



Welcome to our school!

As the Headteacher of Lothersdale Primary School, it is important to me that the school has a warm and welcoming atmosphere and offers children exciting opportunities to develop their full potential.

At Lothersdale Primary School we recognise that children have individual needs and our aim is to encourage every child to achieve their full potential. Our children are happy and their parents very supportive. Our school has a track record of consistently reaching very high results. Our achievements have been recognised by Ofsted in January 2006, October 2008 and, most recently, July 2014 when we have been judged 'Outstanding' in all areas, with no significant areas for improvement:

- Achievement of pupils
- Quality of teaching
- Behaviour and safety of pupils
- Leadership and management

In 2009 we gained the prestigious Arts Mark Gold Award for the second time. In 2010 we gained the Dyslexia Quality Mark, the highest level of The Inclusion Quality Mark, the Enhanced Healthy Schools Status, Global Schools Award Level 1 and Fairtrade Status. In 2011 we achieved the Silver Eco Schools award and in 2013 we achieved the prestigious Green Flag Status. In 2015 we achieved the Sainsbury's School Games' Gold Kitemark, which recognised the high level of physical activity that the school promotes.

I hope that the information contained in this Prospectus will give you a flavour of the school and help support you in deciding about your child's education.

Mrs J Robinson
Headteacher

OUR SCHOOL HISTORY

According to local records, there has been a school in Lothersdale since 1800, which was originated by the Quakers. In 1825 it was reported that there was a school sited in Dale End.

The present school was constructed in 1891, after compulsory education came into force, and records show that 83 pupils were moved from the old school to the current school.

Since 2001 the school has been significantly developed with the addition of two new classrooms, offices, more toilets, a library, a school garden and a new entrance/reception area in 2012, which provide exceptional facilities for a school of our size. The latest project, in the Spring/Summer of 2014, has involved the enhancement of the Early Years outdoor area including a wonderful sandpit to climb in and a den making area.

Today Lothersdale Primary School is a co-educational school for primary school children aged 4-11 years with over 100 pupils who are taught in four class groups. Children are set high standards in mixed age classes which are extremely well staffed with talented and highly skilled teachers and teaching assistants. Classes are taught by a judicious mix of individual, group and whole class teaching with carefully differentiated activities which cater for children from special needs to exceptionally able.



ACADEMY STATUS

On 1 August 2015 the school converted to an Academy, forming a Multi Academy Trust (MAT) with Bilton Grange Primary School, Harrogate and Askwith Primary School known as Yorkshire Collaborative Academy Trust.

As a MAT the three schools believe in the principles of collaborative practice in the school led system as the most effective way to raise achievement and foster life-long learning for children and adults. Our working relationships are built on professional integrity and honesty with all staff continually striving to improve their teaching to achieve the best for all children. There are high expectations for all staff to challenge and support each other in the continuous improvement of teaching and learning. Our ethos is based on the principle:

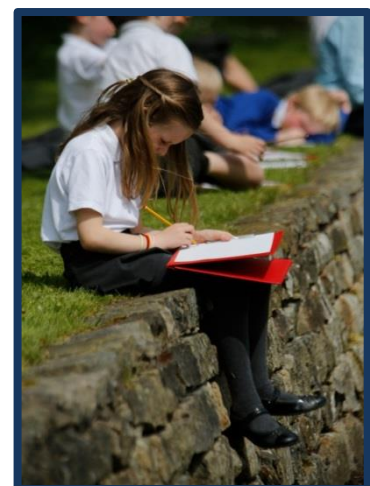
"By working and learning together we will make a difference to children's lives."

OUR SCHOOL VISION

At Lothersdale Primary School we aim to stimulate, develop and encourage the full potential of every pupil, in a happy, healthy and caring environment.

To achieve this we aim to:

- Provide a safe, organised, efficient and well-structured learning environment
- Encourage and promote a healthy lifestyle
- Establish an environment in which all staff, school governors, parents and future parents can work together for the successful achievement of these aims
- Develop social awareness both locally and globally. To encourage children to be responsible as active citizens who understand British values.
- Help children to become independent, self-disciplined, confident and economically aware
- Ensure each child is making maximum academic progress through a programme of personalised learning
- Encourage children to become self-motivated and life-long learners
- Develop lively, enquiring, imaginative and creative minds, a thirst for learning and the confidence to question and the ability to argue rationally



STAFF AND THE GOVERNING BODY

Teaching Staff

Jo Robinson BA Hons PGCE (Headteacher)	Years 5 & 6
Lucy Bateman BA Ed Hons QTS	Reception
Sarah Murray BA Hons PGCE	Reception
William Craven BA Ed Hons QTS	Years 1 and 2
Natalie Gallagher BA Ed Hons QTS	Years 3 and 4
Catherine Fawcett BA Ed Hons QTS	Years 5 and 6

Support Staff

Dominique Binns	General Teaching Assistant (SEN)
Hannah Burgess	General Teaching Assistant and Midday Supervisor
Steph Ellison	Administrator
Sarah Hill	General Teaching Assistant
Donna Laycock	General Teaching Assistant
Kathryn Rushton	General Teaching Assistant
Anne Severs NNEB	Advanced Teaching Assistant
Sarah Thompson BTEC Nat.Dip	Higher Level Teaching Assistant and First Aider
Jean Townsend	Midday Supervisor and Kitchen Assistant
Kim Varley	Cook-in-Charge
Zana Rowley	Caretaker

Governors

Martin Ellison	Chair ~ Co-opted Governor
Martin Bellamy	Vice-Chair ~ Parent Governor
Lucy Bateman	Staff Governor
Eddie Cullen	Co-opted Governor
Louise Lee	Co-opted Governor
Bridget Mears-Young	Co-opted Governor
Julia Parker	Co-opted Governor
Jo Robinson	Headteacher
Aiden West	Parent Governor

Clerk to Governors

Malcolm Foy

ORGANISATION AND CURRICULUM

The term "Curriculum" refers to the learning experiences provided by the School. The Curriculum is planned to meet the statutory requirements of the National Curriculum and North Yorkshire County Council Frameworks.

The aim, over each year, is to give each child a broad and balanced curriculum in relation to all subjects.

Children are organised into mixed ability classes as follows:

<u>Class 1</u>	<u>Class 2</u>	<u>Class 3</u>	<u>Class 4</u>
Reception	Year 1	Year 3	Year 5
	Year 2	Year 4	Year 6



Teaching Methods

Children are taught in classes, small groups or individually, according to their needs, within the framework of the National Curriculum for twenty-four and three-quarter hours per week, excluding morning and lunch time breaks.



A variety of teaching styles are used in school, based on good practice. We are always seeking to innovate where appropriate, to maintain high standards and provide the best in primary school practice.



We recognise that teaching staff must constantly reflect upon whether their teaching methods match the needs of the children and the changes in economic, social and cultural climate.

Early Years

Children learn basic skills through play activities, which are carefully planned to include seven main areas of learning:



Personal, Social and Emotional Development
Communication, Language and Literacy
Knowledge and Understanding of the World
Physical Development
Literacy
Mathematics
Expressive arts and design

Key Stage One and Key Stage Two

Children are taught the National Curriculum subjects of literacy and mathematics alongside the foundation subjects of science, computing, history, geography, design technology, art, religious education, PSHE and physical education. Children are taught French from Year 3 to Year 6. We also have specialist teachers for music and PE.

There is a strong emphasis on cross curricular links and a creative curriculum. In addition to the National Curriculum the school also provides an enhanced curriculum to increase the children's enjoyment and achievement. Themed days, visiting theatre groups and events such as Book Week and Creative Arts' Week all motivate the children and make learning fun.

Educational Visits

Educational visits are undertaken whenever first-hand experiences will benefit the children in their types of studies. Recent visits have included:

Class 2- Kirkstall Abbey Museum, Leeds to learn more about houses and homes in Victorian times
Class 3 - Manchester Museum where children were able to handle artefacts from Ancient Egypt and deepen their understanding of these times.

Residential visits are undertaken in Years 4, 5 and 6. Children in Year 4 are taken on a two night residential visit during the summer term with the aim of developing independence and social skills.

Children in Years 5 and 6 participate in an outdoor adventurous activity week. The location of these weeks alternates annually. Both help us provide areas of study difficult to cater for in school and also have considerable social benefits.





Assessments

The school monitors the progress of all children in the form of continuous assessment and formal tests. These assessments enable teachers to track the progress of individuals and compare this with children nationally. They also enable more able children and those with difficulties to be quickly identified and appropriate support given, to ensure that all children achieve their potential.



SEN and Local Offer

At Lothersdale Primary School we celebrate the individuality of all our pupils and aim to provide high quality education that meets the needs of every child.



The new SEND (Special Educational Needs and Disability) Local offer provides information for children, young people and their parents in a single place, helping them to understand what services they and their families can expect from a range of local agencies. More information is available on our school website.

Teaching Assistants

Teaching Assistants work throughout the school to support the delivery of the curriculum and are effectively deployed to meet the needs of all pupils in school.



Discipline and Behaviour

All staff, governors and children have high expectations of the standard of behaviour in school. This includes respect for the individual and for authority.



At Lothersdale School all children and staff have the right to feel safe in their school environment; the behaviour of everyone in school should support this.

Good behaviour is promoted at all times. A copy of the Discipline and Behaviour Policy is available in school and on the school website.

Child Protection

Lothersdale School is committed to ensuring the welfare and safety of all children in school. All North Yorkshire Schools, including Lothersdale School, follow the North Yorkshire Safeguarding Children Board procedures. The school will, in most circumstances, endeavour to discuss all concerns with parents about their child/ren first. However, there may be exceptional circumstances when the school will discuss concerns with Social Care and/or the Police without parental knowledge (in accordance with Child Protection Procedures).

The school will, of course, always aim to maintain a positive relationship with all parents. The school's child protection policy is available to view on the school website.



Homework

It is the school policy to set homework and we aim to:

- develop a partnership between school and parents
- consolidate and reinforce skills and understanding, particularly in Numeracy and Literacy
- extend the learning begun in school and encourage older pupils to develop the self-confidence and discipline needed for independent study



PUPIL LEAVE OF ABSENCE

From September 2013 the Government made changes to the regulations for granting leave of absence. The amendments make clear that Headteachers may not grant any leave of absence during term time unless there are exceptional circumstances.

As a result of these changes, the Headteacher and The Governing Body will not be able to authorise any absence for family holiday or special events and would urge parents to consider carefully any requests that they may wish to make. Authorisation for absence due to an exceptional circumstance will be very rare, e.g. a funeral.

If children are absent from school for a holiday their absence will be recorded as unauthorised in our registers and also on the information systems that are held for children and will stay on their records. (Please note absence for illness, and medical appointments etc. that cannot be made out of school time; and extreme bad weather conditions will be authorised as normal).

Requests for leave of absence must be made at least **6 weeks** before the first date of the period of leave being requested and parents/carers should contact the school office for a leave of absence form.

SCHOOL TERM DATES

2016/2017	Last Day of School	First Day Back at School
Summer Term 2016 Ends	Friday 22 July 2016	Tuesday 6 September 2016
October Half-Term	Friday 21 October 2016	Monday 31 October 2016
Christmas	Friday 16 December 2016	Wednesday 4 January 2017
February Half-Term	Friday 17 February 2017	Monday 27 February 2017
Easter	Friday 7 April 2017	Tuesday 25 April 2017
May Day Bank Holiday	Friday 28 April 2017	Tuesday 2 May 2017
Spring Half-Term	Friday 26 May 2017	Monday 5 June 2017
Summer Term 2017 Ends	Friday 21 July 2017	To be confirmed

Five Staff Training Days are included in these dates:

Monday 5 September 2016

Tuesday 3 January 2017

Monday 24 April 2017

Monday 24 July 2017

Tuesday 25 July 2017

EXTENDED SCHOOL ACTIVITIES

We have a wide range of extended schools activities, which take place after school and at lunchtimes at different times throughout the year. Families are requested to choose the extended schools activities they wish to participate in prior to the new term starting.

Our extended schools activities may include:

Football	Arts & Crafts	Lego	Woolcraft
Chess	Drama	Ukulele Band	Newspaper Club
Gardening	Supersports	Streetdance	Running



PARTNERSHIP WITH PARENTS/CARERS, SCHOOLS AND THE COMMUNITY

There are many ways in which the school works with parents/carers, other schools and the community and through these links the benefits for our children are immense.

Parents/Carers

Parents/carers are invited to come into school to see their children perform in special assemblies, take part in 'Come Dine With Me!', or have the opportunity to meet with class teachers and be kept informed about children's progress. These may be informally via homework diaries or formally at the Parents' Consultation Meetings held twice a year. An annual written school report is also issued in the summer term.

Each term parents/carers also have the opportunity to come along to our Parent Forums. These Forums are a chance for parents/carers to meet with the Headteacher and have discussions about a range of topics eg. home/school relationship, national curriculum testing, extended school's provision, the role of the Governing Body and school improvement priorities etc. This information provides the Headteacher with an opportunity to gather parent views and opinions, which are vital to the school improvement process.

The school has a strong Lothersdale School Association, which was formed to advance the education of its pupils by raising funds to improve facilities and equipment available in school and to encourage social interaction between the staff, parents and others connected to the school.

The Lothersdale School Association also provides fun events for the children throughout the year, for example cinema night, Beetle Drive, Bingo, end of year disco as well as hosting parent events ~ Murder Mystery Evening, Auction of Promises, School Ball and Christmas Fayre have all been held over the years. The amount of money raised by the Lothersdale School Association each year makes an invaluable contribution to the running of the school.

Finally, the Home School Agreement is a three-way partnership involving school, parent and child. Through it we can join together to ensure that the children are happy and achieving their full potential.

School Links

We have close links with colleagues in other primary schools, including global links with schools in Sierra Leone.

This enables the children to benefit from joint ventures in sport, music, etc. These links also provide the staff with opportunities for professional development, working with colleagues in similar schools developing skills and knowledge.



Our strong links with our local secondary schools enable the children to benefit from their specialist areas such as ICT, maths, the Performing Arts and sport. More recently we have been using their theatre to hold musical concerts.



Community Links

Working with the local and wider community is of high importance to us at Lothersdale Primary School.

Lothersdale Primary School works closely with the very popular Out of School Club, which operates from the building next to school. The Club runs from 7.30 am to the start of the school day. Children are collected from school at the end of the day and the club closes at 6.00 pm.



The school is actively involved with Christ Church, Lothersdale and visits the church on a regular basis. The vicar and/or members of her team also come along to take assemblies in school.



We actively seek other activities for the children to participate in the local community, for example by taking part in the Remembrance Day service and the Lothersdale Open Gardens and serving Lent Lunches in the Village Hall.

Our children are encouraged to develop a sense of community by raising money for charity and good causes. This includes assisting charities around the world.

SCHOOL ADMISSIONS

All children are admitted in the September of the academic year in which they attain their fifth birthday, on or before the following 31st August.

The Education Office in Harrogate deals with all admissions (01609 533679). Details of the Admission's Policy are to be found in "A Guide to Parents" available from the Education Office in Harrogate. (Visit our school website: www.lothersdale.n-yorks.sch.uk for the link to North Yorkshire Admissions guidance - click on 'Information' on the left hand side and then the 'Admissions' icon)

Prospective parents are welcome to visit the School by appointment with the Headteacher.

LOTHERSDALE OUT OF SCHOOL CLUB

Lothersdale Out of School and Holiday Club is a "not for profit" OFSTED regulated childcare provider for school age children in the Craven Community.

It provides an effective wrap around to a child's school timetable and responds to parents' demanding schedules too. It offers the chance for children to have fun, play, learn, laugh and grow together. A whole host of activities are available to inspire new hobbies, with everything from football, photography, den building, painting, music the list goes on!!!

Breakfast Club ~ Opening Hours 7.30am to 9am

Cost: £3.50 (childcare vouchers accepted)

A walking bus is operated to Lothersdale School

Out of School Club ~ 3.15pm to 6pm

Cost: £7.00 (childcare vouchers accepted)

Fees are fully inclusive of a nutritional tea, fruit and drinks

A walking bus is operated from Lothersdale School. An additional walking bus is provided for those children attending Extended Schools Activities at Lothersdale School.

For more information please contact:

Lothersdale Out Of school Club

The Village Club House

Lothersdale

North Yorkshire

BD20 8HB

Telephone : 01535 634863

Mobile : 07730 412742 (there is no mobile reception in the village. If calling between out of school or holiday club hours please use the landline)

Email : enquiries@lothersdaleoutofschoolclub.co.uk