



Seathorne Primary School
Count Alan Road
Winthorpe
Skegness
Lincolnshire
PE25 1HB

Tel: 01754 764689
Fax: 01754 898585

www.seathorne.lincs.sch.uk



Success • Excellence • Achievement
Trust • Honesty • Openness • Respect • Nurturing • Enjoyment

Parent & Carer Information



Contents

Page 3	Welcome from the Head	
Page 4	About Our School	
Page 5	Day to Day Information:	Uniform Security on Site Parking
Page 6	Day to Day Information:	The School Day Welfare Medicines Attendance
Page 7	Day to Day Information:	Food and Drink
Page 8	Day to Day Information:	Enrichment at Seathorne Extra-Curricular Activities
Page 9	Starting School	
Page 10	Your Child's Learning:	Early Years Foundation Stage (Reception)
Page 11	Your Child's Learning:	Year 1 and beyond... Targets Homework Charging for School Activities
Page 12-14	Your Child's Learning:	Seathorne's Curriculum
Page 14-15	Your Child's Learning:	Inclusion for All
Page 15	Your Child's Learning:	Year 6 and beyond...

School Information

Address	Count Alan Road Skegness Lincolnshire PE25 1HB
Telephone	01754 764689
Fax	01754 898585
Email	enquiries@seathorne.lincs.sch.uk
Pupils on roll	410 pupils in January 2013
Type and age range	Community Primary School and Nursery 3 - 11 years
Head Teacher	Mrs Mandy Cherry
Chair of Governors	Mrs Carol Leeman and Mr Peter Tong
School Hours	Morning: 08.50 - 12.00 Afternoon: 13.00 - 15.20

Disclaimer

The information contained within this document was accurate at the time of going to print in September 2013. Changes in arrangements and other details may occur over time and we apologise for any inconvenience this may cause. Please contact the School Office if in any doubt.

Welcome from the Head



Seathorne Primary School is proud of its happy and nurturing learning environment. With our support, we ensure every child is valued and supported to achieve their potential academically, physically, artistically and socially.

At Seathorne Primary School, we work together as a team. Our team members

include all staff, children, parents, Governors, outside agencies and community members. Our team is fully committed to providing a stimulating yet safe and secure place, where children feel valued and can become confident, independent learners with a developed sense of worth and high self-esteem. We want all of our children to learn through their successes, their own excellence and their achievements, whilst promoting the key values of trust, honesty, openness, respect, nurture and enjoyment.

Every child engages with the caring ethos, where our strong set of values underpin our conduct both in school and out. We ensure there is a broad range of extended provisions to enhance the pupils' learning and nurture their talents. These include

music lessons, arts and crafts, cooking, gardening, girls football, ICT, tennis, netball, table-tennis, maths, football training, choir, circus skills and archery.

We encourage parents to work in partnership and take an active role in their child's education. Our school holds regular Parents' Evenings so that work can be celebrated, targets shared and progress discussed with each class teacher. We offer curriculum information evenings to show how you can help your child's learning at home. We also operate an "Open Door" policy so that any concerns and questions can be discussed immediately should they arise. Some parents support the school by helping to run extra-curricular activities or working with the well-established and highly committed "Parents and Friends Association".

May I thank you for taking the time to find out more about our school. Choosing the best school that meets the needs of your child is a highly important decision and I encourage you to research the many choices of education that are available to you. If you have not already paid us a visit, I would be delighted to meet you and share the achievements within our first-class learning environment, of which we are justifiably proud.

I look forward to meeting you.

Mrs Mandy Cherry
Headteacher

About Our School

Seathorne was built in 1952 as a one-form entry school (One class per year.). Since then our numbers have nearly doubled and we now have approximately 360 full-time pupils on roll, having two parallel classes per year group. In addition we are delighted that we have our own, purpose built nursery for up to 52 pre-school children.

April 2013 saw the completion of a £3.5 million build, where old classrooms were replaced by new "state of the art" classrooms, purpose built for the needs of a technologically able generation of children. From an exciting outdoor learning area for our Reception pupils, to ICT breakout areas for our older children, the needs of our children are paramount. We are really excited to be working in such a first-class learning environment.

We have very high expectations of all our pupils and of ourselves. We are working hard and successfully to raise achievement and standards for all children within our school family. With our inclusive ethos and very happy and caring learning environment means that increasingly parents choose our school.

Seathorne Primary School is a community school. In keeping with the ethos of being a school family, a significant strength of the school is the good and trusting relationship between staff, pupils and parents. Despite the size of the school, staff know their pupils well and are sensitive with regard to their individual needs. Our parents are very supportive and positive about the work of the school. Visitors regularly comment on the "family" feel of the school and the atmosphere which is engaging and happy. Our children are friendly, well mannered and behave well.

Our school has a lively, interested and committed group of parents who have formed the Parents and Friends Association (PFA). The PFA take a very active role in school life and raise substantial amounts of money for school resources. Our school is well regarded and well supported by the local community.

Our school is committed to collaboration with local schools as a further tool for school improvement. Our school has formed a Learning Network with other local schools and we are continually developing and strengthening relationships with neighbouring schools and collaborating in the sharing of valuable training opportunities, resources and expertise. Our school has a committed and highly motivated Headteacher, Governing Body and staff team who are clearly focused on school improvement and have the expectation that together we will continue to develop and improve.

Learners are welcomed into school on a phased-integration over a few weeks, in the September following their fourth birthday. To give them the best start to their school life, we have dedicated Teaching Assistants who support them in the early days of their time in school, providing a range of practical play and learning activities.

By working in partnership with parents and the wider community, Seathorne Primary School is a happy and enriching learning environment. By celebrating the children's successes, excellence and achievements, helping them to actively engage in the values of trust, honesty, openness, respect, nurture and engagement, we foster self-esteem and provide a sound foundation for their future life. We are committed to equal opportunities, regardless of gender, race, colour or creed.

Success, Excellence, Achievement
Trust • Honesty • Openness • Respect • Nurture • Enjoyment

Day to Day Information

Uniform and Property

Having consulted parents, the Governors have introduced a simple uniform. The main aim is to create in the children a sense of pride in their appearance and we ask you to support this by not sending your child to school in denim material at any time.

Long hair should be tied back with a plain band and to comply with National Health and Safety Regulations, under no circumstances should jewellery be worn.

UNIFORM - GIRLS

Grey/Green Dresses
Black/Grey - Trousers/Skirt
White Blouses or Polo Shirt
Green Sweatshirt/Cardigan
Flat black shoes (not trainers)

UNIFORM - BOYS

Black / Grey Trousers
White Polo Shirt
Green Sweatshirt or fleece
Black Shoes (not trainers)

GYM KIT - INSIDE

Plain white T-shirt
Dark Shorts & plimsolls

GYM KIT - OUTSIDE

Plain Tracksuit & trainers

ALL ARTICLES MUST BE CLEARLY MARKED WITH YOUR CHILD'S NAME! If any item is misplaced, we can return it to you.

Most items of clothing including embroidered polo shirts, fleeces and sweat tops can be purchased from the school uniform suppliers, details of which can be found in this pack. We also have a second-hand box of good quality clothing being sold for 50p per item, which can be accessed via the school office.

Security on Site

We try to have a balanced approach to security in our school. On the one hand, we must restrict access to the building for unauthorised people for the safety of the children, on the other hand we want to encourage parents to be an integral part of our learning team. To address this, we keep the main gates to the playground locked between 8.55am and 3.05pm, and ask that all visitors to the school come to the main entrance during this time. All adults in school will wear a named badge to help you find the right person to speak to. Visitors to school will wear a badge to recognise they have signed in through the official methods, with a member of staff.

Parking

We strive to make the access to school along Count Alan Road as clear as possible for our children, and ask that parents help us with this. You can help by parking responsibly, showing consideration for our neighbours and awareness of the safety of our parents and children by not stopping on the zig-zags outside school. To support our Healthy School ethos, you may be able to walk or cycle to school. We have bike storage areas in school to help you. Any child cycling to school must wear a cycle helmet.



Day to Day Information

The School Day

SCHOOL OPENS 8.30am

The teachers are on duty on the playground, shortly before morning school begins, i.e. 8.45am. We would appreciate it if children did not arrive any earlier as there is nobody on duty before this time.

LESSONS COMMENCE 8.55am

The teacher on duty will blow the whistle at 8.50am so that lessons can start promptly.

Children in Reception, Year 1 and Year 2 should be taken by their Parents/Carers to their classroom door where the teacher will be waiting to greet them after the whistle has been blown.

MID-MORNING BREAK 15 minutes

Each Key Stage has a separate mid-morning break of 15 minutes. During morning breaks, snacks are available: KS1 are provided with a piece of fruit and KS2 may buy from our healthy tuck shop (most items 25p).

LUNCH (Reception, Years 1 and 2) 12.00-1.10pm

Because of the number of pupils at Seathorne we have two dinner sittings.

LUNCH (Years 3 - 6) 12.05-12.55pm

The sitting for the older children begins mid-way through the break. Lunch is usually taken in the hall. However, when the weather is nice children have the option of an informal 'picnic' outside.

AFTERNOON BREAK 10 minutes

The children in Reception, Years 1 and 2 have a mid-afternoon break for 10 minutes. The children in KS2 sometimes have a 10 minute break as a reward for positive behaviour.

SCHOOL CLOSES 3.20pm

Lessons finish at 3.20pm. Reception children are collected from the classrooms at this time. Year 1 and 2 children are taken to the playground to be collected by their parent/carer. The older pupils are collected from the large playground. Children with siblings in Nursery, Reception and Year 1 are taken to the small playground so that siblings can be collected together. Any children that have not been collected by 3.30pm are taken to the main office.

Welfare

The health and welfare of your child is our first priority. We will always contact you if we have any concerns.

Medical care

There are various health checks completed in school by the school nurse and parents will be notified of these. Any child who becomes ill in school will be cared for until you can be contacted. We will need your emergency contact numbers and ask that you ensure that these are kept up to date. We ask you not to send your child to school if they are unwell.

Medicines

The Local Authority recommends that medicines are not brought into school for very obvious reasons. If your child has to have medication over an extended period of time, eg. inhalers, you will be asked to fill in a form regarding the arrangements for the medication. Where a course of antibiotics is involved, we request that the child should not return to school with more than a day's mixture left unless by prior agreement of the Head.

Attendance

Seathorne Primary School encourages regular attendance in many ways, for example:

- Providing a caring and welcoming learning environment with such enjoyable learning that children want to come to school every day.
- Responding promptly to a child's or parent's concerns about the school or other pupils;
- Marking registers accurately and punctually during morning and afternoon registration.
- Publishing and displaying attendance statistics to parents and governors.
- Celebrating good attendance.

Day to Day Information

- Monitoring pupils, informing parents/carers in writing of irregular attendance, arranging meetings with them if necessary and referring the family to the Family Welfare Officer or Education Welfare Service if the irregular attendance continues.

We expect that you will:

- ALWAYS encourage regular school attendance and be aware of your legal responsibilities;
- ALWAYS ensure that your child arrives at school punctually and fully prepared for the school day;
- Ensure that you contact the school before 8:50am whenever your child is unwell and unable to attend school;
- Contact us promptly if any problem occurs that may keep your child away from school.

Responding to Non-Attendance

When a pupil does not attend school we will respond in the following manner:

- On the first day of absence, if we have not heard from you by 9am, we will phone you.
- If by the end of the second day, there has still been no contact made we will send you a letter of concern and invite you into school to discuss your child's absence. You will be notified that if the absence persists a referral will be made to the Family Welfare Officer or Education Welfare Service.

Grant for leave of absence in exceptional circumstances

The changes in procedures for term-time holiday have now changed, and Head Teachers are no longer to authorise any periods of holiday absence unless there are exceptional circumstances.

Food and Drink

Seathorne Primary School is very pleased to have gained healthy school status. Part of this is to ensure that children have an accessible supply of water to drink. Water is available to all children and we provide cups in each classroom. Bottles of chilled water, with sports caps, are available to buy from the tuck shop. If you wish your child may bring a water bottle from

home that can be refilled at school. This bottle must only contain water. Please make sure bottles are taken home and cleaned on a regular basis.

A healthy schools tuck shop is available to KS2 children at playtime every morning. This contains such items as raisins, bagels, bread rolls, fruit juice and smoothies. The maximum cost of an item is 25p. There is a restriction on how much your child may buy. If you do not wish to purchase from the tuck shop, your child may bring in a piece of fruit or any of the tuck shop items. These are eaten during morning playtime.

Foundation and KS1 children are currently provided with a free piece of fruit every morning playtime in accordance with government guidelines.

Lunchtime

Lunchtimes operate on a rota system and the children are divided into two sittings which are supervised by the Senior Supervisor and Midday Supervisory Assistants. We provide hot school meals which you may book in advance. If you think you may be entitled to free school meals please call into the office for a form. A menu is sent out fortnightly and dinner money should be clearly labelled with child's name and days that are being paid for and handed to the class teacher or into the office in accordance with the menu instructions.

Children may bring a packed lunch, but glass containers, fizzy drinks and knives should not be sent to school. We recommend that your child brings a healthy balanced lunch containing some fruit based items if possible.

Get Up and Go Breakfast Club

We run a breakfast club every morning from 8am - 8.50am. The club offers your child a healthy and nutritional breakfast including bagels, toast, cereal, fruit & bacon baps. There is also a range of activities and resources to keep your child entertained. The cost of breakfast club is £1 per child per day. If you are interested in this please see the office for a registration form and further details.

Day to Day Information - Enrichment at Seathorne

Extra Curricular Activities

We are very proud of our school's range of after-school learning and enriched curriculum. Every day we have different clubs that the children can join, until 4.20pm. The clubs vary each term to ensure we have the best variety of provision that your child can access. Last year we provided clubs for Gardening, Circus Skills, Netball, Football, Tennis, Table-tennis, Art and Craft, Brass Band, Choir, Cookery and Maths Challenges. We also ran some lunchtime activities for performing arts. We have additional clubs for Eager Readers, Fine Art and Film Making this year. If you have any particular skills and would like to help to run a club, please see a member of staff.

Every year, we invite all children in Years 5 and 6 to join us in a residential visit. Last year we spent 3 days at PGL Caythorpe. We shall also be exploring residential experiences at Freiston Centre for Environmental Education and Gibraltar Point.

The school is a member of the Coastal Strip Primary Schools Cluster, through which many of the sporting activities are run on an inter-school basis. We also work actively with surrounding local authority schools.

Personal Accident Insurance for Pupils

The insurance market offers personal accident cover for pupils 24 hours a day. Parents may not be aware of this, and if they wish to avail themselves of this cover for their children, they should make enquiries with insurance brokers or companies accordingly.



Starting School

Toddler Mornings

Every Tuesday morning a toddler morning is held from 9 am - 11am. This is the perfect opportunity for pre-Nursery aged children to mix, and their parents to socialise. If you are new to the area it is an excellent, informal way to get to know people.

During Terms 5 and 6 before your child starts, you will have the opportunity to take part in our extensive induction programme. This includes:

- Coffee Mornings
- Tea and Toys
- Meeting the Teacher
- Information meetings
- Story Times
- A morning and afternoon in school
- In September you will have an individual meeting with the class teacher and teaching assistant.
- Immediately before your child starts school, the whole family is invited to come and see the classroom.

Starting School

Children are admitted to school in the September following their fourth birthday. This inevitably means that there will be a difference in the stage of development that each child within the year has reached.



Admission Arrangements

The admission policy for the school is included in this pack, but essentially is:

- Within the Reception, Year 1 and 2 groups a maximum of 60 children may be admitted.
- In older classes this number may vary depending upon the organisation of the school.
- While the governors have the discretion to accept more, there may be occasions when a particular age group is considered to be full. If this is the case, parents have the right of appeal to the Governing body.
- Children who cannot be admitted are put on a reserve list and informed when a place becomes available.

Oversubscription criteria is included in the Admissions Policy.



Your Child's Learning

Early Years Foundation Stage

In the Early Years, children learn through a wide range of adult led, adult initiated and child initiated play and practical activities. The children have free flow access between the indoor and a dedicated outdoor learning environment where resources, and carefully planned opportunities, are provided to develop children's learning across the 7 areas of the Foundation Stage Curriculum.

Three Prime areas - these are fundamental and support the development in all other areas

- Personal, social and emotional development
- Physical Development
- Communication and Language
- Literacy
- Mathematics
- Understanding the World
- Expressive Arts and Design

Your children will receive a well rounded curriculum based on the key principles of the Early Years Foundation Stage (EYFS). This means that we endeavour to develop the whole child, and not just academic progress. We pride ourselves on providing excellent care, support and guidance for our children—if they are not happy then how will they learn?

To ensure a smooth transition between nursery/ pre-school and primary school, we have developed relationships with our local settings. Through this partnership we work to share information about the child's interests and skills. We can also work together to prepare the children for school via our puppet called 'Louie'. The nursery settings have a little 'Louie' and a book about our school to help the children become aware of the places, things and people they might meet on starting at Seathorne.



The EYFS is the beginning of your child's learning journey, so it is important to get it right. We hope you will see our school as the right place for your child, and look forward to meeting you, if you should decide to join us, or just for a visit.

As your child moves from the EYFS into Key Stage 1, we continue to ensure a smooth transition. It is important for children to move seamlessly into their new year, and therefore we continue with opportunities for child-initiated play throughout the first term. This falls alongside a progressively more adult-initiated education, which still relies on children using the key skills they began to develop in the EYFS.

The National Curriculum is met in our school through termly topic-based learning to ensure maximum motivation for children and staff alike. They take great enjoyment from this way of learning and many choose to continue developing their key skills by further creative tasks at home. Each term, we focus on a different theme to develop our understanding through the curriculum and reflection times. In this way, we ensure we meet the spiritual needs of our children, to prepare them for living in a diverse community.

As your child moves through the school, we have regular opportunities for teacher assessed work, which allows the adults to review the progress your child is making. We always share this information with parents, as we value the input you have made in realising the potential of every child. These assessment opportunities can also alert us to any particular barriers to learning your child has, and we can ensure an effective and personalised work plan is implemented to support your child.

Your Child's Learning

Year 1 and Beyond...

The staff and governors of Seathorne are passionate about learning. We are committed to the life-long skills a child needs to prepare them for the world as an adult. To this end, we have refined our curriculum to meet the developing needs of our children and make meaningful links between areas of learning which will permeate through a range of subjects and themes. This progression of skills has been effectively mapped through our themes and the opportunities for learning are relevant to the children's experience, whilst maintaining the magic of developing the imagination, innovative and creative problem-solving.

The teacher and other adults working with the children, will mark and assess the children's work, giving the children feedback so that they understand their next steps. While common errors will also be corrected and reinforced, marking is based on what the child has been asked to concentrate on, so that is what the teacher is judging. The feedback the teacher gives is aimed at helping him or her understand better what they need to do to improve.

Targets

Children are given targets to help them to understand the next steps in their learning. These targets are appropriate to the ability of each child. They are frequently reminded of their target as these are available during all relevant learning.

Homework

Homework will be given to each child by the class teacher every week. This will be given on specific days to ensure consistency and make it easier to manage the work at home. Homework will increase as the children move up through the school. When pupils enter a year group the teacher will ensure the children are aware of homework days. A full copy of the Homework Policy is available on the school website or by contacting the school.

Charging for School Activities

Parents may be invited to make a voluntary contribution towards the costs of visits and visitors. In such cases activities will be available to all pupils regardless of their parents' ability or willingness to contribute. If we get contributions this means we can offer the children even more opportunities to be involved in new experiences.

Personal Property on School Premises

Pupils are responsible for the security of their personal possessions. Parents are asked not to send children to school with valuable items as their safety cannot be guaranteed and teachers are not able to accept responsibility for them. Labelling your child's uniform is highly recommended.

Literacy

We consider communication to be fundamental to a child's ability to access a rich and varied curriculum. As a result, our literacy is focused on developing every individual child's communication skills in listening, speaking, reading and writing. We aim to cultivate children's enthusiasm for literacy both inside and outside the classroom. We believe that children develop their communication skills most effectively when their learning is relevant, engaging and pupils are active participants. The development of children's literacy at Seathorne is not limited to literacy lessons, as your children will experience many cross-curricular opportunities in which to develop their talents. We have high expectations for our pupils which allow them to not only achieve their potential, but to aspire to advance further.



Your Child's Learning

Numeracy

At Seathorne, our numeracy focuses on developing our children's knowledge and understanding through a skills-centred learning programme. We achieve this through daily lessons of an hour duration, using a range of methods underpinning the practical tasks. The lessons include a warm-up which uses physical activity to engage mental working out of maths concepts. The whole class will have some teacher-led instruction and there will be an opportunity for group and individual work, where every child will be stretched to achieving their personal targets. The children learn a variety of ways to manipulate numbers and are exposed to a range of apparatus to support this. We encourage parents to also learn some of these methods to support their children with homework tasks. This year we shall host some informal maths workshops to introduce parents to some of the "new" ways of working.

Science

Science is a key part of our curriculum and where possible, we link it to our current theme of learning to gain the very best in understanding and achievement. Our children engage in practical investigations whenever appropriate, and make the most of the extensive outdoor learning environment. We are constantly developing our themes of study to provide the best opportunities for our children. To this end, we strive to provide enrichment and extension of the curriculum through a variety of extra-curricular clubs.

Religious Education

Our children study Christianity in greater depth, alongside learning of the faith and culture of Judaism, Hinduism and Islam.

The priority in Religious Education is to develop our children's understanding and tolerance of the diverse faiths that make up multicultural Britain. The staff and pupils meet together every day in a time of Collective Worship. These have a mainly Christian emphasis where a value or theme is explored and built upon throughout the week, such as respect, caring for the elderly, new beginnings or trust. Parents have the right to withdraw their child from all or part of the Religious Education provided. Alternative provision will be made for any children withdrawn. Please speak with the Head if you are considering this.

ICT

We have invested heavily in our ICT provision for the children in school. Every classroom has a number of computers to use through the day, as well as timetabled use of the ICT equipment. We ensure ICT links are explicitly detailed in our learning opportunities and the children have access to a range of ICT equipment to help them achieve meaningful and enhanced understanding across the curriculum. We recognise the achievements of our children in their developing skills in ICT with a progressive skills learning ladder, for which certificates are awarded.

PSHE

Personal, Social and Health Education encompasses the social, emotional, moral and personal issues that children encounter through life. Your child will be encouraged to explore these issues in a variety of ways, including Circle Time, Role Play and Debate. An awareness of Sex and Relationships and Drugs will be taught within this area in accordance with the school's policies. We have been awarded the Healthy Schools accreditation to recognise our significant contribution to this area of the curriculum.

PE

Every child has access to at least 2 hours of quality physical activity every week. The format of this activity will be developed through team games, such as football, hockey, netball and tag rugby and individual pursuits, such as gymnastics, dance, athletics and swimming. We have been awarded the Activemark to recognise our commitment to

Your Child's Learning

physical sports both within school and the range of clubs we offer after school. We have worked with external coaches to help the children's skills and have taken advantage of the range of inter-school competitions that take place throughout the year. In Terms 1, 2 and 3, all of our children in Years 2-6 go to the Embassy Swimming Pool to be taught swimming skills by qualified swimming teachers. Part of the PE syllabus includes learning of the effect exercise has on our bodies, and pupils learn of the importance of warming up and cooling down as a vital part of physical activity.

Art

We have a strong commitment to the Arts at Seathorne. Each term we focus on the progression of art skills in the 6 genres; painting, drawing, collage, sculpture construction, sculpture modelling and printing. We work with many outside arts practitioners to help enhance our skills and provide our staff with extra tuition!

Design Technology

Our children engage in the complete process of design and technology, through researching and evaluating products, designing to a purpose, practical focus skills, making a product and then evaluating what they have made. We use woodwork skills, sewing skills and modelling skills to develop our products.

Music

The children are taught to create, play, perform and evaluate through their music lessons. Key concepts are broken down in an enjoyable and practical way, such as beat/pulse, rhythm, timbre and tone. We have purchased a large range of instruments, both percussion and toned, to help the children's understanding of these areas. Our children and staff are passionate about singing to help with their learning. Mrs Parkins runs a choir club after school and during some lunch times, all of Key Stage 2 pupils are welcome to join in. They practise different songs from hymns, Christmas carols to musicals. The Seathorne

School choir is often asked to perform at various locations including The Embassy Centre and church performances at Christmas time.

French

From Year 1 to Year 6, every child enjoys learning French. The emphasis is on the practical speaking and listening skills of French learning, and looking at the cultural differences and similarities of French people. We look for enrichment to contextualise the learning for the children.

History

Here at Seathorne, we have a thematic approach to learning about the past. It is through this approach, our pupils learn about significant events and people and develop their sense of chronology. We believe that learning about the past enables children to understand how we live today. Pupils use a range of different sources to develop their historical knowledge, including books, artefacts, drama, art, ICT, first hand recollections and school visits.

Geography

By teaching the children geography, we enable them to investigate people, places and important issues which affect our environment. The children are given an insight into how other people live, not just locally but on a global scale. As with other curriculum areas, geography is also taught in a thematic way enriching the learning through a range of purposeful activities.

Assessment and SATs

At the end of Year 2 and Year 6, all children will take a National Curriculum statutory test, which we call SATs. The results of these assessments are used to benchmark our children's achievements against the achievements of all children in the country. Parents will be notified of the results of these assessments in the end of year report. We also attach the most recent SATs results for Year 2 and Year 6 to this prospectus. Schools are increasingly using teacher assessment to inform the levels each child is working at and at Seathorne, we are secure

Your Child's Learning

in our own judgements of each child's ability to use the tests merely to underline the teacher's own opinions. Similarly we also assess Years 3-5 to ensure we are helping every child achieve their potential. We ask that you make sure your child is in school for these tests in May. Dates for next year can be obtained from the school office.

Home - School Partnership

We firmly believe that a child achieves their potential when supported by a strong partnership between all of their educators, parents, teachers and children themselves. We encourage open communication between all parties, and have an open door policy to facilitate this. We have three opportunities every year for parents to formally meet with their child's class teacher; in October, February and July. We prepare a weekly newsletter every Friday to share important information with parents, and celebrate the successes of the week. Every term, the class teachers produce a newsletter, detailing what the key learning will be for the following term. Each Friday from 9:15am for Key Stage 2, and 2:45pm for Key Stage 1, we share the successes of the week in our Celebration Assembly, which has proved very popular with children and their parents. We warmly encourage you to come when you are able. At the beginning of the academic year, each class teacher hosts a parent information meeting, which gives an opportunity for parents to understand the routines of the classroom, homework arrangements, some practical tips for helping your child and most importantly to meet the class teacher and form the first steps in building a trusting learning partnership. We have regular contact with our Family Welfare Officer.

They have run a number of supportive workshops for parents both in school time and after school, to meet the needs of our parents. Details of forthcoming workshops and meetings are given on the newsletters, but if you would like to contact them, please come to the school office for the relevant telephone numbers. If you have any suggestions or comments about how we can further improve our links with home, please let us know. We value your input in making our school even better.

Inclusion for All Pupil Voice

Pupil voice is very important to us at Seathorne, and we seek the children's views on most aspects of school life, including policies, codes of conduct, charitable work, fund raising, healthy schools, road safety and developing the school grounds. To formalise the process, we have an elected School Council, who represent the views of the pupils. They meet regularly with members of staff and the Governing Body to share ideas and impact on the daily life of the school. We also have roles of responsibility such as Prefects and House Captains for the older pupils, as well as Play Leaders to deliver games for the younger children at playtimes. Each class has further roles for the children to have a shared approach for the running of the classroom.

Special Educational Needs

Children's progress is constantly monitored and assessed and careful records are kept. Occasionally we find that a child does not make the progress we would expect. If this is the case, staff will speak to the parents to share any concerns immediately. We will then take appropriate steps to support the child. In the first instance, we may create an Individual Education Plan, where the child has SMART targets to achieve within a given time-frame. Ideas for parents to support the child at home will be shared. If the targets continue not to be achieved, we may consult outside agencies such as Specialist Teaching and Applied Psychology

Your Child's Learning

Service, Speech and Language Therapist or Behaviour Specialists, to give additional advice. After further consultation with parents, the Local Authority may make a statutory assessment based on the specialist advice given. A Statement of Special Educational Needs may be drawn up. This describes all of the child's needs and all the special help that should be provided. Parents will always be consulted and kept fully informed at every stage once we have identified that their child would benefit from some additional support. This support may be for educational, social or personal needs.

Gifted and Talented

At the beginning of each academic year, the staff meet to consider the achievements of every child in their class. They identify the highest performing pupils and a register is compiled of these most able children. We set challenging targets for these children and look for the best ways to support them in achieving these aspirational outcomes. Provision for our "Gifted and Talented" children is an area we shall be focusing on over the coming year. We shall be exploring a range of different extension activities to develop our highest attaining pupils to their full potential.

Disabilities

The Governors, being mindful of the need to maintain an effective learning environment for all, will take every reasonable step to act in a way that is non-discriminatory and ensure all pupils are treated fairly.

Year 6 and Beyond...

Transfer Of Pupils To Secondary Education

At the beginning of Year 6, the children have the opportunity to sit the 11+ exam. This is to determine the best secondary school to meet the academic needs of the child. Parents must give permission for this test and the children have one practice paper administered in school in the summer term when they are in Year 5.

Parents do not have to enter their child for this test, and you may like to discuss this with the class teacher.

The testing can be quite stressful for parents and children alike, and the adults in school will do all we can to ensure the process runs smoothly. The tests can be taken at the weekend at Skegness Grammar School, or at our school during the school day. Results of these tests are sent to parents in October, and from there parents can select the best secondary school for their child and notify the County Admissions Team. Further details will be given to you at this time. At the end of Year 6, children from Seathorne have a choice of a large number of secondary schools to transfer to. Parents can apply for admission to any secondary school in the area, subject to there being places available. Transportation arrangements are notified to parents in October to help with the decision-making process.

The Year 6 children who transferred to secondary over the last 2 years have selected the following:

Alford, John Spendluffe Technology College
Alford, Queen Elizabeth's Grammar School
Old Leake, Giles School
Skegness Academy
Skegness Grammar School

We have regular contact with each of these schools, hold their prospectus in school, and display details of Open Evenings to which parents and children are invited. In Year 5, the children are invited to Skegness Grammar School, King Edward's VI Humanities Academy, Skegness Academy, Giles Academy and John Spendluffe for 1 day of curriculum games. We work very hard to prepare each child for their chosen secondary school, and develop confidence skills to take with them. One of the programmes we will share with Year 6 children is the Friends for Life course, which takes place in school and effectively supports our children through this transition period.