



HIGHFIELDS
SPENCER ACADEMY

PROSPECTUS



Welcome to Highfields Spencer Academy - The Rainbow School

Dear Parents,

I would like to welcome you to Highfields Spencer Academy, our wonderful new school, which opened in September 2020.

We are a one-form entry state of the art primary school, built to serve the community of the new Highfields Estate in Littleover, Derbyshire.

We opened with our first ever Reception class on 9th September and our Nursery opened its doors on 28th September. Our school is part of the amazing

Spencer Academies Trust 'family' and we work closely with our sister schools, The Mease in Hilton and Chellaston Fields in Chellaston. I look forward to welcoming you to our school in September 2021.



Anna Jones, Principal





Admissions

Applications for Reception intake or in year admissions for Highfields Spencer Academy are handled through Derbyshire County Council admissions team if you live in Derbyshire. If you live in the Derby City part of the estate please apply through Derby City's admissions team.

Remember to choose the correct Highfields - there are two in Derbyshire, but one is a long way away-choose Highfields Spencer Academy for our school!

For our Nursery, please use the application form on our school website or email for more information:

[highfieldsspencer.co.uk](https://www.highfieldsspencer.co.uk)

info@highfieldsspencer.co.uk

We Love Learning Indoors and Outside

In our Early Years classes both Reception and Nursery love their outdoor learning. We spend at least part of everyday outside.

Our Early Years team use Tapestry, an online learning journey to record evidence of what pupils have learnt and can do.

We use this evidence to help us plan future lessons.

In Nursery we follow the Curiosity Approach, where Pupils use natural objects and typical resources found in the home to help them with their creative play.

We use Adventure Island and the Message Centre from Greg Bottrill to encourage early reading and writing skills.

The Message Centre is based around secret messages and is proven in its success around encouraging both boys and girls to write and start to give meaning to print!





We Love Reading and Writing at Highfields

Books are amazing, they provide a route into magical, incredible worlds! All of our children visit our school library once a week and reading corners are in every classroom.

Pupils have daily phonics sessions based on 'Letters and Sounds' and we are learning to write our letters using cursive handwriting so we can write our own words.

All our Reception pupils take home reading books matched to their phonological ability (so they can use their phonics to help them read).

We celebrate reading through assemblies, Book Fairs, Secret Storyteller and Book Weeks and we will be sharing a mixture of high quality contemporary and classic texts!

We Love to Explore

Our school curriculum is based around our special word 'ASPIRE.' This stands for:

Achievement

We want our pupils to develop high aspirations and set themselves challenging goals. We feel it is important to instil the confidence and determination to achieve these goals.

Self-awareness

We encourage our pupils to know themselves better; both their strengths and weaknesses in order to identify where they should celebrate success and where they need to strive to develop further.

Pride

We encourage our children to develop a sense of pride in themselves. This means being punctual, attending school every day, taking pride in their uniform and appearance, presenting their work to high standards and having pride in their behaviour.

Maths Mastery

At Highfields we are working with Wyndham Academy and our local East Midlands West Maths Hub to develop Maths Mastery. We use a scheme called Powermaths, which follows the White Rose

ASPIRE

Inclusion

We aim to help children understand that everyone has the right and the capacity to achieve no matter the challenges they may face. This is the belief that every child can succeed.

Respect

We want our pupils to understand that respect is not just shown to other people but also to themselves, the wider community and our environment. It is about being polite and courteous but also about developing moral principles and sticking to them.

Enquiry

This is about being ambitious learners who are not afraid to ask questions and to steer their own learning journey. We help children to develop into active learners who are engaged and proactive

maths scheme of work. Pupils are encouraged to investigate numbers, shape, space and measure through exploration and taught maths sessions.





We Love Being Active

At Highfields we work with Derby City School Sports Partnership to help deliver high quality PE lessons and to give pupils the opportunity to develop their skills. We also offer access to after school sports clubs such as Soccerstars and we attend sports festivals and competitions.

As part of our commitment to being a healthy school we are working towards our Bronze Modeshift Stars Award for encouraging walking to school and pupils will have scootability and bikeability training as they move through school.

Our School Day

Nursery

Children can join us the term after 3rd birthday, we have two main intakes per year, September and January.

We have two sessions per day:

- 8.45 – 11.45 am
- 12.30 – 3.30 pm

Pupils can attend for 15 hour or 30 hour funded sessions Parents are also able to book additional sessions, dependent on availability, at £12.50 for a three hour session.

Reception

Our Reception pupils start at 8.55 am.

They have lunch from 11.45 am – 12.45 pm

Our school day finishes at 3.20 pm.

We have a range of different activities out for pupils to play with and we work with all our pupils to develop their social and emotional and communication skills. We help them to develop friendships and to learn to read, write and 'do' maths amongst so many other things!

Staff work with children to help them to develop their skills and prepare them for life beyond Reception.

Our Early Years Team

Mrs Huntingford, Cygnets class teacher (Reception teacher and Early Years Lead).

Miss McInnes, Ducklings class teacher (Nursery teacher).

Plus Mr Gamble, Miss Wardle, Miss North and Miss Wildgoose are all here to help with any questions.

Our lunchtime team consist of Mrs Gushlow, our catering manager, and Miss Pickering our lunchtime play leader.

Administration

Mrs Norman is our office administrator. If you require any more information or would like to attend one of our virtual tours this Autumn please contact us on **01332 955599** or email the office at

 info@highfieldsspencer.co.uk





School Dinners

Spencer Academies Trust Catering Team prepare and serve our delicious meals straight from our new kitchen here at Highfields.

Our chicken is halal and we cater for vegetarian and meat options in our menu choices each day.

Highfields is a nut free school.

We have just started our work towards our Bronze Food for Life Award, which marks our work in food education, and food standards.

Pupils will learn about where food comes from, how it is grown, local farm and organic produce and we will be growing our own vegetables in our gardening club too!

School Uniform

Our uniform suppliers are Uniform Direct on Babington Lane in Derby. Please remember, you can have plain uniform in the correct colours not just ones with logos, this is to keep our uniform affordable to all families. You might wish to have a mix so that you have a few changes of clothes ready.

In Nursery we have a simple uniform that matches our main school uniform and helps us to be active in our play every day!

Pupils wear navy school jumper or cardigan (with or without logo), white polo shirt and navy jogging bottoms or leggings.

We ask that pupils wear black or white plain trainers (no branded logos please) or black school shoes.

Our Nursery PE kit is white t-shirt and navy shorts.

Children in Nursery and Reception will also need a waterproof coat, mudsuit and wellingtons as we do go out in all weathers!

Uniform Direct

54 Babington Lane, Derby, DE1 1SX

01332 342569

www.uniform-direct.com/acatalog/Highfields-Spencer-Academy-School-Uniform.html





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a: Highfield Estate, Tutbury Avenue, Littleover, DE23 3UX

e: info@highfieldsspencer.co.uk

w: highfieldsspencer.co.uk

t: 01332 955599

 [@HighfieldsSpencer1](https://twitter.com/HighfieldsSpencer1)

 **SPENCER**
ACADEMIES TRUST

Highfields Spencer Academy is part of the Spencer Academies Trust