School Information Pack

Campton Academy

Every learner valued,
every opportunity seized,
every achievement celebrated

BEST
BEDFORDSHIRE
SCHOOLS TRUST

Campton Academy – A Positive Choice

Your child and your family are unique. Your family values, attitudes and aspirations have already had a huge influence on your child well before the first day of school. Educational research shows time and again that the effectiveness of the partnership between home and school is a major factor in a child's progress at school.

At Campton Academy, we want to get to know children within the context of their families so that you at home and staff at school can be effective partners in educating your child. If you are sending your child to Campton Academy, we hope you will be happy to work closely with us at this early stage in your child's learning journey.

School Aims

At Campton Academy, we aim to provide for your child:

- A happy and safe environment with a family atmosphere
- A structured, broad curriculum
- Teaching that recognises each individual's ability and potential
- Stimulating, exciting and enjoyable approaches to learning
- Encouragement towards a healthy lifestyle
- Equal opportunities for all.

Equality and Diversity

The Local Committee of the Board (LCB) fully supports equality and diversity throughout the whole school community. The Committee promotes equal opportunities for all learners, job applicants and staff regardless of sexual orientation, race, disability, gender, religion, belief or age.

Understanding and Respect

The Local Committee of the Board (LCB) supports community cohesion by encouraging all those who attend to develop an understanding and respect of the diverse faiths, ethnicities, cultures and socio-economic groups in both our immediate school community and our wider national community.

Keeping your child happy and safe in school

Governors and staff are committed to promoting the well-being of all pupils at Campton Academy. Governors regularly monitor and evaluate all aspects of pupil well-being through the school's self-evaluation processes. You should be able to say goodbye to your child each morning, confident that they will be as happy and safe in school as they are with you at home.

Accidents

Many of our school rules and routines are designed to minimise the risk of accidents. However, there will always be children of this age who incur minor scratches, bumps and grazes, particularly at playtime.
The majority of our support and teaching staff hold current First Aid certificates.

Good Behaviour

The behaviour of all children in and around the school should reflect a caring attitude towards others. We intend that staff and children should work together to provide a happy, secure and welcoming atmosphere in our school. Rewards (praise, stickers, house points, achievement certificates) will be used to reinforce appropriate behaviour. If behaviour problems are identified, particularly if they affect other children's learning or well-being, possible causes will be explored and discussions will take place between staff, the Head of School and parents, as appropriate.

Safeguarding

At Campton Academy we make strenuous efforts to ensure that we comply with every national directive regarding safeguarding. Staff undergo enhanced Disclosure & Barring Service (DBS) checks (previously CRB checks) and the Headteacher, Office Manager and the Governor Responsible for Child Protection have successfully completed 'Safer Recruitment' training.

As a school we have a statutory duty to assist Social Care Departments acting on behalf of children in need or enquiring into allegations of child abuse. As well as this statutory duty we have a pastoral responsibility towards our pupils and we recognise that pupils have a fundamental right to be protected from harm. Children cannot learn effectively unless they feel safe and secure. We therefore have a safeguarding policy which incorporates child protection procedures, reflecting both our statutory duty and pastoral responsibilities.

If we have a concern that a child is at risk of significant harm, we have a duty to refer this to Social Care. In making a referral, the school is not making any judgment about individual parents or carers. It is for Social Care to decide whether there should be an investigation.

Safeguarding continued

The school is part of a project that runs jointly between schools, Central Bedfordshire Council and Bedfordshire Police. Operation Encompass is the name of the department who reports to schools, prior to the start of the next school day, when a child or young person has experienced or been exposed to any domestic abuse.

Operation Encompass will ensure that a member of the school staff, known as a Key Adult, is trained to allow them to liaise with the police and to use the information that has been shared, in confidence, while ensuring that the school is able to make provision for possible difficulties experienced by children, or their families, who have experienced a domestic abuse incident.

We are keen to offer the best support possible to all our pupils and we believe this will be extremely beneficial for all those involved.

Question

What do you want for your child at school?

Many parents tell us that they are most concerned about two things:

1. **Their child doing well** - achieving their best whatever their ability - making good progress
2. **Their child being happy** - making friends - enjoying going to school - not being bullied



Question

Will my child do well at Campton Academy?

At Campton Academy, we aim to ensure that all children are well-motivated and enthusiastic, enjoy school, have high aspirations and achieve their personal best in all areas of the curriculum. Respect, care and courtesy for others is actively encouraged and individuals are valued for their 'uniqueness'.

Members of staff work as a highly professional team and are totally committed to providing the best learning experience possible for each child.

If your child is achieving at a level either well-above or well-below the rest of the class, the class teacher will seek advice in the first instance from the school's Special Educational Needs Co-ordinator. Parents will always be involved in any decision to provide any additional or different support or extension activities for their child.

Whatever your child's ability and potential, our aim is to provide the best opportunities we can for everyone at our school.

Our philosophy at Campton Academy can be summed up in our School Motto:

Every learner valued
Every opportunity seized
Every achievement celebrated

Question

How will I know what my child is learning in school?

When asked what they have been doing in school that day, many children will say 'Can't remember' or 'Nothing' or may tell you what they ate for lunch, if hard pressed.

In addition to the curriculum information on the school's website, we share an important sheet of paper at the beginning of every term (for the children in Reception this is provided more frequently) so that parents have some idea of what is happening in school.

The 'What is my child learning?' sheet informs you of the areas of learning your child will be covering, with suggestions about ways in which you might support their learning at home. This will be accompanied by the latest copy of the class timetable.

From experience, we know that some children have a habit of losing anything that they are supposed to give their parents. If this happens, you will be able to access the same information on our website.
https://www.camptonacademy.org.uk/

Question

What will my child be doing when he/she starts school?

When your child starts in our Hedgehogs class, there is a focus on learning through play as part of the learning and development requirements of the Early Years' Foundation Stage curriculum. Using both the classroom and the outdoor area, children are learning essential basic concepts and skills whilst thoroughly enjoying themselves.



Staff will support and extend children's learning whatever their ability.





Question

What happens as my child moves up to the next class?

After the Reception class, your child will move to Rabbits class. Their time in Hedgehogs will have prepared them for Year 1 and the National Curriculum through to sixth form.

National Curriculum Subjects

3 Core subjects:	English, Mathematics and Science
8 Foundation subjects:	Art & Design, Computing, Design & Technology (D&T), Languages, Geography, History, Music and Physical Education (P.E.)

Personal, Social & Health Education (P.S.H.E.) is also taught with a focus on Values Education.

Religious Education is taught following the Bedfordshire Agreed Syllabus.

Please note that parents have the statutory right to remove their child from Religious Education lessons. Please discuss this with the Head of School if this is your decision.

Cross-Curricular Links

In the interests of excellent teaching and learning, staff plan (where appropriate) cross-curricular links e.g. History (the 'Romans') could well include:

- Literacy (for research & presentation)
- Computing (for research & presentation)
- Art & Design (e.g. making Roman helmets & shields)
- Drama (including using the shields to make a defensive 'tortoise')
- Mathematics (Roman Numerals & the decimal system)

Collective Worship usually takes place during whole school Assembly in the Hall or occasionally in the classroom. Collective Worship is mainly Christian-based to reflect the majority faith in our school. Children are invited to reflect on what is being said during assembly. Children are expected to respect the views of others, be they of another faith or of no faith.

Please note that parents have the statutory right to remove their child from the daily act of Collective Worship. Please discuss this with the Headteacher if this is your decision.

Learning to Read at Campton Academy

The ability to read fluently and with understanding is an essential basic skill for independent learning. At Campton Academy, we aim that every child should not only learn to read fluently but should also enjoy the reading experience and become an avid reader for life.

In the early stages of teaching children to read, we concentrate on the nationally approved synthetic phonic approach. We use the Essential Letters and Sounds programme. Most children begin to "crack" the reading code and start to use their "sounding out" and "blending" skills with enthusiasm. By learning some additional harder to read and spell words, they are soon delighted that they are able to read our early reading books almost, if not entirely, independently. We send home books that are carefully matched to each child's phonic ability.





As decoding skills improve, children are able to give greater attention to understanding the text, to reading aloud with expression and to using higher order skills such as prediction, inference and skimming for information.

Sex & Relationships Education

Governors and staff view Sex and Relationships Education as an integral part of the learning process that continues into adult life. As part of our Science and Personal, Social & Health Education we introduce aspects of reproduction which are relevant to the understanding and maturity of the child, e.g. plant (fruit and seed production); animal reproduction (the hen/egg/chick cycle) and human growth from birth to adult. Staff expect to answer children's questions about sex and relationships truthfully but in an age-appropriate way.

Sex Education that includes more detailed information about human reproduction is introduced at Upper Key Stage 2 (Years 5/6), currently this is taught by Middle Schools. Once we become a Primary School this will form part of our Year 5 and 6 curriculum. It is from these specific Sex Education lessons that parents have the right to withdraw their child. Further information will be provided in due course.

Question

The School Motto says 'Every Opportunity Seized'. What are some of these opportunities?

Teachers at Campton Academy are not content with the majority of their lessons judged as 'good' or 'outstanding' but strive continuously to provide children with even more opportunities of all kinds.

Some of our achievements:

Recognising our approach to promoting emotional health, wellbeing and resilience.

Recognising our school's achievements in Physical Activity.

Recognising our school's commitment to Computing

Recognising the hard work and commitment from our school lunchtime Gardening Club

Enjoying & Achieving at Campton Academy

Visits /Talks/ Experts in school:

Reading Cafes, Book Fayre, Cinema trip, Church Services (Harvest Festival, Christmas Carols and Easter), Faith Tour, Library Trip, Pantomime, Phonics Information sessions, Bikeability, Scootlife, Science Workshops, Woodland Walks and various PTA events …. the list is always growing!



Sport

- Competitions, festivals & tournaments – as part of the Redborne School Sport Partnership
- Specialist coaches for one PE lesson a week
- Annual Sports Day

Music

- Whole school singing assemblies
- Rock Bands – through Rock Steady Music

Question

Your motto says 'Every Achievement Celebrated'. What happens if a child is not particularly good at any part of the curriculum?

Not a problem, because we are celebrating what is an achievement for that child – this may include being 'the best' at something or attaining a very high standard but it may equally well be a 'personal best' or a significant improvement.

During our Friday Assembly, we give out 'Good Work' certificates and 'Campton Code' certificates for positive behaviour. Mrs Day also awards the 'Campton Ambassador Award' each month to a pupil who consistently follows the school rules and expectation.

In addition to whole school celebration of achievements, there are a number of internal class systems that the children enjoy immensely. At Campton Academy, we make no apology for celebrating our successes!

Question

Will my child be happy at Campton Academy?

At Campton Academy we do our very best to ensure that all children are happy at our school. We treat each child as an individual, nurturing strengths and supporting areas that are in need of further development. However, children can feel unhappy for a variety of reasons, some not even connected with school. Sometimes children do not know why they are unhappy.

To support your child as well as we can, we need to work closely with you as parents so that we can understand your child and their way of thinking.

Concern

***I'm worried that my child will not make friends*.**



Friendships can be tricky for some children. We do our best to support children with making and keeping friends.

A lot of time is taken, particularly in our Reception class, to model what children might say to a friend and how they might treat them: taking turns; not always insisting on playing a game your way - in short learning social skills.

Question

What if other children are being unkind to my child?

We do not tolerate any behaviour that might have a detrimental effect either on teaching and learning or on the well-being of any member of our school community either in the classroom or the playground.

At times, children can be unkind, sometimes deliberately but often unintentionally. We do our utmost to help children realise they are being unkind but some children find it hard to understand a situation from another person's viewpoint.

Occasionally a child may say they are being bullied. In the vast majority of cases this situation arises from:

- children not fully understanding that not all acts of unkindness are bullying
- children momentarily falling out with their friends
- children having immature social skills
- children not fully understanding the difference between "by accident" and "on purpose"

We investigate thoroughly any allegation of bullying and do everything within our power to ensure that every learner enjoys every single day at our school.

Working Together

Staff at Campton Academy work regularly with a number of other schools and agencies including: pre-schools, other local lower schools, Robert Bloomfield Academy (our catchment area middle school), the School Nurse, the School Attendance Officer and the Educational Psychology Service. By working together, we aim to ensure the best possible outcomes for your child. We are part of BEST Multi Academy Trust and work closely with other schools in the trust.

The School Site

Campton Academy is situated in an attractive village setting backing onto the Recreation Ground. The 'catchment' area of the school is the parish of Campton and Chicksands, which includes families who live at JITG (Joint Intelligence Training Group).

The main building was erected in 1875 and has many attractive Victorian architectural features. The Hall is in this part of the school and is used for Assemblies, Physical Education, Music, Drama and as a Dining Hall. The Old School House contains the School Office, the Head of School's Office and general staff facilities.



The main building provides attractive classrooms for our Reception (Hedgehogs) and Year 1 (Rabbits) children. Separate blocks close to the main building house our Year 2 (Squirrels), Year 3 (Foxes) and Year 4 (Badgers) pupils in bright mobile classrooms.



We have a vibrant learning resource room called 'The Den' where children can read and learn in a calm and comfortable environment.

The playground to the rear of the school has access to the village Recreation Ground used for some playtimes and P.E. lessons during the summer months.

Admission Arrangements: enrolling your child

We admit children into our Reception class once a year in the September following their fourth birthday. All those in Reception attend school full time from September, unless there is a specific reason why full time attendance is not in their best interests. Once your child has reached statutory school age (the beginning of the term after their fifth birthday) full-time attendance is compulsory.

Parents interested in applying to Campton Academy for the admission of their child can arrange a visit to the school by contacting the School Office on 01462 813359 or emailing CMA-Info@bestacademie.org.uk

We are able to enrol 26 pupils in each year group. However, all pupils living in our catchment area are guaranteed a place at our school unless this would result in class numbers exceeding either statutory or Health & Safety limits. Children from outside our catchment area will be made most welcome depending on vacancies in their year group.

Please see our website for further admission information:
https://www.camptonacademy.org.uk/page/?title=Admissions&pid=15

Applications should be made through the Central Bedfordshire Council website by the specified date in mid-January for school entry into the Reception class the following September. Parents who apply by this deadline will be notified by the end of April as to whether a place is/is not available in our Reception class.

Please contact **Central Bedfordshire Council on 0300 300 8037**, on their website:
https://www.centralbedfordshire.gov.uk/admissions or enquire at the School Office for further information about admission application forms or enquiries.

Organisation of Classes

At Campton Academy we have one mixed ability class for each year group. Children are divided into classes according to age. The year group into which your child is placed will depend on his/her birthday. The cut-off date between year groups is 31 August and 1 September.





Your child's class teacher is responsible for all aspects of teaching and learning for all the children in the class, whatever their ability. However, if a child is achieving at a level either well-above or well-below the rest of the class, the class teacher will seek advice in the first instance form the Special Educational Needs Co-ordinator. Parents will always be involved in any decision to provide any additional or different support or extension for their child.







Teaching Assistants are allocated to support teaching and learning throughout the school according to need. Their deployment is subject to review during the academic year to respond effectively to changes in class numbers and individual needs.





Teaching Assistants normally support the learning of small groups of children or individuals both inside & outside the classroom.

Occasionally, teaching assistants who have appropriate qualifications and experience are employed to cover a whole class, using work previously planned by the teacher. This is often less disruptive to the children's learning than employing a supply teacher who does not know the class.



Home/School Partnership

Your child is unique; your family is unique. At Campton Academy we aim to treat each child as an individual; nurturing strengths and supporting areas that are in need of further development. To understand your child, we need to work closely with you as parents to ensure that your child has the best possible start to what we hope will be a highly successful learning journey.

Home/School Agreement

You will be asked to sign a Home/School Agreement before your child starts at Campton Academy. This agreement sets out what you and your child can expect from the school and what school staff can expect from you.

Starting School

Pre-school visits will be offered to all new children entering Reception in September.

Transition between classes

Children will spend a morning with their new class teacher on 'Transition Day' (normally a Friday in early July). At the beginning of September, parents will have an opportunity during the latter part of a school day to 'Meet the Class'. Their child can show them round their new classroom.

Newsletters

Newsletters are sent home to keep you informed of all aspects of school life. These newsletters, together with other useful information about the school, can be accessed via the school's website.

Parents' Consultation Evenings

These individual consultations are arranged twice a year, in November and May to enable you to meet your child's teacher, review your child's work, discuss progress and jointly agree targets for the coming months.
If you have parental responsibility but your child does not live with you, and you wish to make a separate consultation appointment, staff will be happy to arrange this with you. Please make a written request for this service addressed to the Headteacher via the School Office.

Reports

Termly progress reports shared in your MyChildAtSchool (MCAS) account for all children in years 1-4. Children in Reception will receive a mid-year report as well as an end of year report. A written end of year report is provided for you in early July giving details of your child's achievements throughout the year. An opportunity to discuss the report with the class teacher will also be offered.

Please make a written request, if you require a copy to be sent to a parent living at a separate address. Once the School Office staff have received this request, you will continue to receive separate copies of your child's Annual Report until you write to cancel this agreement.

Parents' Concerns

If you have any concerns or queries at any time, please let the class teacher know straightaway so that an appointment can be made to talk them over. It is usually best to discuss problems as they arise and not wait until a consultation evening. Class teachers use an App called 'Seesaw' to communicate with parents.

Most issues can be addressed through a conversation with the class teacher or the Headteacher. If a problem cannot be resolved by these informal means, parents should follow the procedures set out in the school's Complaints Policy (copy on Website or available through the School Office).

Volunteering to Help in School

Some parents, grandparents and others from the community are able to offer support in school as a volunteer helper. If you would like to help in school, please ask at the School Office for a form to indicate when you would be available and which class(es) and areas of learning you would like to support.

'Friends of Campton'

Campton Academy has an active and supportive Parent/Teacher Association (PTA) known as 'Friends of Campton' that has meetings at least once a term to arrange social events and fund-raising activities. All parents are automatically members of the association and are welcome to attend all meetings. Parents are informed of dates of meetings and events in the monthly newsletters.

Governors

We have a team of governors who offer support and challenge to the school leadership team. Parent governors form an essential part of this team. If you are interested in supporting the school to achieve the best outcomes for its pupils and would like to find out more please contact Mr Stupple (Chair of Governors) astupple@bestacademies.org.uk.

Question

Where can I find more information about the school?

School Office staff are happy to answer any queries. Please contact Mrs Bright (Office Manager) on 01462 813359.

The Headteacher, Mrs Louise Day is always delighted to show parents around the school at any time throughout the year. If you would like to take up this offer, please make an appointment via School Office staff who will be able to advise you on the Headteacher's availability.

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