



HAMSEY

COMMUNITY PRIMARY SCHOOL



A kind, creative community where learning is an adventure.







“Hamsey is a great school, with wonderful, engaged teachers who really care about each of the children.”

Parent



Welcome

Welcome to Hamsey Community Primary School. I am Angela Green, Head of School, and I am honoured to lead this thriving village school in Cooksbridge, set against the beauty of the South Downs. Our small size is one of our greatest strengths: children here are truly known, valued and supported to flourish.



Our vision is simple but powerful: we are a kind, creative community where learning is an adventure. Kindness shapes everything we do, and our broad, ambitious curriculum opens space for curiosity and imagination, building confidence through challenge, discovery and success.

I am proud to lead our staff team and work closely with governors, families and community partners, united in one commitment: enabling every child to flourish academically, personally and socially.



We would love to welcome you to Hamsey, and show you what makes our school such a special place to learn and grow.

Angela Green
Head of School

“I love the creativity at Hamsey. I like learning English, especially poetry”

Year 5 Pupil

Curriculum

Creative and ambitious, and rooted in the landscape and heritage of East Sussex.

We are proud of our unique Skylark curriculum: creative and ambitious, and rooted in the landscape and heritage of East Sussex. Children take a genuinely project-based approach, making meaningful connections across history, geography, science, art and English, rather than learning subjects in isolation.

Subject-specific skills are taught explicitly, in a planned and age-appropriate way, building progressively from Reception through to Year 6. Children are taught to see analysis as the key to real understanding, and oracy is central to how they learn to express what they think with clarity and confidence. We put children at the centre of their own learning, nurturing resourcefulness, resilience and co-operation alongside academic skill.

Our teachers know how to bring a subject to life, weaving individual disciplines into ambitious, whole-school projects that connect classroom learning to the wider world.

Every child spends a term each year at Forest School, developing teamwork, problem-solving and independence through hands-on outdoor learning. Regular educational visits connect the Skylark curriculum to the real world, taking classroom learning out into the wider region.





“Hamsey school is a fantastic environment for my children. They have both absolutely thrived here. We are very happy!”

Parent





Our *Learning* Journey

The curriculum is divided into three stages:

Early Years Foundation Stage (ages 4-5), Key Stage 1 (ages 5-7) and Key Stage 2 (ages 7-11).

Early Years Foundation Stage (EYFS)

In Early Years, children learn through the seven areas of the Government's Early Learning Goals: Personal, Social and Emotional Development, Communication and Language, Physical Development, Literacy, Mathematics, Understanding the World, and Expressive Arts and Design. Children are also taught Religious Education and enjoy Forest School, and we use Tapestry software to share your child's learning journey with you.

Key Stages 1-2

Children build on their Early Years learning with a broad curriculum, including Mathematics, English, Oracy, Science, Computing, History, Geography, Art, Music, Drama, Religious Education, Physical Education, French, Design Technology, PSHE (Personal, Social, Health and Economic Education) and Forest School.



Enriched Curriculum

Trips, Events and Celebrations

Educational Visits

We make the most of our local area, with regular visits that complement learning in school. Children have recently visited Drusillas Park, Battle Abbey and Cuckmere Haven, bringing our curriculum to life beyond the classroom.

Residential Trips

Each year, our Year 6 children enjoy a residential trip to Bowles Activity Centre, building confidence, teamwork and independence.

Events and Celebrations

Throughout the year, we hold specialist STEM days and arrange visits to a local school's science laboratories. We enjoy performances for Harvest, Christmas and in the summer term, and celebrate national events including Black History Month, World Book Day, National Poetry Day, Inspiring Futures Careers Week and Autism Acceptance Week. Our Friday Celebration Assemblies are a particular highlight, recognising children's creativity, kindness and learning achievements, individually and as a whole school.

Workshops and Visitors

We regularly invite specialists into school to run workshops, from photographers and artists to scientists and historians.



Forest School and Sport

Forest School

We have a wonderful Forest School and garden area, with a full programme designed by our Forest School staff. Every year group enjoys at least a six-week block of sessions each year, learning practical outdoor skills and building a real connection with nature.

Sport

We believe physical development is key to success across the whole curriculum, and offer excellent PE provision. Children take part in a range of sports within class PE lessons, as well as inter-federation events and competitions throughout the year. We believe physical activity is essential for wellbeing, and encourage every child to be active and enjoy sport, whatever their ability.



“I love Forest School. Cooking outside at Forest School is amazing! We cook marshmallows and popcorn and sometimes we even enjoy hot chocolate at the fire circle!”

Year 4 Pupil



Clubs and Pupil Voice

Clubs

We offer a Breakfast Club from 7.45am, Monday to Friday, and an After-School Club until 5.30pm, Monday to Thursday, providing flexible wraparound care for families.

Throughout the year, we also run a range of specialist clubs, which can include French, Dodgeball, Choir, Dance, Art and Skateboarding.



Pupil Voice

We believe children should have a say in their school. Our Student Councillors and Eco Councillors are elected from every class, meeting regularly to discuss ideas and share their recommendations. Children also take on roles as librarians, Year 6 buddies, digital leaders and prefects, with our Year 6 pupils working towards becoming Super Skylarks in their final year at Hamsey.



"When you join Hamsey school you get to learn a bunch of wonderful things. Hamsey teaches us to be kind and respectful to other people."

Year 6 pupil



Inclusion

Special Educational Needs and Disabilities (SEND)

We believe every child needs to feel safe, happy and valued in order to learn, progress and flourish, and we recognise that children develop at different rates, physically, emotionally, intellectually and socially. Staff adapt tasks and teaching accordingly, and our experienced SENCo works closely with teachers, parents and outside agencies to ensure every child gets the right support, through regular pupil progress meetings and personalised interventions where needed.

We work in close partnership with families, involving them and their children fully in decisions about learning and progress, and have arrangements in place to support pupils with medical conditions. Children with SEND are encouraged and supported to take a full part in school life and the wider community.

Gifted and Talented

We are alert to the particular strengths of every child, and committed to challenging those who excel in a subject or skill. We provide extension work and opportunities beyond the classroom, including links with other schools, to ensure these children are stretched and inspired.

School Uniform

All pupils wear school uniform. We believe this promotes a sense of belonging and community, and helps children feel proud of their school. Full details of our uniform requirements are available on our website.



Admissions

East Sussex County Council is our admissions authority, and all applications should be submitted online. Our Published Admission Number (PAN) is 15.

We would love to show prospective families around Hamsey, please get in touch with the school office to arrange a visit.

Full details on how to apply, including forms and key dates, can be found on the East Sussex County Council website, or by contacting us directly.

Governors

Our active Governing Body plays a vital role in the strategic direction of the school. Governors meet regularly to monitor every aspect of school life, from academic aspiration to everyday practicalities, supporting and challenging the school to ensure continual improvement and that every child is encouraged to reach their full potential.

Executive Head Teacher

Welcome from the Interim Executive Headteacher



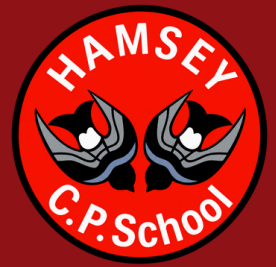
I hope you have enjoyed learning more about our school and the opportunities we provide for our children. My name is Matt Dean, and I am proud to be serving as Interim Executive Headteacher of the Skylark Federation, which brings together Barcombe CE, Hamsey CP, Iford and Kingston CE, and Plumpton Primary School.

As a federation, we are committed to ensuring that every child thrives within a nurturing, inclusive and ambitious learning community. Each of our schools has its own unique character and sits at the heart of its village community, and we work hard to celebrate and preserve these distinctive identities.

At the same time, being part of the Skylark Federation enables us to share expertise, resources and opportunities across our schools. This allows children and staff to benefit from the strengths of a larger organisation whilst retaining the warmth, personal relationships and close-knit community spirit that make small schools so special.

I am incredibly proud of our children, staff, governors and wider communities, and of the rich educational experiences we provide. Together, we are committed to helping every child flourish, develop a lifelong love of learning and achieve their full potential.

Having been part of the federation for a number of years, I have developed strong relationships across our schools and a real appreciation for what makes each community unique. I have seen first-hand the dedication of our staff, the enthusiasm of our children and the support of our families. I am honoured to lead the federation and look forward to building on the many strengths that already exist across all four schools, ensuring that every child continues to thrive and succeed.



HAMSEY

COMMUNITY PRIMARY SCHOOL

Hamsey Community Primary School

Cooksbridge

Lewes

East Sussex

BN8 4SJ

Telephone: 01273 400 370

Email: hamseyoffice@skylarkfed.education

Website: www.hamsey.e-sussex.sch.uk

