

Welcome

Children have only one opportunity to receive a quality education and it is the job of everyone at Mossley Primary School to ensure that it is the best it can possibly be. We have an ambitious vision to serve through the ethos we create, the environment we maintain and the standards we expect. We aim to equip our children with the skills to succeed in an ever-changing world, the understanding that will enable them to seize the opportunities that are given to them and the generosity to think not only of themselves but others.

Our school is underpinned by Christian values and we express these in the life of school, while remaining open to all children, recognising that diversity in the school community enhances the educational experiences of all our children.

We believe that character counts and we aim to model and encourage our children to develop respect, responsibility, trustworthiness, grace, fairness, care and citizenship.

As Principal of this vibrant school, I am delighted to welcome you and hope we will have the privilege of sharing part of your child's journey with you.

S.W.J. Mulligan

Principal



More Than a Building

Mossley Primary School is at the heart of our local community and we are extremely proud of our positive reputation, close family connections and rich heritage. The original school was opened in 1868 to facilitate the children of workers in Mossley Linen Mill, and the present building, opened in June 2007, is sited on one of the original flax fields!

Our children are taught in modern, bright, colourful and positive learning environments, that inspire and enthuse them on a daily basis. They have access to the latest technology with iPads and touch screen TV's Interactive Whiteboards, and many additional facilities beyond the classroom, including a Sensory Room, ICT Suite, Library, Music Room and fantastic PE Hall.

Outside, in our extensive grounds, we have an astroturf pitch, a range of playground equipment and climbing frames, large play areas, History Path, orchard and wildlife pond, Jubilee Sensory Garden and Woodland Trail, as well as tubs and raised beds for ECO Schools activities. In 2018, to celebrate our 150th anniversary, we planted 150 acer trees in our grounds.

Above all, however, are the team of people who make Mossley Primary the warm, welcoming, caring school that it is. We have extremely supportive parents, and a dedicated team of teaching and support staff who go the extra mile for our children. Together we aim to **shape the future** for everyone in our school.

Shape the future



School Values

It is our compelling drive to do our utmost for our children. We continuously seek to raise the bar and narrow the gap between the potential and attainment of our children. In so doing we demonstrate that every child counts, that everyone has a part to play in our community and everyone plays their part.

We believe that our school should play a key role in a children's social, emotional, moral, and spiritual development, just as it does in their academic and physical development.

Our Christian ethos is based on the belief that we all have created potential and are '**fearfully and wonderfully made**'. This intrinsic worth in each of us gives importance to everything we do and encourages **attention to detail** in every aspect of school life.

We want our children to develop their character as well as their gifts and abilities. Consequently, we aim to **be intentional** in seeking to nurture a range of characteristics, values and attitudes in our children and school community. Our hope is that school is characterised by **grace**, where we can all have opportunity to learn from our mistakes, and **truth**, where we can be challenged and have boundaries set.

We seek to **encourage one another**, to catch our children doing well and, to instil in them the belief that they have a hope and a future.

As our children realise that they are already important and of value, we nurture the values and attitudes of honesty, being respectful to each other, showing consideration, taking responsibility, developing a sense of citizenship and social responsibility too enrich our school, our families and our communities

Encourage one another



Curriculum

Play Based Learning forms much of the “work” in P1 and the children will be given a variety of learning experiences both during play and in planned activities across the curriculum. Readiness for reading, for writing and for number work lie at the heart of these experiences and our children will engage in activities that will develop positive attitudes and early success.

As children move through school they extend their skills and knowledge across all the learning areas and increasingly are challenged to make connections between their learning. STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering and Maths) is an important context for both independent and collaborative learning. We believe that our children are the citizens of today as well as of tomorrow and should **rise to the challenge**, increasingly taking responsibility for their own learning.

Staff also rise to the challenge and are involved in continual professional development, with many gaining additional qualifications, in, for example, First Aid, Specialisms in Special Educational Needs, Science, Leadership, Outdoor Learning, etc. This enthusiasm for their craft, in turn, enhances and enriches the experiences of our children.

Rise to the challenge



Enriched Curriculum

We like to stay at the forefront of developments in learning and teaching and involve our school in exciting and enriching activities, which motivate our pupils and go beyond the statutory curriculum.

Over the years we have introduced Every Child a Reader, STEM Challenges, Shared Education, ECO Schools, Forest Schools, Welly Wednesdays, a School Council, Science Enquiry lessons, Sport Activity Day, Feel Good Friday, P1/7 Buddies and each of these enrich the experiences of all our children.

Each year we also produce nativities, concerts or musicals some of which have included, The Wizard of Oz, Beauty and the Beast and Mary Poppins Jr. These colourful extravaganzas live long in our memory for all involved.

All our Inspection Reports, in the last ten years, have found the quality of education provided in our school to be Outstanding. This is because **everyone has a part to play** and everyone plays their part.

Everyone has a part to play



Extra-Curricular Activities

We are very fortunate to have a highly dedicated and professional staff. This is evidenced in so many enriching activities that go beyond the classroom such as extra-curricular activities, residential educational visits etc. Our extensive range of extra-curricular activities takes place each afternoon of the week and all our pupils are encouraged to **embrace opportunity** to take part in Sport, Music, Drama, Dance, ICT, Art, Scripture Union and Cycling. Listed below are the Extra-Curricular Activities currently taking place in our school.

- Breakfast Club (8.00-8.55am)
- P4 Art
- P4 Dance
- P4 Girls' hockey
- P5 Drama
- P5 Football
- P5 Girls' Hockey
- P5 Art
- P5 Boys' Hockey
- P5 Dance
- P5-7 Scripture Union
- Max Coding
- AMJR Soccer Coaching
- Club M (2.00-4.45pm)
- P6 Girls' hockey
- P6 Boys' Hockey
- P6 Football
- P6 ECO Schools
- P6 Rugby
- P6 Netball
- P7 Girls' Hockey
- P7 Boys' Hockey
- P7 Rugby
- P7 Football
- P6/7 Choir
- P7 ECO Schools
- P7 Art

Embrace opportunity



Teaching and Learning

We take pride in building excellent relationships and developing strong and meaningful partnerships, between school and home, and our local community. Parents are involved in their children's learning in so many different ways including supervision of homework, involvement in our vibrant PTA, visiting our classrooms to share their passions or experience and accompanying our children on school trips. Communication is key with a weekly Parents' News, regular up-dates via Seesaw, our Facebook Newsfeed, Parent Interviews and an Annual Report.

Knowing and caring for our children are important to us, and we are dedicated to supporting them through their formative years and in overcoming any barriers to learning. We want our pupils to have a love for learning, a desire to do their best and a respect and compassion for others.

We like to stay at the forefront of developments in learning and teaching and we involve our school in exciting new initiatives which motivate our pupils. Our school achieved the prestigious PSQM Quality Mark for Science and our 4th Green Flag for ECO Schools. We are also recently received our Silver Sustrans Award, promoting alternative ways of getting to and from school. A recent and important initiative has been our connection with St Bernard's Primary School through the Shared Education Programme.

Inside and outside, **let's work together**, in exciting and creative ways to help our children learn.

Let's work together



Home Learning

Helping your child at home with their learning is very important. A positive, supportive attitude to school and learning is at the heart of your child's engagement with, and progress in school. We provide opportunities that extend and enrich the learning that takes place in school and this in turn provides opportunity for parents and carers to become more closely involved with their child's education. In addition, our Seesaw App has proved to be a valuable tool, enabling work to be done online and enhancing communication between school and home. We value the conversations you have with your child, the workspace provided for their learning and the practical help given with reading, learning and written home-works.

The ability to read fluently unlocks learning across all areas of the curriculum, so from very early days in P1 reading books will be sent home with the children. We encourage parents and carers to read every day with their child, and to model reading for pleasure themselves. Older pupils will be reading increasingly independently on a daily basis to improve their fluency, knowledge and understanding, as well as developing a love for reading which is intrinsic to a successful education.

As children progress through school, as well as consolidation, we challenge them to **be the best you can be**, setting more project-based, open-ended learning tasks which allow children to study a topic in depth, let their creative juices flow and give them a chance to go the extra mile.

Be the best you can be



Healthy School

Our aim is for all children to feel safe, happy and healthy. We seek to inform and encourage all children to adopt a healthy lifestyle by promoting healthy eating, regular exercise and physical and mental well-being. We want every child to thrive and our staff team is dedicated to helping each child understand the role of healthy eating in achieving good health. This is encouraged through our Healthy Eating Policy and enhanced by the importance placed on drinking water and milk throughout the day.

We recognise and value the importance of physical activity and our children have extensive opportunities to be physically active. Please see below the wealth of Physical Activities that take place throughout our school on a regular basis.

| | | |
|------------------|-----------------------------|-------------------------------------|
| Welly Wednesdays | PE lessons | Sustrans Active Travel Program |
| Forest Schools | Extra-Curricular Activities | Whatever Weather Walkers initiative |
| Outdoor Play | Sports Activity Day | Active Break and Lunch times |
| Climbing Frames | Swimming lessons | Walking/Cycling to and from school |
| Sports Day | P6 & P7 Residential | |

Mental health and well-being is a normal part of school life. It is not extra-curricular. We believe good mental health is fundamental in enabling our children to thrive. Our whole school PDMU lessons, PATHS lessons, circle times, worry boxes, assemblies, Playground Buddies, P7 Buddies and Anti-Bullying Week all focus on supporting our pupils to develop the qualities, skills and attributes they need to thrive as individuals, family members and members of society, now and in the future. All of our staff focus on promoting well-being, modelling positive relationships and supporting our pupils to take care of themselves and others. It is so important that everyone helps **make it count** for our children so they grow up healthy and well.

Make it count!



School Uniform

Wearing a smart uniform fosters a sense of pride and belonging in our pupils. It shows them that they are part of something greater than just themselves, something they want to be linked to and associated with, and something that is at the heart of our school community.

The main element of our uniform is a navy sweatshirt, emblazoned with our school crest. This depicts our heritage as a mill school, with Mossley Mill and the flax plant taking pride of place, alongside an open book indicative of the opportunities which can lie before us.

Our children also wear a sky-blue polo shirt, grey trousers or skirt and proper school shoes.

All our children **look the part**, look smart and make a positive contribution to our school and wider community. This is something we encourage and promote.

Look the part



Admissions

Our ethos is to promote a community school and over the years it has been a joy to welcome new families from the area, children of former pupils and staff to **join us** as part of Mossley Primary School. Governors are agreed that now, more than ever, community is so much greater than geography and so we continue to reflect these connections in our admissions criteria. All children are admitted in accordance with this Admission Policy. (Full details are available on our website).

1. Children who will have an older brother /sister* enrolled at Mossley Primary School at the close of application.
2. Children whose parent is a permanent employee at Mossley Primary School at the close of application.
3. Children whose older brother / sister previously* attended Mossley Primary School.
4. Children whose parent attended Mossley Primary School. (Parents should include their full names at the times of attendance and the dates they were a pupil at the school.)
5. Children who live nearest to the school as decided by a straight line digital measurement using the post code address of their normal residence to the postcode address of Mossley Primary School. Mossley PS will use the Northern Ireland portal for Geographical Information (GI) decision making tool, Spatial NI, to determine distances.
6. Date of birth with preference being given to the eldest child, determined by date-of-birth as entered on a birth certificate.

* Where older brother / sister is stated it is taken to include half brother / half sister, step brother / step sister and foster brother / foster sister

Join us



Contact Us

We work hard creating and maintain a close partnership between home and school. These highly valued connections are fostered in numerous ways throughout the school year. Being able to **keep in touch** in a busy world is incredibly important for our children, our parents and our school.



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Keep in touch

If you want to know more about our school, then contact us or find out information by visiting our website or Facebook page.



www.mossleyps.co.uk



.... The quality of education and the quality of pastoral care provided by this school are outstanding (2014) Mossley PS continues to demonstrate a high level of capacity for sustained improvement in the interests of all the learners. (2018)