



Ofsted 2019:
"Good with
outstanding
features."



Woodloes Primary School

Welcome to Woodloes Primary School



Foreword: Mr Andrew Mitchell, Headteacher, says:

It is my pleasure to welcome you to our wonderful school.

Taking care of each other

Woodloes is a wonderful community school with people at the heart of it. Our children, staff and families are without doubt our greatest assets and we are very proud of who we are, where we are and where we are going.

We place great importance on kindness and respect and a genuine care and affection is evident across our school and everyone in our community.

We all work closely together to take care and bring out the best in one another and these qualities and values have been strengthened even further during recent times.

Ambitious curriculum

Our curriculum is a massive strength of our school. We have worked tirelessly to design a curriculum that is both ambitious and memorable, as well as broad and balanced.

Superb facilities

Our innovative and dynamic lessons are as rich and inspiring as our superb facilities - which allow our children to learn indoors and outdoors all year round.

Inclusion and kindness

Woodloes is a place where children are inspired and supported to explore their potential. Our children also celebrate their differences and treat everyone with kindness and respect. We enable children to develop as kind, compassionate and caring individuals who know how to 'work hard and be nice!'.

Support from the Academy Trust

We are a proud member of the Community Academies Trust. We work closely as part of a family of schools with a shared ideology to learn from each other and grow together.

Happy and safe

At Woodloes, we naturally prefer to lead and innovate and enjoy working collaboratively to create a safe and happy environment where every child has the very best start in life.

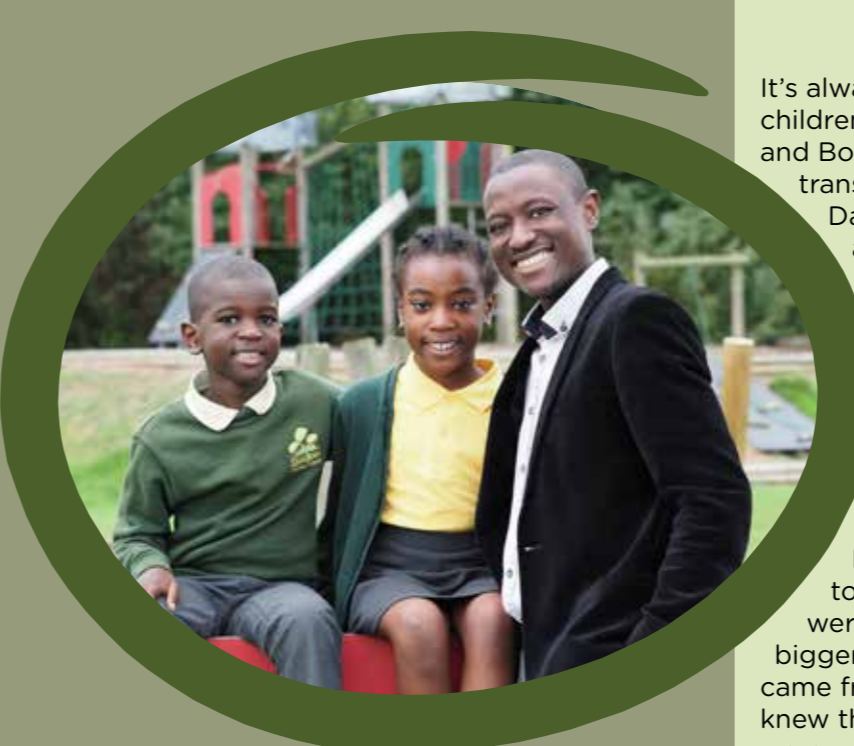
Parent partnership

Another very important part of our school is you, the parent! As you will see, by reading the many parent and pupil stories within this prospectus, you and your child are very important to us.

We champion the link between school and parent and work very hard to involve you in every step of your child's time here...and increase your child's enjoyment of learning.

Get in touch

If you wish to hear more about what we can offer your child, please contact us for further information or an appointment to meet me. We welcome visits and love to show our school in action. Telephone the school office on 01926 497491 or email admin5207@welearn365.com.



Woodloes Primary School is a Big School with a Small Community Feel

Niki and Bolade live on the Woodloes Estate with children Sophie aged eight and David aged six.

It's always nerve-racking for parents when their children need to change schools. However, Niki and Bolade couldn't have asked for a smoother transition when their children, Sophie and David, started at Woodloes Primary School after moving from Binley Woods last year. "It went so smoothly. When we moved, the school let them start during the last half term of the current school year so they knew what to expect for September. They instantly made friends, loved their teachers and settled in really well," says Niki.

A close community

Niki's greatest worry about the transition to the new school was that the children were going from a small village school to a bigger, two-form entry primary school. "We came from a small school where many people knew the children from nursery. Even though we were, at that point, the only black family at their old school it was fine because the community was so close. It was worrying to come to a bigger school, but Woodloes School has such a small feel despite its size," says Niki.

What makes the school feel like such a close, small community is the culture that is created by the leadership team, who make themselves visible and approachable at all times. Niki explains, "I know some parents at other schools who hardly get any contact with their child's teacher until parents' evening! Even though it's bigger here, people know each other well and there's a good social network. It's not too in your face, but you feel there's support there when you need it."

Caring staff

Niki has been touched by how the teachers really seem to care about the little things that make such a difference to children's wellbeing.

She explains, "I did a hairstyle for Sophie one day that she didn't like, but I had no time to change it. You know, for little girls that kind of thing feels like the end of the world. She wanted to fit in with her friends. I was impressed to hear at the end of the day that her teacher changed her hairstyle to look exactly like Sophie's that day - she felt so special and had a nice day."

Academic encouragement

When Sophie first started at Woodloes Primary School, she was achieving highly in English because she enjoyed it but felt that maths wasn't her strongest subject. The teachers really made an effort to change her thinking that maths 'wasn't her thing.' "They built her confidence and she's made amazing progress. David is a real all-rounder, but he can be a little lazy with his writing. The teachers have encouraged him so well with his pencil grip and spelling" says Niki.

Fantastic resolution and communication skills

Niki reflects on a difficult incident that she feels built her confidence in how the school responds to unacceptable behaviour. She says, "There was an unfortunate incident where my daughter witnessed an unkind comment made to her friend by another child, and was very upset by it. This doesn't reflect on the school - I think in bigger schools things like this are more likely to happen. The complaint was handled very seriously and promptly by the headteacher. There's never been a repeat of the incident and I felt reassured."

What the children say:

"What I like best about Woodloes Primary School is forest school!" says Sophie. David adds, "I love the treats and when we get 20 marbles as a class."

School day: settling in

School hours

Reception and Years 1 and 2 start school at 8.55am and finish at 3.15pm. Years 3 to 6 start school at 8.55am and finish at 3.20pm.

Before and after school care

Out of School Care and Recreation (OSCAR) provides safe and enjoyable childcare for children from Reception through to Year 6. OSCAR is managed by Woodloes Primary School and run by qualified adults. We offer children supervision and encouragement during various activities alongside a healthy breakfast, tea or snack depending on timings. The breakfast club runs from 7.45am to 8.45am and after-school club runs from 3.15pm to 5.30pm.

Clubs

We run a wide variety of after-school activities clubs to appeal to every child. Recent examples are:

- Street/Pop dance.
- Judo.
- Choir.
- Multi-sports.
- Football.
- Tennis.
- Code club.



Uniform

The Governors and staff believe that school uniform increases the children's pride and ownership of their school. The Woodloes uniform is smart and practical, consisting of a smart dark green sweatshirt or cardigan, yellow polo shirt and grey school trousers, skirts or pinafores. Our school uniform is available from a number of suppliers locally and can also be purchased from local supermarkets.

School meals and snacks

We are a healthy school, and this means that lunchtime is an important part of our school day. Our fantastic quality and delicious school meals are provided by Educaterers and prepared freshly in our school kitchen. Payment for school meals is made using ParentPay.

Children have the option of bringing a packed lunch to school. We encourage parents to make these as healthy as possible and don't allow sweets or fizzy drinks.

Free school meals

All children in Reception and Years 1 and 2 are entitled to free school meals under the government's Universal Infant Free School Meals funding. If you receive benefits or have a low income, your child may be eligible for free school meals in Year 3 and beyond. We also encourage anyone eligible to apply for free school meals in Reception to Year 2, as this can result in additional funding for the school and help for you during holidays. Apply for free school meals at www.warwickshire.gov.uk/freeschoolmeals.

Milk

Children under five are entitled to free milk and other children in school may purchase it. If you wish your child to have milk beyond their fifth birthday, please arrange this via the school office.

Fruit and snacks and drinks

Children in Reception, Year 1 and Year 2 have access to free fruit at break times. Children in Years 3 - 6 may bring in a healthy snack from home. All children can bring in a labelled water bottle and will be encouraged to keep hydrated during the day.



The teachers' energy and enthusiasm are contagious!

Claire and Andrew live on the Woodloes Estate with daughters Annie aged nine and Alice aged seven.



If a school's success is measured by a child's happiness and willingness to go, then Woodloes Primary School is undoubtedly winning. "Both Annie and Alice are very happy at school; that is the overarching theme of our experience. There has never been one day where either of them has said they don't want to go to school, or been unhappy about going," says Claire.

Annie and Alice both started their Woodloes Primary School journey in Saplings aged three. Claire explains, "The preschool felt so welcoming and nurturing and Woodloes Primary seemed like a friendly, community school. They both went to a private nursery when they were small, and Saplings was brilliant for transitioning them from nursery to a school setting."

Forest school fun and marvellous maths

Claire and Andrew are happy to say that both girls' journeys through Woodloes Primary School have been free of friction; they are achieving well academically and both thoroughly enjoy school. "Alice's particular favourite school activity is forest school," says Claire. "She comes out buzzing about the things she's done, like making clay models. They go out there whatever the weather! Annie loves maths; they're given many different exercises and activities to relate maths to real-life scenarios. The teacher makes it fun; you can tell the teacher lives and breathes the subject and that kind of enthusiasm is contagious."

Passionate teaching staff

This energy and enthusiasm have been a common theme across all the teachers Annie and Alice have had during their time at Woodloes Primary School. "The teachers are the absolute heart of the school," says Claire. "They are clearly so passionate about their subjects, and this passion is passed onto the children."

Another standout feature of Annie and Alice's educational experience is that the teaching staff

are so obviously invested in the happiness and well-being of the children at Woodloes. Claire explains, "They have been so well supported by the teachers and staff over the years. And they have so much fun at school! This comes down to the teachers who go above and beyond for them which includes hosting regular discos for the children at lunchtime on the playground."

PTA heroes

The PTA are also heralded as heroes of the school community. "They put so much time and energy into bringing the community together," says Claire. "Not just to fundraise but to create opportunities for the children and parents to be part of something special. They've organised bingo and quiz nights, and Halloween discos and they also team up with local charities. That's so important for the children to see the school working with the community and being part of something that contributes to society."

Flexibility is greatly appreciated

Claire reflects that primary schools are often geared towards arranging things in and around school hours, but Claire and Andrew are both appreciative of Woodloes Primary School's flexibility in adapting to different circumstances. "The teachers have been flexible with working families by arranging meetings and things outside of nine-to-five working hours. When Annie was in reception, I couldn't go to the phonics workshop they held so the teacher arranged one just for me on a one-to-one basis," says Claire.

What the children say:

"I always feel I can ask the teachers anything," says Annie. "They will really take the time to sit down just with me to explain it instead of just giving me an answer. I love playing with my friends and they will always be by your side." Alice adds, "I love forest school as you get to run around making muddy things like mud and worm pie!"

Creative curriculum: foundations for success

Personalised learning experience

Our curriculum strives, above all, to recognise diversity. All children have different strengths, challenges, interests and ways of learning. Personalisation is the key to inspiring children during their learning journey. Wherever possible, we give children the opportunity to express their individuality when demonstrating their knowledge, and the licence to explore subjects to depths that reflect their interest and ability.

Budding artists, musicians, performers, linguists and sports stars

Alongside the core academic subjects, we are passionate about developing budding artists, musicians, performers, linguists and sports stars.

Music

We believe that music is a universal language that can inspire and engage people. This motivates us to ensure the effective delivery of a music curriculum that can be enjoyed and accessed by all children. We also have a thriving school choir, that performs regularly at school and in the community. Individual specialist music tuition is also available for children who would like to learn an instrument. These lessons are paid for by parents and more information is available from the office.

Opportunities and experiences

We encourage children to take part in a variety of new opportunities and experiences that are both academic and social to discover new skills and develop a love of learning. We believe our curriculum promotes resilience and independence to enable success and happiness in the wider world.

The curriculum is divided into three stages

1. Early Years Foundation Stage: from ages 0-5
2. Key Stage 1: from ages 5-7
3. Key Stage 2: from ages 7-11



Lauren and Evan's Teachers Encourage Ownership of Their Learning

Lee and Jo live on the Woodloes Estate with their children Lauren, aged ten, and Evan, aged seven.

Jo and Lee simply had the right feeling about Woodloes Primary School from the beginning. "We knew as soon as we looked around Woodloes that it was the right choice for our children. The atmosphere was friendly, warm and welcoming and the pupils were happy and engaged in their activities," says Jo.

They were impressed with the school's approach to learning and development and the offering of a well-balanced curriculum that was appropriate to the needs of their children. Lee adds, "The facilities at the school are excellent too; the look and feel of the site offers a modern environment for teaching and learning."

Since Evan and Lauren both joined Saplings preschool when they were three years old, the insight this gave the family into life at Woodloes Primary School meant that starting in Reception felt like a natural progression. "They were part of the school site and often integrated with the Reception year group by using their classroom and playground. This helped them familiarise themselves with the teachers and environment in preparation for starting school," says Jo

Friendly atmosphere

What makes Woodloes so unique is the approachability of all staff. In particular, Jo and Lee are impressed with the visibility of the senior leadership team. "It's noticeable that the leadership team is such a key part of the community," says Jo. "They are always accessible, approachable and visible around the school site and at the events organised by the PTA, like the family quiz night and discos."

Lauren is now in Year 6, almost at the end of the Woodloes Primary School journey. Lee reflects that the school has always provided quality education for their children and remarks that "both Evan and Lauren are making good progress academically and in all aspects of school life."

Individual approach

"The school always encourage the children to take

ownership of their learning and to set personal goals. Lauren enjoys challenging herself in maths and has expanded the variety of books she reads. Evan has worked hard with his reading and particularly enjoys maths, as well as art and being creative," says Jo.

The teachers strive to get to know every child and develop their self-confidence to release their true potential. Lee believes the teachers' knowledge and understanding of the children enable them to quickly offer additional support when needed. "The teachers know the children well; they know their personalities and how to get the best out of them," explains Lee. "This means that homework is tailored to focus on specific areas for individual children."

Invitations for insight

Jo and Lee have found it particularly useful when parents have been invited into school to observe live lessons. "It helps us to understand how they teach specific subjects, particularly maths, which is taught so differently now," says Jo. "It gives us insight into how they deliver it, so we know how to support our children at home."

A rounded experience

Not only is the quality of teaching excellent, but Lee and Jo both appreciate the school's commitment to offering children a rounded educational experience. Lauren and Evan have taken advantage of the wide range of extra-curricular activities, giving them learning and development opportunities outside the classroom. "They are both involved in clubs at lunchtime, including choir and judo, and they both attend weekly music lessons. Being part of the Young Voices concert and a residential trip have been particular highlights for Lauren," says Jo.

What the children say:

"The teachers make learning fun and exciting. They help me to do my best and achieve my goals. I love coming to Woodloes Primary School," says Lauren. Evan says, "I like school because I learn new things every day and my teachers are kind and helpful."

Enriched curriculum: trips, visitors and sport

Educational visits and residential trips

To further enrich our curriculum, all children are offered a range of visits, both locally and further afield. These include:

- All Things Wild.
- Cadbury World.
- Warwick Castle.
- Sealife Centre

Local visits too!

As part of their daily learning, children will often be taken out in the local community to investigate and understand their environment. From examining infrastructure and architecture to building community links, Woodloes Primary School is a big part of the community, and the community is a big part of our learning.

Residential trips

In Year 5 and Year 6, children have the opportunity to take part in our residential visits to develop their social interactions, independence, confidence and skills for the future. In Year 5, children have previously been taken to Marle Hall in Wales, and in Year 6, Eden Project in Cornwall and Normandy in France. These are an important part of our extra-curricular offer as we prepare children for the next stage in their education.

Visitors

As well as taking the children out on adventures, we also bring the adventure into school! Recent visitors to the school have included:

- Paralympian, Darren Harris.
- Guide Dogs for the blind.
- Urban Strides dance company.

Sport

Sport is very important to us at Woodloes Primary School. Our curriculum allows for a minimum of two hours of PE teaching for all children, but in addition, we aim to include physical activity at multiple points of the school day. We have a variety of playground equipment to encourage active participation in exercise and children can play a wide range of sports at play and lunch times.



We run activities like Athletics Roadshows for Years 5 and 6, and then allow them to pass on their skills to the younger classes. Interschool athletics and cross-country competitions are regular fixtures.

Swimming lessons

In addition to PE and sports opportunities, children are offered swimming lessons in Year 4, 5 and 6.



Primary School Has Been Plain Sailing for Twins Finley and Sam

Lisa and Mark live on the Woodloes Estate with sons Finley and Sam, both aged nine.

At first, Lisa and Mark felt they didn't know what to say about Woodloes Primary School as they felt their story was unremarkable. Their twin boys' smooth, uneventful journey through Woodloes

Primary School has resulted in no worries or challenges to overcome. Just happy, thriving children who love school - what could be more reassuring than that? "We've never had a complaint or a concern, we think the school is fantastic," says Lisa.

An early start

Twins Finley and Sam started in Woodloes Primary's early years' provision, Saplings, at age three then moved into Reception at Woodloes. As a two-form entry school, Woodloes Primary was able to accommodate Lisa and Mark's wish that the boys went into separate classes. "We wanted them to be individual, to have their own friends and grow to be independent. There were never any issues, and the school treat them as individuals. They are very popular boys because they look so similar and the twin thing is a novelty. All the teachers are fully aware they are twins but recognise their differences alongside the uniqueness of the twin relationship," says Lisa.

Academic success

Lisa and Mark have been over the moon with the boys' progress, and it seems they share not only their looks but their academic abilities as well. "The boys do really well in school and are both high achievers. Academically they are exactly the same, which is handy. If one was struggling more than the other there'd be a bit of rivalry. We've never had any complaints or concerns at all," says Lisa.

Lisa puts the boys' progress down to encouragement and support from the teachers at Woodloes Primary School. She explains, "They always encourage them and push them slightly further. They have extension tasks available if

they finish their work. This means they have the opportunity to challenge themselves, whilst other children might need some support to finish their work. This means everyone gets what they need."

Excellent communication

"I've only ever had to contact the school once about a minor issue with lunches, and even that turned out to be a slight miscommunication from the children. I emailed the school asking for clarification and the deputy head called me that same day to explain, offering instant reassurance. That's it, I've never had any other issue or concern. We're so lucky," says Lisa.

Engaging leadership

The twins' Woodloes journey has been so positive, straightforward and free of worry. Lisa explains, "We've never had any concerns, either from our side or the teachers' side. The headteacher is fantastic and engaging. When we've been to achievement assemblies he's so fun, but there's also control there. As a result, the children know how to behave and what's expected of them."

Lisa and Mark also love the Woodloes culture, the community feel and the wide range of enriching experiences the children can benefit from. "They put on loads of extracurricular activities, and the boys have benefited from maths and coding clubs in the past. I recommend the school to everyone, we can't fault it," says Lisa.

What the children say:

Finley says, "It's a very good school and the teachers are friendly. We have fun at school, and I like that I've had the same teacher for Year 2 and Year 4 because I really got to know them. Maths is my favourite lesson: Maths is brilliant!"

"I like school. I really like the teachers and the work we do. Science is the best. We were learning about electricity and how lightbulbs work, and electric circuits. It was really interesting. I would definitely recommend my school," says Sam.

Inclusion: a curriculum for all

Special Educational Needs and Disabilities (SEND)

Our commitment to providing an appropriate, inclusive and high-quality education for all extends to all children. We believe every child, including those identified to have special educational needs, has a common entitlement to a broad and balanced academic and social curriculum. We do whatever it takes to ensure this is accessible to all, and that children with SEND are included in all aspects of school life.

Monitor and assess

All pupils learn at different rates and our teachers are highly skilled in identifying needs and adapting the curriculum. Members of the teaching staff actively monitor and assess all pupils to ensure that their individual needs are met and, when necessary, seek the advice of external agencies. The SEND policy sets out how children with special needs are identified, assessed and supported according to their individual needs.

SENDCO

Inclusion is the responsibility of all teachers at Woodloes Primary School, but our special needs and disabilities coordinator (SENDCO) helps identify and address any needs at the earliest opportunity. A full copy of our SEND policy is available on our website or from the school office.

Pitch and challenge

We are continuously seeking opportunities to challenge and stretch all our children. The curriculum and series of lessons are adapted to ensure that all children learn at a carefully matched level and pace. We also aim to identify particular talents and interests and incorporate these into our curriculum offer to ensure every child has the opportunity to excel.



Admissions and getting involved

Admission to Woodloes Primary School

We are immensely proud of our wonderful school and all that it has to offer. We strongly recommended that you contact us directly to arrange a visit as we would love to show you around. Simply contact the school on 01926 497491 to arrange an appointment.

Nursery admissions

Children can be admitted to Saplings in September after they turn three years old. Children can fulfil the 15 hours provision in five sessions per week, either 8.45am to 11.45am or 12.30pm to 3.30pm. 30 hours arrangements are available for parents who meet the criteria. Parents may pay for extra sessions and/or a hot lunch. Application forms can be obtained from the Saplings Nursery and must be handed directly to the manager. Parents will be notified of the outcome of their application five weeks before the start of term.



Starting school in reception

You will need to apply for a place by contacting the admissions team at Warwickshire County Council. Applications are made from November to January in the year before the one in which your child is due to start school. If your application is not successful, you will be invited to join the waiting list. If you are offered a place, your child will be welcomed to the school in September.

In-year admissions

If you wish to transfer your child into our school during any academic year you are welcome to visit the school and then submit your application to the admissions team. Once this has been processed your child will be able to start with us immediately.

Getting involved

Volunteering

Many parents provide valuable assistance to our teachers and children in the class. This can be a rewarding experience, fostering connection and confidence in the school and providing a chance to connect with your child and the school community. Activities that parents can volunteer to help with include shared reading, cookery, art, technology, maths games, sewing and accompanying children on trips.

Friends of Woodloes Primary School

We have an active PTA known as the Friends of Woodloes Primary School. They work tirelessly to create fundraising opportunities to create a sense of community, provide fun family activities and raise money for experiences and equipment for the school. If you'd like to be involved, please email friendsofwoodloes@live.co.uk.

Governors

Woodloes Primary School is lucky enough to have a team of experienced, committed and knowledgeable volunteer governors who work closely with the headteacher and senior leadership team to oversee the strategic development of the school. Volunteer governors have been elected, nominated or co-opted from several stakeholder groups including school staff, parents and carers, the local authority and the wider community. If you would like to know more about the governors, or you would like to put yourself forward for a parent governor role, please contact the Headteacher via the school office.



Our values, mission statement and vision

Our mission statement:

To lead, innovate and continually strive for excellence.

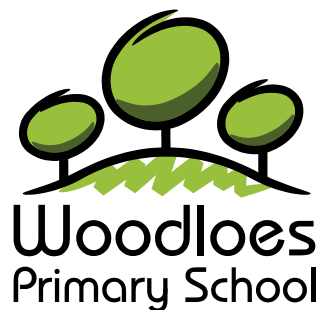
Our school values:

- P - Pride.**
- R - Respect.**
- I - Integrity.**
- D - Diversity.**
- E - Excellence.**



The Woodloes Primary School vision

At Woodloes, we strive for everyone to be the best version of themselves. We foster a growth mindset with resilience, perseverance and a sense of responsibility. We believe in a commitment to learning and personal development and seek to inspire a sense of curiosity about the world around us. Our community embodies kindness, integrity and appreciation; our children enjoy their learning, empowered to be successful in a safe, happy and inclusive environment.



Woodloes Primary School

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