (www.plymouth.gov.uk/schooladmissions). Applying to join the school so that your child starts in the September of the school year they turn 5 is called 'normal point of entry'. Applications for the normal point of entry are made well in advance of your child starting and, once allocated, you will have a thorough induction into school.

In-year admissions:

An in-year admission is any entry into the school other than at the normal point of entry. For example, if your child was to transfer from another school to us during the school year or at the start of the academic year in any other year group than Foundation. In-year applications to transfer are made through Plymouth City Councils portal (www.plymouth.gov.uk/schooladmissions). Once you have completed the application, Plymouth City Council will communicate with you about the progress towards allocation.

CATERed
FEEDING AMBITIONS



Check out our website for more information. If you have any questions, please do get in contact.

LIPSON VALE
PRIMARY SCHOOL

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01752 224801

lipson.vale.primary.school@plymouth.gov.uk
www.lvps.co.uk

Lipson Vale Primary



@LipsonValePS



Together we are inspiring a community with a bright future