BE THE BEST THAT YOU CAN BE

John Scurr Primary School

Prospectus



Welcome Message



On behalf of the pupils, staff and governors I would like to welcome you to our school.

I hope that by reading this prospectus you will gain an insight into the ethos of our school and will understand the vital role that you as parents have in the educational development of our children.

We know that if we work together we are working well. As such, we are committed to excellent outcomes for all our pupils and equip them with the knowledge, skills and attributes they need to be successful in their learning. We expect high levels of attainment which are achieved in a happy, caring, community orientated environment with co-operation from all.

However, reading about us is just a flavour of life at John Scurr, and can be no substitute for a personal visit. I am always pleased to welcome visitors to school, and invite you to come and see us in action. Please do not hesitate to contact or email the School Office in order to arrange an appointment.

I look forward to welcoming your family.

Maria Lewington
Headteacher



School Ethos

John Scurr honors the values of John and Julia Scurr who fought for equality and access to education for East End families.

We offer an inclusive and enriched curriculum to develop all aspects of learning for children. We are proud of our dedicated and skilled workforce, who work hard with our governors and parents to promote good progress and attainment for all.

We have high expectations of everyone in our school and value the contribution of the community.

I will keep trying to learn new skills to grasp all of life's exciting opportunities.
Our Values:
We are Respectful
We are Resilient
We are Resourceful We are Ready
We Reflect

School Vision

We believe that everyone should feel proud of our school community.

We will see the good in others and others will see the good in me.

We will develop the confidence to think for ourselves, explore and take risks.

We believe we must grow healthy and strong and that we will know how to look after ourselves.

We believe everyone should learn new skills and grasp all of life's exciting opportunities.



Our Staff

Our school staff play an essential role in ensuring our school is a safe, happy and effective place for our children to learn.

Some of our teachers have been at John Scurr for many years and hold management responsibilities. Each year group is taught by a team of teachers, assistants, and special needs teachers that work with particular children.

We also work closely with many outside agencies where necessary to support the development of our children. The school is supported by a team of experienced office staff and excellent premises management.

School Building

The school is housed in a 1920's three-storey building that has three halls separated from the classrooms by corridors.

The accommodation provides for a nursery, and two classrooms per year group. We also have excellent facilities for 2 year olds.

Most classrooms are large and light with group-teaching rooms on all floors, we are well resourced and have a music and dance studio and a library.

The school has an edible garden, a Forest School area with mud kitchen, a High Needs classroom, excellent play structures (including vast separated playground space), a Multi-Use Games Area and a popular tree house

We also have a Learning Lodge where we invite parents to learn through the Tower hamlets ESOL Programme.

The School Day

The school will allow one parent or carer to drop off and collect.

Breakfast Club starts at 8am
Main Gates open at 8 45am
Bell rings at 8 50am

Nursery begins at 8:55am
Lunchtime is 45 minutes

Nursery afternoon part-timers start at 12.30pm
Main Gates open at 3.15pm for collection



Attendance

It is very important that children attend school regularly. Missed school sessions can seriously hinder your child's education.
If your child is unwell, or to be absent from school for any reason, parent must phone the school office as early as possible stating the reason.

All absences taken as holiday, or without consent will be noted as unauthorised, and a monetary fine will be enforced. This absence will also count against your child attendance record.

Application for "holiday" leave of absence will be refused. We ask you to seriously reconsider taking holidays during term time.

Great emphasis is put on regular attendance and close monitoring takes place on a regular basis. In order to reward and encourage
high level of attendance, and emphasis' the importance of education, the school has agreed the following:

Each class with the weekly highest attendance will be mentioned in assembly.

- A mention on the school website
- A termly treat, for the class with the best attendance; for example a bowling trip.

To request further details are listed on Tower Hamlets application for leave in term time, please speak to the school office.



After School Clubs

The school offers a wide range of extra-curricular activities which includes: Debate, Gardening, Music, sports, arts & crafts to name a few.

These clubs enable children to learn new skills in a fun and safe environment and help develop pupil skills and independence.

We are also work with a number of local schools to access the Bethnal Green After School Club – who provide our Wrap Around care for working families – you can contact them here www.begasc.com

Parent / Carers

We believe that parents and carers are the first educators of their children and therefore we encourage a close partnership between parents and school from the outset. Before your child starts at John Scurr, you will be given information about the school and the opportunity to visit with your child.

Parents will receive newsletters from the Headteacher advising them of forthcoming events. This information will also be published on our website along with detailed information about our school community.

All our parents receive information via **School Ping** – and you will be given a log on for this app when you enroll your child.

Frequently asked questions about School Ping

When we are able to – we organize 'stay and play' and 'stay and learn' sessions for our youngest children and their parents.

We also invite you to regular Learning Together workshops and to our termly assemblies and Learning Celebrations.



Communicating With You

Communicating with home and school is paramount to ensuring excellent outcomes.
We promote both informal and formal communication to ensure a bespoke approach.

At John Scurr Primary we offer:

- Termly parents learning conferences.
- A mid-year written report (KS1/2) to ensure we are focused in the end of year goals for your child.
- Personalised end of key stage (Rec, Yr2 and Yr6) written results against National Expectations.
- End of the day informal discussions with a class teacher as we say goodbye.
- A Family Support Worker available for conversations to answer queries and concerns.
- A texting and email service to remind you about important events.
- Regular newsletters, website updates and workshops.
- Regular meetings with our Inclusion Leader, School Nurse or Phase Leaders to help support individual needs.
- A yearly questionnaire and Parents Forums.
- A regularly updated website.

The Curriculum

Learning is central to what we do at John Scurr and throughout the school children are actively encouraged to develop and challenge themselves as learners.

Our curriculum is designed to help children learn the essential knowledge, skills and understanding of a broad range of curriculum subjects. We encourage them to engage with their learning so that they remain committed to learning throughout their school careers and their lives. We help develop the personal qualities they need to be good citizens; and believe the curriculum we provide is broad, engaging and captures the interest of the children.

We teach the Early Years Foundation Stage Curriculum and the National Curriculum and at John Scurr our own curriculum extends far beyond this.

The National Curriculum applies to children of compulsory school age within primary context and is organised into two Key Stages:

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Key Stage 1: Ages 5-7 (Year 1-2)
Key Stage 2: Ages 7-11 (Year 3-6)

Further information listed on the school's website

Governors

Our Governors are representatives of businesses and services community, parents and staff members.

They all bring a range of interests, knowledge and skills and have responsibility for overseeing the organisation, curriculum and budget of the school. Governors meet each term, as a body and in smaller sub-committees and provide support and challenge the leadership of the school.

School Council

John Scurr School Council/Pupil Voice meets regularly and is elected from Years 1 to 6 by their classmates, and comprises two children from each class. The children vote for people who will be responsible, hardworking and caring.

The councilors have a range of important jobs to do for the school, and all children take their role very seriously. Most recently our school council have been part of the recruitment interview process for new applicants to the school and leading a climate change rally



Enrichment

We are proud of the many ways that we enrich the curriculum at John Scurr.

We believe strongly in the power of the arts to help children express themselves as well as to support the achievement of high standards.

Our curriculum map for each year group is led by the Unity curriculum which drives the knowledge, vocabulary skill progression for your child. You will be amazed at the knowledge your child will gain through their learning here at John Scurr.

We offer specialized teaching in PE, Dance, percussion and for singing. The curriculum is further organised into some topics lasting for a term or half a term, with Science, Computing, History, Geography, Design Technology, PE, RE and PSHE are covered
in this way. Curriculum lessons are lively, engaging and the children will be involved in independent research, presenting, drama and designing.

Our curriculum provides many opportunities to visit the vast number of museums, galleries and theatres that London has to offer us and every year we hold a 'Place of Worship' visit.

We also recognise that not all children learn in the same way and we structure our lessons to meet these different needs. We are constantly updating and defining the curriculum based on current research and best practice.

We hold annual technology, food and art festivals – where we link with other schools in England through our curriculum.

Our reading curriculum is designed to move children from a phonic and early words based programme towards comprehension and inference. This is underpinned through a 'Reading for Pleasure' environment and 'Reader' programme.

Equal Opportunity and Inclusion

Everyone is different, everyone is special and everyone matters.

John Scurr is an inclusive school, which means we are committed to helping children overcome any barriers to their learning they may have.

We want every child to achieve their full potential. In most cases the needs of all children can be addressed through planning and teaching and with the support of parents. However sometimes additional support may be required and our school takes pride in the quality of provision it is able to provide and the partnerships we have to promote inclusion.

Equal Opportunity and Inclusion

Our High Needs base in an assessment class, lead by an experienced class teacher who ensures that children with significant needs can be included meaningfully into a maninstream classroom.

John Scurr Primary is a multi-lingual school, and language is central to our identity.
We believe that the home language of all our children should be recognised and valued. Children with English as an additional language make good progress with the support of the team, and we strive for
all children to achieve national expectation in English.

We ask that all parents support us in this, and we Signpost parents to regular adult ESOL classes.

We are proud of the curriculum and the reading offer in ensuring representation and cultural appropriation is a key factor at the school.

Child Protection (Safeguarding)

The Governors and staff fully recognise the contribution the school makes, in partnership with other local agencies, to safeguarding children.

We recognise that all staff, including volunteers, have a full and active part to play in protecting our pupils from harm and that everyone in the education service has a duty to keep children and young people safe. We are committed to safer recruitment practices.

All staff and governors believe that our school should provide a caring, positive safe and stimulating environment which promotes the social, physical and moral development of the individual child, emphasis on prevention and early intervention.

At John Scurr Primary we have staff Safeguarding, Health and Safety training updates.

Further information listed on the school's website



School Visits, Travelling & Visitors

Educational visits are also an integral part of children's learning and we take full advantage of all the learning opportunities provided by our wonderful city and particularly our location in the heart of London's old east end.

These visits add scope and interest to subjects, and are vital to your child's understanding of the world. The school also regularly invites visitors to the school to enhance the curriculum, including theatre workshops and advisory staff. We also have a range of after school clubs throughout the week.

There is a standard school procedure for children taking part on school visits/journeys. You will receive notice before hand outlining the nature of the visit and cost contribution, if any. We ask that you value this part of the curriculum as much as we do. Parents are invited to train to be 'Education Visit Buddies', to accompany us on our school

School Uniform

At John Scurr School children from Nursery to Y6 are expected to wear uniform. We encourage our children to come to school looking smart and ready for learning.

We believe wearing school uniform:

- Promotes a sense of community and belonging towards the school
- Is practical and smart
- Prevents children from coming to school in fashionable clothes that could detract them from their learning
- Is regarded as suitable wear for school and good value for money by most parents
- Is designed with health and safety in mind

We strongly suggest that each individual item of school uniform is clearly labelled with your child's name.

Further information regarding where to purchase our uniform, please see our school's website

John Scurr Permission of use of images



Occasionally, we may take photographs of the children at our school. We may use these images in our schools prospectus or in other printed publications that we produce, as well as on our website or on project display boards at our school.

We may also make video or webcam recordings for school-to-school conferences, monitoring or other educational use.

From time to time, our school may be visited by the media who will take photographs or film footage of a visiting dignitary or other high profile event. Pupils will often appear in these images, which may appear in local or national newspapers, or on televised news programmes.

To comply with the Data Protection Act 1998, we need your permission before we can photograph or make any recordings of your child for promotional purposes.

CONDITIONS OF USE



•This form is valid for the period of time your child attends this school. Your consent will automatically expire after this time.

• The school will not re-use any photographs or recordings after your child leaves this school without further consent being sought.

• The school will not use personal details or full names (which means first and surname) of any child or adult in a photographic image, on video, on our website, in the school prospectus or in any of our other printed publications.

• The school will not include personal e-mail or postal addresses or telephone or fax numbers on video, on our website, in school prospectus or in other printed publications

•If we use photographs of individual pupils, we will not use the full name of that child in any accompanying text or caption.

• If we use the the full name of pupil in text, we will not use a photograph of that child to accompany the article.

• We may include pictures of pupils and teachers that have been drawn by pupils. We may use group or class photographs or footage with very general labels, such as “Science Lesson”.

• We will only use images of pupils who are suitably dressed.

• Parents should note that websites can be viewed throughout the world and not just in the United Kingdom where UK law applies

Please read and sign the permission form within the accompanied pack

Morning Snack

The school is part of the National Fruit Scheme – A government initiative to promote healthy eating in young children. All children in Foundation and Key Stage 1 receive a portion of fruit daily free of charge.

All children have access to water throughout the day and we encourage children to bring a water bottle every day from home.

Lunch Arrangements

At John Scurr, we promote a positive approach to healthy living and eating. The school provides a selection of daily hot meals that always include a vegetarian or halal option and salad bar. Fresh meals cooked on site by our dedicated kitchen staff. If you wish to provide your child with a packed lunch from home, please ensure the meal provided is balanced and nutritious. Children will be closely supervised by our dedicated lunchtime supervisors

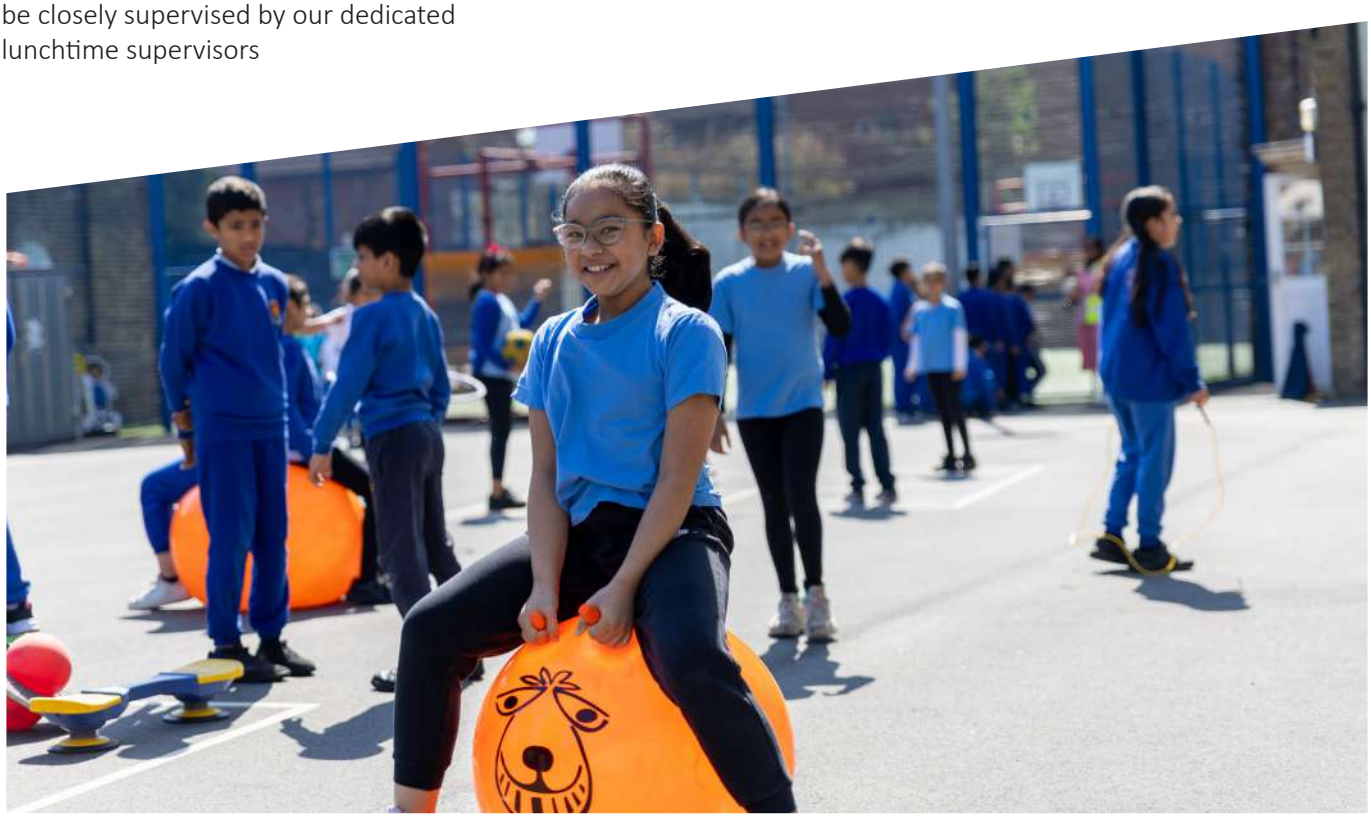
Dinner money is paid to the office on a weekly basis. Further information regarding cost can be obtained from the school office. Nursery pupils at present are the only children required to pay for lunch

We do ask ALL parents who receive Family Income Support to register for free school meals. By registering, the school will be able to access a larger amount of funding which will enhance your child's learning experience. Application forms can be found in this pack or collected from the school office. All applications are treated confidentially.

Healthy Lifestyle

At John Scurr Primary we promote a Healthy Lifestyle as a complimentary and vital part of the curriculum. We ask that as parents you also support this by:

- Encouraging all children to be toilet trained as soon as they start Nursery.
- Ensuring children have a PE kit.
- Walking or cycling to school.
- We have an onsite safe storage for bikes and scooters.
- Making sure children get enough sleep.
- Ensuring all pupils have a healthy breakfast before they come to school.
- NOT to bring any sweets, crisps, chocolates or fizzy drinks to school.



Medical Matters

It is important that school is kept informed of all medical needs. Please let the school office or teacher know if your child requires regular access to medicines e.g asthma inhalers.

All necessary medicines must be provided by parents/ carers, clearly labelled and replenished promptly when required.

If your child has any particular allergies please let us know and provide any medicine necessary eg epipens; (we have several staff members trained to administer epipens).

Minor bumps and bruises are treated in school by our trained First Aiders, and we also have a school nurse who visits on a regular basis.

Illness at School

If a child becomes ill or injured during the school day, the parent/carer will be expected to make arrangements for their child to be collected as soon as possible.

The school must have up-to-date telephone numbers and other relevant information in case of an emergency.

We use medical tracker to let you know if your child has been unwell at school and have over 12 members of staff who are First Aid trained.

Travelling to School

The vast majority of our children live in close proximity to the school and we encourage them to travel on foot or ride their scooters or bikes.

If you must bring your car to school, we ask that you help us to take care of our children by observing the parking regulations around the school.

You can access our 'walking bus' by emailing **admin@johnscurr.towerhamlets.sch.uk** if you require help to get your child to school in the morning.

Finally.....

John Scurr Primary is a place where past children return, where visitors comment on the positive and caring atmosphere, where we excel academically and where we live our vision statement on a daily basis.

I do hope this brochure has given you a taste and insight into life at John Scurr Primary.

We look forward to welcoming you as part of our school community.



