

Ashby Hastings Primary School

Prospectus 2024/2025



"Inspiring minds to foster confidence"



A Welcome from the Leadership Team

Dear Parents,

It gives us great pleasure to welcome you and your child to Ashby Hastings Primary School.

At Ashby Hastings, we aim to offer a rich and engaging school experience that inspires the children to achieve their full potential in all they do.

We want them to become resilient, positive, curious learners who adopt determination to succeed. Our children will be equipped with the skills and mind-set to thrive and will develop their resilience in life. This resilience will be wider than education and we aim to prepare our children to have the necessary skills to be successful in 21st century life.

Children will be valued, empowered and challenged to achieve their potential and excel in their achievements.

We look forward to welcoming you and your children to Ashby Hastings Primary School!



**With best wishes,
Mrs Mckeown & Mrs Foster
Headteacher & Senior Teacher**



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About Ashby Hastings...

Ashby Hastings Primary School opened for its first cohort of pupils in September 2021 (also known as Reception, FS2 and 4+ pupils). The school will continue to grow year by year as demand for year groups grow.

Ashby Hastings will be careful and sensitive to ensure we do not have an adverse impact on other primary schools in the locality.

The school is one-form entry, which means that there will be one class per year group with no more than 30 pupils in each class. We will expand each year so that we will eventually have a class of Foundation Stage pupils right through to Year 6 pupils.

We have a beautiful eco-friendly school with bespoke-designed grounds which offer ample space for outdoor learning and sport for our pupils.

Ashby Hastings has been named in recognition of the Hastings family who built the famous Ashby Castle in the 15th century.

Our vision and ethos for Ashby Hastings

Our school is committed to delivering a high-quality, ambitious and inclusive education for all of our children. We recognise that choosing a school for your child is a big decision, and we take the responsibility of looking after your child's education incredibly seriously.

Your child will be part of an enthusiastic, creative community of children, and will develop skills that will set them up for the next phase of their school life, as well as having a fun and rewarding time with us. We have created an inviting, inspiring environment, coupled with the wide-ranging **CONFIDENCE** curriculum which supports the different ways of learning that each child has.

Our growing school is part of the highly successful Symphony Learning Trust, and as part of this family of schools, is supported by the excellent resources available to it.

We will **CARE** for our pupils and help them to care for each other

Our pupils will receive an **OUTSTANDING** education

We will **NURTURE** and keep our pupils safe as they learn

We equip pupils for their **FUTURE** life-long learning through wide-ranging skills

We want our pupils to be **INDEPENDENT** learners

We will help develop a **DETERMINATION** to succeed in our pupils

We value our pupils' **EFFORT** in all areas of school life

We **NOURISH** minds through an enriched & exciting curriculum

We want our pupils to be **CURIOUS**, inquisitive and to have a thirst for knowledge

We will provide **EXCELLENCE** in all aspects of our education

A little more detail about Ashby Hastings...

Each classroom in the school has its own dedicated area spaced along a single corridor. All classrooms will be well-resourced with the latest technology to ensure our pupils can thrive at Ashby Hastings. We have a large hall which is equipped with PE equipment for our pupils to use.

Our curriculum

Our curriculum at Ashby Hastings is a bespoke curriculum, heavily tied to the local history and culture of Ashby, as well as embedding diversity and knowledge of the wider world we live in.

EYFS

Children will become independent and collaborative learners. They will be provided with a broad and balanced curriculum that will enable each child to develop their knowledge and understanding.

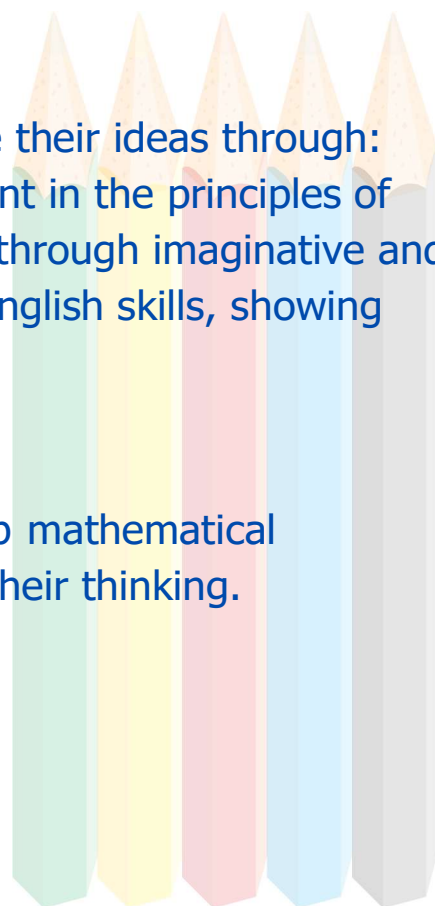
The ability to learn is underpinned by the teaching of basic skills, knowledge, concepts and values.

English

Our English Curriculum ensures children communicate their ideas through: speaking, listening and writing, and becoming confident in the principles of spelling. Children will develop a love for reading and, through imaginative and purposeful links, will become passionate about their English skills, showing creativity and flair.

Maths

Our Maths Curriculum encourages children to develop mathematical understanding in order to solve problems and justify their thinking.



Science

Our Science Curriculum encourages children to be inquisitive and become independent learners by exploring possible answers for their scientific based questions. Children will acquire specific skills and knowledge to help them think scientifically, whilst gaining an understanding of the uses and implications of Science, today and for the future. Local aspects of interest to help inspire scientific studies include the Ashby Museum and studies of the historic Ivanhoe Baths.

Computing

Our Computing Curriculum ensures children are prepared for their digital future; knowing how to be safe and resilient online and have experience in the fundamental principles and concepts of computing.

R.E

Our R.E Curriculum encourages respect and empathy for different faiths and cultures; showing tolerance and understanding, though views may differ from their own. The links that Ashby Hastings Primary develop, in an area which statistically is not ethnically nor religiously diverse, are with the more diverse areas of Derby and Leicester where visits to religious buildings are integrated for all pupils.

R.E. is taught throughout the school in accordance with the 1988 Education Act. Regular school assemblies provide opportunities to build on this and foster a caring ethos. Through this, children become aware not only of the Christian traditions, but also the customs and faiths of other religions. Parents have the right to withdraw their children from religious assemblies and from RE lessons. The school follows the Leicestershire Agreed Syllabus. Alternative provision for dissenting pupils is individually arranged with parents.



History

Our History Curriculum encourages children to be curious and inquisitive about the past and understand how key periods and events in Britain and the wider world have shaped society today. Our local studies focus on the history of Ashby which will include Ashby Castle, the main street and links to Elizabethan times, the Ashby Canal development and The Ivanhoe Baths. Visits to the Ashby de-la Zouch museum also play a prominent role for pupils. The historical use of Ashby Castle school site is integrated into the fabric of the school.

Geography

Our Geography Curriculum encourages our children to have curiosity and inquisitiveness about the world in which they live, whilst comparing and contrasting features. Local studies relating to the development of land use in and around Ashby, the Ashby Canal and local industry, for example why coal mining was situated at Moira, are integrated into our Geography curriculum.

Design and Technology

Our D&T Curriculum teaches our children how to design, make and evaluate projects for a particular purpose, by promoting problem solving and increasing independence. Local links with businesses, including companies such as McVities, provide real-life opportunities for pupils to develop their Design and Technology skills and knowledge.

P.E.

Our P.E curriculum encourages children to develop physical, social and fitness skills through a variety of sporting activities. Each child will develop understanding and enjoyment of their own and others abilities, learning to challenge their own performance. Children will be encouraged to develop a positive competitive spirit whilst understanding the need for resilience, empathy and fair play through teamwork and cooperation. We encourage out of school participation in sports, to further develop skills, self-confidence and fitness, by providing links to events and clubs locally and we work closely with the leisure centre and Loughborough university to provide these vital links.

Art

Our Art Curriculum encourages children to explore and experiment with different media, texture and materials to develop creativity in their own artwork, whilst appreciating the work of others. Local features for inspiring the art curriculum, including Ashby Castle and the various Elizabethan and Georgian buildings, play a prominent role in our Art curriculum.

Modern Foreign Languages

Our MFL Curriculum provides opportunities for children to explore and understand cultures. It extends their knowledge of how language works and helps them develop communication skills.

P.S.H.E

P.S.H.E in our Curriculum encourages children to appreciate British Values through tolerance, mutual respect and kindness in order to create a supportive, nurturing environment building positivity and self-esteem. Our links with more diverse areas, such as the cities of Leicester and Derby, assist our PSHE curriculum and promotion of British Values.

R.S.E

Relationships and Sexual Education is a statutory subject which every school is required to teach. Our policy on our website provides more detailed information for parents.

Mental Health and Wellbeing

Our Mental Health and Wellbeing Curriculum promotes a culture and concern for all, encouraging mental and social wellbeing. We ensure that all are being heard, seen and valued.



Times of the day...

8:40 am Doors open for Early Morning Work

8:45 am Registration

Session 1

10:20-10:35 am EYFS / KS1 Morning Break

10:40-10:55 am KS2 Morning Break

Session 2

12:00 am-1:05 pm Lunchtime

Session 3

2:00-2:15 pm EYFS / KS1 Afternoon Break

Session 4

3:15 pm End of school



Safeguarding

Safeguarding Children - Information for Parents

At Ashby Hastings, we believe it is of the utmost importance to have excellent systems for protecting children and safeguarding their welfare, throughout all of the activities which the school undertakes. This means that staff and volunteers must be alert to possible concerns about every pupil, and to report these in a proper fashion. We have a safeguarding policy: parents may request a copy of this or it can be accessed via our website.

It is important for parents to be aware that staff and volunteers in the school have a duty to report concerns about a child, whether this means the child may need additional support or help of some kind or whether it is thought that a child may have been abused or be at risk of abuse.

There are four categories of abuse: physical, sexual, emotional, neglect. In some cases, the school is obliged to refer children to children's social care services, for children to be assessed for their needs or if an investigation into possible child abuse is required.

In many cases there will already have been discussions between school staff and the parents of the child, and the situation and concerns will not be a surprise to the parents. However, parents may not be told that the school

has referred their child to children's social care if it is thought that this might put the child at risk.

Children's social care services try to carry out their enquiries in a sensitive fashion. They have to gather information and generally they can be open with parents about the steps being taken.

If you think your child may have been abused you can contact the children's social care office or the Local Authority's Allegations Manager, Safeguarding Unit direct. If you think the abuse may have happened in school, contact the Designated Senior Person for Child Protection, who is Mrs Mckeown. If you think your child has been hurt, arrange to visit your doctor and comfort and reassure your child.

If school staff need to express concerns about a child or refer a child to children's social care, it is understood that this can cause distress or anger for the child's parents. It is important that all parties - parents and school staff - try to discuss these matters as calmly and sensibly as possible.

Wraparound Care

Ashby Hastings currently offers an onsite Breakfast Club and After School Club.

Breakfast Club

School staff run Breakfast Club in the school hall. It operates from 7.30am until 8.45am each weekday morning, and costs £6 per session (as at August 2023).

Payment is required half-termly in advance, and places are not confirmed until payment has been received. We currently accept payment by direct bank transfer, or from one of the following electronic childcare voucher schemes: Government Tax-Free Childcare, Enjoy Benefits and Bravo Benefits.

Places at Breakfast Club are limited due to health, safety and operational issues and children must not turn up without prior confirmation that spaces are available and that have been paid for in advance.

Please speak to the school office if you would like to discuss a place at Breakfast Club for your child.

After School Club

Clubs Complete run the After School Club at Ashby Hastings Primary School.

After School Club runs as follows:

- After School Club: 3:15pm – 4:30pm
- Late Stay Club: 4:30pm – 5:30pm

Various activities are offered including Film Time, Games and Arts and Crafts, and these will change regularly.

Places must be booked directly with Clubs Complete:

www.clubscomplete.co.uk Information about pricing is also available on their website.

Homework

All children will be expected to take home and read reading books every night as reading is at the heart of our curriculum. In addition, children will be given homework. KS1 and KS2 children will also be expected to learn number facts and times tables and spellings at regular times throughout the year. The amount of time expected to be spent on homework will increase from one hour per week in Reception up to over two hours per week by year 5 & 6.

Attendance

At Ashby Hastings, attendance and punctuality are of paramount importance. Legislation means that parents must inform the school if children are absent for any reason.

Absences should be reported as soon as possible using our school communication app (Weduc) or by calling the school office. Prior notice of medical appointments is required and copies of appointment letters/cards provided to school. It is our duty to follow up any unexplained absences. We ask that you ensure that your children are in school, on time, everyday unless they are unwell.

Planned pupil absence requests should be made using the Absence Request Form (via Weduc or paper copy); this is for exceptional circumstances only (eg. family weddings etc). Family holidays taken in term time will be unauthorized, unless there are exceptional circumstances. Every day that a child is in school is important, even the end of term when social/special activities take place; children can still learn plenty during these times.

Dress requirements

Our school uniform colours are navy and turquoise with grey. Grey trousers/skirts/smart shorts/pinafores should be worn, with a white or turquoise polo shirt. Navy gingham dresses may be worn in the warmer months. Black shoes (not trainers) should be worn.

Official school uniform items (sweatshirts, polo shirts, cardigans, book bags, fleeces etc) are available to buy from Ashby Schoolwear (located inside BabyPlanet) on Market Street in Ashby. We will add an additional supplier as the school grows.

PE kit is required: black shorts or leggings should be worn with a t-shirt in the child's house colour.

All uniform items should be clearly named so that they can be identified and returned if they are misplaced.



Our Health and Welfare

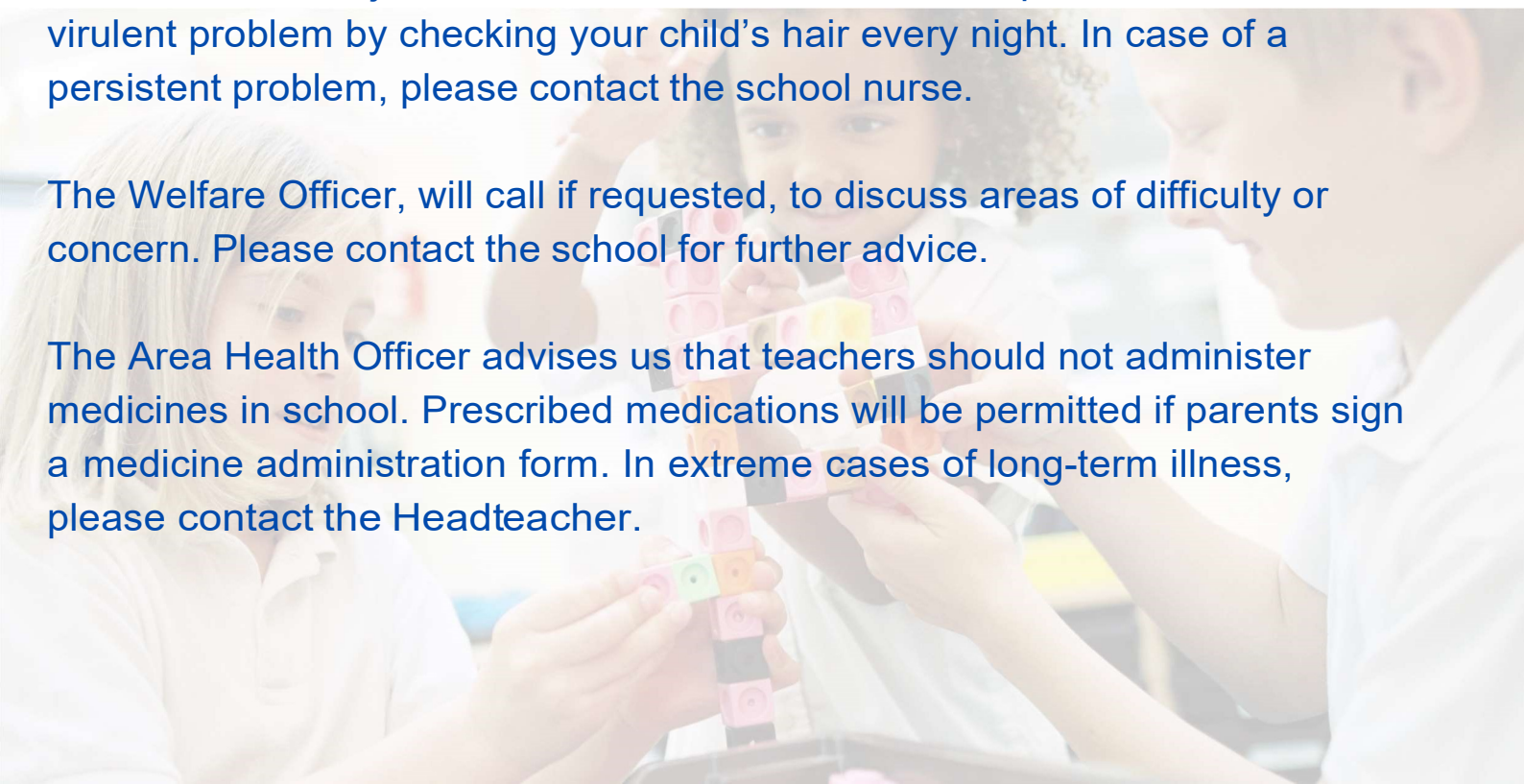
Leicestershire and Rutland Health Care NHS Trust issue their own booklet giving information about Health Services for school children.

School Medical Authorities carry out periodic checks on teeth, eyes and ears, height and weight and parents may be invited to be present. The school nurse, is available to discuss anxieties and advise on hygiene and can be contacted via the school office.

Headlice are a major concern in all schools. Please help us to control this virulent problem by checking your child's hair every night. In case of a persistent problem, please contact the school nurse.

The Welfare Officer, will call if requested, to discuss areas of difficulty or concern. Please contact the school for further advice.

The Area Health Officer advises us that teachers should not administer medicines in school. Prescribed medications will be permitted if parents sign a medicine administration form. In extreme cases of long-term illness, please contact the Headteacher.



Absences should be reported as soon as possible to the school office. Please use the answerphone facility to leave a message or report through the Weduc app (Absence Reporting). It is our duty to follow-up any

unexplained absences; should we become concerned about unreported or persistent absences then we will contact the Attendance and Welfare Officer.

A 'nut-free' school

As we have a number of pupils with severe allergies to many kinds of nuts, we are a nut-free school. We therefore ask parents and carers not to include any nuts, cereal bars with nuts or products such as peanut butter and chocolate and nut spread in packed lunches or snacks.

Health Education

A broad programme of Health Education is offered, which is designed to be appropriate to the age and development of the children. This covers topics such as healthy eating, hygiene and dental care.

Our staff work to build on the foundations of moral and social education laid at home, and emphasis is placed on the importance of frequent contact between parents and teachers throughout the child's school life.

Year group teaching plans are prepared annually and involve discussions between departments to ensure smooth progression from year to year. These are regularly evaluated and updated and are available at school and on our website.

At the start of each year parents are given information on subject areas to be taught and a brief guide indicating the topics to be covered by their children during that term. We hope they will use this to encourage and support their children throughout the year.

Admissions

Children starting school at Ashby Hastings are admitted full time in the 4+ Reception Unit in the August/September following their fourth birthday. So for Autumn 2024 entry, this means children born between 1st September 2019 and 31st August 2020. In the case of any difficulty in adapting to full time schooling, the school works with parents to modify entry into the school. Our admissions limit is 30 children annually; for details of our Admissions Policy, please refer to our website.

For First Time Admissions, you must apply through the home Local Authority that you live in and the best way is using their online system. Applications for entry in Autumn 2024 should be made by 15th January 2024; any applications received after that date will be classed as late.

Please note that for mid-term transfers to Ashby Hastings, all parents must apply via Leicestershire County Council.

Complaints

There is an approved procedure for dealing with complaints. In the first instance you should contact the school so that the matter can be discussed with the Class Teacher, Headteacher or Business Manager. The majority of queries and anxieties can be dealt with in this way.

If complaints cannot be resolved in this way, then there is a formal complaints procedure available at school which involves writing to the Chair of Governors. You may be rest assured that at Ashby Hastings, every query and complaint is taken seriously. We want to provide the best education possible for your child and we want to know your concerns.

Parental communication and support

Parents are always welcome in school. If you or your child have a specific problem then your child's teacher or the Headteacher will make time to see you either at lunchtime or just after school.

The school mainly communicates using technology. We have a school app, Weduc, for which parents receive login details when their child has been offered a place at our school. Parents should check school bags and the app/email regularly for letters/forms/messages. Information will also be displayed on external noticeboards. Our website, www.ashbyhastingsprimary.co.uk, is also a source of information. Parental contacts only (priority 1 & 2) will receive messages via Weduc, unless requested otherwise.

You can see what children have been doing both in and out of school by following us on social media. Your permission is required for your child's image to be included in our social media posts.

We would not expect children to have mobile phones in school unless they walk to or from school alone. In this instance, it is the child's responsibility to keep the phone in their bag, switched off at all times during the school day. Any breach of this would see the phone being kept at the office and collected at the end of the school day.

All messages left on the school phone will be picked up and passed on; we encourage parents to use this facility.

School term dates can be found on the website at:

<https://www.ashbyhastingsprimary.co.uk/term-dates>. Please do not use the Local Authority website to check dates, as our term dates may have been changed to reflect local arrangements.

In addition, we hold parents' evenings each Autumn and Spring Term, at which we hope you will come to discuss your child's progress and to help us continue to provide your child with the best education possible.

In February, a short pupil report, based upon effort and achievement, will be discussed at the parents' evening. In the Summer Term we will issue a written report for all children. In addition, there will be an opportunity for you to meet your child's new teacher for the next year.

We have recently established our Parents' Association, to put together some fund-raising ideas and activities for the school. If you have any ideas in the meantime, or are interested in joining the Parents' Association, please do speak to the school office.

School lunches

From October 2023, our school lunches will be prepared and cooked onsite. There will be a range of delicious and healthy meals available every day.

All children in Foundation Stage, Year 1 and Year 2 are entitled to a free school lunch, funded by the Department for Education. School meals for children in Year 3 to 6 currently cost £2.55. Payments for school meals (and other visits and activities) are made online through sQuid.

Children may bring a healthy packed lunch to school; sweets, chocolate and nuts should not be brought to school at lunchtimes.

Children may be entitled to Free School Meals based on family income. Please speak to the school office for more information and for details on how to apply, or see the Local Authority website, if you think that you are eligible. If you are entitled to this support, it is important that you let us know, as children that qualify will be able to access extra support in school. This includes children in Foundation to Year 2.

Healthy Eating

Free fruit is available for Foundation Stage and Key Stage 1 children at break times. Children may bring in their own piece of fruit or vegetable snack if they prefer; no other snacks should be brought into school, other than a drink of water in a named container.

All Key Stage 2 children may bring in a piece of fruit or vegetable to have at morning break time; we do not allow sweets, chocolates, crisps or nut products.

Please be aware that we are a nut-free school and all parents are asked to ensure that their child does not bring nuts, or foods containing nuts, into school. This includes snacks, lunch box items and birthday treats. We want to minimise the risk from nuts or foods containing nuts as much as is reasonably possible.

A milk scheme is operated through 'Cool Milk' which provides milk at break time for all children. This is free for 4 year olds (once registered for the scheme) and subsidised for older children. See www.coolmilk.com or speak to the office to find out more.

Behaviour

All pupils at Ashby Hastings know that we expect and achieve exceptionally high standards of behaviour at all times. This positive behaviour will be supported and taught through whole school lessons and assemblies.

These lessons begin in the Foundation Stage and will continue through to year 6 and are linked to our Route to Resilience work.

Discipline

Our aim is self-discipline, but we consider discipline to be a joint responsibility between home and school. Consequently in cases of repeated indiscipline we work with parents to modify the behaviour.

Normally our staff (both teaching and non-teaching) will try to sort out any problem at school. If it is a more serious problem, then a senior member of staff will be involved. At this stage we would probably contact you to let you know what has been happening. If a problem persists then we would call you in to discuss the situation, and by working together we would endeavour to overcome the problem.

If, however, the problem continued then we would need to look at whether Ashby Hastings School was the best placement for that child. If the problem of behaviour was at lunchtime then the child could be sent home during the lunch hour.

In the vast majority of cases the problem is sorted out at school. School rules are designed for the safety, health and well-being of the school population.

Charging

Parents may be aware that the 1988 Education Act has caused changes in the schools' charging policy. Schools cannot charge for activities that are deemed to be part of the National Curriculum. However, parents are encouraged by the Act and by the school to make voluntary contributions to cover the cost of these activities. I am sure all parents understand that with very limited budgets, school will not be able to fund these activities out of their own resources. However, both the authority and the Governors support the charging and remission policy for families facing financial hardship.

If parents find it difficult to pay for trips etc, as a first step, please contact the school. No child will be barred from educational activity purely on financial grounds.

Disability discrimination

Ashby Hastings fully support the Leicestershire County Council stance on Disability Discrimination. The school is fully accessible for any children with mobility problems.



Contact details

Headteacher - Mrs Rachel Mckeown
Senior Teacher - Mrs Amy Foster
Chair of Governors - Mrs Charlotte Owen
Business Manager - Mrs Lisa Watson



Tel: 01530 442480



Website: www.ashbyhastingsprimary.co.uk



Email: office@ashbyhastingsprimary.co.uk



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Ashby Hastings Primary School
School Lane, Ashby de la Zouch
Leicestershire
LE65 2AX

Ashby Hastings is committed to safeguarding for all. We fully support the Operation Encompass initiative to ensure domestic violence is eliminated.

 **OPERATION
ENCOMPASS**
In every force. In every school. For every child.