
Learning Support Assistant



Whitegrove Primary School

**Westmorland Drive, Warfield, Bracknell, Berkshire.
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Further information for applicants

WHITEGROVE PRIMARY SCHOOL

SCHOOL PROFILE

The purpose of this school profile is to provide applicants for the post of Pastoral Support Worker with a basic introduction to the school. It is expected the interested candidates will visit the school to find out more about us.

This post is due to take effect from **1st September 2025**. The job description and person specification are included for your information. Candidates should write a letter (no more than two sides of A4) in support of their application within the application form which outlines their experience, personal interests and why they are applying for this position. Visits to the school are encouraged. Please contact the headteacher at head@whitegroveprimary.co.uk for an informal discussion or to arrange a visit.

SCHOOL TYPE: Primary

SCHOOL ROLL: 420 (the school is full)

STANDARD NO: 60 per year group

HEADTEACHER: Miss Alexandra Butler

CHAIR OF GOVERNORS Dr Katy Bridgwood

THE LOCAL AREA

Whitegrove Primary School is situated on the leafy, eastern edge of Bracknell, Berkshire. The school is in a largely residential area of private properties. The estates surrounding the school were built in the mid-nineties at a similar time as the school (1996). There are good local shopping and community facilities, including a large Tesco in walking distance, a super library, three community centres and health facilities. The school is readily accessible with links by public transport, being close to Martin's Heron train station on the Reading to Waterloo line a 15-minute walk away. The local bus route into Bracknell town centre passes the school and the M4 and M3 motorways are both within a ten-minute drive.

THE SCHOOL BUILDING AND SITE

The school was built in 1996 at the same time as the main housing estate it serves. Over recent years the area has further building work and the school is very fortunate in having several local parks within walking distance. The school contains attractive internal learning spaces. The grounds contain a large sports field, hard playgrounds, an outdoor classroom and a pond. Our school is a full, two form entry school for pupils aged 4-11.

ANTICIPATED SCHOOL ORGANISATION FROM SEPTEMBER 2025

- EYFS – two classes (Reception)
- KS1- Four classes (Year 1 and Year 2)
- Lower KS2 – Four classes (Year 3 and Year 4)
- Upper Key Stage 2 – Four classes (Year 5 and Year 6)

Please see the school web-site for further information and photographs.

CULTURAL AND SOCIO-ECONOMIC BACKGROUND

Pupil attendance is very good and has been consistently between 96 and 97% over the past few years. The school benefits from supportive parents, a 98+% attendance at open evenings is usual, due to the establishment of a structured appointment system and the staff's commitment to accommodating parents at alternative more convenient times should the need arise. Parents are also encouraged to contact teachers throughout the year. The ethnic composition of pupils is becoming more diverse (approx. 20%) with an increase in the number of pupils speaking another first language, thus being new to learning English. Several families have chosen Whitegrove for their children with SEND due to its reputation.

SPECIAL EDUCATIONAL NEEDS

18% (75) of children are presently on the Special Needs Register. Approximately 17 of these have EHCPs and the remainder are supported by IEPs. The predominant area of need is SEMH, followed by communication and interaction needs and SpLD. Two children have sensory needs and wear hearing aids. The school has adopted the graduated plan approach to supporting children with additional needs. Our SEND statistics are in line with the average for other Bracknell Primary Schools.

STAFFING

The teaching staff team offers a wide range of experience and are at various levels of the pay spine. Presently the school is fully staffed, the full-time equivalent number of teachers being 17 plus the Headteacher. We also have 4 non-teaching Assistant Heads. The leadership team also includes the Business and Operations Manager.

TEACHER EXPERIENCE

Many of our teachers have taught for 8 years or more. It is a largely stable and experienced staff group, turnover is relatively low. We currently have two ECTs and we are actively involved in training teachers. As a result, we host approximately five trainees each year and mentoring a trainee each year is expected.

SUPPORT STAFF

- 1 Site Manager
- 1 School Business and Operations Manager
- 3 Administration Officer
- 1 PE teacher
- 1 music teacher
- 20 LSAs (these are a mix of classroom and 1:1 staff)
- 2 SEN HLTAs
- 3 other HLTAs
- 1 Pastoral support worker
- 3 Additional lunchtime assistants
- 4 Playworkers
- In house catering and cleaning staff

SCHOOL ETHOS

The school's main aim is enabling each child to have an equal opportunity to achieve the highest academic and personal potential. This has the commitment of all the staff. This is further emphasised through the desire to create an effective partnership between all staff, pupils and parents.

CURRICULUM

The school teaches all national curriculum subjects discretely, however the whole school comes together to undertake themed weeks each term. Last term we worked together to create an art exhibition. Our school strap line is, 'Making learning irresistible!'

We try to enhance our learning through as many real-life experiences as possible. Trips and hosting visitors are a vital part of what we do to enrich the learning experience and the outdoor learning is a regular aspect of life at Whitegrove. We try to engage as many parents in learning. Parents are invited to regular curriculum and learning celebration events, assemblies and parent workshops. Turnout is good.

SCHOOL DEVELOPMENT

The school is currently working on the next three-year cycle of its development 2023-2025. Staff and governors worked together to establish the main aspects for improvement, in the Quality of Education section these include:

- Maintain high standards in EYFS, Phonics, Y4 MTC, and KS2 so that the % of pupils reaching the expected standards at the end of statutory assessment is above national average and that increasing numbers meet the greater depth standard at the end of KS2.
- Improve quality of Phonics teaching and spelling and thus raise outcomes in Y1 and Y2 PSC in 2024.
- Challenge for all and supporting a greater number of children to achieve GD in all curriculum areas, specifically writing
- Equal access to the whole curriculum for all groups including SEND, EAL and PPG

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- Curriculum development, specifically in music, DT and MfL and assessment in foundation subjects

Our self-evaluation, together with that of the local authority, suggests Whitegrove is a 'Good' school.

GOVERNING BODY

There is a well established, experienced and supportive governing body that are committed to improvement and make significant personal contributions to the school in terms of time and effort. The governing body is made up of local authority nominees, parent representatives, community representatives, staff representatives and the Headteacher

The full governing body meets twice a term. There are committees too. The governors play an active role in the school and are becoming increasingly involved in planning and monitoring progress on school development. There is a governor linked to supporting the SENCo.

We were most recently inspected by Ofsted in March 2022 when we achieved a GOOD overall.

Our areas for further development include aspects of music and DT teaching and learning. These are very achievable and the reality of becoming an outstanding school in time is within our sights!

A Butler
July 2025