

# Parent Handbook



# Welcome to Laxey Primary School

Laxey Primary School is located in the heart of Laxey Village. The people of Laxey play a big part in the school and we strive to be an active contributor to the community. We provide education for children from the ages of 4 – 11, Reception to Year 6.

Laxey School is part of a Federation with the Dhoon School, located just 4.5 miles away. As a Federated school we operate differently to other schools on the Island. Maxim Kelly is the Executive Headteacher at both Laxey and the Dhoon School and oversees the planning and strategic operations at both schools. Craig Astin is the Head of School at Laxey and takes lead in organising and running the school on a daily basis.

The School takes pride in our vision to create an environment where everyone feels valued and has equal opportunities to thrive. We believe in a growth mindset teaching style and encourage children to instill these learning habits into their daily lives. All of the staff believe in this philosophy, understanding that every child can learn and succeed with the right attitude, guidance and support.

In our most recent inspection (November 2018) we were validated as 'Very Effective'. Since this report we have continued to develop our strengths and build on any of our weaknesses.

One area we are particularly focusing on is creating stronger partnerships with parents, carers, other professionals and the wider community. Here are some of the comments from the last parent questionnaire:

- The School caters for the individual needs of my children
- The School is always willing to see me, even at short notice if I have any concerns or worries
- I feel my children are always included in School
- Communication is very good, I always know what is happening

We take pride in being an Inclusive school and we were recently awarded the IQM (Inclusive Quality Mark) Inclusive School Award. Over the next few years we intend on achieving two further awards. A Flagship School and Center of Excellence for Inclusive Practice.

I hope you find this School Prospectus useful and informative. If there is anything further you would like to find out, you can contact us at [laxeyenquiries@sch.im](mailto:laxeyenquiries@sch.im). Please don't hesitate in contacting the school if there is anything you need to ask.

*We look forward to meeting you and your children very soon.*

## Quotes from last inspection report - November 2018

*“Laxey School is held in very high regard by pupils, parents and staff”*

*“An overwhelming majority of pupils speak very positively about the school”*

*“Attainment is very effective”*



**MAXIM KELLY**  
Executive Headteacher



**CRAIG ASTIN**  
Head of School

# Early Years Foundation Stage



- **Safe and nurturing, high quality learning environment**
- **Multi sensory learning experience for the children – both inside and outside of the classroom**
- **Introduction to our growth mindset philosophy, encouraging children to foster positive attitudes towards their learning**
- **High quality teaching experience that is meaningful and well planned for**
- **Provision encourages the children to explore their thinking, be creative, use their imagination and become active learners**



# Key Stage 1

- In Key Stage One children are provided with a broad and balanced curriculum through a range of exciting and engaging learning activities in and outside of the classroom
- Develop and foster positive attitude towards learning, valuing all contributions whilst meeting their individual needs
- At the core of Key Stage One the children will be developing their literacy, phonics and numeracy skills. The children will learn these skills through a fostering of enjoyment, perseverance and determination to succeed



# Key Stage 2



- **The Education journey continues, further developing skills across the curriculum**
- **English lessons have an emphasis on grammatical features and precise sentence structure. Lessons include opportunities to appreciate and understand a wide range of classic and modern literature**
- **Purposeful links are made across the curriculum areas with Manx themes embedded into the children's learning**
- **A greater emphasis on formal efficient methods in calculation, applying them to problem solving and reasoning activities**
- **Strong focus on English and Maths**
- **The expectations in Key Stage 2 are always high, supported by strong teaching methods, clear communication about the quality of work expected, assessment that informs areas of improvement and support through extension activities designed to further challenge the children**
- **The curriculum is delivered through direct formal teaching with independent learning opportunities and collaboration encouraged**



# Lunchtime

Lunchtime is split up into different time allocations to make the dining experience as enjoyable as possible for the children.

Children can have either a packed lunch or a school dinner.

## Packed Lunch

We don't have any rules on what your child should eat for their lunch, but like to encourage you to make healthy choices when it comes to making up your child's lunch box. Sugary foods can affect your child's focus in the afternoon, so please try and choose healthy foods, that are low in sugar to help your child concentrate until the end of the school day.

## School Dinners

School dinners are paid for through an online payment system, Parent Pay.

# School Times

<b>Start of School</b>	<b>8.50 a.m.</b>
<b>Break</b>	<b>10:30 a.m. – 10:45 a.m.</b>
<b>Lunch Reception</b>	<b>11:45 a.m. – 1:00 p.m.</b>
<b>Lunch KS1</b>	<b>11:55 a.m. – 1:00 p.m.</b>
<b>Lunch KS2</b>	<b>12:05 p.m. – 1:00 p.m.</b>
<b>Break</b>	<b>2:00 p.m. – 2:15 p.m.</b>
<b>Home Time Reception &amp; KS1</b>	<b>3.20 p.m.</b>
<b>Home Time KS2</b>	<b>3.25 p.m.</b>

# School Uniform



Our pupils wear school uniform from Reception to Year 6. Maroon school sweatshirts, featuring the school logo, should be worn over white or blue polo shirts.

Polo shirts may be plain or with the school logo. They are worn with grey school trousers or shorts, tunics or skirts. Both boys and girls should wear black/dark school style shoes. In the summer, girls may wear red or yellow checked cotton dresses.

We are aware, of course, that from time to time and for different reasons (a tear in the trousers, a hole in the shoe etc) it is not possible for the correct school uniform to be worn. In these circumstances, it would be appreciated if you could send a note of explanation. We are proud of our school identity, and the uniform plays a large part in that.

For PE and Games all children require shorts, a T-shirt and plimsolls/trainers. During colder weather they may wish to bring tracksuits, or jogging trousers and a sweatshirt, for outdoor activities.

Our uniform is to be ordered and paid for at Promenade T-Shirts in Douglas.



# Inclusion



- **Educational inclusion is about equal opportunities for all pupils, whatever their age, gender, ethnicity, attainment and background. We pay particular attention to the provision made for, and the achievement of, different groups of pupils within a school. As an educationally inclusive school, at Laxey the teaching and learning, achievements, attitudes and well-being of every young person matters. We take pride on being an inclusive school and were awarded the IQM Award for being an Inclusive School in September 2019. At present we are working towards becoming a Centre for Excellence, with the end goal of achieving the Flagship School Award with Inclusion.**



# Safeguarding

**At Laxey Primary School we believe that our school should provide a caring, positive, safe and stimulating environment. Our aims for the children are to provide opportunities to develop their social, physical and mental health in a secure way.**

**At Laxey School our Designated Safeguarding Lead is:**

**CRAIG ASTIN**

**A COMPLETE VERSION OF THE SAFEGUARDING POLICY CAN BE FOUND ON OUR SCHOOL WEBSITE.**



# Celebration Assembly



**Every Friday we host a Celebration Assembly where all children and staff attend. During this assembly we present the children with 'Learning Hero' or 'Magic Moment' certificates. Both certificates are linked to our vision and learning habits we use on a daily basis.**

**Magic Moment certificates are awarded to children for one off magical moments in relation to their learning. For example, a child may have sustained effort for a long time with some really challenging maths work.**

**Learning Hero certificates are awarded to children for demonstrating a consistent attitude towards learning over a period of time. For example, a child who always challenges themselves with their learning, becoming a positive role model with a great attitude towards learning.**

**As we are an inclusive school we are very mindful that children learn at different stages to each other. We don't award certificates because of a child's attainment, instead we present a child with an award when they have done something exceptional for them.**

# Staffroom Invasion

- The Learning Heroes from each week are invited to join the staff during Friday morning play to have a hot chocolate, biscuit and chat.

This is a great opportunity for the children to meet other members of staff and discuss why they have achieved their award.



# Class of the Fortnight



- Every other Monday the children in the school gather in the sports hall for the Class of the Fortnight assembly. Each class has a jar and teachers will award children a 'Magic Bean' if they are being safe, ready and respectful. These beans help the children to model positive behaviours in the school and promote good manners and etiquette at all times.

The Class of the Fortnight get an extra play time that week as well as a class book for their choosing with their Class Teacher.

If you would like to contact the school directly you can use the email address:

**[laxeyenquiries@sch.im](mailto:laxeyenquiries@sch.im)**

You can also keep up to date with what is happening at Laxey School via our Facebook Page:

**[www.facebook.com/LaxeySchool](http://www.facebook.com/LaxeySchool)** 

and Twitter:

**[www.twitter.com/laxeyschool](http://www.twitter.com/laxeyschool)** 

We also have a Parent Forum Group, so if you would like to share any suggestions on further improvements to our school please email:

**[laxeyparentforum@manx.net](mailto:laxeyparentforum@manx.net)**



## **LAXEY PRIMARY SCHOOL**

**EXECUTIVE HEADTEACHER – MAXIM KELLY**

**HEAD OF SCHOOL – CRAIG ASTIN**

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W. [www.laxey.sch.im](http://www.laxey.sch.im)

**Laxey  
school**

The logo for Laxey School features the school's name in a serif font, with a stylized fish icon to the right of the word 'school'. The fish is depicted in a simple, white outline style, facing right.