

Information for Parents

Angel Road

JUNIOR SCHOOL

Angel Road

Norwich

NR3 3HS

Tel: 01603 425494

Email: office@angelroadjunior.norfolk.sch.uk



*Headteacher
Mr L. Holman M.A.*

*Chair of Governors
Ms B. Lely*

visit us at angelroadjunior.co.uk

Welcome to Angel Road Junior School....

The staff and governors hope your child will be happy, work hard and be successful. The school is a County maintained co-educational junior school for children between the ages of 7-11. There are four years, grouped by age, each with a year leader and class teachers who are responsible for co-ordinating the work within that year and ensuring that children make progress both socially and academically.

All children are in mixed ability classes although they will be set by ability for maths and literacy. Children may be taught at times by a teacher other than their class teacher according to the special areas of expertise the team members are able to offer. In many areas of the curriculum an extra teacher is allocated, this allows us to work with small groups and you will find your child is often taught in a group of 15-20 children rather than a class of 27.

List of Teaching Staff

Mr L Holman	Headmaster
Miss R Setterfield	Assistant Head

Staff Year Leaders

Mrs V Thomas	Head of Year 3
Mr R Muge	Head of Year 4
Mr R Parsons	Head of Year 5
Miss R Setterfield	Head of Year 6

Full Time Teaching staff

Miss D Ackerman
Miss L Allam
Miss L Bowen
Mrs N Axon
Mr A Milnes
Mr R Parson
Miss A Derry
Miss R Schofield

Part Time Teaching staff

Mrs S Graham
Mrs A Whalen



School times are 8.55 a.m. to 3.15 p.m.

When your child arrives at school in the morning she/he will wait in the playground until the bell sounds.

Please ensure that your child does not arrive at school before 8.45 a.m.

8.55 a.m. - 9.00 a.m.	Registration
9.00 a.m. - 10.30 a.m.	First two lessons
10.30 a.m. - 10.40 a.m.	Assembly
10.40 a.m. - 10.55 a.m.	Break
10.55 a.m. - 12.15 p.m.	Lessons 3 and 4
12.15 p.m. - 1.05 p.m.	Lunch
1.05 p.m. - 1.10 p.m.	
	Afternoon Registration
1.10 p.m. - 3.15 p.m.	
	Afternoon Session



Support Staff

Mrs L Waller

School Business Manager

Mrs C Lord

Clerical/Welfare Assistant

Mrs H Brown

Clerical/Welfare Assistant

Learning Support Assistants

Mrs J Lambert

Mr B McManus

Miss V Hase

Mrs M Roadley Battin

Mrs R Denchfield

Mrs D Fox

Mrs J Franklin

Mrs L Prance

Miss J Pye

Mrs T Seward-Clarke

Mrs K Watts

Mrs T Rush

Mr C Shepherdson

Caretaker



Angel Road Junior School

Junior schools like ours are a most important influence on the lives of thousands of children across England. Catering specifically for the need of boys and girls in the 7 - 11 age range,

Our junior school offers both general and specialist educational facilities. We are closely linked with local infant schools and with the city High Schools ensuring that the chain of continuity in each child's education is provided for.

It is well known that the years just prior to eleven involve children in profound and lasting changes. As they approach and pass through the stages of puberty, they are faced with a period of development which affects them physically, intellectually, socially, emotionally and, perhaps, spiritually too. They become more aware of themselves and of their relationships; and the pressures of the peer groups around them can be particularly strong.

For these reasons, it is highly desirable to create for children who are passing through the 'junior years' a situation which is as stable as possible on which they can depend. Junior schools are founded in part on this premise, and in part also on the recognition that the emerging independence of children in these critical years can be a positive force when it is properly fostered and encouraged. Through a broad, balanced and challenging curriculum which provides opportunities for enquiry and creativity, an increased level of motivation, achievement and satisfaction for every child can be promoted.

Angel Road Junior has responded positively to recent Education Acts. All prescribed subjects are covered - English, mathematics, science, design & technology, history, geography, music, art and physical education.

At the same time, the subjects set out in the National Curriculum are not viewed in separate compartments. Great care is taken to stress their inter-dependence and essential relationships.

Assessment of children's progress and attainment within prescribed areas of the curriculum is a continuous process in which strengths are encouraged and weaknesses are diagnosed and remedied.

Our curriculum therefore aims to build on these aspects of development, acknowledging the emerging strengths of the children and being sensitive to their respective needs.



School uniform

It is compulsory for all pupils to wear school uniform.

School uniform was introduced as a direct result of parents overwhelmingly voting for it.

In the ballot, parents had the opportunity to specify whether they preferred an informal uniform (sweatshirts and polo shirts) or something more formal. By a ratio of 20:1 the majority favoured an informal uniform.

For those parents who may find purchasing uniform difficult due to financial pressures, we can supply the name and address of a local charitable concern who may be able to assist. The amount offered will depend upon a means test.



The wearing of school uniform is strictly enforced

Parents are required to write to the Headmaster if for any reason uniform cannot be worn on a particular day.

Girls

Royal blue sweatshirt with school logo

Blue or white collared blouse

Or

Blue or white polo shirt with or without school logo

Navy or black skirt

Or

Boys

Royal blue sweatshirt with school logo

Blue or white collared shirt

Or

Blue or white polo shirt with or without school logo

Navy, black or dark grey trousers

Navy, black or dark grey trousers



Parents and School

The importance of a good relationship between home and school cannot be stressed too strongly. It is from the understanding and close co-operation between parent and teacher that a child will find their greatest and most stable incentive to benefit from all our school has to offer.

In the Autumn and Spring terms there are parent/teacher consultations. This enables parents to meet the class teacher and ensure that their sons/daughters progress is satisfactory.

There are, of course, other opportunities for you to join in the life in our school. You are most welcome to attend school concerts or class assemblies given by the children. We also try to keep you up-to-date with school information via our newsletters. Parents who can offer to spend time in school helping out in a variety of ways are always welcome and a register of parent helpers is always being revised to include new members.

However, please do not wait for a formal event if there is something you wish to discuss. If possible, it is always helpful if you telephone first so that I can ensure I am free to see you, but you are most welcome at any time.

The school has a complaints procedure that outlines the procedure to be followed. Should you wish to make a formal complaint, copies of this procedure are available from school.



Len Holman
Headteacher



Facilities

We are very fortunate at Angel Road Junior to have a wide and extensive range of facilities at our disposal. We have a Science and Technology laboratory equipped for a wide range of physical and biological experimental work.



Our modern reference library



Members of our steel band performing outside the forum

We have a library and a music room. children are able to enjoy facilities afforded by a well equipped homecraft room and also excellent drama facilities via the stage in our main school hall.

Our playing fields are extensive and amongst the sports currently enjoyed by both girls and boys alike are Soccer, Netball, Tennis, Rugby, Hockey, Cricket and Athletics. As well as a large hall where badminton can be played, we also have a specialist gymnasium catering for gymnastic activities.





Our soccer team on the way to winning the Norwich Schools' Cup Final

Facilities

Our computer facilities are extensive and are constantly being updated. We have one large computer suite that has 32 computers of a very high specification. This suite accommodates a whole class and provides at least one machine per pupil.

In addition to the existing suite we have over 30 other modern computers situated around the school in classrooms and other specialist areas. Every computer is networked, has independent internet access and uses Broadband technology.





Absence rates

In an attempt to reduce rates of truancy the number of unauthorised absences for each school is published annually.

In order to achieve an unauthorised absence a child must be away from school for all or part of a day and the school receive no explanation for this absence.

Often a small minority of parents fail to notify us by note, email or telephone of the reason why their child is absent. In this case we are legally obliged to record the absence as unauthorised. This rule also applies to late arrivals who have no note explaining the reason for their lateness.

Parents can legally keep their children away from school for 10 days in any one academic year. These are in addition to days off for illness. However, if parents remove their child for more than 10 days in one year, for reasons other than illness, these extra absences will be recorded as unauthorised. Below are the figures for our most recent absences.

Total percentage of authorised absences = 5.2%

Total percentage of pupils with unauthorised absences against them = 0.1%

Child Protection

Because of the day to day contact with children, schools are particularly well placed to observe outward signs of abuse, changes in behaviour, or failure to develop.

Parents should be aware, therefore, that where it appears to a member of staff that a child may have been abused, the school is required, as part of the Area Child Protection Procedures, to report their concern immediately.

The school has a designated teacher responsible for child protection issues. They have received training in accordance with the practices laid down by NACPC. This service has access to and the support of the Education Welfare Service.



Admissions Policy

Angel Road Junior School currently has an intake limit of 90 pupils per year. We welcome pupils from all religious and ethnic backgrounds. We are especially well-equipped to accommodate pupils with physical disabilities.

We are fortunate to occupy a large building with a lot of space. In the event that a year group should become full, the following county criteria will apply.

Admission Criteria in the Event of Over-Subscription County and Controlled, First, Infant, Middle, Junior and Primary Schools

In the event of over subscription, preference will be given to children living nearer to the school according to the following criteria, in order of priority:-

1. Those living in the designated area served by the school.
2. Those living outside the designated area served by the school but who will have an older brother or sister attending at the time of admission.
3. Those living outside the designated area served by the school who have medical reasons and who have been professionally recommended to attend the school.
4. Those living outside the designated area served by the school if space permits.



Mathematics

Numeracy is a proficiency which involves competence and confidence with numbers and measures. It requires an understanding of the number system, a repertoire of computational skills and an inclination and ability to solve number problems in a variety of contexts.

Pupils will be taught to;-

Have a sense of the size of a number where it fits into the number system.

Know by heart the number facts such as number bonds, multiplication tables, doubles and halves.

Use what they know by heart to figure out answers mentally.

Calculate accurately and efficiently, both mentally and with pencil and paper, drawing on a range of calculation strategies.

Recognise when it is appropriate to use a calculator, and be able to do so effectively.

Make sense of number problems, including non-routine problems, and recognise the operations needed to solve them.

Explain their methods and reasoning using correct mathematical terms.

Judge whether their answers are reasonable and have strategies for checking them where necessary.

Suggest suitable units for measuring, and make sensible estimates of measurements.

Explain and make predictions from the numbers in graphs, diagrams, charts and tables.



Language

Our approach involves children uniting the important skills of reading and writing. It also involves speaking and listening. Good oral work enhances pupils' understanding of language both in oral and written forms and of the way language can be used to communicate. It is also an important part of the process through which pupils read and compose texts.

Children need to be able to use language well in order to think clearly as well as in order to communicate. Having something to say is a necessary first step and, therefore, we expect the child to develop those skills of listening with care, of talk, and of discussion which are essential if he/she is to make sense of experience and to express feelings, ideas and opinions.

If a child is to communicate clearly in writing, then handwriting, spelling, punctuation and presentation must be of good standard and children are expected to work with care in this respect. Children are also expected to find information from books and to master the reference skills necessary for the use of non-fiction library and resources.

The standard of reading at Angel Road Junior is acknowledged to be good. Children are encouraged to enjoy books by listening to stories and poems read aloud. The standard of writing in our school is currently well above the national average expected.



Curriculum (continued)

Science

Science is a very exciting subject for junior school children to experience. It is taught in an enquiry based manner that allows children the opportunity to learn at first hand through experimentation. Children are encouraged to look at problems and devise simple experiments to find out more about the world in which they live.

Although we possess a very well-equipped science room, this subject is just as likely to be taught out in the surrounding environment, where data for experimentation can be gathered first hand, making learning a much more meaningful experience. Computers and other technology are increasingly becoming part of day to day science lessons.



Environmental Studies/Humanities

Environmental studies include those subjects, for example **History** and **Geography**, which are concerned with man's understanding of himself, his community and the wider world. It seeks to explain man's activities and behaviour and those processes which form and change society and our physical environment. We aim to encourage respect for the attitudes, values and opinions of others and an interest in, and concern for, human affairs.

The work involves practical local studies, investigation of evidence from the past, study of other countries and other cultures and consideration of some of the problems and issues which face man in the twentieth century. Aspects of the work will have close links with other subjects such as Science, Technology, Language and Art.





Curriculum (continued)

Information Technology

Information and communication technology (ICT) is an exciting subject which can be involved in nearly all curriculum areas.

Our approach to ICT is to timetable the subject and teach the children the basic skills of computer operation and also encourage them to use ICT across the whole range of subjects at other times. They will learn the basics from how to correctly switch machines on and off, how to access software, save work and many other operations.

Children very quickly adapt to this technology and most are confidently dealing with the day to day operation of it in its many forms.

Pupils will use some subject software in subjects like geography and history. A computer is often used in science to help children record changes in temperatures and to store many other types of data.

Increasingly children are taught how computers can be used to control other mechanical devices. These may take the form of model traffic lights, level crossing barriers or a simple floor robot.

Word processing skills are constantly developed as pupil's progress through the school. Children often access computers in order to write up their stories or other pieces of original writing. They enjoy changing fonts and adding their own artwork or photographs via the school digital cameras.

The computer suite provides every pupil with internet access. The internet continues its rapid expansion as an information system not all of which is suitable for children. In order to ensure that children cannot access unsolicited websites we use an educational internet provider who filters access to any offensive or unsuitable websites.

The world of information technology is advancing at such a pace that we have a rolling program of changing and updating our machines. This is a very expensive process but one to which we are fully committed.



Curriculum (continued)

Visits and Visitors

We believe it is most important to offer our children as wide a range of educational opportunities as possible. We therefore encourage visits of a day or occasionally a week.

These visits are educational in nature. They range from – a morning visit to the local museum, or to do practical map work or a traffic survey; a day's visit to Wells to study coastal life; a week's visit to Holt Hall residential centre for environmental field studies or the continent to study a very different environment.

We also invite speakers into the school, where possible, to extend the children's understanding or appreciation of the work undertaken.

The school has adopted the LEA's policy on charging for visits and a copy of this document can be obtained from the school. This document outlines procedures for other charges such as for purchasing craft items made by the children.

The school owns two 17-seat minibuses, which gives flexibility on trips and visits. They allow many more trips to be undertaken which would not be possible if a coach had to be hired. All minibus seats are fitted with full 'lap and diagonal' seat belts.

All teachers and staff who drive the vehicles have undertaken a defensive driving course and had their standard of driving assessed.





Curriculum (continued)

The Arts

The school is delighted to have been awarded the Arts Council England Artsmark silver award. This is in recognition of the exceptional work undertaken in the arts by all of our pupils. The award recognises achievement in all aspects of the arts including art, dance, drama and music.

We aim to develop an awareness of colour, form, texture, pattern and space in a natural and man-made environment. We encourage the children to explore and develop skills in the use of a wide variety of media and processes available in order to record, communicate and express their ideas.

First hand experience amid observation from many subject areas, together with stories or poems and the use of the imagination and creative thought provide many stimulating starting points for this work and many find expression through drawing, painting, printing and collage.



Year 5 performed in 'The Marriage of Figaro'
At the Theatre Royal



Awarded to Angel Road Junior School by the Arts Council



Curriculum (continued)

Music

Pupils enjoy the opportunity to play an instrument including the steel pans during a class music lesson every week. Specialised tuition is available from visiting music staff for instruments including guitar (electric and acoustic), drums and keyboard. There is a weekly charge of £3.50 for these lessons payable one term in advance.



Religious Education

Arrangements for the act of collective worship and Religious Education are made by the school in accordance with County policy. Religious Education is non-denominational in character.

Parents wishing to withdraw their child from collective worship and/or religious education should place this request in writing to the headteacher.

Swimming

Due to the huge pressure on schools to provide intensive teaching in the basic subjects, we have had to reduce the amount of swimming time available. Children in years 3 and 4 have the opportunity to swim but children in years 5 and 6 may only have lessons if they are unable to swim or if they have not acquired a 25 metre certificate.

Children learning to swim attend the 'learner' pool at Heartsease school. We would ask that you provide your child with a swimming costume, towel and a hat. The latter is most important as children are not allowed to swim without a hat at the Heartsease pool.



Curriculum (continued)

Physical Education

Physical Education means not only gymnastics but major and minor games, skills training, athletics and swimming. The list is influenced by the availability of facilities, the expertise of teachers and the demands of the timetable. However, every week each child should have a lesson of P.E. and outdoor games as follows:-

Winter – football, netball, cross country running, hockey and rugby.

Summer – athletics, cricket, rounders and tennis.



By spreading some activities over the school year and concentrating others in block courses, a well balanced program is achieved. All lessons involve a period of purposeful physical activity and therefore clothing best suited to the activity is desirable.

Many activities involve children using expensive equipment and apparatus which must be handled in a safety conscious manner. Therefore a degree of self and group discipline is demanded for the child's own safety and for the sake of progress in the development of their skills.

Sex Education

The school has a sex education policy. Copies of our policy are available from school. Parents have the right to withdraw their child from sex education lessons should they feel this appropriate.

Hidden Curriculum

Much of what we hope the children will learn in their four years with us cannot be defined under subject headings or quantified, and will not appear on the timetable.

The 'hidden curriculum' covers such objectives as: acquiring good attitudes; developing self-control and self-respect; establishing a code of acceptable behaviour; developing a sympathetic understanding of the needs of others; fostering truth, honesty and integrity; and building good relationships.



Medicines in School

If you have to send medicine, pills or inhalers to school for your child, please ensure that these are handed to the Welfare Assistant first thing in the morning.

Please also enclose a note explaining the quantity to be taken and the time of day the child must receive it.

If your child has been sick then they should not return to school until 24 hours after the last bout of sickness.

Lunch Arrangements

The school operates a Cash/Cafeteria system for provision of midday meals. The children bring money daily. Children entitled to free meals are issued with a metal disc every day which represents the price of a standard meal. Application forms for free meals are obtainable from the school and should be completed and returned to school. There is a choice of a hot meal, vegetarian option, jacket potato or a packed lunch.

Your child may of course bring a packed lunch if you wish. However, we would ask that no cans or glass bottles are used. If you wish, sandwich children may buy drinks and fruit from the cafeteria. Packed lunches can be eaten in the school canteen or if your child prefers in 'Fast Track Lunch.' 'Fast Track' occurs in the school hall and is designed for those pupils who wish to eat their lunch straight away. During 'Fast Track' pupils sit on the hall floor to eat and have to begin promptly soon after 12:15 and be finished by 12:40

Children are expected to behave sensibly and with good manners in the dining hall; in fact, we expect them to behave as I am sure you expect them to behave at home. We reserve the right to refuse to allow children to stay to school during lunchtime period unless they conform to expected standards of behaviour under the supervision of the 'dinner ladies'.

Accidents

Minor accidents will be attended to at school. If an accident has included a bump on the head or anything which might need further attention we will contact you.

If an accident is more serious in nature we will, of course, inform you immediately and take whatever action is necessary on the advice of a doctor, nurse or the local hospital. **It is essential, therefore, that we have an emergency daytime telephone number so that we may contact you, and we would ask that you let us know should this number change.**



School Dress Policy

School dress policy is governed by safety and practicality. The number of safety rules which must be observed in school increase each year and the following points are most important.

Children should wear sensible, comfortable shoes with non-slip soles

We find that slip-on shoes and also tight skirts contribute to accidents in the playground and can be dangerous in practical rooms with science experiments and machines. Therefore, we advise against slip-on shoes and tight skirts.

Pointed heels are not allowed because they damage the floors.

In summertime we like to encourage children to wear smart 'tailored' shorts in one colour. The wearing of multi-coloured 'loud' Bermuda shorts is not allowed.

P.E.

Tee-shirts/vest (preferably white and sleeveless) shorts and P.E. shoes or trainers are necessary.

Girls may wear leotards if they wish.

Spare socks will be necessary if your child wishes to wear socks for P.E.

Games

Track suits or warm sweaters may be worn in winter for outside games. Spare socks will be needed.

Long, thick socks and boots preferable for Soccer, Hockey and Rugby.

General

It is most helpful if your child is provided with a smock or apron for practical work.

It would help tremendously to return lost property to its rightful owner *if all clothing is clearly marked*. Unmarked clothes that become lost rarely ever make the journey home!

Jewellery, nail varnish and make-up are not allowed. Children with pierced ears may, of course wear studs.

Watches may be worn, but we are unable to be responsible for the safeguarding of any valuables, including watches, which children bring to school.



Discipline

Discipline

The good discipline of the school depends to a large extent on the following factors.....

1. We expect a good standard of behaviour, based upon – decent relationships; consideration for others; respect for people and property and the need to do one's best at work and play. The children are constantly made aware of these expectations by general talks and individual reminders.
2. The rules that are made are created for the whole school community. They are explained thoroughly to the children and are accepted by them.
3. Any punishment that is carried out is preceded by a thorough investigation, is fair, and is seen by the children to be fair. The most common forms of punishment used in the school are;- a showing of disapproval by a stern talk to the child; the withdrawal of a privilege, e.g. playtime; an imposition of extra work; or a short detention period after school always preceded by written notification to the parents. In serious cases of bad behaviour exclusion from school would be used according to County Policy.

Co-operation between home and school is particularly important with regard to discipline. The child responds far more readily when he knows that school and home share a common aim and promote a common policy. You may be assured that we shall inform you if we feel there is a problem so that we may discuss it with you.

In conclusion

It is our policy to inform all new entrants into the school about the type of activities they will be involved in when they commence their studies at Angel Junior.

However, I feel that this information is best imparted late in the Summer term before your child joins us, rather than try and project lessons nearly a year in advance during the previous September when this brochure is compiled.

I hope you have found this brochure helpful in answering many of the questions you will inevitably be asking regarding your son/daughter's school. However, we do invite you to raise with us any issue not covered within the limits of this publication.

We believe it is our responsibility to help your child in every possible way, and it is your responsibility to support us in this respect.

Len Holman
Headteacher

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