



PROSPECTUS INFORMATION 2023-2024

PARKSIDE MIDDLE SCHOOL

Parkside Middle School is one of seven schools built by HBG on five sites as part of the Bromsgrove PFI project.

The schools are The Orchards School, North Bromsgrove High School, South Bromsgrove High School, Crown Meadow First School, Alvechurch Middle School, Meadows First School and Parkside Middle School.

Parkside Middle School occupies the same site as Meadows First School and whilst being organised as two separate schools, both communities benefit greatly by sharing some facilities. The building was occupied in March 2008.

Our school is a 5-form entry 9 – 13 middle school, with an admission number of 150 children. The school also has a Mainstream Autistic Base (MAB). Childcare facilities are available from 7.30 am – 6.00 pm in term time and during holiday periods, this is provided by Castle Kids Club.

In September 2023, there will be 610 pupils in school with a staff of 38 teachers. Group sizes in Maths and English are only 25 on average.

Parkside is well provided for in terms of accommodation and there is disabled access to all areas.

SAFEGUARDING CHILDREN

Parkside Middle School is committed to safeguarding and the PREVENT strategy. Pupils learn to accept and uphold our fundamental British values.

Our commitment to safeguarding encompasses ways to ensure our children and young people are secure, confident and independent. The school has a duty of care and the right to take reasonable action to ensure the welfare and safety of its pupils.

Parkside Middle School believes that it is always unacceptable for a child to experience abuse of any kind. We recognise our responsibility to safeguard the welfare of all children.

We will provide staff and volunteers with guidance to follow when they suspect a child may be experiencing abuse or is at risk of harm. We will work co-operatively with other agencies to safeguard and promote the welfare of children.

We will ensure that our concerns about our pupils are discussed with parents/carers first, unless we have reason to believe that such a move would be contrary to the child's welfare.

Designated Safeguarding Lead for child protection:

Mrs R. Jenkin

Deputy Designated Safeguarding Leads for child protection:

Mr S. Swaffield, Mrs K. Varley, Mrs N. Miarowska & Mrs M. Moffatt

The Governor with responsibility for child protection:

Mrs C. Blincoe

The Child Sexual Exploitation and PREVENT Lead:

Mrs R. Jenkin



OFSTED SEPTEMBER 2019

On the 11th and 12th September 2019 the school received its most recent Ofsted inspection. The outcome, the best overall in the school's history, judged the school to be 'good' overall but with 'personal development' seen to be 'outstanding'.

- *Pupils are very happy at Parkside Middle School. They enjoy learning and coming to school.*
- *Relationships between pupils and adults are excellent.*
- *Every single member of staff works hard to make sure pupils do as well as they can.*
- *Pupils do not worry about being bullied.*
- *Pupils' enjoy and speak with enthusiasm about the many opportunities for learning beyond lessons.*
- *Pupils are well prepared for their next steps in education and beyond.*
- *Pupils' personal development and well-being are at the heart of the school. All staff at the school care about pupils' welfare.*

HMI Ofsted Inspection – September 2019



ACADEMIC YEAR 2023-2024

AUTUMN TERM 2023

Monday 4 th September	School closed - TE Day
Tuesday 5 th September	School reopens – Year 5 only
Wednesday 6 th September	School reopens for whole school
Thursday 26 th October	School closes for half term
Friday 27 th October	School closed - TE Day

HALF TERM

Monday 6 th November	School reopens
Thursday 21 st December	School closes for Christmas break
Friday 22 nd December	School closed – TE Day

SPRING TERM 2024

Monday 8 th January	School reopens
Friday 9 th February	School closes for half term

HALF TERM

Monday 19 th February	School reopens
Friday 22 nd March	School closes for Easter break

SUMMER TERM 2024

Monday 8 th April	School reopens
Monday 6 th May	School closed - May Day
Friday 24 th May	School closes for half term

HALF TERM

Monday 3 rd June	School closed – TE Day
Tuesday 4 th June	School reopens
Friday 19 th July	School closes for Summer holidays
Monday 22 nd July	School closed - TE Day



GETTING TO SCHOOL

All pupils should enter and access the school from the side gate on the public footpath, these gates open from 8.30am. Pupils will make their way to the classrooms for registration from 8.45am.

Pupils may ride to school on their bicycle but safety helmets should be worn. The school has a special area where pupils can lock-up their bicycle but they need to provide their own lock. Pupils riding to school should ensure that they are considerate to pedestrians and we ask them to dismount when they approach the school gate.

The car park gates are closed for the safety of your children during these times:

8.40am to 9.15am

3pm to 3.30pm

SCHOOL TIMES

Side gates open	8:30am
Registration	8:45 – 9:00
Lesson 1	9:00 – 10:00
Lesson 2	10:00 – 11:00
Break	11:00 – 11:15
Assembly	11:15 – 11:30
Lesson 3	11:30 – 12:30
Lunch	12:30 – 1:20
Registration	1:20 – 1:30
Lesson 4	1:30 – 2:20
Lesson 5	2:20 – 3:15
School day ends	3:15pm

OUT OF HOURS EXTENDED CARE

Out of hours school care is available on site. This offers breakfast club, after school and holiday club for children aged 9-13. For further information contact:

The Castle Kids Club:

Keith & Vicki Young: 01527 831150

LUNCHTIME ARRANGEMENTS

School meals are available from the school canteen. The cost of a school meal is £2.47, and a menu is available from school reception and displayed on the school website.

We use a system called Biometric, which is a fingerprint recognition system. This enables pupils to be served lunch without having to remember a PIN number. Money can be put onto the child's lunch account through our website using 'Parent Pay.' Further information can be obtained from the school office.

Pupils are encouraged to bring a healthy snack to eat at break-time. We do not wish to see our pupils eating crisps or chocolate and suggest that a healthy alternative such as fresh or dried fruit or cereal bars are brought in for break time.

Free school meals are available for children whose parents are in receipt of Income Support. Application forms for free meals are available from the school office.



SCHOOL UNIFORM

All pupils are expected to wear their school uniform with pride. The uniform is designed to offer a variety and choice of clothes and to keep the price at a reasonable level. Please ensure all items are clearly labelled with your child's name.

Boys' Uniform

- Black or Grey trousers (not jeans or fashion trousers).
- Blue shirt with school tie.
- Blue V-neck pullover with the school logo.
- Black traditional/conventional shoes (no trainers).

Boys' PE Kit

- Navy blue shorts.
- Navy blue and sky-blue polo shirt with school logo.
- Navy blue football socks with sky-blue turnover and trainers.
- A navy blue and sky-blue rugby jersey is optional.
- Boys who regularly play rugby are advised to purchase a gum shield.

Girls' Uniform

- Black skirt (No shorter than 2 inches above the knee and allowing freedom to move).
- Black trousers (not jeans or fashion trousers).
- Blue V-neck pullover with school logo.
- Blue shirt with school tie.
- Black tights or black/white socks.
- Black traditional/conventional school shoes (no trainers, knee-high boots, court, platform or high-heeled shoes).

Girls' PE Kit

- Navy blue shorts or a skirt.
- Navy blue and sky-blue polo shirt with school logo.
- Navy blue football socks with sky-blue turnover and trainers.
- A navy blue and sky-blue rugby jersey is optional.
- Girls who regularly play rugby are advised to purchase a gum shield.

MOBILE PHONES

Mobile Phones are not permitted to be used in school. If seen or heard they will be confiscated and returned at the end of the day on a first occasion. On a second occasion, a parent/carer will be asked to collect the phone.

If pupils bring a mobile phone to school, they are encouraged to hand it into reception for safekeeping at the start of the school day and collected at the end of the day.

**Mobile phones must be switched off at all times.
The school does not accept responsibility for any loss or damage to mobile phones.**

JEWELLERY, HAIR AND MAKE-UP

Children who have their ears pierced may wear up to one plain stud in each ear on the lobe, not on the top. Other than a watch, children are not allowed to wear bracelets, rings or any other items of jewellery in school.

Inappropriate hair styles are not allowed in school. This includes hair with shaved patterns/ lines/ tracks. Furthermore, overly coloured or bleached hair will not be accepted. Pupils must have natural coloured hair only and bright dye colours are not permitted. For example, pink hair is not acceptable.

Hair accessories should be plain and small hair slides are acceptable. No large hair accessories are permitted.

Only subtle make-up is permitted which needs to look natural. False nails are not permitted. Nail varnish is not permitted and pupils will be asked to remove it.

School bags must be of a sensible size to hold equipment, as they will be carried around throughout the day.

LOCKERS

Children are allocated a locker in their year area. These are used for storing PE bags and coats only. No valuables should be kept in lockers.



FAMILY HOLIDAY DURING TERM TIME

The school considers that all absences from school will disrupt a child's continuity of learning. As a consequence it believes that absences should be kept to a minimum in order to maximise your child's potential.

The Headteacher will only authorise leave of absence in exceptional circumstances.

If a leave request is granted, it will be for the Headteacher to determine the length of time that the child can be away from school. However, leave will not be granted for the purposes of a family holiday. Year 6 children will be taking SATs tests during the week 13th – 16th May 2024. It is therefore important that Year 6 children are in school during this period.

HEALTH AND ABSENCE

It is essential for the school to know about any medical or physical condition likely to affect your child's progress. Do please keep us fully informed about any such condition. Children having a medical appointment should, whenever possible, come to school first and proceed to the medical appointment at the appropriate time. Please collect your child from the school reception for such appointments.

If you know that your child is going to be absent, or if he/she has been absent, please telephone the school or send in a note of explanation. For continued absence it is the parents' responsibility to contact the school on a daily basis to keep the school informed of the absence. This is important as the school is required to publish numbers of unauthorised absences.

PARENT PAY

This is a system whereby parents/carers can pay on the internet for such items as trips, events and school lunches. Each pupil is allocated a unique Username and Password which enables the parent/carer to make payments to school and this is done through the school website.

HOMEWORK

Homework is planned as an integral element of the curriculum, consolidating and reinforcing skills and understanding as well as reinforcing classroom learning. It contributes to the development of pupils as self-directed learners and supports the development of independent learning skills, whilst developing an effective home-school partnership. Parents are encouraged to liaise with school and provide feedback in relation to their child's homework.

Pupils in KS2 are expected to do up to 30-minutes per night. All homework is appropriate to the pupil's ability and marked regularly. KS2 children are set English and Maths homework every week, alongside nightly reading, spelling and times tables activities. In addition, Science is set when relevant and Humanities/Arts projects are set as termly projects.

KS3 are set English, Maths, Science weekly with foundation subjects on a rotation, alongside nightly reading.



THE CURRICULUM

We deliver an exciting and innovative curriculum that challenges and inspires the learning of our pupils: a curriculum that develops knowledge and understanding, acceptance and engagement with British values while also teaching the necessary skills to be successful in the modern day world and workplace. Our school Curriculum promotes a positive attitude towards learning so that children enjoy coming to school in an exciting and stimulating learning environment. It provides a broad and balanced education that caters for all.

In both KS2 and KS3, all National Curriculum subjects are taught discreetly, although cross-curricular links are made wherever possible. With the exception, of English and Mathematics, lessons are taught in mixed ability class groups.

Throughout the school, groupings for English and Maths are determined by the needs of each cohort. Pupils' reading skills are further developed through the implementation of Accelerated Reader. The application on Maths in a real-life context is strengthened through additional Real Life Maths lessons.

All lessons provide pupils with opportunities to develop their subject knowledge and understanding, whilst developing their skills in being successful, independent, creative and reflective learners. Their broad and balanced learning experience is built to continue to build on prior learning, to ensure that they are ready for the next stage in their education.

This is underpinned by an excellent wider curriculum, with trips, visits, clubs and residential opportunities where pupils are encouraged to develop their personal skills and interests.

PERSONAL DEVELOPMENT

We pride ourselves on our commitment to an extended curriculum beyond the academic opportunities. We are committed to developing responsible, respectful and active citizens and provide a wealth of opportunities for pupils to develop and deepen their understanding of democracy, individual liberty, the rule of law and mutual respect and tolerance. We provide a fully inclusive and diverse environment to meet the needs of all pupils and that aims to develop pupils' character. Time is dedicated within our curriculum to our Thrive provision, developing our pupils' confidence, resilience and knowledge of how to keep themselves mentally and physically healthy. We also provide an excellent careers programme with links to local businesses and national opportunities.

THRIVE APPROACH

Parkside is a Thrive Ambassador School. To support all of our children to flourish, we have embedded the use of the Thrive Approach in order to support their emotional and social development. Our aim is to help our children feel safe, happy and secure to be able to enjoy friendships, relate well to others and be ready to learn. We recognise the impact a child's emotional development has on their overall achievement and have developed a whole school approach with specific provision within our curriculum designed to help pupils with their emotional and social skills. For more information of the Thrive Approach, please see our website.

Relationships, Sex and Health Education

Relationship, Sex and Health Education (RSHE) is part of a lifelong learning about physical, moral and emotional development. At Parkside, RSHE is delivered in PSHE and Science lessons. Our RSHE curriculum is centred in personal safety, caring for others and building strong and healthy relationships. This is coupled with teaching students about the human body and its changes during puberty, including information about reproduction, control of fertility and sexual health, sexuality and healthy relationships.

Religious Education and Collective Worship

Our programme for Religious Education is based on the Worcestershire Agreed Syllabus. There is daily collective worship in the school, sometimes undertaken together by the whole school, sometimes separately by year or class groups. The children are invited to a Christmas Carol Service at Bromsgrove Methodist Church each year. This is a broadly Christian context in line with the requirements of the 1988 Education Reform Act.

You have a legal right to withdraw your child from Religious Education or collective worship after consultation with the Headteacher.



SPECIAL EDUCATIONAL NEEDS AND DISABILITIES

Parkside Middle School is a mainstream school committed to the inclusion of all pupils, including those with a range of special educational needs and disabilities. At Parkside Middle School we provide tailored support for pupils as necessary, to ensure every pupil achieves their full potential with us and develops the skills to live happy and fulfilled lives in their future. As a school we are committed to the integration and inclusion of pupils with a range of needs covering the four broad areas of need:

- Cognition and Learning difficulties
- Communication and Interaction Needs
- Social, Emotional and/or mental Health Needs
- Sensory and/or Physical Needs

Every child's progress and learning is the responsibility of the class teacher, who under the SEND code of practice (2014) is accountable for the pupil's progress and development, including where pupils access support from Learning Support Assistants or Specialised Staff. The management and coordination of SEND (Special Educational Needs and Disabilities) at Parkside is the responsibility of the SENDCo (Special Educational Needs Co-ordinator) Mrs Moffatt with the support of the SEND administrator, Mrs Dallaway. The SENDCo will make sure that necessary school staff are aware of your child's needs and that the correct support is in place to ensure that they become confident learners.

At Parkside Middle School, all children receive high quality first teaching which is an approach which considers the needs of all learners in the classroom through a range of differentiated strategies. We do accept that some children may be at risk of not making the required amount of progress either academically, socially, emotionally, or physically. We therefore have rigorous procedures in place to enable staff to promptly assess, plan, implement and review provision for individual children. This is to ensure that all pupils, regardless of need, have appropriate provision in place to support them to reach their full potential. We use a graduated approach to help identify, plan, implement and review provision to meet children's needs.

The school also has a Mainstream Autism Base (MAB) and admission to The Den is through SEND Services Worcestershire County Council. All queries regarding provision should be directed to SEND Services on the following number 01905 845579.



SCHOOL FUND

We run a school fund to help provide the children with the 'extras' for which the County Council does not pay. Such 'extras' include items for parties or celebrations, subsidies for some visits, games or other materials for school clubs, prizes for competitions, Christmas activities etc. We ask you for a donation of £5.00 per child per year for this fund (not more than £7.50 per family per year). To assist us with accounting and planning we request that the school fund be paid during the Autumn Term.

SCHOOL TRIPS & RESIDENTIAL VISITS

It is school policy to follow the guidance set out in the Worcestershire County Council Educational Service document 'Off-site Visits, Field Studies and Outdoor Education Guidance 2001'. Schools are permitted to charge for board and lodgings for residential activities. However, parents are encouraged to make a voluntary contribution towards the cost of such journeys and may be advised that if there are not sufficient contributions the visit, journey or activity may not take place.

The school also organises residential visits. These may include an outdoor 'Bushcraft' or Oaker Wood experience, or a trip to Upton Warren or Blackwell Adventure.

CHARGES FOR SCHOOL ACTIVITIES

Under the requirements of the Education Reform Act, no charge may be made for tuition, visits, materials, books, or other equipment used in connection with the National Curriculum. Given these requirements the Governors have determined the following policy:

Equipment: An essential equipment list is published every year. This includes a handwriting pen, pencil, ruler, green pen, highlighter, whiteboard pen, eraser, pencil sharpener and headphones for Computing.

Practical Subjects: Whilst the school is required to pay for any ingredients, materials, etc. needed for practical subjects, parents are encouraged to contribute in cash or kind where appropriate. The school may charge for, or require the supply of, ingredients and materials if you have indicated in advance a wish to own the finished product.

Musical Instrument Tuition: Lessons are available in a whole host of instruments. Children who reach an adequate standard may be invited to play at various events. The cost of tuition is charged against the school's budget and therefore, we are obliged to pass on to parents the cost of tuition.



BEHAVIOUR AND ATTITUDE

At Parkside Middle School we believe good behaviour is essential to allow our pupils to achieve their full potential. Our Positive Behaviour and Attitudes Policy fully supports the aims of the school. Our school has a set of non-negotiable rules known as 'The Parkside Standard'.

Achievement Points

Rewards

Rewards are an efficient way to provide immediate feedback to our pupils about their behaviour. Our pupils are proud to collect achievement points for behaviour, attendance, conduct and academic achievement. All pupils have the same opportunity to receive reward.

Achievement points are recorded in pupils' handbooks and this must be taken to every lesson.

Achievement points can be given for the following:

- High Quality work
- The Parkside Standard
- Active Learning

Pupils record their achievement points in their planners weekly and these are celebrated in their classes.

At the end of every half-term we will look at the number of points awarded and see who the top 8 pupils are and they receive a reward. At the end of each term, the class with the most points is also given a reward.

The names of all pupils with 100 or more points will be listed on the reward board which is on display in the school reception area.

Celebrating Success

At Parkside we firmly believe in celebrating success in all areas of school life. We are proud that our pupils behave in an exemplary fashion and achieve their full potential. All pupils have the same opportunity to receive rewards.

Rewards can be in the form of verbal praise, class tokens, stamps on work, achievement points, celebratory texts, notes home and certificates. In addition, we hold fortnightly celebration assemblies to share excellent work and achievements in year groups. There are also end-of-term rewards and class rewards to encourage and reinforce The Parkside Standard.

PARENT AND SCHOOL LIAISON AND COMMUNICATION

We understand that as parents you should know how the school is organised and how your child is progressing. We are also concerned that you should have every opportunity of keeping in contact with us and offering your views on the general organisation and progress of the school. There are a number of ways in which we establish and maintain contact with parents:

- Open school sessions and evenings for parents and prospective parents to see the school at work.
- Letters home, school newsletter, and the school website: www.parkside.worcs.sch.uk
- Meetings organised from time to time on aspects of school curriculum, general education and welfare matters.
- Through school productions, sports days, and other similar events.

HOUSES

The school operates a House Competition in which points are awarded for all types of activities. The four school Houses are Gloucester, Hereford, Malvern and Worcester.



Embrace Opportunity. Nurture Success. Inspire Futures.

GOVERNING BODY

The Governing Body is comprised of the following members. A Declaration of Business Interest form is completed annually by all Governors.

CHAIR OF GOVERNORS

Mrs Claire Blincoe

VICE CHAIR OF GOVERNORS

Mr Alex Willis

HEADTEACHER

Mrs Natalie Mancini

L.A. APPOINTEE

Mrs Claire Blincoe

PARENT GOVERNORS

Mr Alex Willis

Mr Dean Caswell

Mrs Sarah Moore

Mrs Samantha Lawley

STAFF GOVERNORS

Mrs Natalie Miarowska

CO-OPTED GOVERNORS

Mrs Rebecca Jenkin

Mrs Anne Longbottom

Miss Angela Edwards

Mrs Sarah Mole

Mr Jonathan Eades

Mr Adrian Jewell

CLERK

Mrs Kate Reid

Communication to the Governing Body should be made through the school office.