



Leigh Academy

Paddock Wood



Prospectus

‘Our highly ambitious community, builds thinking learners,
who act with agency and create lasting memories’

Leigh Academy Paddock Wood is part of Leigh Academies Trust



Leigh Academies Trust is one of the country's largest and most-established multi-academy trusts operating across Kent, Medway and South East London. It contains primary, secondary and special academies and is highly inclusive and successful. Our mission is to deliver "education for a better world" by ensuring that young people in our academies have an excellent start in life regardless of their background or ability.

Our Values

We care -

about our pupils through our human scale approach to education, our staff and their well-being and the communities that we serve, driven by our high ideals and strong moral values.

We have boundless ambition -

to achieve excellence for all and create confident young adults with high levels of resilience and integrity.

We work together -

as one team in the belief that we are greater than the sum of our parts. We foster an enterprising culture through collaboration and in close partnership with industry and other educators.

We keep getting better -

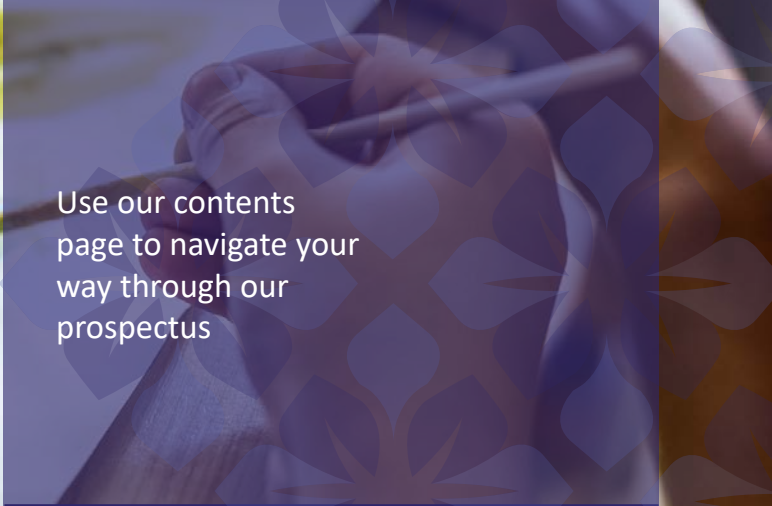
using our 'can-do' attitude towards continuous improvement and innovation.

For admission enquiries telephone: 01892 833654 or
email: info@paddockwood.latrust.org.uk





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Welcome

Every Child Matters

Welcome to Leigh Academy Paddock Wood

We are a primary academy in the heart of Kent serving the close knit community of Paddock Wood, who have a recent history of providing a truly great educational experience for our pupils. I understand the trust you put in us as an academy to ensure we achieve the very best for your children, taking them from EYFS through to being secondary ready. I know that the team at Leigh Academy Paddock Wood are committed to giving your children the very best educational experiences that we can offer and this drives all the decisions we will make for our curriculum. Not only do we offer the Primary Years Programme, as a candidacy school for the International Baccalaureate program, we also offer specialist teaching in French and PE and ensure our children experience risk taking adventures from outdoor challenges to mountain biking and caving. The vision for our academy is:

‘Our highly ambitious community, builds thinking learners, who act with agency and create lasting memories.’

I am also keen on building a whole school community which thrives on mutual respect and values positive relationships for the benefit of our children. I know how vital working in partnership with parents and the local community really is in order for children to find school a positive and rewarding experience.

You can be assured that as Principal, I will strive to create the best education for your child/children whilst they are members of our academy family.

We look forward to welcoming you and your family.

Mr Tom Moore
Principal



We are
'Good... with a rapid trend
of improvement.'

Achievements in reading and writing are particularly strong.

Ofsted

"(The academy's) mantras of 'keep it clear and simple' for adults and 'quality, quantity and perseverance' for pupils have been taken to heart by all, and the quality of teaching and learning have improved. As a result, pupils' achievement across all subjects has risen rapidly...

The school turnaround has involved changes at a deep level rather than quick fixes. Despite some difficult decisions having to be made, changes have been achieved with sensitivity. An area for improvement identified at the previous inspection was to establish greater consistency in the quality and impact of teaching. You have addressed this very effectively so that now staff work together and there are high levels of consistency and coherence.

The staff survey shows overwhelming support for leaders. Goals are shared, staff feel supported and highly motivated. All of the staff enjoy and are proud to be part of the school.

Leaders and staff have used the changes in assessment and increasing demands of the curriculum to heighten teachers' understanding of what pupils know, can do and need to do next. The curriculum has been completely overhauled and pupils enjoy learning in depth across many different subjects."

Ofsted, July 2016

In our last Ofsted inspection, we were awarded a second consecutive good judgement. Inspectors noted that our academy "demonstrates an accelerated rising trend in attainment and progress."



Quality first.
Adventurous learning.

Our Ethos and Values

At PWPA, we strive to develop students who are internationally-minded, through: collaboration, communication, inquiry, respect and creativity. Nurturing a passion for life-long academic learning through a broad and balanced curriculum is a priority; through agency we will develop individuals to reach their potential academically, emotionally, socially and physically. Our children will become an integral part of their community, understanding their place on a local and global platform; they will take responsibility for the small steps they take throughout their lives, which will create impact on a broader level. We will help them to aspire to be ambitious, for themselves, their families, their friends and for their community as a whole.

Our vision:

'Our highly ambitious community builds thinking learners, who act with agency and create lasting memories.'

Our vision is 'Our highly ambitious community builds thinking learners, who act with agency and create lasting memories.'

We strive to encourage children to construct and deconstruct complex tasks from and into simple parts - to do challenging things extremely well, with stamina and determination to succeed.

We are proactive in working closely with our school community, supporting families by developing conducive partnerships with parents and carers.

Leigh Academy Paddock Wood is a good school and is relentless in driving school improvement.

About our Academy

PWPA is a three-and four-form primary school in the heart of the Paddock Wood town. Our 630 pupils come to learn each day in our vibrant, happy academy with modern state-of-the-art facilities and resources.

Our academy is a fun and inspirational place with brightly coloured, modern classrooms, which provide a stimulating and lively setting for learning. Our interactive IT facilities bring the widest reaches of the planet to our classrooms.

We boast a well-stocked library and separate International Baccalaureate (IB) inquiry centre, as well as specialist equipment in the arts and outdoor learning. Pupils develop confidence, presence and a passion to perform with our specialist music, dance and drama teacher. They develop stamina, perseverance and how to take measured risks when learning skiing, mountain biking and rock climbing, as part of our core PE offer.

All of our pupils are aspiring Global Citizens, and as well as learning French in its own right, they quite uniquely learn other weekly subjects, such as art and science, in French. Our growing and highly skilled languages team includes fluent and native speakers of French, German, Italian and Spanish.

Pupil council

Our Pupil Council ensures that every pupil has their say on issues around the school. Our Academy Captain and Vice Captain, along with other elected members, represent 'pupil voice' on important issues such as uniform, catering, the way we use our buildings and grounds, and even interviewing new teachers.

Rewards

We believe that a rewards culture promotes and encourages maximum achievement. Pupils who demonstrate effort, dedication and a commitment to their learning can earn points through our House and merit systems. Our weekly celebration assemblies recognise the successes, hard work and citizenship of our pupils.

'Staff go above and beyond every day to make sure my children are happy and excited as they learn new things.'

Parent

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Leigh Academy Paddock Wood



Our Curriculum

Our curriculum is framed by the International Baccalaureate Primary Years Programme, the IBPYP.

The IBPYP is an international, all-subjects programme designed to foster the development of the whole child. It spans hearts and minds and encompasses pupils' social, physical, emotional and cultural needs, in addition to their academic welfare.

Dare to be different

Pupils' individuality is universally respected and celebrated. By virtue of this pupils' behaviour and attitudes to learning are exemplary.

Our highly creative Primary Years curriculum provides pupils with experiences that encourage a life-long love of learning. Through imaginative learning and teaching, our pupils are challenged to think outside the box, have a fearless approach to making mistakes and take their own learning in exciting new directions. Aiming high in everything we do sits at the heart of life inside our classrooms. We work with our pupils to build a strong work ethic and to set the bar high, in terms of drive and ambition. Our very well-established early literacy and numeracy programmes ensure that we set a solid foundation for this.

As pupils progress, they build up and harness a range of skills for life. Our pupils take risks with learning, build on exciting knowledge and understanding, develop outstanding communication, are discerning in their research, and present with confidence, good humour and flair. In our academy these are the cornerstones of our IB PYP curriculum and practice.



‘Pupils learn from stimulating transdisciplinary themes, that allow them to construct meaning in the world around them.’

Liz Dunn, Assistant Principal (IBPYP)

The International Baccalaureate Primary Years Programme



The Primary Years Programme (PYP) is designed for pupils aged 3 to 12 and is one of four programmes offered by the International Baccalaureate Organisation (IBO).

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Baccalaureate
Organisation
2024



The PYP focuses on the development of the whole child as an inquirer, both in the classroom and in the world outside. It is a framework guided by six transdisciplinary themes of global significance, explored using knowledge and skills derived from six subject areas, as well as transdisciplinary skills, with a powerful emphasis on inquiry.

The PYP is flexible enough to accommodate the demands of the National Curriculum as this is the curriculum that Leigh Academy Paddock Wood will follow. The PYP:

- Allows integrated development of cognitive and affective skills;
- Enables us to develop a curriculum appropriate to meet pupils learning needs;
- Develops autonomous and critical learners;
- Content is chosen by academies but is delivered within a concept driven curriculum to bring coherence across subjects;
- Assessment drives learning and teaching positively.

Leigh Academy Paddock Wood is a Candidate School* for the Primary Years Programme and we hope to become an IB World school by September 2022. This school is pursuing authorization as an IB World School. These are schools that share a common philosophy—a commitment to high quality, challenging, international education that Leigh Academy Paddock Wood believes is important for our students.

**Only schools authorized by the IB Organization can offer any of its four academic programmes: the Primary Years Programme (PYP), the Middle Years Programme (MYP), the Diploma Programme, or the Career-related Programme (CP). Candidate status gives no guarantee that authorization will be granted. For further information about the IB and its programmes, visit www.ibo.org*

International Baccalaureate Learner Profiles



The Learner Profile is at the heart of our curriculum and is integrated through every aspect of the curriculum, so that pupils have the opportunity to develop their personal and social attributes on a daily basis.

IB Programmes give structured opportunities for pupils to be:

Inquirers
Knowledgeable
Thinkers
Communicators
Principled
Open-minded
Caring
Risk-takers
Balanced
Reflective



At Leigh Academy Paddock Wood we aim to create inquiring, lifelong learners who respect and care for the world they live in and all those who live in it. Our learners understand how they are connected to the world in order to take action to improve their own lives, and the lives of local and global communities, becoming global citizens themselves.

Learning is led by the children's interests and experiences, frequently stretching our children's knowledge beyond the National Curriculum. We are also blessed with an amazing outdoor learning environment which enables us to provide additional learning and development opportunities that enrich our curriculum offer for all age groups.



Globetrotting

‘It is great to see our pupils experience different cultures, to see what life is really like.’

Alex Ait Mansour, MFL Lead

Our academy is a proud champion of ambitious travel. Units of inquiry are enriched with opportunities for pupils to visit and experience exciting places.

Our pupils interact readily with the local area as part of their core learning. Pupils explore the geographical diversity of Kent, including its agricultural and defence heritage and coastline, to develop a strong sense of identity in terms of time and place.

In normal times we utilise our minibuses almost every day. With the Capital on our doorstep, classes bring learning to life through visits to world-class exhibitions and events. Our pupils frequently enjoy the thrill and excitement of national sports events and West-End theatre, where they develop high levels of self-confidence and social awareness.

Our older classes embrace the great outdoors in winter, in the remote and barren Brecon Beacons. There they experience the comparative extremes of team-building in underground caverns and kayaking in semi-frozen canals. In stark contrast, our pupils immerse themselves in the Parisian culture of high fashion, great food and striking art and architecture in the heat and humidity of early summer, as they draw comparisons with other modern civilisations.

Paddock Wood takes pride in its connection to Bereko in Tanzania. This link comes from the partnership that Bereko has with the local community, St. Andrew's Church and Mascalls Academy. As a school we continue to develop the links we have to learn from one another and share experiences and projects - made easier as technology develops both here and in Tanzania.

Our well-travelled and highly experienced teaching team bring knowledge, culture and first-hand practice from more than 20 countries around the globe. We use this to shape the hearts, minds and ambition of our pupils in Paddock Wood:

Argentina
Australia
Brazil
Canada
Cyprus
Denmark
France

Germany
Hong Kong
India
Italy
Latvia
Malawi
Romania

South Africa
Spain
Switzerland
Sweden
Tanzania
USA
Zimbabwe



‘Children want the same things we want... to laugh, to be challenged, to be entertained, and delighted.’ Dr Seuss

British values

British values permeate every part of the work of our academy and we recognise and promote them in everything we do. These are democracy, the rule of law, individual liberty, mutual respect and tolerance of those of different faiths and beliefs.

Achievement through partnership

We recognise that our partnership with you in the education of your children is without a doubt the most important key to success. As such, we welcome and encourage all aspects of communication between our academy and parents and carers. We place great value on individual and regular contact. Our home/school agreement ensures that we achieve our targets in learning outcomes, behaviour and attendance. In addition, we make best use of consultation evenings, email/text updates and termly reports to keep parents informed of pupils' progress and welfare.

Homework

Our academy places great importance on the role that high quality, relevant homework plays in achievement. We see homework as integral to learning.

Home learning

The current climate presents its own challenges however we have strived to ensure that the transition between in-school and home learning is seamless. Wherever possible our whole curriculum is aligned with Google Classrooms - an online resource that your child can access anywhere and at any time. Using the Google platform, we are able to set and mark work as well as conduct some video lessons. We are increasingly introducing digital exercise books, assessment feedback and online tutorials to enhance pupils' learning experience. Our academy prides itself on a current 93% digital engagement among families and our clear strategy and ambition to 100%.

Pre-school transition

Our warm and welcoming environment eases children's transition into primary school. From your first visit, our Y5 pupils act as 'buddies' so that each new pupil has a friendly face to help them to feel safe and secure, and settle in quickly. Our teachers make early 1:1 contact with families before the summer, and welcome parents back in late September to see first-hand how your child has adapted to life at our academy. Alongside this we operate an every day 'open doors' policy across the school.

What our teachers say...

‘We encourage and foster inquiring minds.’

Peter McNair

‘Children eagerly embrace new challenges.’

Alex Ait Mansour

‘Our children are curious learners. I like that about them.’

Liz Dunn



Every
Child
Matters

‘No child is left behind, no voice is left unheard.’

Richard Townshend

‘Learning here is energetic - it’s engaging!’

Katie Rowland

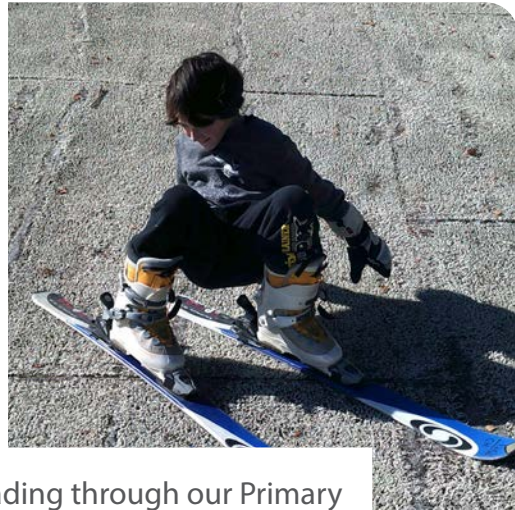
‘Children are encouraged to follow their creative talents.’

Sophie Knight

'Good... with a
rapid trend of
improvement'

Ofsted, July 2016

We hope you've enjoyed reading through our Primary
prospectus and we can't wait to hear from you!
e: info@paddockwood.latrust.org.uk



We are a truly
exceptional
school



Leigh Academy
Paddock Wood

Further INFORMATION

Please visit our academy website:

[Leigh Academy Paddock Wood](#)

Admissions information

Find out when our next open event is:

[Visit our website](#)

Open events

Please visit us for more information:

[Visit our website](#)



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Education for a better world

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