



Each child is given every opportunity to learn, develop and grow



Rushbrook Primary Academy

BRIGHT FUTURES EDUCATIONAL TRUST

Welcome to Rushbrook Primary Academy

I am proud to welcome you to Rushbrook Academy, the 'Rushbrook Family' as we are known. There is lots more information about the school on our website at www.rpa.bfet.uk and I hope that this prospectus encourages you to consider us for your son/daughter,

Our school is a happy school, our pupils, their parents, staff and visitors comment on this when they visit. We have a vibrant, friendly and welcoming environment with a diverse group of pupils and staff. The behaviour of our pupils is very important and we place great importance on aiming for, and achieving, high standards in everything that we do.

We have a Nursery for children aged 3-4 years old and we have a three-form intake from Reception upwards.

We have a free breakfast club each day for all our pupils and many after school enrichment clubs.

I have been a senior leader in primary schools in Manchester for many years and I value our local community. Since joining Rushbrook in September 2019 I have worked closely with the staff and governing body to identify the changes that we need to make, the areas that we need to improve, and establish what our pupils and parents value at the school. We have made significant improvements to make the classrooms engaging, develop our enrichment clubs and work closer with parents. I am excited to be

on the journey of improvement at Rushbrook Academy and our ambition is that the school improves greatly over time, results increase year-on-year, children enjoy their time with us and achieve the very best that they can in all aspects of their learning.

Rushbrook Academy is proud to be part of the Bright Futures Educational Trust. Bright Futures Educational Trust is an organisation committed to our vision: 'The best for everyone, the best from everyone'.

I welcome you to come and visit the school to see what we have to offer, see our environment and meet some of our staff.

Mr M Carroll
Principal

"The school serves a culturally rich and very diverse community."

Ofsted 2018



Why Choose Rushbrook?

"Most parents and carers praise the care and help they receive from leaders and staff. They appreciate the opportunities and extra activities that their children experience. They feel that their children are safe and well cared for at school."

Ofsted 2018

We think that there are lots of reasons to choose Rushbrook. We are very proud of our school and these are some of our highlights:

- Progression from Nursery. Many of our pupils progress to the School having been at our nursery. Many parents like this continuity and, as we prepare children well for school, they have a good transition.
- Diverse pupils and staff. We love and celebrate diversity at Rushbrook. Our pupils and staff are what makes our school very special.
- Vibrant and happy school. Our school has wonderful displays, vibrant classrooms and a very happy atmosphere.
- Well-behaved pupils. We place great importance on pupil behaviour and decisions. We have worked hard to ensure that pupils understand what is expected of them and how they must behave in school.
- Good relationships with parents. We know that for pupils to be successful we need a partnership approach. We hold parent evenings, invite parents to school events and will always contact parents if there are any problems or concerns.
- Great facilities. Our purpose built school has fantastic facilities that all pupils can use. These include extensive outside play areas, reading zones, Mac computer room, iPads, a sensory room and additional learning pods.
- Our pupils are happy. We encourage very good attendance and this is one sign that pupils are happy. They also tell us they are happy and we ask for their feedback and suggestions.
- High expectations. We have high expectations from all of our pupils as we want the the best for everyone in the school. We know that if children work hard and are happy they will prepare well for secondary school.
- Free Breakfast Club for all pupils. Our Breakfast Club enables all pupils to attend from 8am and have a nutritious breakfast, play games, do some fitness, craft and other activities. Our Breakfast Club is staffed by our school staff.
- Montessori Curriculum. At Rushbrook all our pupils follow the Montessori curriculum. This is a method of education that is based on self-directed activity, hands-on learning and collaborative play. Our pupils make creative choices in their learning. There are two teachers per classroom who are qualified and experienced to lead pupils and develop them to achieve their maximum potential. Seeing our classrooms in action is a great experience, it is incredible how calm, engaged and focussed our pupils are in their learning.



Vision and values

Our vision for our children at Rushbrook Primary Academy

At the heart of our school is our vision for our children, their families and our broader community.

This vision is based on our belief that the purpose of primary education is to allow children to learn and grow in a calm, safe, happy, stimulating and ambitious environment. We believe in setting our children ambitious targets, and supporting every one of them to succeed, through the provision of support tailored to their individual needs. We work hard to ensure that children enjoy their learning – and that they are engaged both in the classroom and beyond, through participation in the large number of cross curricular activities we have on offer.

In essence, we strive to be a learning community that:

- cares for every child, so wellbeing and safety come first;
- sets high expectations in the classroom, making learning enjoyable and exciting;
- teaches right from wrong;
- celebrates good behaviour and achievement;
- prepares children to be good citizens;
- understands and meets the individual learning needs of children and their families;
- equips children for their future through activity and experience, and
- reflects and celebrates local diversity and encourages everyone to aim above and beyond.

Our values and behaviours at Rushbrook

It is a primary aim of our school that every member of the school community feels valued and respected, and that each person is treated fairly and well. In everything we do, we work to ensure that our children, staff and families feel happy, safe and secure. The way in which we work together (i.e. our core values) supports the achievement of this aim.

We have distilled this way of working into our core values: community, integrity and passion. These apply to all relationships, both in the classroom, around the school, outside school and with partner organisations. Behaviour that reflects these values is rewarded and celebrated at school. Negative behaviour that is counter to our values is not tolerated.

Rushbrook Golden Rules

Our Golden Rules are an important way of reminding us all of our vision and values, on a daily basis. Our Golden Rules are as follows:

Polite and **Caring** that's what we are

Respect and **Kindness** takes us far

Open and **Honest**, we don't tell lies

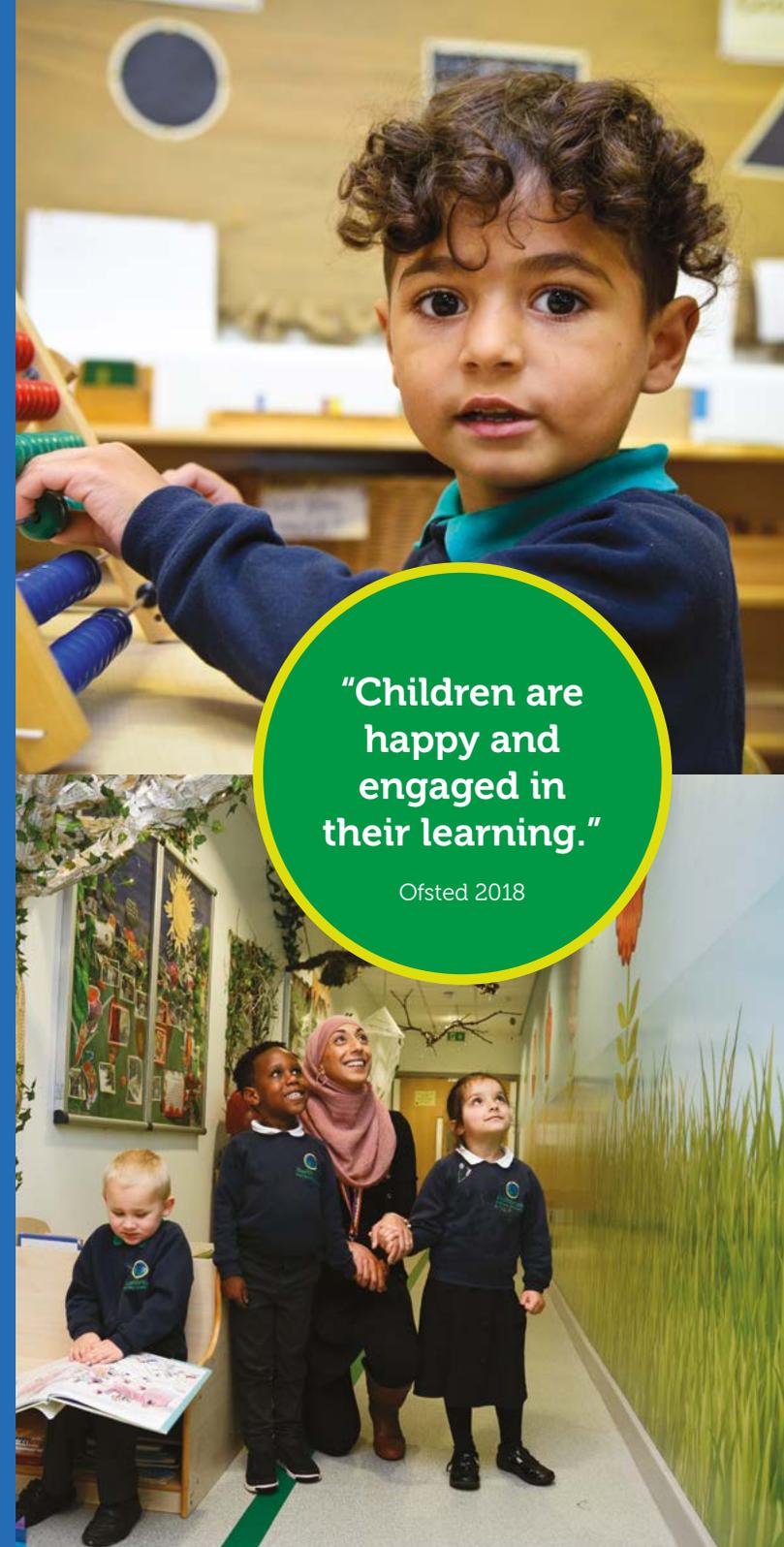
Manners are important, everyone tries

I is **united**, **teamwork**'s the prize.

Strive to be the best we can be

Everyone aims high at Rushbrook Primary

The best for everyone, the best from everyone.



"Children are happy and engaged in their learning."

Ofsted 2018



Teaching and Learning at Rushbrook

Developing a lifelong love of learning is at the heart of all we do at Rushbrook. We believe that all pupils are entitled to a curriculum which is exciting and engaging. Children are supported in developing their skills across a broad range of subjects.

You can find out much more about our curriculum by visiting our website.

Singapore Maths

We understand the importance of children being able to apply maths skills in different contexts. Singapore Maths allows children to develop the language and reasoning skills required to solve mathematical problems independently. Initially, children use concrete resources to support their learning. They are then taught to represent their thinking pictorially. When ready, they will be able to solve problems using abstract thinking alone.

Early Years Foundation Studies and Montessori

Our vision for Rushbrook is to support every child in their quest to become the best they can be, through engaging them in our rich learning environment and caring for them with genuine affection. We foster a passion for learning and exploration that will last the children a lifetime, and instil in them moral values which respect the environment as well as people and their cultures.

Our children leave us with excellent skills of independence, an ability to engage in meaningful play, and knowledge that they are capable and valuable members of the community.

In the Foundation Stage children have the freedom in a well-disciplined environment to choose their own activities from open shelves and they have their own personal space allocated by mats. Children are also guided by our practitioners as we introduce the child to new experiences and materials. With freedom of choice, children become enthusiastic learners aiding them to develop self-discipline and independence.

Our Montessori environment is child-centred. Children progress at their own pace, lessons are given on an individual basis or in small groups. This enables the teacher to discover more about each individual child and their inner development. Children develop best in a caring environment where they are allowed to express themselves and when learning experiences interest them and are part of their world.

Reading

Reading is a priority in school as the foundation to all learning. Each day we teach phonics and reading lessons. Children will take books home from our reading schemes and our brand new library. They will also have access to further reading material through the online reading tool, Bug Club.

“The essence of independence is to be able to do something for one’s self. A child works in order to grow, and is working to create the adult, the person that is to be.”

Maria Montessori

The Spiritual, Moral, Social and Cultural Curriculum

We understand the importance of teaching the whole child. This means that as well as providing a robust academic curriculum, we also support children in developing social and emotional skills which will help them now and in later life. We teach these skills explicitly in a number of ways. Teachers spend at least thirty minutes per week teaching Emotional Literacy and at least 30 minutes per week teaching Religious Education for years 1 to 6. We also teach Philosophy which provides children with an opportunity to raise their own questions about social and moral scenarios. It is now a statutory requirement to promote the fundamental British Values of democracy, the rule of law, individual liberty, and mutual respect and tolerance of those with different faiths and beliefs. This is taught in a weekly assembly and incorporated throughout the curriculum.

Online Remote Learning

We have developed high quality online learning materials that can be accessed by children. If a child is off school for any reason, they can continue with their studies by accessing online lessons and materials provided by their teacher.

"Leaders promote pupils' spiritual, moral, social and cultural development well in preparation for life in modern Britain."

Ofsted 2018



Behaviour at school

“The safety and welfare of all pupils is at the heart of everything they do.”

Ofsted 2018

At Rushbrook, we pride ourselves on nurturing and supporting the calm, purposeful, happy environment at school, in which we believe all children can flourish and grow. It is a primary aim of our school that every member of the school community feels valued and respected, and that each person is treated fairly and well. We are a caring community, whose values are built on mutual trust and respect for all.

Part of the way in which we encourage and promote this approach is by having clear and consistent expectations of our children, regarding both the standard of their work at school and their behaviour.

A key element of this approach is our Behaviour Policy. This has been developed by teachers, support staff, parents and children, and has been endorsed by our governing body.

As with all aspects of school life, we aim to work with children, staff and parents in encouraging positive behaviour. Key expectations are as follows:

We expect children to:

- Respect each other and show respect for all adults.
- Co-operate with other children and adults.
- Follow the core values and our Golden Rules

We expect staff to:

- Create a culture of respect for all people.
- Implement the school's rules, rewards and consequences fairly and consistently.
- Raise all children's self-esteem and develop their full potential.
- Provide a challenging, interesting and relevant curriculum.
- Create a safe and pleasant environment in the classroom and elsewhere, both physically and emotionally.
- Form a positive relationship with parents so that all children can see that the key adults in their lives share a common aim.
- Recognise that children are individuals and be aware of their needs.

We expect parents/carers to:

- Show respect for all members of the school community.
- Be aware of the school rules, rewards and consequences which are displayed in the school entrance and classrooms.
- Support their child's learning and to co-operate with the school.
- Support the actions of the school when we have to use reasonable consequences as a result of a child's behaviour.

When behaviour at school does not meet the agreed standards, we adhere to a strict escalation policy, up to and including exclusion (from class or from school on a temporary, or, on very rare occasions, a permanent basis). Details are provided in our Behaviour Policy.

Safeguarding

Rushbrook Primary Academy is committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children and expects all staff, volunteers and visitors to share in this commitment. We endeavour to provide a safe and nurturing environment where children are respected and valued, free from discrimination or bullying and where children can develop and learn happily. The curriculum is designed to ensure opportunities for children to develop the skills they need to recognise and stay safe from abuse including whilst accessing the internet.

We recognise our moral and statutory responsibility to safeguard all children. We are alert to the signs of abuse and neglect and follow robust procedures to ensure that children receive effective support, protection and justice. As a school we identify that safeguarding against radicalisation is no different from safeguarding against any other vulnerability. We insist upon safe provision and effective care to enable all children to have the best outcomes.



Special Educational Needs and Disabilities

Rushbrook Primary Academy works in partnership with the Local Authority and Bright Futures Educational Trust to meet the needs of pupils with Special Educational Needs and Disabilities (SEND). In accordance with the 'SEND Code of Practice 0-25' we operate an early identification of needs and integrated early help approach. We aim to identify pupils with SEND at the earliest opportunity, to support both the individual and their families, and to provide appropriate teaching and learning experiences. We believe in a highly collaborative approach and work with families, pupils and outside agencies to ensure positive outcomes for all. We have high aspirations for what pupils and their families can achieve. A graduated approach is at the heart of our whole school practice, as we are continually assessing, planning, implementing and reviewing our approach to teach and support all children, developing resilience, independence and a love of learning.

We pride ourselves on being able to establish a clear analysis of a child's needs through teacher assessment and establishing strong relationships with pupils, developing an understanding of the 'whole child'. Staff are highly trained in managing a wide range of pupil needs, we work closely with a wide range of professionals to ensure that provision builds on pupils' successes and targets areas of need. Within school, pupils can access support from Educational Psychologists, Speech and Language Therapists, our Behaviour Team and SEN learning

mentors as well as a comprehensive menu of therapeutic interventions, such as Counselling, Art Therapy and Mindfulness, supporting all areas of need. We tailor provision to the individual's needs and are creative in utilising pupil strengths to achieve outcomes.

"Leaders work with a number of other professional and local specialist schools to enhance the help that they provide for pupils who have SEN and/or other disabilities."

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Trips, Visits and Enrichment

We know how much our pupils enjoy taking part in additional enrichment activities. School trips and visits are always a great treat and enjoyed by the children and we provide as many additional experiences as possible to enhance learning.

Curriculum Enrichment

The outdoor classroom can be used to bring learning alive for many children and we aim, where possible, to use our grounds and local community resources to inspire and stimulate our children. We also visit other places of interest and regularly invite in visitors who deliver workshops that support our children's learning across the curriculum. You will always be fully informed about any visits planned.

Volunteer parents are sometimes invited to accompany their child's class on a school visit. We hope you'll be able to join us! All visits are planned with care, taking full account of safety recommendations. We believe strongly in the value of residential experiences as a way of developing children socially and educationally. Year 6 pupils are offered the opportunity to take part in an outdoor education residential.

Performing Arts

Pupils in all year groups study music on a weekly basis. Children have the opportunity to extend their skills by learning to play an instrument. We offer lessons in a range of instruments including: keyboards, guitar, ukulele and samba drumming. Children also have the opportunity to join the school choir and enjoy learning a range of songs.

Swimming

All of our Year 4 children attend swimming lessons at Arcadia Leisure Centre every week with school. Learning about water safety and knowing how to keep safe in water is a life skill, and as such is recognised and measured in the same ways as other key subjects.

"They provide a wide range of experiences to enhance the curriculum that they provide."

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School Information

Breakfast Club

We invite all pupils to start the day at 8am with our free Breakfast Club. Children will get a nutritious breakfast and the opportunity to play with their friends.

School Meals

School meals are available and currently charged at £11 per week, payable in advance on a Monday morning. We provide a wide variety of freshly-cooked meals each day which include European dishes as well as Halal and vegetarian options. Special diets are also catered for and all meals are cooked in the school kitchen in line with our Healthy School Policy. Children are welcome to bring their own packed lunch, but we ask that this is healthy.

School Times

The school day starts at 8.45am and finishes at 3.15pm. Children should arrive to school on-time and well-prepared.

School Uniform

At Rushbrook, we believe that our uniform gives all pupils a sense of pride and belonging. We expect all pupils to adhere to the uniform code at all times and to wear appropriate clothing for different activities. Our school uniform consists of:

- Navy school jumper with school logo (available from the school office)
- White polo shirt (available from the school office or at your local ASDA)

- Black school trousers or skirt (available at ANY local supermarket)
- Green or blue gingham school dress (available at ANY local supermarket)
- Black, grey, green or blue plain tights (available at ANY local supermarket)
- Suitable footwear – preferably black

No jewellery is allowed except pierced studs.

Families of Rushbrook

Parents and Carers are invited to come into school and read with children, go on trips and help with fundraising. Money raised provides extra resources and opportunities for our children.

School Parliament

The Pupil Voice is very important to us and it informs some key decisions and changes. We believe that it is important to listen to all pupils and we value their contribution. Years 1 to 6 elect representatives to the School Parliament who meet fortnightly with staff.

Children discuss and vote on issues important to them and these are then taken to the Leadership Team and decisions fed back. The School Parliament have influenced many elements of school life.



“Positive relationships between pupils and staff promote a culture in school where pupils feel safe, valued and listened to.”

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Admissions and How to Apply

Manchester City Council School Admissions manages the admissions to Rushbrook Primary Academy (except in Nursery). You can contact them on 0161 245 7166.

Manchester City Council determine which children are offered a place at Rushbrook based upon their Admissions Criteria.

We have a Published Admissions Number of 90 pupils per year group.

For further information please read our Admissions Policy on the Policy and Procedures page on our website.

Nursery Admissions

Application forms for our Nursery places are available from the School Office and also on our website. Please call 0161 223 5955 for any more information.



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The best *for* everyone, the best *from* everyone