



# Stonelow Junior School

## Prospectus 2013-2014

*Learning and achieving together*





Welcome to

# Stonelaw Junior School

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# Dear Parents, Carers and Children

## **Thank you for your interest in Stonelow Junior School.**

This is a happy, friendly school, where all children are valued and encouraged to achieve their best, whatever their individual needs. We help children to become confident learners through a range of exciting opportunities both in the curriculum and after school.

We have a talented and committed team of staff and governors who work successfully together. We are very fortunate to have extensive facilities inside the building and a wealth of outdoor spaces for both recreation and learning.

March 2010 saw our most recent Ofsted inspection where the main judgement was, 'Stonelow Junior is an outstanding school'. They noted that, 'attainment was significantly above the national average' and 'care for the well-being of staff, pupils and their families is high among the school's priorities.'

This prospectus will give you a glimpse of what our school has to offer and we hope you find it useful. If you would like to visit the school and see the enthusiasm of the children for yourself, or if you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact us.

Yours sincerely,

*A J Perkins*

Mrs Alison Perkins - Headteacher



# Our School Aims

- To give pupils the confidence to try new things and persevere
- To promote learning independently and as a shared, collaborative activity
- To challenge and support children to achieve to the best of their ability
- To make learning an active, enjoyable and creative process
- To encourage initiative, problem solving and awareness of the world of work
- To be responsible members of the community
- To respect themselves, others and the environment

## Our Mission

To provide a creative, happy, caring and stimulating environment where all children are valued and equipped with the skills and opportunities they need to become confident individuals, successful learners and responsible citizens.



# General Information

## Facilities

Stonelow School was built in 1967. It is a modern building, pleasantly situated in its own grounds, which include a landscaped area at the front, a large flat playground with fixed basketball posts and markings for basketball, netball and games; a sizable school playing field and a collection of native British trees.

There is a tyre park, trim trail, willow tunnel and outdoor stage for children to play on. A range of habitats have been developed including a vegetable garden with raised beds, soft fruit beds, a butterfly garden, pond and meadow.

The recently refurbished building contains an administration area with offices, a large multi purpose hall, eight classrooms, a small kitchen for use by children and the school meals kitchen.

At present, five rooms are used for class teaching and all have a shared art area, toilets and water fountains outside. Classrooms are fully carpeted and equipped with interactive whiteboards and projectors.

Other rooms include: a large library/drama studio, an air conditioned computer suite and a room for small groups to work in. We have a small 'Sparkle Room' where positive play can be provided for pupils who require additional nurturing support.



## Admissions

The Local Authority acts as a 'clearing house' for all admissions and enables parents to express a preference for 1, 2 or 3 schools and to place those preferences in rank order. Parents must make their application on a common application form or online, to be returned direct to the LA, and give reasons for their preferred schools.

Common application forms will be available from Derbyshire Primary, Infant Schools and Call Derbyshire from the beginning of November each year. They should be returned by the closing date for applications, which is early in January. In May, eligible parents will be offered one place only in a Derbyshire School.

Derbyshire residents who wish to apply for a school within the area of another Local Authority should do so direct to that authority and not to Derbyshire.

Further information about the co-ordinated admissions scheme is available in, 'How to apply for a place at Primary School - a guide for parents 2013/14' which is published in November each year and will also be available at:  
[www.derbyshire.gov.uk/admissions](http://www.derbyshire.gov.uk/admissions)

## Admissions of pupils with disabilities

It is the policy of Derbyshire and the School, wherever possible, to meet children's needs in mainstream schools. It is unlawful for schools to discriminate against disabled pupils and prospective pupils in the provision of education and associated activities in schools, and in respect of admissions and exclusions.

From September 2003, both schools and the LA have been required to plan improvements to access for disabled people, but Stonelow was built on 3 levels. The School's Accessibility Plan/Disability Equality Scheme is available for inspection in the School office.



## School Uniform

The School's recommended "code of dress" is listed below. The uniform helps children to develop a sense of belonging to the School and to identify with our values and expectations.

### Girls may wear:

Grey/black skirts, pinafore dresses or trousers

Royal blue cardigan, sweatshirt or fleece

Royal blue or white polo shirt or blouse

Black sensible shoes

In the summer:

Grey/black shorts

Blue and white check dress

### Boys may wear:

Grey/black trousers

Royal blue cardigan, sweatshirt or fleece

Royal blue or white polo shirt or shirt

Black sensible shoes

In the summer:

Grey/black shorts

Sweatshirts, fleeces, reversible coats, polo shirts and white T shirts for PE bearing the School logo can be ordered from the School office. (Jeans should not be worn.)

## PE Kit

Children need PE kit for both indoor and outdoor physical activities. Indoors they should wear plimsolls/trainers, a white top and black shorts. For outdoor PE, children need trainers, a warm top and may bring black/grey jogging bottoms or similar.

All clothing should be marked with the child's name.

## Jewellery/Hair

In addition to their uniform, children may wear watches and plain stud ear rings, but other items of jewellery should not be worn. All jewellery must be removed for PE and swimming. Long hair should be tied back with black/blue ties. Extreme hair styles should not be worn in school.



# Being Healthy

## Sports

It is the aim of the School to provide children with opportunities to take part in a variety of sporting activities, including: basketball, athletics, swimming, rounders, netball and football. The school receives coaching visits from nearby sports clubs.

The School takes part in local tournaments such as football, tag rugby, tennis, dance festivals and multi-skills activities.

Other sports may be offered as extra-curricular activities at various times of the year including cricket, gymnastics, basketball, table tennis, street dance and tai chi.

## Swimming

Swimming instruction is provided for children throughout the year at Dronfield Sports Centre. Our swimming programme includes the development of swimming competence and aspects of personal water safety as well as working towards the end of KS2 requirement to be able to swim 25m.





## Healthy Eating

The School has a 'Food Policy' to ensure that:

- All aspects of food and nutrition in school promote the health and well being of pupils.
- The school plays its part in the larger community by helping to promote family health and sustainable food and farming practices.
- The School actively supports healthy eating throughout the school day.

## School Meals

Healthy meals which meet government standards are prepared on the premises and eaten in the hall. Children are encouraged to eat healthy meals and special diets can be catered for.

Children who bring a packed lunch also eat in the hall. Again, healthy meals are encouraged so fizzy drinks and sweets are not allowed.

Parents may be entitled to assistance with the provision of school meals. Details of entitlement and application forms may be obtained, in confidence, from the school office. It is the responsibility of parents to make the application and ensure authorisation.

## Family Dining

We operate a system of family dining. Two year groups eat together where children serve themselves and each other at the table. Themed meals are also provided through the year.

## Mid Morning Snacks

Children are encouraged to bring a snack of fresh or dried fruit or raw vegetables to eat at morning break. Water is always available to drink from drinking fountains outside every classroom.



# Staying Safe

## Conduct and Behaviour

In actively promoting good behaviour, we aim to foster a caring atmosphere within a trusting School community, where children feel happy and secure, and where their confidence and respect for others can develop. We encourage a sense of responsibility and self-discipline through belonging to, and being part of, our School community.

In general, the school will be supporting the values upheld by parents at home. However, it is recognised that children are still learning the social skills necessary to be able to live, work and play together in a wider community.

Clear guidance is given to the children on what is acceptable and unacceptable behaviour in social situations. We actively promote good behaviour through encouragement, praise and rewards. Unacceptable behaviour is dealt with firmly, fairly and consistently.

We believe it is important that children are aware of the need for sensible behaviour outside of school. This is especially true of their behaviour on the way to and from school. The school values the support of parents in this matter to ensure the safety and welfare of all children at this potentially vulnerable time.

## Anti Bullying Work

Bullying is not tolerated in our school. We work hard to ensure pupils understand what bullying is and how it can be prevented. Staff are trained in how to recognise signs of bullying and to deal with it. Bullying is discussed in assemblies, PSHE lessons and through drama. Any issue of bullying or racism is dealt with as an urgent matter of particular concern and our policy is regularly updated and sent home to parents.

**'Most pupils behave extremely well and show high levels of enjoyment in their work. Pupils know what is expected of them and respond consistently well in lessons.'** Ofsted 2010

## Attendance/Punctuality

Parents/Carers should contact School giving reasons for absence as soon as possible on the first day of absence, otherwise School will text or ring home.

Please ensure that your child always arrives on time so that they do not miss the initial input of the day.

Please note: Schools are unable to authorise term time holidays except in exceptional circumstances. Failure to obtain permission at least 2 weeks ahead may result in unauthorised absences and parents may be fined.

## Illness and Accident

If a child becomes ill at school or has an accident, she/he will receive immediate attention from a member of staff. All staff have received first aid training.

Occasionally, it may be necessary to contact parents to arrange for their child to be collected from school. Please ensure that contact information is kept up to date at all times.

## Medicines in School

The Policy for Administration of Medicines is available from the School office. It is based on LA guidance which states that:

*Medicines should only be taken to school when essential; that is, where it would be detrimental to a child's health if the medicine were not administered during the school day. Medicines must always be accompanied by a parental consent form 2.*

## Child Protection

The school has a designated Child Protection Coordinator (the Headteacher) and a clear policy for dealing with incidents of this nature. Staff are required to take any reasonable action to ensure the safety and protection of pupils.

In cases where the school has reason to be concerned that a child may be subject to ill treatment, neglect or other forms of abuse, the Headteacher is obliged to follow the Child Protection procedures established by the Derbyshire Area Child Protection Committee and must inform Social Care of the concern.

It is important to note that we are agents of referral, not investigation. The matter is then dealt with by Social Care who will contact the parent(s). The School may not contact parents on these matters.





# Enjoying and Achieving

## Infant Transfer to Stonelow

To enable a smooth transition from Infant School to Stonelow there are arrangements which include: close liaison between School staff; visits made by our class teachers to the infant school; an invitation to parents of Y2 children to visit Stonelow; an invitation for Y2 children to attend our School concerts; an induction day for transferring Y2 children.

## Secondary Transfer from Stonelow

In Summer 2013, all 30 pupils transferred to The Dronfield Henry Fanshawe School. To enable a smooth transition from Stonelow to Dronfield Henry Fanshawe School, there are close liaison arrangements involving staff visits, meetings for parents and pupils and an induction day. A meeting for the parents of Y6 children with the Head and other members of staff from Dronfield Henry Fanshawe School is arranged in the Y6 Autumn term.

## Teaching and Learning

We provide a wealth of opportunities for our children to cooperate in groups and to become independent and confident learners in order to support their developing life skills and future learning. Pupils are encouraged to reflect on their own learning and identify how they can improve further.

We have developed an exciting curriculum, based on statutory requirements, which allows us to make effective links between subjects and enhances opportunities for personalised learning. We encourage children to develop skills by focussing on their interests, discussing what they would like to learn about and planning a broad and balanced curriculum to meet their needs.

English is taught daily, focussing on reading, writing and speaking and listening. These skills underpin all aspects of learning. Daily mathematics lessons aim to develop children's mental understanding, as well as their ability to solve problems using a range of strategies. All other subjects identified by the National Curriculum, including modern foreign languages, have a regular place in the timetable. Educational visits are planned to support and enhance children's learning experiences.



## Religious Education

R.E. is taught in accordance with the L.A. Agreed Syllabus through 6 themes; Belonging; Worship; Questions/Answers; Belief & Behaviour; Living Faiths and Ways of Seeing the World. Parents have the right to withdraw their child(ren) from RE, and alternative arrangements are made for this.

## Collective Acts of Worship

Daily assemblies for acts of collective worship are mainly of a Christian nature. Local clergy and members of the local community visit to speak in assemblies throughout the year. Each class will invite parents to join them for an assembly once during the year.

Parents have the right to withdraw their child(ren) from Collective Worship and alternative arrangements are made for this.

## Relationships and Sex Education

This covers factual information appropriate to the age and maturity of pupils as well as clarifying attitudes and values and developing self esteem and the skills to manage relationships. The school nurse supports the teaching for Y5 and Y6 children provided by School staff. Details are provided in the letter requesting parental consent.



## School Visits

Opportunities are provided for children to extend and enhance their learning experiences through school visits. These are arranged to the local and wider community.

Children benefit greatly from these educational visits made possible by the good will of our local community contacts and by the voluntary contributions and support of parents.

Recent school visits have included: Crich Tramway Museum, Abbeydale Hamlet, Eyam Village, London Houses of Parliament/theatres and Carsington Reservoir.

## Residential Visits

Pupils in all year groups have the opportunity to take part in a Residential Visit. These may be to an outdoor activities centre or youth hostel where they may take part in adventurous activities such as rock climbing, stream scrambling, low ropes, wide games and team building challenges. These are always a highlight of their time at Stonelaw, providing a valuable social experience and exciting activities that are remembered long after leaving our School.

## School Concerts

Concerts and class assemblies provide children with opportunities to make presentations and perform, including singing, dance, drama and playing musical instruments.

## Music Tuition

Music lessons (guitar, keyboard, drums, violin, vocal) with specialist visiting music tutors are arranged in school. Details and charges are available from the school office.

Arrangements can be made for children to take the Associated Board Music exams. Opportunities are provided for children to perform in school assemblies, concerts and in the local community.

## After School Clubs

After School Clubs are provided for children to develop their interests and social skills. Science, ICT and art are provided free of charge by staff from the school. External coaches provide football, tag rugby, table tennis, tai chi, gymnastics and street dance for a small charge of £2 per session. There is also a charge for ingredients for cookery. The clubs available are reviewed each term depending on demand, time of year etc.



## SATS Results 2013/Targets for 2014 (Targets in brackets)

Attainment	School Level 4+	National Average 2012	School Level 5+	National Average 2012
Reading	97% (97%)	86%	70% (66%)	48%
Writing	93% (93%)	81%	50% (28%)	28%
Maths	100% (97%)	84%	63% (47%)	39%
Reading, writing and maths	93% (93%)		30% (93%)	

Progress	2 or more levels progress	National 2012
Reading	100%	90%
Writing	87%	90%
Maths	97%	87%

We reproduce above the statistics from the summer of 2013, which are expressed as the percentage of Y6 pupils who attained level 4 or above (the level a good 'average' child should achieve) and of those who achieved level 5 (well above average.)

Clearly our children have achieved excellent results which are well above average. We do, however, value all children equally for their individual abilities and achievements. Year groups vary and some have a greater percentage of children with special needs. Our aim is to enable every child to achieve his/her full potential. We take just as much pride in a special needs child achieving a level 2, as in a more academic child working at level 5.

Schools set targets for Y6 pupils achieving level 4 and above. For our present Y6 pupils the targets set by the governors for 2014 are 91 % pupils achieving level 4+ in both English and maths; 95% L4+ for reading with 58% at L 5; 90% L4+ for writing with 29% at L 5 and 94% L4+ for maths with 52% at L5.



## Special Educational Needs

It is the policy of the Authority and this School to include, as fully as possible, any child with Special Educational Needs in mainstream education, within their local community.

Children with Special Needs are provided with an Individual Education Plan. Children with a Statement of their needs may have extra help and resources provided by the L.A. Otherwise, provision is made within the child's class by their class teacher who will set work at an appropriate level. Some support may be available from the School's Teaching Assistants.

Children's work and progress is monitored by the School's Special Needs Co-ordinator, in accordance with the Special Needs Code of Practice, and there is liaison with a L.A. Educational Psychologist.

## Pupil Premium

The Pupil Premium is additional to main school funding to address the current underlying inequalities identified nationally between children eligible for free school meals (FSM) and their wealthier peers.

The Pupil Premium is allocated to schools each year and it is up to individual schools to decide how it is allocated for additional provision.

In 2012-13 the Pupil Premium allocation of £13200 was used to provide additional teaching and TA hours, 1 to 1 tuition, resources and to subsidise visits to support the curriculum.





# Making a Positive Contribution

## Home and School

### Educational Partnerships

All members of staff at Stonelow School share a firm belief in, and commitment to, the idea of a partnership between teachers, parents and children, in their education.

This is the basis of the Home-School Agreement, which has been drawn up in consultation with parents. Parents are kept informed of the School's activities through letters and newsletters.

### Consultations

Interviews for all parents to discuss individual children's progress with the class teacher, take place during the Autumn, Spring and Summer Terms, with a written report being provided in the Summer Term. Further interviews may be arranged by appointment. The Headteacher is pleased to meet with parents to discuss their child's progress, or any aspect of School life or school policy that may be of concern.

### Parents in School

The School is pleased to hear from parents who would like to help in school. There are many activities where parents' involvement and supervision can be of benefit to the children. Also, parents may have a particular skill or interest which could assist in widening the children's experience. The appropriate police checks must be carried out before parents help in school. Parents are warmly invited to attend School presentations given by the children.



# Achieving Economic Wellbeing

## ICT

Computers are used as an integral part of learning and all children acquire skill, confidence and competence through regular "hands-on" experience from the time they start at Stonelow.

The school has a Computer Suite of 30 networked computers together with class-based computers which all have internet access. Sets of netbooks are used in classes to promote anytime/anywhere access to ICT. Every class has an iPad for use by pupils and teachers.

Other ICT resources used by children include interactive whiteboards, digital cameras, visualisers, floor turtles, scanners, digital video cameras, mp3 recorders and data-logging equipment.

## Homework

Children are set a reasonable amount of homework each week. At the start of each topic, leaflets are sent home to parents outlining the areas being studied, homework and how parents may support their child's learning. All pupils will have weekly spelling lists to learn, a small amount of maths and English and occasionally topic work. In addition, we encourage children to read at least 3 times a week for pleasure.

Parents are encouraged to support their children in learning times tables and in practical maths activities such as shopping, baking and telling the time. While we expect children to complete the homework and hand it in on time, we do recognise that many children have other out of school activities and may not always have time to complete the work set. If this is the case, or if your child is having problems with the work set, please let your child's teacher know.

## Home Reading

We encourage children to read as widely and often as possible. Children gain greatly from practising their reading with parents and books from the School's Reading Scheme can be read at home. In addition, books from the well-stocked School library may be borrowed each week as well as from the selection in each class. We do ask that reasonable care is taken of all school books to enable as many children as possible to enjoy and benefit from them. Parents are welcome to discuss "reading" with School staff.

# Additional Information

## Personal Possessions

To prevent any problems, possessions of a valuable or sentimental value should not be brought to School. Where possible, possessions - particularly clothing, should be clearly marked with the child's name. Dress jewellery is not appropriate for School.

It is beneficial for children to have and use their own "work set" of pens, pencils, rubbers etc. This develops the children's self-reliance, encourages them to become independent learners and enables them to make the best use of lesson time.

## Charging Policy (1988 Educ. Reform Act)

Certain activities organised by School are subject to being funded by voluntary contributions or charges.

### Charges to Parents

A charge is made for music tuition provided at the School. If a School instrument is available it will be loaned without charge.

A charge is made for the "board & lodging" element in a residential educational visit.

A charge may be made for any activity that takes place mainly or entirely outside of School hours.

Voluntary contributions are requested from parents for educational visits, which take place wholly, or mainly during school hours, and may be requested to meet the cost of visits to school from professionals such as a puppet theatre or artist.

In the past, all events organised on this basis have taken place. This reflects the much-valued support which the School receives from parents in organising such activities for the children. However, if on any occasion there were to be insufficient contributions then the event may not be able to go ahead as planned. Support is available for families in receipt of certain benefits.

## Complaints

Each school is responsible for considering complaints against it. Most complaints are resolved through discussion at an early stage. If parents have a concern they should first raise it with the class teacher or headteacher.

If parents are not satisfied with the headteacher's response, then they should ask for the complaint to be considered by the school Governing Body. The complaints procedure issued by the LA is applicable to this school and available from the office.



## Arrangements for visiting the school

If you are interested in admission to the school, you are welcome to make an appointment to look around.

Please telephone or visit the school office to make an appointment.

You may also contact us via email  
[info@dronfieldstonelow.derbyshire.sch.uk](mailto:info@dronfieldstonelow.derbyshire.sch.uk)

Or visit the school website  
[www.dronfieldstonelow.derbyshire.sch.uk](http://www.dronfieldstonelow.derbyshire.sch.uk)



# Stonelow Junior School

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