



# CHOWBENT PRIMARY SCHOOL

“Never be less than your best”



# WELCOME TO CHOWBENT PRIMARY SCHOOL

## Foreword: Mr J Randle, Headteacher, says:

I am proud to welcome you to our school. Choosing the right school for your child is a very important decision to make. I believe that Chowbent Primary School is a very special place within which your child will flourish and I hope you will think so too.

### Positive and friendly

At our school we pride ourselves on our positive and friendly atmosphere within which we strive to see your child as a complete person. Children make good progress here because we endeavour to meet their individual needs, both academic and pastoral. We continually review how well we are meeting each child's needs. When they need support, we will work to provide it. When they are capable of achieving more, we will guide and challenge them to get there.

### Strive to meet potential

Children at our school are encouraged to take responsibility for their learning and for the world. They are taught the importance of personal resilience and never being less than the best they can be. We want our children to strive to meet their potential and to care for each other.

### Dedicated staff

I am also very proud of our exceptionally experienced and dedicated staff, who ensure that all our children are well supported to achieve their true potential and work hard with families to overcome any barriers to learning. We believe we provide an exceptional learning environment.

### Encouraged and nurtured

We invite children, their parents, carers and families into a friendly, happy and hardworking school where respect for others, positive attitudes towards work and behaviour are encouraged and nurtured.

### Igniting an interest in the world

Our teaching is stimulating and creative, encouraging our children to continue their education outside of school and become lifelong learners. We want to ignite an interest in the world around them and for that interest to lead to fulfilling and imaginative lives. Learning should be fun!

### Pastoral care

Whilst academic achievements are an important part of life at our school, we recognise that it is essential to support the whole child. Pastoral support and wellbeing are at the heart of our school ethos. It underpins everything that we do and along with the quality of teaching and learning, it is what our community is all about.

### Parent partnership

Another very important part of our school is you, the parent! We champion the link between school and parent and work very hard to involve you in every step of your child's time here and increase your child's enjoyment of learning.

### Get in touch

We believe that Chowbent Primary School can provide the best education for your child. If there is anything that you wish to discuss, please contact us at the school office on:

Telephone: 01942 883410

Email: [enquiries@admin.chowbent.wigan.sch.uk](mailto:enquiries@admin.chowbent.wigan.sch.uk)



## Reilley, Cody-Lee, Keilan and Brayden have all received wonderful support from the dedicated staff at Chowbent Primary School

David and Danielle live in Atherton with their sons, Reilley, aged 14, Cody-Lee, aged 11, Keilan, aged 10, and Brayden, aged 8.



### Brilliant staff

David and Danielle have been delighted with the help their four sons have received from staff at Chowbent Primary. David says: "They have gone above and beyond for them all. They have been understanding about their individual needs and worked with us to get extra help for them".

### Good start

After David and Danielle moved to Atherton, they were pleased Chowbent had places for their eldest three children and that Brayden was able to start there when he finished nursery. David says: "We were worried about them starting because they had negative experiences at previous schools, but the staff did everything they could to help them settle in. At the time we were struggling to get a diagnosis for Reilley's needs, but Chowbent just got on with it. It was the best he had ever settled into a school."

### Help with concentration

When Cody-Lee started in Year Three he was a very emotional child and the slightest thing upset him. "Once he settled in at Chowbent, he became happier. He made some friends and with the help of his teachers, concentrated on his work. He is now at Atherton High School where he is doing well and has plenty of new friends."

### Steady progress

David says, "Keilan struggled to make progress before but is now getting there. His reading age is now ten and he is doing okay with Maths. He is very particular about who supports him, but the school have been willing to be flexible over staffing to find the one he works best with. He now loves school and has friends. He likes the after-school clubs."

### Understanding TA

Brayden, who has just finished Year Three, has found school a struggle. "He was born with a club foot on both feet and had to have casts on his legs and use a wheelchair. He can't cope with overcrowded places. He has a teaching assistant who understands him. She's very patient. We've seen progress this year. He's speaking a lot better, will take part in things and recognises more words now," David says.

### Support for family

"We can't praise Chowbent enough for how they have helped our sons. The staff have always communicated well with us and will either phone me, or tell me things when I'm picking the boys up. We would definitely recommend the school to other parents as they have always been very supportive to our family."



# SCHOOL DAY: SETTLING IN

## What are our school times?

- Doors open: 8.45am.
  - School starts: 8.50am.
- School closes:
- Reception and Key Stage 1 classes: 3.15pm.
  - Key Stage 2 classes: 3.20pm.

## Breakfast Club

7.45am - 8.50am. Term time only.  
£3.50 per day. See website for membership form.

## After School Club with Wigan Warriors

3.15pm - 5.30pm Term time only.  
£4.00 per day. See website for membership form.

## Uniform

A simple uniform is helpful in establishing good standards of appearance in school and by wearing it children quickly feel part of the community. Our school colours are grey, blue and maroon and uniform items can be purchased from the following suppliers:

Wendy's Uniform, 29 Elliott Street, Tyldesley, M29 8DS Tel: 01942 870060

Rainbows Uniform, 87-89 Bradshawgate, Leigh, WN7 4ND Tel: 01942 609447

Jaymax, 1 Gas Street, Leigh, WN7 4PG Tel: 01942 682984

Or online from:

<http://www.brigade.uk.com/>

[www.koolskools.co.uk/product-category/chowbent-primary-school/](http://www.koolskools.co.uk/product-category/chowbent-primary-school/)

## Food in school

### Free school meals

All children in Reception, Years 1 and 2 receive a free school meal. Older children may also be entitled to a free meal if the family is in receipt of certain benefits. If you believe your child may qualify for this, please enquire in confidence at the school office. Pupils in Years 3, 4, 5 and 6 may purchase school meals at a cost of £12.75 per week (£2.55 per day). All school meals should be paid for and ordered online in advance using Lunch Shop. Details are available on our website or enquire at the school office.

### Packed lunches, drinks and snacks

Children may prefer to bring a packed lunch from home but as a healthy school, we do not allow fizzy drinks, chocolate, sweets or foods with a high fat content.



# CURRICULUM: INSPIRING, RELEVANT AND CHALLENGING

## Basic skills for success

Learning should be fun, relevant and equip children with the basic skills they need to be successful in life. This is what we believe. Every morning at school the children will receive tuition in maths, writing and reading skills and we also run daily phonic groups for children who need it.

Our afternoons are taken up with lessons that cover all the other subject areas. Some of these are taught through themes or topics, some as discrete stand-alone subjects such as science, which is an important curriculum area.

### Themes

History, art, geography and design and technology lend themselves well to a thematic approach, where for instance a child under the umbrella of a topic on the USA may learn about the geography of the states, produce their own graffiti art, explore key historical events and design travel agents posters promoting each state.

## Foundation Stage (Reception Class)

Children in the Foundation Stage learn through:

- Playing and exploring: Children investigate and experience things and 'have a go'.
- Active learning: Children concentrate and keep on trying if they encounter difficulties and enjoy achievements.
- Creating and thinking critically: Children have and develop their own ideas, make links between ideas and develop strategies for doing things.

Children are introduced to letter sounds so that they can read and write. They are also encouraged to make friendships and learn how to tackle challenges independently.

## Enriched curriculum: trips and visits

### Educational visits

To further enrich our curriculum, all children are offered a range of visits, both locally and further afield. Trips have included Blackpool Zoo, Parliament and various sporting fixtures, and take part in religious events such as the Walking Nativity and the Remembrance Day Service.

### Residential trips and visitors

Older children have the opportunity to go on residential trips during the school year. A two-night stay for Years 3 and 4, and a week-long residential for Years 5 and 6. We feel these experiences can help to develop qualities of self-reliance and tolerance of others. Children learn independence and develop confidence while enjoying a variety of outward-bound activities.

Additionally, we arrange visits to the school by outside organisation. For example, we have welcomed the local Fire Brigade and a company who brought in a range of small animals for the children to see.



# CLUBS, SPORT AND MUSIC

## Wide variety

We are happy to offer a selection of lunchtime and after school clubs. These change from time to time and currently include:

- Netball.
- Football.
- Rounders.
- Homework.
- Tag Rugby.
- Y5/6 Football.
- Gymnastics.

## PE and sport

At Chowbent we believe it is very important to encourage all the children's physical fitness and enjoyment of sports. We are part of the local ATSA network of schools which promotes sporting taster experiences and inter-school competition. Throughout the year the children will have the opportunity to participate in a variety of sporting events and after school clubs.

During break times play leaders will be leading several physical activities on the playground to keep your child fit and active throughout the day.

## Music

Music is a crucial part of any child's experience of school. That is why we provide free musical tuition for our Year 4 class each year in partnership with Wigan Music Services. The children will have the chance to learn to play a range of percussion instruments before being offered (at cost) additional music tuition with an instrument of their choice.

## Singing

At Chowbent we are really proud of the quality of our children's singing. The children have regular opportunities to perform and show off their musical talents. We take part each year in the massed choir event Young Voices which takes place at Manchester Arena, as well as performing in end of term shows and singing in the local community.



# BEHAVIOUR AND SELF-DEVELOPMENT

## A safe and secure environment

At Chowbent, our aim is to promote good relationships, so that people can work together with the common purpose of helping everyone to learn. We also aim to help our children to grow in a safe and secure environment and to become positive, responsible and increasingly independent members of the school community.

## Our expectations

- Every member of the school community should behave in a considerate way towards others.
- All members of the school are treated fairly and our behaviour policy will be applied in a consistent way.

## Rewards and sanctions

Our school rewards good behaviour, as we believe that this will develop an ethos of kindness and co-operation. Our policy is to promote good behaviour, rather than merely deter anti-social behaviour.

We see the value in rewards and sanctions being as immediate as possible as this helps children make the strongest connection between their behaviour and the good or bad consequences of the choices that they make. Sanctions equally need to have consequences which are immediate or soon after incidents. Positive role models are rewarded with the status of V.I.P pupils and proudly wear their V.I.P star badges.



# YOUR CHILD'S ACHIEVEMENTS

## Feedback, assessment and planning

Chowbent fully complies with all the national testing regimes. You will receive information on your child's attainment at the end of each Key Stage against the national averages. Teachers will be continually assessing your child throughout the year to measure their progress and to determine their learning needs.

If your child requires additional support above what might be expected normal you will also receive a copy of their individual support plan each time it is reviewed.

## Keeping parents in touch

To keep parents informed we send home an annual report to all year groups showing your child's attainment against their year groups expectations, their effort and their social development.

## Parents evenings

We hold three parent evenings throughout the year. In the Autumn, to share information about the year's expectations and your child's needs, in the Spring to share work in books and to update you on their progress and in the Summer to discuss the contents of their annual report and again view the work in their books.

## Family learning sessions and curriculum showcases

We like to pride ourselves on being an approachable school. We look to build positive partnerships with parents. You will receive invitations throughout the year to family learning sessions and curriculum showcases. If at any time you wish to know more about how your child is doing you will be able to make an appointment with their class teacher to discuss this.



# INCLUSION: A CURRICULUM FOR ALL

## Special educational needs and disabilities

Chowbent Primary School aims to enable pupils with special educational needs and disabilities to be fully involved in the life of the school, and to reach their full potential, taking an active role in school life, feeling secure and happy whilst experiencing success in a caring and stimulating learning environment. The school also aims to involve pupils, their parents, staff and other concerned parties in the development of the necessary support for each child with special educational needs.

Our objectives are:

- To create an inclusive environment that meets the special educational needs of each child.
- To ensure that the special educational needs of children are identified, addressed and provided for.
- To make clear the expectations of all partners in the process (including parents and children).
- To identify the roles and responsibilities of staff in providing for children's educational needs.
- To enable all children to have full access to all elements of the school curriculum.
- To actively involve pupils in a sensitive and non-stigmatising way in their support plan reviews to promote improved confidence and self-image.

## Access

Our building is modern and accessible. We are built on one level, with no stairs needed to access classes. Doors are wide and there are disabled toilets available. Furthermore, we are flexible and will adapt as is required to meet the needs of new pupils as they arrive. For more information about our SEND provision, please look at our website under the Key Information/SEND menu.

## Gifted and talented children

We recognise that all children are individuals with their own specific needs, gifts and talents. Children who are identified as being exceptionally able or talented, are monitored and provided with stimulating and enriching lessons appropriate to their needs. Opportunities are sought for such pupils to meet and work with similarly gifted pupils in the area.



# ADMISSIONS

## Admission to Chowbent Primary School

Parents considering applying for a place at Chowbent Primary School are welcome to visit the school by appointment. An 'Open Day' is held in the autumn term and a meeting for all parents in the summer term. Our Inspire project also runs in the second half of the summer term and is for children, parents and carers of the new intake pupils to reception class.

Children start Chowbent Primary School in the autumn term of the academic year in which they will have their fifth birthday

## Applications

Wigan Education Department administers the admission procedure. Parents who are not offered a place can appeal against the decision.

To be considered for admission to Chowbent Primary School you must apply online at <https://www.wigan.gov.uk/Resident/Education/Schools/School-Admissions/School-Admissions.aspx> or fill in the Wigan Council primary school application form. If you need any help using the online service, please contact the School Organisation Team on 01942 489013.



# GETTING INVOLVED

## Voluntary helpers

We welcome parents into school to help with reading, school trips, sports events and various other occasions throughout the year. We also rely on volunteers to run our school library. If you wish to volunteer, please talk to our office staff who will be happy to let you know if your time and skills can be utilised in the school. You will be required to undertake a DBS check.

## Parent, Teacher and Friends Association

Chowbent P.T.F.A helps to raise funds which are exclusively reinvested into the school to benefit and enhance the educational experience of all the children at Chowbent. We aim to do this by bringing together the whole school community (children, parents, staff and family members).

The P.T.F.A is run by a dedicated group of parents, staff and volunteers in their spare time and we always welcome new members to the team. If you would like to join the P.T.F.A please look out for the date, time and location of our next meeting via social media.

P.T.F.A Email: [PT.FA@chowbent.wigan.sch.uk](mailto:PT.FA@chowbent.wigan.sch.uk)

## Governors

The school governors oversee the strategic direction of the school. They include parents, representatives of the community and members of the Chowbent Unitarian Chapel - our founding organisation.



## Vision and ethos

### Our School Ethos

To be a school that is a welcoming, bright and lively place where learners feel secure. A place where good behaviour is expected and where learners enjoy growing up. Our school is a place of enjoyment where success is celebrated.

To promote and achieve high standards for all by providing teaching and learning of the highest quality.

To be an inclusive school in everything we do. We recognise that all learners are unique and we will cater for their special and individual needs.

To ensure our learners benefit from a rich, broad, balanced curriculum presented in an interesting, exciting and imaginative manner with lots of opportunities for first-hand experience, practical work, investigation and learning through play.

To provide a safe and caring place; where children are encouraged to be healthy and make a positive contribution to the wider world.

To value parents and the wider community as equal partners with our school, sharing in its success.



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