BANKFIELDS PRIMARY SCHOOL

Be happy
Be successful
Be proud
Be Bankfields

PROSPECTUS

2025/2026

Contents

- Welcome to Bankfields Primary
- Aims of the School
- School Details
- Staffing and Organisation
- School Organisation
- Admissions Policy
- Plans of East and West Buildings
- Timings
- Holiday Absence
- Term Dates
- Professional Development Days
- School Meals
- Water Bottles
- Out of Hours Childcare
- Uniform
- Sharing Information
- Supporting Your Child
- Behaviour Management
- Teaching and Learning
- Religious Education
- Sex and Relationships Education
- Physical Education
- Special Educational Needs
- Homework
- Music
- Residential Visits
- Charging and Remissions Policy
- Complaints Procedure
- Safeguarding
- Medicines
- Lost Property
- School Attendance Data

Welcome to Bankfields Primary School

West Building

East Building

We are very pleased that you are joining the Bankfields school community.

We aim to give every child the best possible opportunities for learning throughout their time at Bankfields Primary School. Staff are highly motivated and deeply committed to ensuring that all children experience success in all areas of learning, and that includes their self-esteem and confidence. A child who believes in themselves will go far.

We regard your child's education as a partnership between home and school, and much depends on the strength of that partnership. We hope you will take every opportunity to work with the school to support and encourage your child's learning. Children need to know from us all that education is important and highly valued.

This prospectus has been produced to give you important information about the school and how we work. We hope it answers your questions and that you will continue to find it helpful in the years to come.

We hope your child settles quickly and is very happy during their time at Bankfields Primary School. We look forward to a long and successful association with you.

Mrs E Gatenby

Headteacher

Our Vision

At Bankfields Primary School, we are committed to creating a nurturing, caring, and safe environment where every child feels supported, valued, and included. We foster a culture of aspirational thinking and high expectations, where happy, ambitious, and confident pupils are empowered to achieve success and experience personal growth.

Through high-quality teaching and learning and a child-led, enquiry-based curriculum, that promotes curiosity and a love of learning, we inspire every pupil to become an active, engaged learner. Our curriculum is designed to respond to children's interests, encourage independent thinking, and develop lifelong learning habits.

Our motto, "Be Happy, Be Successful, Be Proud, Be Bankfields," is at the heart of everything we do – guiding our school community to grow, achieve, and flourish together.

Be happy
Be successful
Be proud
Be Bankfields

Aims of the School

At Bankfields Primary School we aim to

- create a warm, supportive and stimulating school environment in which children feel happy, safe and secure, and are eager to learn,
- develop positive relationships founded on mutual trust, respect and good example,
- ensure all pupils are encouraged and supported to become successful learners
- provide all children with an exciting broad and balanced curriculum relevant to their needs and abilities,
- develop children as caring, sensitive and tolerant individuals who have a clear understanding of right and wrong,
- introduce children to a wide range of experiences and challenges which motivate and enrich their learning, now and in the future,
- have high expectations of all children in terms of learning and behaviour,
- value all children equally, upholding their rights regardless of gender, ability, disability, colour or race,
- promote a strong partnership with parents based on shared information and responsibility for children's learning,
- serve the community well, encouraging and welcoming support and interest, and inspiring confidence in the work of the school.

School Details

Bankfields Primary School is a co-educational school for boys and girls between the age of 4+ and 11. There is a nursery class providing 39 morning places attached to the school.
The school serves the community of Eston in the unitary authority of Redcar and Cleveland.

Bankfields Primary is part of Steel River Multi-academy Trust along with Caedmon Primary, Grangetown Primary and Whale Hill Primary.

School name	Bankfields Primary School
Address	Mansfield Road Eston Redcar and Cleveland TS6 0RZ
Telephone	(01642) 453157

Corporate Director for Children and Families:	Kathryn Boulton Seafield House Kirkleatham Street Redcar TS10 1SP
Chair of Governors	Mrs M Mockler

The information in this prospectus, which was prepared and published in September 2025, relates to the 2025 2026 school year beginning in September 2025. The particulars it contains were correct at that time of writing. It must not be assumed that there will be no changes affecting the relevant arrangements on certain matters before the start of or during the 2025-2026 school year or in respect of subsequent school years arising, for example, from variations in Government or Steel River's policies for education.

Staffing and Organisation

Headteacher	Mrs. E. Gatenby
Foundation Stage Nursery Reception	 Mrs R Tilling Mrs C Ward (Assistant Headteacher and Early Years and Y1 Lead)
Key Stage 1 Year 1 Year 2	 Mrs K Forde Mrs M Bunn/Mrs Whittle Mr B Andrews (maternity cover for Miss L Thompson).
Lower Key Stage 2 Year 3 Year 4	 Mr C McLoughlin Miss K Dunlop Mr P Bennett Mrs Murray / Miss Quinn
Upper Key Stage 2 Year 5 Year 6	 Miss B McIlvenny Mrs M Smith
SENDCO / Inclusion Lead	Mrs M White
PPA Cover Teacher	Mrs S Stephenson (1/2 day per week in Reception)

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Staffing and Organisation continued

Teaching Assistants N	Mrs B Kidd Mrs E Kerrison
Teaching Assistants R	Mrs C Oxley Miss Porritt Mrs B Kidd (PM)
Teaching Assistants Y1	Mrs S Harding

	Mrs E Kerrison (PM)
Teaching Assistants Y2	Miss K Evans
Teaching Assistants Y3 and Y4	Mrs M Brearley
Teaching Assistants Y5	Mrs Walker
Teaching Assistants Y6	Mrs C Main
School Business Manager	Mrs N Stabler
School Office Manager	Mrs H Hamilton
Caretaker	Mr M Williamson
Cook	Miss Z Clark
School Counsellor	Mrs M Evenden
Lunchtime Supervisory Assistants	Miss Porritt (Reception) Mrs Kidd (Reception) Mrs Oxley (Reception) Miss Evans (Hall Supervisor) **Years 1 - 6** Mrs Harding Mrs Kerrison Mrs Main Mrs Brearley Mrs A Allan Mrs S Campbell

School Organisation

The school has two buildings known as the East Building and the West Building. The main office, Headteacher's, the Senior Leadership Team and School Business Manager / SENDCO's offices, are located in the West Building.

The Reception, Y1, Y2, Y3 and Year 4 children are based in the West Building. The Y5 and Y6 team plus the Nursery are based in the East Building.

The school is organised into three teams –

- Foundation Stage and Year 1 (Nursery, Reception, Year 1)
- Year 2 and Lower Key Stage 2 (Years 2, 3 and 4)
- Upper Key Stage 2 (Years 5 and 6).

Each team is led by a senior member of staff.

Children in every team benefit from the extra support provided by teaching assistants. There is a high level of staffing across school to ensure the needs of all our pupils are fully met.

On entry to school, each child is placed in a mixed ability class in the care of a class teacher. The class teacher is responsible for the learning and pastoral care of the children in their class. If you wish to talk about any aspect of your child's development, the class teacher is usually the first point of contact.

Admissions Policy

Nursery

Children are admitted to the Nursery, on a part-time basis, after their third birthday. We aim to admit children into nursery between their third birthday and the term after, depending on staffing levels and pupil numbers. The school follows the admissions policy set out by Steel River Multi-Academy Trust.

In the case of oversubscription, the following criteria are applied:

- Eligible children in the care of the local authority
- Children aged 4+ who live within the defined admission zone for the school
- Children aged 4+ who live outside the admission zone but who have a brother or sister attending the school at the time the nursery child will be admitted if spaces are available.
- Children aged3+ who live within the defined admission zone for the school
- Children aged 3+ who live outside the admission zone but who have a brother or sister attending the school at the time the nursery child will be admitted if spaces are available.
- Other children aged 4+
- Other children aged 3+

Reception

There is a single intake for Reception children in September each year. The allocation of Reception places is managed by the local authority.
In the case of over subscription, the following criteria are followed in priority order:

- Children who are cared for by the local authority
- Children who are permanently resident in the admission zone defined for the school
- Children not living in the admission zone who have elder brothers or sisters attending the school in the 2025/2026 school year
- Children not living in the admission zone who have exceptional social and/or medical reasons for attending a particular school, professionally supported by an independent third party and sustained by the authority's professional advisers
- Children living closest to the school.

Timings

Nursery

Morning session	8.40am	-	11.40am
Afternoon session	12.20pm	-	3.20pm

Reception

Doors open	8.40am		
School begins	8:50am		
Lunch	11:45am	-	12.45pm
School ends	3:20pm		

Year 1 & 2

Doors open	8.40am		
School begins	8:50am		
Break	10.30am	-	10:45am
Lunch	12:00pm	-	1:00pm
Break	2.00pm	-	2.15pm
School ends	3.20pm		

Year 3 – Year 6

Doors open	8.40am		
School begins	8:50am		
Break	10:45am	-	11:00am
Lunch	12:00pm	-	1.00pm
Break	2:00pm	-	2:15pm
School ends	3:20pm		

The register is taken at 8:50am. The register is an important legal document which must be marked accurately and on time.
Please make sure your child is in class by 8:50am so they are present when the register is called. Punctuality is important both at school and later in life. Any child arriving after 8:50am will receive a late mark.

The registers are officially closed at 9.20am. Children arriving after this time will be marked with an unauthorised absence, unless parents have previously informed the school of an acceptable reason for the late arrival, e.g. a medical appointment.
If you do arrive late, please report to the main office so that the register can be amended and your child can be signed in using our Inventry system.

If your child is absent from school for any reason it is **extremely important** that you let the school know, as the reason for absence has to be recorded in the register. Please telephone the school on the first day of absence.
Registers are checked daily to make sure all absences are explained, and school will ring up to check reasons for absence if you have not let us know why your child is not at school.

Any continued problems or concerns regarding attendance and punctuality will be referred to the Education Welfare Officer (Miss L Johnson) who is able to offer support and guidance on improving your child's attendance and punctuality at school.

Absence for Holidays

Improving school attendance is one of the government's high priorities because children need to be in school to benefit from the teaching and learning opportunities.
All schools have attendance targets which are monitored by the school's attendance and welfare officer, the local authority and at a national level. Children who miss school for holidays can result in pupils not meeting their attendance and academic targets.

Parents must fill in a 'Leave of Absence' form, obtainable from the office, if they are planning to take their child on holiday during school time. No holiday absence can be authorised by the Headteacher, except in the most exceptional circumstances. Any leave of absence taken in term time may result in a referral for a fixed penalty notice (please see the Steel River Academy Trust Attendance Policy for further details).

The Steel River Academy Trust attendance policy is available on the school website.

Term Dates 2025/2026

Autumn Term 2024
Monday 1st September to Friday 19th December

Holidays (inclusive dates)
Half Term: Monday 27th October to Friday 31st October 2025.
Christmas: Monday 22nd December to 5th January 2026.

Spring Term 2026
Monday 5th January to Thursday 2nd April 2026.

Holidays (inclusive dates)
Half Term: Monday 23rd February to Friday 27th February 2026
Easter: Monday 3rd April to Friday 17th April 2026

Summer Term 2025
Monday 20th April to Tuesday 21st July 2026

Holidays (inclusive dates)
Half Term: Monday 25th May to Friday 29th May 2026.

Professional Development Days

Schools are required to take 5 days in each school year for training and development. The days are known as Professional Development Days (P D Days). School is closed to the children on these days.

The following days will be taken as P D Days in 2025/2026:
Monday 1st September 2025
Tuesday 2nd September 2025
Friday 7th November 2025
Monday 20th July 2026
Tuesday 21st July 2026

School Meals

The school is committed to promoting healthy eating as part of our Personal, Social and Health education programme. Our school meals are an important way of presenting children with a range of healthy but appealing food options.

The school meals service is provided by a company called Mellors. Meals are prepared on site and served in the West hall using a cafeteria system. The school cook and the kitchen staff provide a very high standard of midday meal. There is always a choice of menu including a vegetarian dish and sandwiches, plus an excellent salad bar. Packed lunches are also be provided when children go on school visits.

Dinner money is collected via Parent Mail and should be paid weekly in advance if possible. Staff at the office can help parents to set up Parent Mail and Parent Pay if required.

Due to a high level of debt accrued in regard to dinner money arrears, no meals will be provided once arrears accumulate for 2 weeks. At this point, parents will need to send their children with a packed lunch.

A free school meal is provided to some Key Stage 2 children by reason of the parents' income level in accordance with scales laid down by the Local Education Authority. If you think your child may be entitled to free meals, please contact the school reception for a form which can be completed on paper or online. Children receiving free school meals are not

distinguished from those who pay. Part of the school budget is allocated according to the number of pupils entitled to a free school meal. Therefore, please apply if you think your child may be entitled to free meals, even if you do not wish them to take their free meal.
The school receives funding in the form of a **Pupil Premium,** based on the number of pupils entitled to a free school meal, to narrow the gap in attainment of pupils from financially less advantaged backgrounds. This funding is used to support our pupils in many ways including:

- Additional teachers to provide extra support for pupils
- Teaching assistants in each team to support teaching and learning of children of all abilities
- After-school booster classes for pupils.

Therefore, it is very important that families apply for Free School Meals if they think they might be eligible, even if they do not wish their child to actually take the meal.

Packed Lunches

If you wish your child to have a packed lunch, please support our healthy schools initiative by encouraging your child to eat healthily, e.g include fresh fruit and vegetables, avoid high fat and high salt contents.
Please do not include sweets, chocolate bars and chocolate spread in packed lunches.

Children bringing a packed lunch must bring it in a named lunchbox.

Children do not need to bring a drink with their packed lunch as water is provided for all children. Fizzy drinks are not permitted. No bottles, cans or flasks are allowed.

If you wish to change your child's meal pattern, e.g. change from packed lunch to school meals, a week's notice must be given at the main office as food is ordered a week in advance and staffing levels in the kitchen depend on the number of school meals ordered.

The children are supervised at lunchtime by Supervisory Assistants under the direction of the Headteacher.

Due to a number of children suffering from nut allergies, **Bankfields is a nut-free school**. Therefore, could parents please ensure that children's packed lunches do not contain any nut items.

Water Bottles

There has been much research promoting the importance of drinking plenty of water throughout the day, therefore every child is provided with a water bottle for use in school.

In addition to the many health benefits, the evidence also indicates that there is a strong link between drinking water and increased concentration in children. Obviously, this could have a very beneficial effect on children's learning and progress.

The bottles should be filled with still, natural water. Flavoured waters, squash, fruit juices or fizzy drinks are not allowed as they can all have a bad effect on children's teeth if sipped regularly during the school day. Research shows that plain water is best for rehydration.

Water bottles may be taken home each day for washing. It is very important, however, that they are brought back to school as they are needed on a daily basis.

Bankfields School Breakfast Club

Our Out of School Childcare meets all Ofsted requirements and is run by suitably qualified staff.

Our Breakfast club has been running for many years and has proved a great success with both children and busy parents. The club is managed and run by school staff, providing a consistent approach to building positive relationships, planning and behavioural expectations.

The Breakfast Club is open in the West building hall from 8.00 am every morning until 8.50 am when the children can go into their classes.

The club is run by members of the school staff and provides a nutritious breakfast and quality childcare.

From September the cost will be £2.75 per day or £12 for a full week's booking.

Breakfast consists of:
Choice of cereal
Toast
Milk, water or squash.

We ask parents and carers to keep the following in mind when booking their child/children into breakfast club:

- All children must be booked into breakfast club beforehand to ensure we maintain the correct staffing ratio (this must be done weekly)
- Payment **must** be received for all bookings prior to the child attending. Bookings cannot be accepted without payment.

The Breakfast Club policy is available for parents on our website.

Daily Breakfast

When then come into school, all children are offered a bagel or toast between 8:50am and 9:15am, which they eat with their class. Children who do not like bagels or toast do not have to have any, however, there is no alternative choice so they should be given breakfast at home if they do not like bagels or toast. Children who have already eaten breakfast at home are still welcome to have a bagel or toast with their friends if they wish.

Uniform

We expect all children to wear school uniform. The uniform looks very smart and promotes a whole school identity. It also makes all children equal and avoids any competition to have the latest sports or fashion clothing.
We particularly appreciate parents' support in ensuring the older children wear school uniform as this is when a lot of clothing related problems are inclined to arise.

Our school colour is royal blue – Bankfields blue, as we call it.

Our uniform consists of:

- royal blue sweatshirt, jumper, cardigan or fleece jacket
- white polo shirt, blouse or shirt
- grey or black skirt, pinafore or trousers.

Sweatshirts, cardigans and polo shirts bearing the school name badge and, if wanted, the child's initials can be ordered from our uniform provider, Lollipops. Orders can be made directly online through their website by clicking on the Bankfields Primary School Link.
https://lollipops-middlesbrough.co.uk/

In the interests of comfort and safety, all shoes worn for school must have low heels and be preferably black. Clogs, mules, Crocs, platform soles and 'jelly' shoes may not be worn as they are not suitable for school activities.

Parents are asked for their support in ensuring that their child dresses appropriately for school, a place of work.

Sportswear is not allowed (other than for P.E.) as it has proved to be a source of competition between children. It is also very expensive. Shoulders, backs and stomachs must be covered at all times. Ankle-length skirts can be hazardous when children are moving round school.

Children should not have 'extreme' hairstyles for school, e.g. shaved patterns/heads, Mohawks, bright colours, as these prove a distraction in the classroom and do not present the right image for school which is a place of learning. In addition, headbands must be flat with small delicate patterns or flowers, no animal ears or high floral head dresses should be worn as again, this causes a distraction.

P.E. Kit

Children should come to school wearing their PE kit on their allocated PE day. This is to ensure safety and freedom of movement during the activities. By coming to school in their PE kit, children do not lose any of their PE lesson time getting changed, and it also helps us to avoid lost items of clothing. All children are welcome to bring a spare t-shirt to change into after PE if they would like to, in order to promote personal hygiene.

Boys and girls may wear royal blue or black shorts and a royal blue or white t-shirt. Black tracksuit bottoms can also be worn, particularly for outdoor activities. All children need to have P.E. shoes (trainers) for certain activities indoors and out. These should not be the same shoes worn for school daily.

Please make sure all items of clothing are marked with the child's name.

P.E. kits are also available through the school uniform provider, Lollipops, but can equally be purchased from local supermarkets.

They consist of

- royal blue T shirt with the school logo
- royal blue or navy PE shorts
- royal blue PE bag with the school logo
- an optional outdoor PE hoodie (only to be worn for PE, not as a school jumper).

Please do not send your children into school wearing other branded or different coloured sportswear on PE days. We encourage all children to wear our school PE kit to ensure that even on PE days, all children look smart and that clothing is appropriate for school. If any children do attend school wearing different colours to those listed above or inappropriate clothing, they will be provided with a spare Bankfields PE kit to change into.

We also have a range of hats and school bags, all with the school logo.

Jewellery

In order to prevent accidents, loss and damage, jewellery **must not** be worn for school with the exception of a wrist watch (**no** smart watches) if your child would like to wear one. Any child with pierced ears may **only wear flat stud earrings** (strictly no hoops or dangly earrings) and these must be removed (by the child) for any P.E. lessons. Please do not have children's ears pierced mid-term as this causes problems for P.E. activities. Facial jewellery is not permitted. Any non-permitted jewellery that is worn to school will be placed into an envelope to be safely collected by a parent or carer at the end of the school day.

Sharing Information

Parents may visit school at any time during school hours or by appointment outside school hours. If you wish to talk to your child's class teacher please try to visit before school begins or, preferably, at the end of the day so that lessons are not disrupted (teaching starts promptly at 8:50am). Teachers are no available to speak to during lessons/teaching

time. There is always a member of support staff available as children arrive on a morning if you have an urgent message or query.

In the autumn term you will be given information by your child's teachers about various aspects of your child's education, including how you can support your child's learning at home.

Formal parental consultations are held on two evenings in the autumn and spring terms for parents to view their child's work and discuss their child's progress and targets for development with the class teacher. Please do try to come to these evenings. They are important opportunities to share information about your child's education and find out what you can do to support your child in taking the next steps in their learning, plus it shows your child that you are interested in their school work. Children become very disappointed if no-one comes to see their work.

You will receive a written report on your child's progress towards the end of the summer term. There will also be a chance to discuss the report with your child's teacher and see their work.

There will be many other opportunities for parents to visit school throughout the year, such as performances, themed weeks, activity afternoons, family learning events, fundraising events, sports events, etc. We hope you will be able to attend many of these special occasions.

Newsletters
You will also be sent regular newsletters via ParentMail, to help you keep in touch with school news and events. A copy of the latest newsletter is displayed on the notice boards in the cloakrooms and the main entrance. Copies of the latest newsletter are also available from the main office or on the School Website.

School website
The school website is available at www.bankfieldsprimary.co.uk this contains information including:

- Information for parents
- School policies
- School news
- Year group page

Supporting your Child

As a parent, you will want your child to do well at school and there are many ways you can help your child achieve success:

- There is nothing more important than building your child's self esteem and confidence, so that they have a positive outlook and are willing to have a go.

- Take a real interest in their learning and achievements. This way you show them that you think learning is important.

- Praise your child whenever you can, particularly when they are finding something difficult.

- Have high but realistic expectations which are appropriate to your child at that stage in their development. Remember, every child is different.

- If you want to help but are not sure how something is taught nowadays, please check with your child's teacher. It is very hard to 'unlearn' an incorrect method or bad habit.

- Come to our family learning sessions to see how we approach different areas of learning and have a go at some fun activities with your child.

Behaviour Management

We have very high expectations of behaviour for all our children.

The school has a clear policy for behaviour management which is based on high expectations and praising positive attitudes and behaviour. We have several reward systems which operate throughout the school and children have many opportunities to earn extra rewards and privileges through good standards of work and behaviour.

Our high expectations of behaviour must also be maintained over the lunchtime period when the children are in the care of the Lunchtime Supervisors. Persistent poor behaviour and lack of respect for the authority of the Lunchtime Supervisors can result in individuals being kept in at lunchtimes or having to go home for lunch.

Although our approach is based on being positive, there are times when sanctions have to be applied. Parents are always kept informed of any significant or repeated problems and we really value parents' support in dealing with any such problems.
If you have any concerns about your child's well-being or behaviour at school, do not hesitate to contact us.

These are the **Golden Rules** from our Behaviour Management Policy. They are displayed in all classrooms and are the basis for a relationship built on respect for oneself, for others and for property.

- **Be gentle to others.**
- **Be kind and helpful.**
- **Work hard and try your best.**
- **Look after property.**
- **Treat others with respect.**
- **Be a good listener.**
- **Be honest.**
- **Take a breath – think before you act.**

If a child keeps the Golden Rule throughout the school week, they earn Golden Time on a Friday afternoon. During Golden Time, the children have access to a range of activities to enjoy including arts and crafts, sports, games and use of the outdoor equipment. The activities vary depending upon the age of the children.

If a child does not keep the Golden Rules and does not respond appropriately to the reminders and warnings given, they will lose some of their Golden Time the following Friday.

Behaviour Management Steps

In the event of unacceptable behaviour, we use the following sequence of strategies which are very effective (and can also be used in the home situation):

1. Is there a problem? The child is asked if there is a problem so that the member of staff can help them to resolve this.
2. Warning! If unacceptable behaviour continues, the child will be given a verbal warning.

3. Time Out. If a child continues to misbehave, they will be sent to Time Out for 5 minutes and will lose 5 minutes of Golden Time.
4. Reflection Time. If poor behaviour continues after a Time Out, the child will be sent to another classroom to work for a set period of time and will lose 5 more minutes of Golden Time.
5. Head Teacher. If poor behaviour persists despite all of the steps above, the child will be taken to the Headteacher's Office and parents will be informed.

If the child is not responding to this system and behaviour is continuing to be a cause for concern, we would always consult with parents before deciding together on the next stage of action.

The Golden Rules and 'Get It Right' posters are displayed in every classroom and around the school to encourage and remind children of the right path and of our high expectations.

The posters are also available for parents to use at home to ensure a consistent and positive approach to behaviour management.

Children can also earn Golden Tokens for kindness, good manners and showing respect for adults and other children.

Bullying

Bullying is deliberate attempt to hurt, threaten or frighten someone on **more than one occasion**.

It may take the form of physical, verbal or mental abuse and/or intimidation. It may involve excluding an individual from a group, which can also be a very hurtful experience.

There are occasions when children are upset because they have fallen out with friends or been hurt in the playground because another child has been careless or thoughtless. Although such incidents can be distressing and are always taken seriously and dealt with, they are not incidents of bullying. It is important that children learn to distinguish between bullying and other issues.

All incidents of bullying are taken very seriously at Bankfields Primary School.

Staff are always vigilant for signs of bullying, but it can be difficult to detect. Children and parents are actively encouraged to report any bullying behaviour to the child's class teacher or the headteacher.
We can only deal with what we know about.

Dealing with bullying behaviour is addressed on a regular basis with children of all ages through PSRHE lessons (Personal, Social, Relationships, Health and Economic education), Circle Time and through assemblies. Children are taught to distinguish between acts of bullying and simply having a disagreement with someone or 'falling out' with a friend.

A bully relies on the victim being too frightened to tell anyone about the bullying.
"Do not suffer in silence" is the message that must be constantly reinforced in class work and on an individual level.

Our Child-Friendly Anti-Bullying Policy is displayed around the school. This policy was written by children for children and is regularly discussed in classes and assemblies. It defines bullying as

Several
Times
On
Purpose

Teaching and Learning

The curriculum is what is taught in school. The teachers plan what they are going to teach each term in their teams, using the Early Years Foundation Stage framework and the National Curriculum, together with their own interests, knowledge and expertise to make sure that all children receive a broad and balanced curriculum which is appropriate to their needs and stage of development.

You will receive information about the curriculum in your child's class each term. This is to help you support your child's learning outside school.

Our aim is to provide every child with a structured curriculum which leads to the development of the skills and knowledge in each subject.
We place great emphasis on the basic skills of literacy (speaking and listening, reading and writing) and numeracy (number work), particularly in the early years of primary education. Even when the children are older, much of their work still focuses on these skills although it may be linked with other subjects.

A child's education in primary school is split into 3 stages:

- The Foundation Stage includes the Nursery and the Reception year.
- Key Stage 1 covers Year 1 and Year 2.
- Key Stage 2 covers Years 3, 4, 5 and 6.

The Foundation Stage 1 (Nursery) curriculum will underpin all future learning and we aim to provide opportunities for all children to succeed in an atmosphere of care and of feeling valued. All children learn best through play and in the Foundation Stage 1 we plan play activities indoors and outdoors, providing learning opportunities for children to learn with enjoyment and challenge.
As your child moves up into the Foundation Stage 2 class, (Reception), they will continue to work on these areas of learning. The Foundation Stage is followed by Key Stage One and Key Stage Two.

Learning through play activities in the water

At the end of the Foundation Stage (end of Reception) children are assessed using the Foundation Stage Profile. Children are assessed against each of the 17 areas of learning.

This is an individual assessment carried out by the teacher during normal lesson time. The children themselves are not aware of the assessment. The results of this assessment are fully discussed with parents.

Key Stage 1

In Years 1 and 2 the children are taught according to the 2014 National Curriculum at Key Stage 1.
The National Curriculum is made up of 3 core subjects

- English
- Mathematics
- Science

These subjects take up the largest part of the curriculum.

In addition, there are foundation subjects plus RE, PSHRE and SRE:

- Computing
- Design and Technology
- Art and design
- History
- Geography
- Art
- Music
- Physical Education
- Modern Foreign Languages

Towards the end of Year 1 children's phonics skills are assessed using a national Phonics Screening test.

Key Stage 2
From Year 3 to Year 6 children also follow the 2014 National Curriculum. Children continue to study the 12 National Curriculum subjects set out above.

At the end of Year 4, all children participate in the Multiplication Tables Check which is a national assessment for all Year 4 children. This check assesses each child's accuracy and recall of times tables up to 12 x 12.

Towards the end of Year 6 all pupils are formally tested on English and Mathematics using national statutory assessment materials (SATs). They follow a national timetable, with Year 6 pupils all over the country doing the same tests on the same day. It is very important that all pupils are present for the assessments.

The results of the SATs are reported to parents, together with teacher assessments for English, mathematics and science. They are also passed on to the children's secondary schools and academies.

Religious Education is also taught to all children. Our teaching is of a broadly Christian nature but includes other main faiths. Great emphasis is placed on children's personal, moral and spiritual development and understanding. Children also take part in a daily act of worship. Any parent wishing to withdraw their child from Religious Education should contact the Headteacher.

Relationships Education is taught as part of our policy for Relationships Education. Information is given in an honest and simple manner appropriate to the age and maturity of the children, with an emphasis on moral considerations and the value of family life. Our policy for Relationships Education focuses on the natural changes which take place as children grow up and addresses a range of topics such as differences, relationships, personal hygiene and puberty through a story approach. Copies of the policy are available on request and parents are welcome to look at the resources used in school.

Physical Education is an important part of the curriculum we offer all children. The P.E. curriculum includes gymnastics, dance, outdoor activities, swimming, athletics and games. All children will learn the skills of football, netball, hockey, rounders, tennis and cricket.
The school holds the Gold School Games Mark, a national award that recognises the school's commitment to PE and activity.
The school has two halls for P.E., three playgrounds, extensive playing fields and a Multi Use Games Area (MUGA) which is a purpose-built all-weather surface for a range of team games. There is also adventure playground equipment and a climbing wall for the children. Each class will have at least one P.E. lessons a week with an additional hour throughout the week through our 10-minute daily activity.

Year 2 children go swimming with the school for two weeks. Some of our older children also have the chance to attend top up lessons in KS2 if they have not yet achieved 25m.
Many children will also have the opportunity to take part in a range of sporting clubs run by staff and external coaches after school and at lunchtimes.

The school takes part in a range of competitive sporting events in the local area. We play friendly football and cricket matches against local schools and take part in inter-school and county athletics competitions. In addition, the children have the opportunity to take part in a number of other events throughout the year facilitated by the School Sports Partnership. Although all teachers in the school are qualified to teach P.E., some have specific coaching qualifications.

Special Educational Needs

Throughout the school there is a well established system of support for children with special educational needs. Mrs White is the school's Special Educational Needs and Disabilities Coordinator (SENDCO).
To meet pupils' special educational needs, we can use the expertise of teachers and teaching assistants within the school. In addition, we can call on specialist advice and services from the Specialist Teaching Service, the Behaviour Support Service, the Educational Psychology Service, the Educational Welfare Service, The Early Years SEND Team, Inclusion Team and nearby Support Bases.

Parents are always kept fully informed of any concerns we may have about their children's progress and play an important role in supporting their children. If you have any worries about your child's educational development, please contact your child's teacher or the Headteacher at any time.

The school receives funding in the form of a **Pupil Premium**, based on the number of pupils entitled to a free school meal, to narrow the gap in attainment of pupils from financially less advantaged backgrounds. This funding is used for

- Additional teachers to provide small class sizes and extra support for pupils with special educational needs and disabilities

- Teaching assistants in each team to support teaching and learning of children of all abilities
- After-school booster classes
- Subsidising educational visits and other learning opportunities.
- Subsidising residential visits to Robinwood.
- Subsidising Breakfast Club care so it is accessible to lower income families.

Therefore, it is very important that families apply for Free School Meals if they think they might be eligible, even if they do not wish their child to actually take the meal. We provide a form for all parents when your child starts school so that you can fill in your National Insurance number and some other basic details. We ask all parents to complete this form as any additional funding school receives has a significant, positive impact on your child/children. It is also important to complete the Free School Meals form if your circumstances change at any point during your child's time at school. If you have any questions at all, please contact the school office or Mr Bennett, our Pupil Premium Lead.

Higher Attaining Pupils
The school has a systematic approach to supporting those children who are achieving at levels significantly above the average in one or more areas of learning. The learning needs and progress of these children is carefully planned and closely monitored by the class teacher so that they can be appropriately challenged to deepen their knowledge and understanding. As a school, we also seek additional opportunities for our more able and talented pupils to broaden their experiences as well as their knowledge and skills. This includes opportunities such as Quiz Club, Shine (a project linked with a local university to give our pupils the experience of what university could offer them) as well as many other opportunities that arise both within our school and across the Trust.

Homework
Each year group will inform parents at the beginning of the year about the homework that their child will need to complete during the year and the expectations surrounding this. Homework tasks are set to support learning that is taking place in the classroom and to revise previously taught concepts, so it is very important that homework is completed. Reading also forms a key part of our homework throughout school as we aim to develop a love of reading in each of our pupils, so we encourage them to read widely, both in and out of school.

If you have any questions or concerns regarding homework, please see your child's teacher.

Music
All children learn music as part of the National Curriculum. All children have the chance to learn to play a number of musical instruments throughout their time at Bankfields. Specialist music teachers from Tees Valley Music Service support our teaching and Mrs Forde, our Music Subject Leader, teaches recorders as well as singing.

Residential Visits
Every year a group of our older children make a residential visit to Robin Wood Outdoor Activity Centre, accompanied by staff from school. Once there, they are also instructed by staff at the centre who are trained and experienced in outdoor pursuits.

Charging and Remissions Policy
Educational visits and within school events are arranged from time to time to provide valuable first-hand experience and promote children's learning. These visits and events are always heavily subsidised by school, using our school fund, but we sometimes ask for a contribution towards the costs. No child will be excluded from an educational visit or experience because of an inability to pay. However, we are very grateful for any contributions made as the school could not afford to pay the whole cost, particularly as transport cost have risen steeply in recent years.

Complaints Procedure
The school has an established procedure for considering complaints from parents. Details of the procedure are available from the school's website or the school office. However, it is hoped that parents would raise any concern that they might have with their child's class teacher in the first instance.

Safeguarding

Child Protection
The safety and well-being of the children in our care is always our highest priority. The school has a clear policy for Safeguarding and Child

Protection which is available to parents on our website. All staff receive regular training to recognise the signs and symptoms of abuse.
Any concerns regarding safeguarding and child protection should be discussed with the Mrs Gatenby, who is the Designated Safeguarding Lead, or one of the Deputy Designated Safeguarding Leads – Mrs Lee, Mrs Ward or Mr Bennett.

Security
The school has a fob entry system on most external doors and those that are not fobbed, are locked once the children are in school to ensure the premises are secure. If you need to enter either building at any time during the school day, please report to the main office first where the school office staff will let you in. Access through internal doors are also through a fobbed or security code system and cannot be accessed by anyone other than staff.

School Gates
The security gates at the front of the school premises remain closed but unlocked throughout the school day whilst staff are on the premises and are locked in the evening. The rear pedestrian gate is open from 8.00am until 9.00am and from 3.00pm until 3.40pm to allow access to and from school. It is also unlocked but supervised to allow pupils attending after school clubs to leave by the rear exit. At all other times the rear gate is kept locked to prevent unauthorised access.

School Crossing Patrol
School crossing patrols are on duty at

- Bankfields Road (near the shops) 8.30-9.15am 3.10-3.40pm

The entrance to the school is clearly marked with no parking restrictions, and parents bringing their children to school by car are asked to pay regard to the markings. Please do not bring cars past the pinch point in the road. It is unsafe to turn in this area when there are pedestrians about.
We ask parents to avoid bringing children to school by car whenever possible and promote walking or travelling on bikes and scooters for its health and environmental benefits. We have a bike and scooter shelter which holds up to 36 bikes and 18 scooters. However, we please ask parents to take these vehicles home if the shelter becomes full, as it is not permitted to leave them on the paths or grass verges.

Collecting Children from School
Your child's safety and well-being are our main concern, so we follow the Local Authority recommendation that Early Years, Key Stage 1 and Lower Key Stage 2 pupils may only be collected by responsible people aged **16 years and over**.

Nursery children must be collected **by an adult age 18 or over**.

ONLY children who are in Upper Key Stage 2 (Years 5 and 6) may walk home alone **IF** they have parental consent **AND** this has been arranged with the class teacher. Please keep the class teacher informed of any changes in your collection arrangements.

Illness and Injury
In the event of a child being ill or injured at school, parents will be contacted as soon as possible so the child can be collected from school if necessary. Minor injuries and illnesses will be reported to parents at the end of the school day.

For this system to work effectively it is essential that the school has an up to date record of contact names, addresses and telephone numbers. You will have already completed an information sheet with these details on. Please let us know straight away if there are any changes.

Health
All children are seen by the school nurse soon after they start school. School nurse and the dental service carry out health screening on groups of children at various stages in their school career.
If parents have any health concerns about their child, they can speak to the school nurse in confidence. Please contact the school office if you wish to meet with or speak to the school nurse.

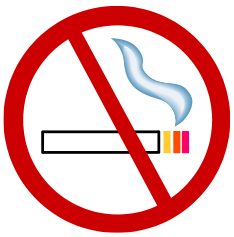
Medicines
Class teachers cannot be responsible for administering medication to children. If it is essential that your child needs to receive **prescribed** medication during the school day, please bring it in the original container with the chemist's label to the main office. It must be clearly marked with the child's name and the dosage.

Children who use asthma inhalers must keep these in the classroom, so they are accessible when needed. A spare inhaler may be kept in the main office, again clearly labelled. Any children who require emergency

medication (such as an epi-pen) will have this safely stored within the classroom area.

Please note that no medication can be administered to the nose or eyes by staff.

Bankfields Primary School is a no smoking/no vaping site. Smoking and vaping is not allowed anywhere on the school premises by staff, parents, visitors or community users.



As part of the school's safeguarding procedure, mobile phones are not to be used in the school building unless agreed with school staff (for example during performances). However, any photographs or videos that you take of your child during a performance, at sports day or any other events must be for your personal use only and **must not to be shared on social media** as there may be other children visible in the video or photograph. If attending family learning events, please ensure all mobile phones are kept away and switched off/ turned on to silent.

Lost Property

We regularly have a large amount of lost property in school which cannot be returned to the owner because it is not marked with the child's name. Lost property is stored in two large blue bins, located in each hall. Parents are welcome to look for missing items in these boxes. Unclaimed

lost property is displayed and then any remaining items disposed of at the end of each term.
Please ensure that all uniform and equipment are highlighted with your child's name so lost equipment can be identified and returned.

Code of Conduct
All the school staff are keen to work with parents and to maintain positive and supportive relationships with all our families. Occasionally issues may arise that are a cause for concern and staff will do all they can to resolve any issues and listen to any concerns raised. However, it is essential that all parents raise concerns in an appropriate manner. The school has a zero-tolerance policy to any form of aggressive, accusational and threatening behaviour towards any member of staff, pupil or parent. Please find attached the home/school conduct charter. In addition, the code of conduct policy can be found on the school website.

Thank you for choosing Bankfields Primary School for your child's education. We look forward to working closely with you during your child's educational journey whilst enjoying positive and supportive relationships to ensure a successful and enjoyable experience for all our children.

Home/School Code of Conduct

Parents/carers	Pupil	School
• Will treat all members of staff with dignity and respect • Approach staff in a non-threatening manner and without accusation when raising concerns • Support the school in managing and bringing about improvements in their child's behaviour where necessary • Support school in helping their child to progress both socially and academically • Listen to and act upon concerns raised about your child from school • Ensure you respond to contact from school as soon as possible • Support the school to instil tolerance and respect in all pupils • Ensure pupils arrive at school prepared for their learning • Monitor children's use of social media and online gaming to prevent issues occurring and being brought in to school	• Will treat all staff, children and visitors with kindness and respect • Work hard in all lessons and always try your best • Show resilience and determination when work is tricky • Talk to an adult if you are worried or upset • Not hurt any other child in school by hitting or saying unkind things • Be honest and trustworthy • Listen carefully to all teachers and follow the school rules • Look after school equipment and take care of your own belongings • Represent the school positively when out on school trips and events • Use social media and gaming devices appropriately to keep yourself safe and avoid conflict with friends in school	• Will approach all parents discreetly and respectfully when addressing concerns • Will support parents to help their child with home learning • Will support parents to help improve challenging behaviours in the home • Will welcome parents into the school and involve them fully in their child's education • Will listen to and act upon any concerns raised • Will ensure all children are listened to, treated kindly and respectfully • Will have high expectations of all children with regards to their learning and behaviour • Will strive to develop independence, resilience and a love of learning in all our children • Will strive to ensure children treat each other with kindness and respect