

Godinton Primary School

Inspiring learning through opportunity



'This is a school where staff go out of their way to try to provide something extra for everyone.' Ofsted

'The pupils are delightful! They thoroughly enjoy school and it is no surprise their attendance is good.' Ofsted



Welcome to Godinton

Godinton is a very special school, with a strongly held ethos. We want to provide our children with a fully rounded education, which sees them happy and confident, and which provides them with the opportunity to succeed wherever their strengths and skills may lie.

Our main aim is a simple one - we want our children to be happy. Happy children, who enjoy coming to school will give of their best and will succeed. We offer our pupils as many different avenues to success as we possibly can and we celebrate everyone's achievements, whatever they are, in every area and at every level.

We believe that a primary school should provide a fully rounded education for its pupils, with children having the opportunity to experience as wide a range of activities as possible. Education is about developing confident children with well-rounded personalities who can succeed in life, as well as in exams. At Godinton Primary School we aim to educate our pupils in such a way that when they leave us, they are well prepared for the life ahead of them.



It is crucial that we maximise our children's attainment in the core academic areas and we work hard to ensure that our children achieve their full potential in maths, English and science, but we also provide them with every opportunity to enjoy arts, sport, music, languages, ICT and to have wider experiences such as travel. We will not sacrifice the wider curriculum in order to concentrate on achieving exam results.



We want our children to succeed, academically, as a member of our school council, as a sports captain, as a playground buddy or in any area of study, and in doing so, become more confident in themselves.

Our children are happy at our school – they tell us so.



'The reception children make good progress and achieve above the levels expected of them at the end of the Early Years Foundation Stage. They play and learn in good accommodation and this extends outside, where there is a hard playground surface and very attractive grounds.'

Ofsted

Curriculum

We enrich our curriculum with numerous offsite visits because it is important that children gain first hand experience of what they are studying. Pupils may visit castles and museums, London theatres, the opera house, the ballet or the National Gallery, sometimes in school uniform and sometimes dressed as Egyptians, evacuees or Victorian school children. We host visits from dancers and theatre groups and we work closely with local secondary schools which send both pupils and teachers to work with our children.



Godinton is a large school, with approximately 420 pupils and over 30 staff directly employed within the classrooms. These staff members have a breadth of skills and interests, which allow us to provide an extensive range of extra-curricular activities for our pupils, including residential visits both in this country and abroad.

We celebrate our pupils' achievements and those selected as 'citizens of the week' will visit the Headteacher for a tea party. During whole school assembly any child who has achieved anything of note, in any activity inside or outside of school, is able to discuss what they have done in front of the school whilst children's everyday efforts are recognised by the class teachers who award them a gold card and send them to visit the Headteacher.

Forest School

The children in Reception and Year One enjoy a Forest School session within the school woodland area. Forest School recognises the importance of active learning and helps children to achieve a wide range of outcomes. Within these sessions the children can explore the environment through play, build with natural materials, practise skills that they have learnt within the classroom and take time to enjoy the habitat around them.





'I feel the school offers my children an "education" in the broadest sense, which I wholeheartedly support. It offers a wide selection of experiences that broadens the children's minds and helps them to become rounded individuals.'
Parental feedback to Ofsted

Communication

We are not a school which keeps parents at arm's length. We try to involve you in every aspect of school life. We enjoy having you join us for lunch in the school hall, or at our family fun evening on the field in the summer. Our open afternoons provide you with an opportunity to sit with your child and look at their work, and we encourage you to attend every sports event and tournament to cheer our children on.

Our school is a partnership between staff and parents and consequently it is vital that we communicate. Parents must feel that they are welcomed as part of Godinton School. The Headteacher is on the main playground every morning from 8:40am, so that you can discuss any minor issue with him.



We have an extensive system of reports, parents' evenings and open afternoons to keep you informed about your child's progress. Augmenting this is our 'surgery approach' which means we will make ourselves free to see you, to discuss any issues which may arise during the year. Parents receive the main written report in February and not at the end of the year as is traditional. By giving this to you in February, we are able to make you fully aware of any issues which need to be addressed and to then communicate with you as to how this can be done whilst there is still time to do so.

Parent Satisfaction Survey Ofsted

My child enjoys school	99% agree
My child is making enough progress at this school	98% agree
The teaching is good at this school	98% agree
The school makes sure that my child is well prepared for the future	97% agree
The school deals effectively with unacceptable behaviour	97% agree
I am happy with my child's experiences at this school	98% agree

Every Wednesday morning, parents use our staff room for an informal coffee morning to get to know each other. Every Friday, the Adult Education service runs a free course for parents at the school. The course outlines how your child is taught and provides you with skills, ideas and materials which you can then use to support your child more effectively at home.



'The majority of pupils achieve well and reach the challenging targets set at the start of the year. An above-average proportion pass the examination for entry into the local grammar schools.'

Ofsted

Extended Schools

Extra Curricular Clubs

At Godinton, we place great store in the value of extra-curricular activities and run as wide a range of clubs as you are likely to find in a primary school. The activities include a large number of sports, cheer leading, foreign languages, cycling, ecology, cooking, gardening, film, ICT, textiles, art, drama and choir. Pupils captain our competitive sports teams, representing the school in a number of sports and act as house captains, school councillors, prefects and playground buddies.

Breakfast Club

We offer a breakfast club for those parents who require supervision for their children before school opens in the morning. The club is open from 7:50 in the morning and the children receive a comprehensive breakfast, including toast, cereal, fruit and yoghurt and have the chance to participate in a range of activities, before being escorted to their classrooms for the start of school.

After-school club

Should you require after school care for your child we have an after-school club run on the Godinton site by Kent Play Clubs. The club operates from 3:20pm – 5:45pm.

Healthy Schools

Our school lunches are provided by a local, Kent based independent caterer, CDC Ltd. All menus are freshly prepared in our school kitchen by our own cook, with an emphasis on fresh ingredients. The entire menu is nutritionally analysed to give your children a healthy well balanced lunch. Local meat and fruit and vegetables are used depending on season and availability.



The Future

Our school is already happy and successful. We are working hard to ensure that it continues to improve in every way, so that our children receive the best possible education. We have high expectations both of and for our pupils. We are proud of what we achieve at Godinton Primary School, but like our pupils, we will continue to improve and achieve even more in the years to come.

The most impressive aspect of our school is the atmosphere which exists within it. There is an intangible quality to Godinton School that can only be experienced by visiting our classrooms. If you are considering our school for your child, we strongly recommend that you come and visit us. When you meet our pupils and experience the warmth inside our school, you will understand why we are so proud of it.





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