

Houghton on the Hill
CE Primary School

SCHOOL PROSPECTUS

2026/27

WELCOME TO HOUGHTON ON THE HILL PRIMARY SCHOOL



Mrs Woollerson, Headteacher

Houghton on the Hill Primary School is a Church of England School for boys and girls aged 4-11, situated in the picturesque and popular village of Houghton on the Hill and surrounded by the beautiful Leicestershire countryside.

We are privileged to have close links with St Catharine's Church in the village and our school ethos is an important part of school life, but we equally welcome families of all faiths and none.

Our school is an integral part of the local community, and we are committed to fostering in all our pupils a strong sense of respect, courage, forgiveness, gratitude, self-control and kindness.

We place importance on developing skills in reading, writing and numeracy and offer a creative curriculum through which we hope to see all pupils flourish academically, socially, spiritually and emotionally.

Mrs Woollerson
Headteacher



BEGINNING OF A LEARNING JOURNEY

At Houghton on the Hill, our curriculum, core values, and straightforward school rules work in harmony to support children as they grow into curious, kind, confident, and well-rounded individuals.

Every day, we aim to create an environment where children feel excited to learn, develop a strong sense of belonging, and build meaningful relationships with both peers and adults. Our broad and balanced curriculum is enriched by a deep commitment to creativity and the arts.
In Reception, we focus on nurturing relationships, establishing routines, and encouraging learning through hands-on, play-based experiences. As children settle in, they begin daily sessions in reading, writing, and number work, alongside activities that support physical, social, and communication development.

In Key Stage 1 (Years 1 & 2) and Key Stage 2 (Years 3–6), children take part in daily English, Maths, and phonics (in KS1). Throughout the week, they explore a wide range of subjects including Art or Design Technology, Music, Religious Education, PSHE, Geography or History, Science, Computing, and PE.

In Key Stage 2, pupils also begin learning a modern foreign language.

We're excited to be part of your child's educational journey and look forward to welcoming them into our vibrant and nurturing school community.



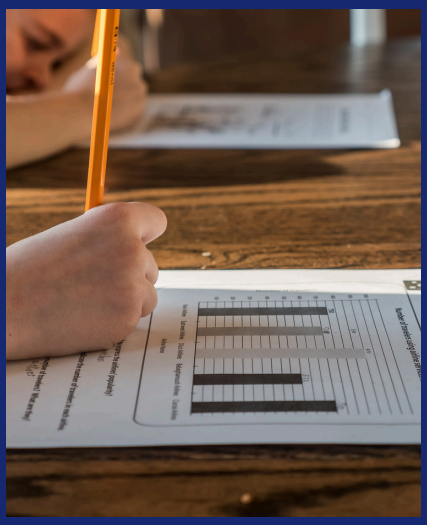




SCHOOL PERFORMANCE, OFSTED & SIAMS

Performance

We are incredibly proud of our pupils' achievements. In 2026, 88% of pupils reached the expected standard in reading (50% at greater depth) and 91% reached the expected standard in maths (44% at greater depth) at the end of Key Stage 2. We were also delighted that 97% of pupils passed the Year 1 Phonics Screening Check. Please see our webiste- Key Information - School Performacne- for further details.



Ofsted

Houghton-on-the-Hill was last inspected by Ofsted in 2022, with the report confirming that the school continues to be rated as good. The full findings and insights from the inspection are available in the report, which can be accessed via our website. To summarise, the report identified the following strengths:

- Strong Leadership & Learning Environment: Leaders and staff are committed to providing a high-quality education. They've created an effective environment for learning.
- Curriculum Design: Leaders have clearly identified essential concepts across subjects and, in some cases, offer detailed guidance on the knowledge needed to understand them.
- Reading & Phonics: Reading is a curriculum priority. Phonics is taught well from the start of Reception.
- Mathematics Teaching: Pupils build secure mathematical knowledge. Teachers use practical resources effectively to support problem-solving.
- Support for SEND Pupils: Leaders and staff are ambitious for all pupils, including those with special educational needs and/or disabilities. These pupils access the same curriculum and receive appropriate support.
- Positive School Culture: Parents view the school positively. Staff are proud to work there, feel respected by leaders, and benefit from a strong team ethos.
- Staff Wellbeing: Leaders actively work to reduce workload. Staff feel well supported by the trust, leadership, and colleagues.



SIAMS

Our school was inspected by SIAMS in 2024. Whereas Ofsted report on the overall educational standards, SIAMS explores how a school's theologically rooted Christian vision influences everything—from leadership and curriculum to worship and relationships. We were very proud of the report which can also be found on our website. The report states:



Houghton's Christian vision of 'loving one another' is wholeheartedly lived out at every level. The school community is flourishing because they are embraced in a rich culture of compassion and great empathy. There is an exceptionally strong relationship between church and school. This seamless partnership enriches spiritual awareness and supports the school in many practical ways.

THE SCHOOL DAY

School begins: Gate opens at 8:35am, registration at 8:45am
Lunch: 12.00-1.00pm
School ends: 3:10pm

While each day brings new learning experiences, we follow a consistent structure to help pupils feel settled and confident in their routine. After registration and the first lesson of the day, children gather in the main hall for collective worship - a valued time for reflection and togetherness.

Learning then continues through the morning until lunchtime. (Further details about our school lunch provision can be found later in the prospectus.)

Lunchtime & Playtime:
During lunchtime, Foundation Stage children play within their designated outdoor area, where they are always supervised to ensure their safety and well-being. When eating, they sit in the main hall with other classes, but they have their own lunchtime supervisor to help with this and always sit together as a class.

Following lunch, the afternoon is filled with further learning before children either head home or join our wrap-around care and extra-curricular clubs.

Learning:
As well as continuous and enhanced provision, we have a daily maths (Mastering Number) and Phonics lesson plus three Little Wandle guided reading sessions per week. Thematic teaching supports the wider curriculum with our activities carefully planned to encourage children to become active learners by playing, exploring and creating. The themes are chosen to inspire children to learn through excitement and curiosity, often sparking children's individual interests. PE lessons and Outdoor Learning are also timetabled each week. using our wonderful outdoor area to support this.



One of the highlights of our induction programme is the arrival of our very special Houghton Bear - a cherished part of welcoming new children into our school community.

SCHOOL MEALS

All pupils in Foundation Stage and in KS1 (Years 1 & 2) are currently eligible to receive a free hot meal in school at lunchtime and a mid-morning fruit snack. Our meals are prepared in our onsite kitchen and served in the school hall. Below are some example menus, which are changed seasonally. The latest menus can be found on our website.

Dietary needs can be catered for, such as religious or medical requirements.





MIQUILL
School Catering Services



BEFORE AND AFTER SCHOOL CLUB

Houghton-on-the-Hill's Sunrise Breakfast Club and Sunset Tea Club provide before and after-school care. Run by proprietor Lesley Tracy (former owner of Glebe Farm Nursery School) and managed by Helen Palmer, the clubs have a skilled team of staff.

Activities include themed arts and crafts, exploratory play, and tabletop and floor games, with a strong focus on outdoor play, weather permitting.

Sunrise Breakfast Club

07:45 to 08:35, Monday to Friday. A choice of cereals, bagels, toast, fresh fruit, yoghurt, fruit juice and milk is offered.

Sunset Tea Club

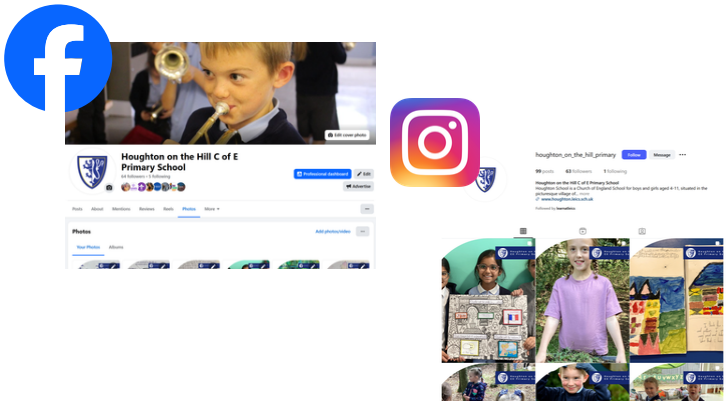
15:10 to 17:30, Monday to Friday
16:15 to 17:30 (Care after School activity clubs), Monday to Friday.
Tea Club sessions include a hot tea followed by yoghurt, fruit, biscuits, fruit juice and milk.
15:10 to 16:00 (Afternoon Care), Monday to Friday. This includes a healthy snack of fruit, yoghurt, biscuit, fruit juice and milk.

The club accepts most work voucher systems and is registered for Child Tax Credit.

COMMUNICATIONS

Communications to parents such as information letters and newsletters are sent by email. We also use Class Dojo to share messages and reminders from the class teacher.

Our school has active Facebook ("Houghton on the Hill C of E Primary School" and Instagram ("houghton_on_the_hill_primary") pages that we encourage you to follow and engage with. We regularly share updates, information, and photos here with your preferred consent preferences relating to your child.



SAFEGUARDING & CHILD PROTECTION

Houghton on the Hill Primary School is committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children, and expects all staff and volunteers to share this commitment. The Governing Body has a duty of care to pupils and all members of the school community. All staff and volunteers have regular training in child protection. There is a comprehensive Safeguarding Policy in place which, along with a policy for Health and Safety and a Prevent Strategy, is regularly reviewed by the Governing Body.

Our Safeguarding Policy can be found on the school website and is also available upon request from the school office.

It is important for parents to be aware that:

• Staff and volunteers in the school have a duty to report concerns about a child, whether this means the child may be in need of additional support or help of some kind, or whether it is thought that a child may be at risk.

• In some cases the school is obliged to refer children to children's social care, for children to be assessed for their needs or if an investigation into possible child abuse is required. In many cases there will already have been discussions between school staff and the parents of the child, and the situation and concerns will not be a surprise to the parents. However, parents may not be told that the school has referred their child to children's social care if it is thought that this might put the child at risk.

SPECIAL EDUCATIONAL NEEDS & DISABILITIES

At Houghton on the Hill Primary School, we are committed to using our best endeavours to provide an appropriate and high quality education for all children which enables them to: 1) Achieve their potential; 2) Become confident individuals living fulfilling lives; 3) Make a successful transition to the next phase of their education.

We have the highest aspirations and expectations for all pupils, including those with special educational needs.

We aim to achieve a community where parents and staff work together in a positive manner with clear and consistent approaches to communication, enabling all children to achieve their potential.

We aim to provide all children, including those with special educational needs and disabilities, with a broad and balanced academic and social curriculum. This needs to be accessible and ensures they are fully included in all aspects of school life and feel equally valued and fully part of the school community.



SCHOOL POLICIES

We publish our policies on our website houghtonprimary.uk > Key Information > Policies. If you require a paper copy please ask at the school office.

DATA PROTECTION

The school is registered under the Data Protection Act 1984. Any information you supply to the school will be held and used only for the administration of the school and to support the education of your child/children. It may be held on computer databases.

If at any time you would like to verify the information that you have supplied, please contact the school office. We also ask parents to sign a photo consent form when your child starts school and these records are kept on file in the office and in registers.

EQUALITY

We are committed to ensuring equality of opportunity for all pupils, staff, parents and carers irrespective of race, gender, disability, belief, sexual orientation, age or socio-economic background. We aim to develop a culture of inclusion and diversity in which all those connected to the school feel proud of their identity and ability to participate fully in school life.

We tackle discrimination through the positive promotion of equality, by challenging bullying and stereotypes and by creating an environment which champions respect for all. We believe that diversity is a strength which should be respected and celebrated by all those who learn, teach and visit us.

HOUGHTON SCHOOL HELPERS

We are very fortunate and grateful to have such a supportive and active PTA.

Their main objective is to organise fundraising and social events for the school. These events give us the opportunity to engage with pupils and their family members in a fun and informal setting and help to further the relationships between the pupils, staff and parents.

HSH organise regular fundraising and social events throughout the school year, including our annual Autumn fayre, Christmas Tree Festival, cake & ice lolly sales, Amazon smile, bingo and sponsored events.

For up-to-date information regarding events and funds raised please visit their social media pages:
Facebook: Houghton School Helpers
Instagram: houghtonschoolhelpers

If you would like to be more involved you can volunteer to be a Committee Member or to help out on an ad-hoc basis at events.
Please email hsh@houghton.leics.sch.uk or speak to any member of the committee at school or during events.



SCHOOL GOVERNORS

Houghton on the Hill Primary School is a member of Learn Academies Trust (Learn-AT). Learn-AT has a Board of Trustees and members who are responsible for overseeing all the schools in the Trust. For more information about the Trustees, please see Learn-AT's website.

Houghton on the Hill's Local Governing Body works on behalf of the Trust Board in these key areas:

1. Ensuring clarity of vision, ethos and strategic direction within the academy.

2. Acting as a critical friend to the school; holding the academy's senior leadership team to account for the educational performance of the school and its pupils and the performance management of staff.

3. Assuring Health and Safety procedures, including safeguarding within their school.
It is the responsibility of the Headteacher and staff to guide and advise governors, implement the plans and deliver the curriculum.

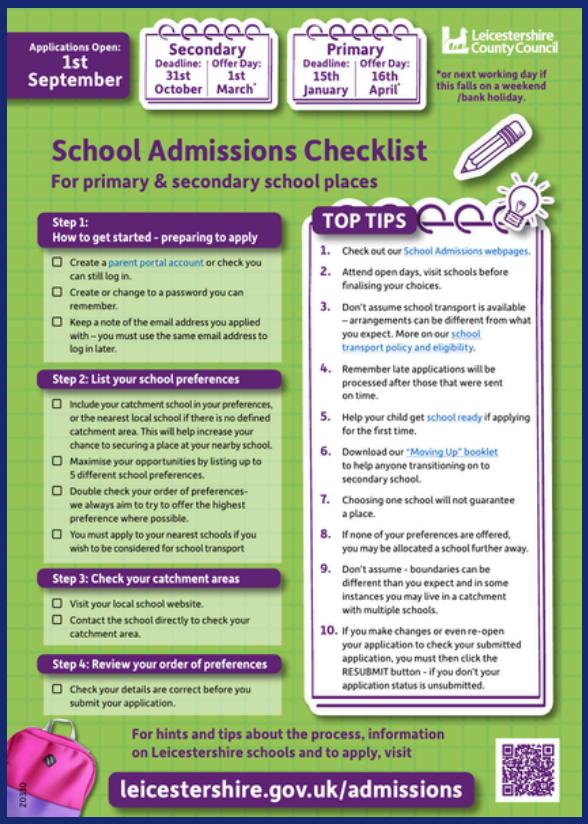
School Governors are drawn from different parts of the community and some are elected by parents or staff. This helps ensure the Governing Body has sufficient diversity of views and experience, but does not mean governors of a particular category represent that group on the Governing Body. For example, Parent Governors do not represent the parents at the school and do not report back to them.

ADMISSIONS

Houghton on the Hill Primary is a non-selective Church of England school, with admissions managed by the Local Authority (Leicestershire County Council).
If you reside in Leicestershire and wish to apply for a place at our school, please begin by completing the online application form available at www.leics.gov.uk/admissions.

- Application Deadline: 15 January 2027 (for children starting in August 2027).
- Offer Day: 16 April 2027.
- Appeals: For details on how to appeal an offer, please visit our school website.

Our planned admission number for first-time entrants (EYFS) is 30 pupils per year group.



LEARN ACADEMIES TRUST

Houghton-on-the-Hill Primary School is a member of Learn Academies Trust, a multi-academy trust which oversees and supports all of their schools, allowing them to share expertise, pool their administrative functions and provide the best possible education for their pupils.

At Learn Academies Trust, all our schools are highly inclusive. Children and families from all faiths and none are welcomed, respected and embraced equally at every one of our schools. We provide nurturing and inclusive school environments where every child in the Trust is encouraged to flourish academically, socially and emotionally.

- We believe in the power of education and learning to transform lives.
- We commit, in courageous fellowship, to the restless pursuit of our core aims of equity, wellbeing and excellence.



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Follow us on social media:
Facebook: “Houghton on the Hill C of E Primary School”
Instagram: @houghton_on_the_hill_primary

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