



Fair Field Junior School

Welcome to Fair Field Junior School. We are a two form entry school and part of the Poppy Academy Trust, alongside our link Infant school St John's Infant and Nursery School. Most of the children join our school in Year 3 from St John's however, we always have some children new to our school community too.

We are very proud of our school and hope you enjoy your visit today.



We have lots of different opportunities to contribute to school at Fair Field. This may be the Nature Nurturer Crew, the School Council, Choir, Energy Crew, Girls' or Boys' football teams, the Y5 Band and so forth.

Our Year 6 School councillors had the following to say about our school:

Jack *"It's very academic and I definitely enjoy my lessons. I like Maths because the lessons are in-depth. Mrs Kilbane lets us go over more examples the next day if we need any support."*

Aaron *"I've been here since Reception and both schools have fun activities: I like going outside for Science lessons. The teachers check on me every day and we have a Monday check in which I like."*

Harry *"English is really fun because we read good books and the learning is really good. My favourite book is The Murder in the Tristate – it was a mystery book and I couldn't wait to hear what happened next."*

"The food is really good and we all look forward to our lunch." Aaron

Jess *"We have different crews that do doing different things in the school. The Nature Nurtures get to plant and look after our school environment. I also really enjoy going swimming and the gymnastics club after school."*

"We learn about a diverse range of topics and the classroom looks very different all the time. We have a wide range of fun, after school clubs. I love it here. The behaviour is very good and it means we can focus on our learning. I also liked all the support with secondary school decisions and 11+." Jack



Frequently Asked Questions:

Admissions

How many children are in each class?

There are spaces for 30 children in each class in the school. We are 2 form entry so there are 60 children in each year.

Does the sibling rule apply with St John's?

Yes, there is a linked sibling rule with St John's and Fair Field.

How do parents manage the two school runs if they have 2 children across both schools?

There is a soft start in the morning at both schools, so ample time to walk from one to the other. We also have a turning circle enabling parents to 'drop and go'. In the afternoons the schools finish at staggered times, allowing time for parents and carers to walk between the two.

If my child is at St John's, do I have to reapply for Fair Field?

Yes you do however, being a pupil at St John's is part of the admissions criteria at Fair Field.

Transition

What are the benefits of sending my child to an infant/junior school?

St John's and Fair Field are schools that represent our local community. Our children have a very well managed transition from St John's to Fair Field, which in turn prepares them for secondary school transition. We have staff that work across both schools, including our Executive Headteacher and our Inclusion Leader, which provides stability and consistency for our children.



How do you manage the transition?

Children attend lessons at Fair Field in the Summer Term of Y2 and their new teachers visit them at St John's. We have a 'Meet the Teacher' day in July.

The children stay in the same classes when they come to Fair Field so they are with their peers at St John's.

Curriculum

Are the children in sets for Maths and English?

The children sit in ability groups for Maths and English throughout the school. In Year 5/6 we set the children in Maths so that the children are challenged at an appropriate level for them.

Do you teach Modern Foreign Languages?

All the children in Year 3 to Year 6 learn French.



How do you teach at Fair Field?

Our curriculum is engaging and exciting for the children. It is sequential and builds year on year on skills and knowledge. All our English curriculum is based around high quality texts so the children develop a love for reading. Our Maths curriculum builds on skills the children have been introduced to in EYFS and KS1.

The learning at Fair Field is vibrant and lively. We want to make the knowledge stick for the children. Therefore, we typically take the children on school trips and have lots of visitors in school, to help the learning become memorable and interesting. Even during the recent lockdowns, we had a virtual school visit to the Zoo with live lessons from the various animal enclosures at Whipsnade!

Communication

How do you update parents and carers on their child's progress?

We have a 'Meet the Teacher' meeting in the summer term for all new to Year 3 parents and carers. We also have a 'Meet the Teacher' meeting for Y4, Y5 and Y6 parents and carers in the Autumn Term.

We have an open door policy throughout the year so if you have any questions or concerns, you can always make an appointment with your child's teacher. In addition, there are usually members of the Leadership Team available in the playground/turning circle before and after school who may be able to help you.

There are 2 parent consultation meetings in the school year – one in the Autumn Term and one in the Spring Term. These meetings are for academic updates and pastoral discussions about your child. Your child's next steps will be discussed and given in writing too.

We also send 1 formal school report in the Summer Term; this is a formal record of your child's year and their next steps for the following academic year.

In addition, we also have a weekly newsletter which is very informative about life in the school, the school website is regularly updated, and Twitter, Facebook and Instagram are all regularly updated too.

Mental Health and Wellbeing

How do you look after pupil's mental health and wellbeing?

We recognise that mental health and wellbeing is equally as important as our physical health. We help children to understand their emotions and feelings better by directly teaching the children about them; we use the Jigsaw scheme of work to facilitate these conversations.

Our school offers support through targeted approaches for individual pupils or groups of pupils which may include circle time, 'worry boxes', daily check-in boards, workshops with external agencies and much more.

We have a therapist who works with individual pupils for blocks of 6-12 sessions. We also work in conjunction with:

- *The School Nurse,*
- *Speech & Language Team,*
- *Educational Psychologist,*
- *Paediatricians at the Peace Centre,*
- *Mental Health Team for Hertfordshire,*
- *Children's Services,*
- *Family Support Worker*



British Values

What is your approach to diversity and inclusion?

Our school has a strong moral code which permeates our day to day school life. This is laid out clearly in our Behaviour Policy which is available on the school website.

We have an eight-step success code:

- 1. Have the power to make great choices.*
- 2. Understand hard work brings success. (and make rapid progress)*
- 3. Behave with positivity and have good energy.*
- 4. Show kindness and empathy.*
- 5. Understand our strengths and talents.*
- 6. Play your part in the school community. (be honest, helpful, caring and put others first)*
- 7. Be socially confident (talk with manners and enthusiasm)*
- 8. Feel good about ourselves*

We celebrate children's uniqueness and what makes them special.

We challenge any derogatory language or behaviour; accidental or direct. Our children have the right to feel safe in school and we are very passionate about this.

Wrap Around Care

Do you have provision to support working families?

We have breakfast club every morning from 7:45am until school starts. We contact Mrs Stanley in the school office to book your place. admin@fairfield.herts.sch.uk

Cherished Kids run after school provision 3:10 – 6:00. Please contact them directly to book your spaces. cherishedkids3@gmail.com