

Southway Junior School


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Prospectus 2021 - 2022

Welcome

Dear Parents and Carers

Welcome to Southway Junior School and thank you for your interest in our school.

Southway is a warm, vibrant school with happy children who love to learn. We have beautiful, spacious grounds, including a large field, wildlife areas, two playgrounds and a small swimming pool.

Our dedicated team of staff work closely together and with you to make the children's time at school successful, happy and safe. We believe that our relationship with parents/carers is especially important, because with the combined efforts of staff, parent and child, we can reflect our motto 'Learning and Achieving Together.'

I hope this prospectus gives a brief glimpse of school life at Southway, but would urge you, if possible, to come and take a look for yourself. We are always happy to show prospective children and their parents/carers around, both during our open-mornings or individually by appointment. Please contact the office for further details.

I look forward to meeting you.

Best wishes

Pete Newbold Headteacher



Southway Junior School Vision and Aims

We want all our children to become happy, confident individuals, who respect others and the world in which they live, achieve personal success and develop an enthusiasm and thirst for learning.

Aims

We aim to provide a learning environment which is child-centred, creative and challenging, so that our children are happy, engaged, work hard and are enthusiastic learners.

We think of the school as a community of learners and recognise the importance of developing individuals' sense of self-worth and self-respect, as well as respect for others, to help them succeed and achieve. We have high expectations throughout the school and aim to foster children's independence as they develop their different skills and have fun whilst learning.

Year 6 pupil 'The best thing about my school is the teachers explain things clearly and I think the lessons are really fun'

Pupil survey 2021



The School

At Southway Junior School we have children in single-aged classes from Years 3 to 6. Our published admissions number is 360 and there are three classes in each year group. The number of children in a class is usually around 30. The vast majority of children transfer to us from The Gattons Infant School and we try to keep them in their same classes in Year 3 to smooth their transition from Key Stage 1 to Key Stage 2.

Our teaching team includes 13 Teaching Assistants who support children in class in the mornings. Each week, when class teachers have their statutory planning, preparation and assessment (PPA) time out of class, the children are taught by the same HLTA (Higher Level Teaching Assistant) to ensure good continuity of teaching and learning.



School facilities include:



- LaRC (Learning and Resource Centre)
- Wireless access to the internet across the school
- CleverTouch TVs in every class
- Separate dining hall, also used for PE and drama
- An adventure playground and tyre parks
- A bird hide and boardwalk
- Two ponds with decking
- A market garden area with fruit trees and raised vegetable beds
- A cookery and Art / DT classroom
- A hall with staging and lights
- A swimming pool
- Large fields
- Sensory garden
- Trim trails
- Story telling garden
- And much more...

Learning at Southway

As a junior school we educate children from ages 7 to 11, covering Key Stage 2. The National Curriculum subjects are taught as much as possible through Learning Journeys.

Year Group	Autumn Term	Spring Term	Summer Term
Year 3	Me and My World / Habitats Geography focus – local area study Science focus – Plants, living things in habitats	Invaders and Raiders! History focus – Pirates, Vikings, Anglo-Saxons Science focus – Human Body	Battle and Bang History focus – Roman Britain, Pompeii Science focus – Volcanoes, Rocks & Soils
Year 4	Victorian Towns and Twisted Tales History focus – Victorian children, Queen Victoria, local area study, rich and poor	Marvelous Mayans History – The Mayans – society study Geography – The Americas	To Infinity & Beyond Science focus – Earth and Space, Solids, Liquids & Gases
Year 5	Power & Palaces History focus – Tudors – Henry VIII, Elizabeth I, Court Life, Shakespeare, Town life	We'll Meet Again History Focus – World War II	Seas, Storms & Survival Geography focus – Rivers & Coasts, Map Skills, Water Usage Science – The Water Cycle
Year 6	Frozen in Time Geography focus – atlas skills, world maps, biomes, polar regions	Walk Like an Egyptian History focus – Egypt / Ancient Civilisations Geography focus – The River Nile	Blood, Bones and Body Bits Science focus – Animals including humans – The Human Body

Each year group organises the curriculum into three Learning Journeys over the school year. Under an umbrella title, which usually has a Science, History or Geography emphasis, different subjects are woven into the Learning Journey as much as possible in a more creative, holistic way, to support a broad and balanced curriculum. Children are immersed in their topic, learning the different subject skills and acquiring knowledge and understanding, through exciting, interesting learning experiences.

Homework and Take-Away Tasks



**Year 3
pupil**
*'The best
thing about
my school is
the teachers'*
**Pupil Survey
2021**

Children spend more than 80% of their time at home and we are keen that they have the opportunity to consolidate and extend their learning wherever possible. One of the best things parents/carers can do to help your child at home is to **read** with them, and we ask that you do this for at least ten minutes, preferably every day.

Each year group sets regular homework tasks each week, and these typically often include learning times tables or mental arithmetic facts or investigating spellings. In addition, **take-away tasks** are usually set over a period of a few weeks, to encourage children to persevere at a longer-term project, often with family support.

Teachers will also place, on our Virtual Learning Environment, ideas for children to extend their learning. Our VLE is moderated by teachers on a regular basis, and all classes are taught how to access it and use it appropriately.

Homework expectations are outlined by Year Group Leaders in their curriculum letters at the beginning of each academic year.

Inclusion

In 'Learning and Achieving Together' we aim to support the children so that everyone can succeed at their own level. Within class, lessons are differentiated to cater for children of differing abilities. Our Special Educational Needs co-ordinator (SENDCo) liaises closely with teachers through the school in order to identify swiftly any concerns and advise on how best to cater for different needs. She also works closely with the SENDCo from our infant feeder schools to ensure appropriate provision is made for children who have already been identified as having Special Educational Needs. Once a difficulty is identified, provision is made to meet that need and progress is carefully monitored through an Individual Education Plan (IEP) or, if appropriate, an Education Health Care Plan (EHCP). At later stages the class teacher and SENDCo may receive support from outside agencies. Parents/carers are fully consulted and encouraged to take a full part in all stages.

'On this last day of Year 6 for Viola I wanted to express my thanks to you for the happy years both she and her brother, Gilmour, have spent at Southway Junior School. I have been impressed with every teacher and TA that has taught my two. Not only do I think that Viola and Gilmour have received an excellent education at Southway I have felt that every single teacher and TA has genuinely cared about them. The teaching staff have never made me feel like a nuisance either and if I've had concerns around anything they have listened to me, which I am grateful for. The admin staff at Southway have been equally fantastic, always friendly, helpful and always responding to my calls or emails promptly. The whole school team has been first class.'

Year 6 parent



Children as leaders

Children fulfil a variety of leadership roles in the school. These include positions such as House and Sports Captains, Bird Hide monitors, Storytelling Garden monitors and Rights Respecting Councillors. We encourage all children to act responsibly to sustain the natural environment.



The Southway Day

8.35 - 8.45am School opens & Registration

8.45-10.00am Learning

10.00-10.20am Assembly

10.20-10.45am Break time

10.45-12.15pm Learning

12.15 - 1.15pm Lunch break

1.15 - 3.15pm Learning

3.15pm End of school day

Children come directly into school between 8.35am and 8.45am, when the register is taken. Children arriving later than 8.50am must enter through the reception area.

Year 3 and 4 children are met on the lower school playground by staff at the start of the school day. Parents are welcome to accompany their child(ren) to drop them off.

Years 5 and 6 children are met by staff at the large gate. Parents are welcome to accompany their child (ren) to drop them off.

Assembly is held each morning, Monday to Friday. Assembly is an important part of the school day when we meet together as a community. It is a time when we place emphasis on the development of values and attitudes towards each other and the world around us. Assemblies are non-denominational and although they are of a broadly Christian nature, due consideration is given to the multicultural society in which we live. Friday mornings often feature a class-led assembly, to which parents and carers are warmly welcomed.

Parents have the right to withdraw their children from religious education and collective worship should they so wish. If parents do not wish their child to be taught the agreed syllabus or take part in short acts of collective worship then they should inform us in writing. Their child can then be excused and suitable alternative arrangements made





Year 4 pupil

'The best thing about my school is everybody is kind and caring and if I get hurt somebody will bring me to an adult'

Pupil Survey 2021

Playtimes

Morning break: 10.20am – 10.45am

Lunchtime: 12.15pm – 1.15pm

Playtimes are an important part of the children's day at school, and an essential opportunity to exercise, develop social skills and learn how best to get along with each other. We are lucky enough to have plenty of outdoor space at Southway and try to use as much of it as possible during playtimes.

We have two playgrounds, - the main one is used by everybody but the small playground at the front of the school is just for Years 3 and 4 to use. Both playgrounds have a tyre park and a range of play equipment for children to use. During the summer months, the children can spread out and play on the field as well. Children love to play amongst the mature trees, often collecting acorns and conkers, but the most popular item is the Adventure Playground, which is timetabled for different year groups through the week. The tyre parks and Adventure Playground were bought for the children by the Home School Association, following consultation with the children's school council.

Teachers work hard to find ways in which to enrich the children's learning with a variety of educational trips and visits. These can include visits to The British Museum, Hampton Court and Preston Park Manor. Our Year 6 residential visit is currently to Kingswood on the Isle of Wight.

In addition, children learn about religious faiths and beliefs during their Religious Education (RE) lessons, in accordance with the Local Authority's agreed RE syllabus.



Educational Trips and Visits

School Trips and Visits

Year 3

Autumn Term	Spring Term	Summer Term
Burgess Hill Town Walk	Booth Museum	Butser Farm
No cost	£15.00	£24.00
Drusillas	Rainbow Theatre	Burgess Hill Roman Walk
£16.50	£6.00	No cost

Additional costs

School Photos - £8.00 minimum
Christmas Cards - £6.00 minimum
Comic Relief - £1.50
Children in Need donation - £1.00 minimum
Swimming Pool contributions - £15.00
Christmas Giving Tree – optional
Harvest Donations – optional
St Peter & St James Hospice Elf Run – optional

Please note - All costings are approximate and may be subject to change



School Trips and Visits

Year 4

Autumn Term	Spring Term	Summer Term
Rainbow Theatre	Drumming Workshop	South Downs Planetarium
£5.00	£5.00	£12.50
Brighton Victorian Town Trail	Hindu Temple	
£13.00	£8.50	
Preston Manor		
£20.00		

Additional costs

Lodge Hill Two Day Residential
Approximately £130.00

School Photos - £8.00 minimum
Christmas Cards - £6.00 minimum
Comic Relief - £1.50
Children in Need donation - £1.00 minimum
Swimming Pool contributions - £15.00
Christmas Giving Tree – optional
Harvest Donations – optional
St Peter & St James Hospice Elf Run – optional

Please note - All costings are approximate and may be subject to change



School Trips and Visits

Year 5

Autumn Term	Spring Term	Summer Term
Hampton Court	Newhaven Fort	Seven Sisters
£20.00	£18.00	£8.50
West End Theatre	Sir Teachalot	Connect with the Countryside
£15.00	£6.00	£8.00

Additional costs

Five day Year 6 residential
Approximately £400.00

School Photos - £8.00 minimum
Christmas Cards - £6.00 minimum
Comic Relief - £1.50

Children in Need donation - £1.00 minimum

Swimming Pool contributions - £15.00

Christmas Giving Tree – optional

Harvest Donations – optional

St Peter & St James Hospice Elf Run – optional

Please note - All costings are approximate and may be subject to change



School Trips and Visits

Year 6

Autumn Term	Spring Term	Summer Term
Climbing Wall	British Museum	Chessington
£8.00	£15.00	£22.00
		Magistrates
		£1.50
		Brighton Museum
		£20.00

Additional costs

School Photos - £8.00 minimum
Christmas Cards - £6.00 minimum
Comic Relief - £1.50
Children in Need donation - £1.00 minimum
Swimming Pool contributions - £15.00
Christmas Giving Tree – optional
Harvest Donations – optional
St Peter & St James Hospice Elf Run – optional

Please note - All costings are approximate and may be subject to change

Year 6 also have the option to buy leavers hoodies, t-shirts, autograph books and photos





Children behave well at Southway and we expect and encourage them to take responsibility for what they do.

We believe that children respond best to praise and positive behaviour management techniques, and reward good behaviour in a number of ways. House points are always popular rewards, but so also is our weekly commendation assembly, in which good learning, effort, attitudes or behaviour are recognised and written in the commendation book, standing in the entrance foyer. At the end of each term we hold a special Teachers' 'Golden Awards' assembly, during which children's efforts over the preceding term are celebrated. Parents/carers of these children are notified in confidence in advance, so they can share their children's successes.

'Pupils' attitudes to learning are superb. In lessons, there is no question about them drifting off-task or being inattentive. Disruptive or discourteous behaviour would be unthinkable.'

**Ofsted
July 2019**

Safeguarding

Southway Junior School is committed to ensuring that children are safe and that their well-being is promoted at all times. Safeguarding systems and procedures are in place to ensure that concerns are investigated and appropriate action, usually involving other agencies and services is taken. Parents and carers are encouraged to join with our staff, pupils and governors to ensure that all concerns are passed on confidentially to a senior member of staff. The school has a duty of care and will make referrals to other agencies where necessary.

At Southway we encourage children to wear school uniform to show they are a proud part of our school community.

School uniform

Boys

White polo-shirt / white shirt
Navy blue sweatshirt with logo
Dark grey/black trousers or shorts
Navy fleece with logo (optional)
Black 'leather look' shoes
Black/grey/navy/white socks (no patterns or logos)

PE Uniform

House colour T-shirt with school logo
Royal blue shorts
Sweatshirt
Plimsolls or trainers are required for field or playground games
Track-suit for outdoor PE in cold weather (preferably navy blue or black)
A cloakroom bag for PE
Football boots are not compulsory but may be bought if desired

Swimming Kit

Swimming costume
Swimming hat (compulsory for all) can be purchased from the office
Towel
All in a named bag

As regards the school logo, as long as your child wears the correct school colours we do not insist on having the school logo

Girls

White polo shirt / white blouse
Navy blue sweatshirt / cardigan with logo
Dark grey/navy/black skirt or school style trousers
Blue & white striped or checked summer dress
Navy fleece with logo (optional)
Black 'leather look' – no heels or backless sandals please
Black/grey/navy/white socks or tights (no patterns or logos)



Year 5 pupil

'The best thing about school is the fact that at playtimes there is plenty to do e.g. bird hide, games area and gym equipment'

Pupil Survey 2021

Uniform for sale

School uniform with the logo can be purchased from Sussex Uniforms, Bridge Road Business Park, Unit 1 & 2, Bridge Rd, Haywards Heath RH16 1TX

www.sussexuniforms.co.uk

Jewellery and Hair

Long hair should be tied back. Extreme hairstyles are **not** permitted. Jewellery should not be worn to school. If your child has pierced ears, small stud ear-rings are allowed, but must be removed or taped up for PE and games. If your child wears a watch to school, s/he must be responsible for it. MedicAlert bracelets are permitted.

Personal Belongings

Although we welcome items of interest that support the class Learning Journey, staff cannot accept responsibility should they get lost or broken. It is far better to leave any personal items at home, especially if they are of value. Children are expected to be responsible for their own personal school equipment, which should be clearly named.

School meals

Tasty, nutritious hot meals are provided by Chartwells and can be ordered online in advance <https://westsussex.mealselector.co.uk/>; or you can phone them on 0845 603 7998. Meals cost £2.33 per day. Families in receipt of certain benefits (e.g. Income support) are entitled to free school meals – please ask for a form from the school office.

Children may bring in a packed lunch, which they eat with their year group in the dining hall. In keeping with our Healthy School ethos, we ask that you provide a healthy lunch and suggest that it includes at least one item of fruit or vegetable and no more than one 'treat' (eg chocolate bar or packet of crisps). Fizzy drinks, cans or glass bottles **are not allowed** in school.

Break time snack

Children can bring in a healthy fruit or vegetable snack for morning break time to keep them going until lunchtime.



Water

Every classroom has drinking water available, and we recommend that children keep their own, named water bottle in class so they can stay properly hydrated throughout the day. Water bottles are available from the school office, price £1.20.

Partnership with Parents, Carers and the Local Community

At Southway we value the relationships school has with parents and carers. The school has an 'open-door' policy to encourage parents/carers to alert the school of any issues which may be affecting a child, or to pop in should you wish to discuss something. Teachers escort their classes to the playground at the end of each day, and this is often a useful, informal opportunity to share good news or iron out any concerns.

Home School Association (HSA)

All parents/carers are automatically members of the HSA when they join the school community. We are very lucky to have a really committed and dynamic committee which leads the fund-raising for school and runs social events for families and children. As well as the much-loved Christmas and summer Fairs, the HSA holds termly children's discos and other events such as the family bingo evening and adult quiz night. Thanks to their fund-raising, children at playtimes can now practise their balancing on the tyre parks and exercise their upper body strength on the adventure playground, and access our large wildlife pond.

Governing Body

The Governing Body is a mixture of Local Authority, Parent, Community and Staff Governors, who bring to the school a broad range of skills, interests and experience. The full Governing Body sits once a term and the committees usually meet each month. Minutes of the Full Governing Body meetings are published on our website.

Induction and Transition

We have very close links with The Gattons, our feeder Infants school, and staff from Years 2 and 3 work closely together throughout the year to ensure a smooth transition. During the summer term, children from Year 2 have various opportunities to work with teachers and Year 3 at Southway, so that they know the routines and are acclimatised to their new school. Parents and Carers are also invited to an induction meeting in the summer term on one of these transition mornings, so that they can see their children in what will be their new classroom.

Year 6 pupil

'The best thing about my school is the lessons, the trips, I can be heard, our rights and responsibilities, playing with friends and reading for pleasure'

Pupil Survey 2021

In Year 6, all children have a day in the summer term when they will attend their new secondary school. Year 6 teachers liaise closely with the Year 7 team to ensure as smooth a hand-over as possible. Our SENDCo also arranges extra visits where appropriate for some children. In addition, children in Years 5 and 6 will often have opportunities to attend enrichment courses at local secondary schools



Key Stage 2 Results

Shown below are the end of Key Stage 2 results for the 2019 year six cohort.

More detailed information can be found on the following website:

<https://www.compare-school-performance.service.gov.uk/school/125941>

They are made up of test results for reading, maths and GPS (grammar, punctuation and spelling) and teacher assessments for writing and science. RWM is a combined measure of reading, writing and maths. Figures indicate the percentage reaching age expectations.



	Reading	Writing	Maths	GPS	RWM
Southway	78%	82%	79%	82%	64%
West Sussex	72%	76%	76%	75%	62%
National	73%	78%	78%	78%	65%

We hope that this prospectus has given you a flavour of what Southway is all about, but nothing can compare with visiting the school in person. For details of prospective new parents meetings, or to make an appointment, please contact the school office on 01444 233824.

We look forward to meeting you.

Headteacher: Mr Pete Newbold
Chair of Governors: Mrs Helen Lewis

Contact Details

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Website

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