

Dartmoor  
Multi Academy  
Trust

...everyone in our Trust.



Prospectus

# Milton Abbot Primary School

## May 2024



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# 1. Introduction

## a. Welcome

As a small, rural Primary, Milton Abbot Primary prides itself on its warm and welcoming atmosphere and its strong connections with the local community.

Our school is currently in a managed partnership with the Dartmoor Multi Academy Trust (DMAT), but should join fully by July. The DMAT includes 14 local primary schools and 3 secondaries. As a result of working alongside the DMAT, we have been able to receive up to date training and resources. We follow the same research informed curriculum and receive regular visits from advisors in reading in phonics, maths, early years. Our pupils have also benefitted from membership of the DMAT, and have taken part in a range of art, music and sporting events. Our Year 6 pupils have also taken part in the successful Year 6 residential to Normandy. This residential was partially funded by the Turing Scheme, so keep the cost of this visit . During this residential pupils' learning about World War 2 was brought to life, and everyone was able to use their French for real purposes.

Our school building is beautiful; we have large grounds and a well-established woodland area. Our school was built in 1829 and we are looking forward to celebrating our 200 year anniversary in 5 years time! The original boys' school was built by the Duke of Bedford.

We sincerely hope your child will enjoy the time they spend at Milton Abbot Primary and within our DMAT Family. All staff endeavour to support pupils to be the best they can possibly be. Learning is a partnership, and we aim, from our first meeting, to establish good communication between home and school to make sure pupils achieve their full potential.

Our School has the highest expectations of each child, and we encourage our pupils to achieve academically and to become active contributors to society. We are unswerving in our commitment to identify the strengths of every child before making a clear plan on how best we can support and move their learning forward. We continually monitor and reshape the path for each individual according to their needs.

At Milton Abbot Primary, we aim to create a safe and secure environment in which everyone, regardless of background, ethnicity, religion or disability is valued and supported.



## b. Our Vision

### Bringing Learning to Life

We constantly strive to deliver an engaging curriculum that will inspire every child to aim for their potential and beyond. Our curriculum gives opportunities for active learning, where children use their powerful knowledge, and fluent use of a rich vocabulary to develop their disciplinary knowledge. Our pupils are proud of their ability to be scientists, linguists, writers, readers, mathematicians, engineers, athletes, artists, musicians and philosophers to name but a few.

### A Place of Growth

We know our children as unique individuals. We know their talents and passions, their dislikes and their anxieties, so that we can be their champions and their co-adventurers as they learn and grow. We have high expectations that allow our children to strive for excellence in everything they do, whilst ensuring they develop resilience and determination to struggle purposefully through trickier times. We deliberately put challenge into everything the pupils do to build a culture of confidence where children rise to overcome times when life and learning is tricky.

### Making Memories

Our aim is to build a diverse and rich cultural capital for our pupils that enables long-term recall of learning and rapid fluency of key facts. This requires a thoughtful balance of activities or 'episodic memories' to enrich and provoke debate, a schema that is sequenced to build and form links between different areas of knowledge and teaching that enables the 'semantic memory' to store information, facts and concepts. This is done through repetition, revision and retrieval, which is all systematically planned into our plan, teach, assess and review model.



## c. School Staff

Principal  
Mr Adam Hill  
Principal  
Designated Safeguarding Lead

Lead Teacher  
Mr Tom Lumby  
'Eagle Owls' Class Teacher  
DMAT Primary Science Lead  
Deputy Safeguarding Officer

Teachers  
Mrs Grace Baldwin / Miss Hannah Caulfield  
'Snowy Owls' Class Teacher

Mrs Giusi Manta / Mrs Maggie Sherring  
'Tawny Owls' Class Teacher

Mrs Chloe Collacott  
'Owlets' Teacher  
Assistant Special Educational Needs Co-ordinator

EYFS Practitioners  
Mrs Tessa Curtis  
Mrs Jo Evans

Teaching Assistants  
Miss Suzi Jonas  
Mrs Nicki Bird  
Ms Becca Hernandez  
Miss Tessa Young  
Mrs Rachel Cork  
Miss Rubie Hepworth

Administrator  
Mrs Emily Jinman  
Deputy Safeguarding Officer

Kitchen Manager  
Mrs Abi Bluett





## Safeguarding: How do we care for our pupils ?

Our school community has a duty to safeguard and promote the welfare of children. This includes ensuring all pupils are guided in their spiritual, moral, social and cultural values. We recognise the multi-cultural nature of the United Kingdom and understand the crucial role our school plays in promoting these. Lesson and assembly planning for subjects such as Religious Education, taking part in school trips, community and sporting events, and having very active school councils are just some of the things Milton Abbot School does to promote these values.

All staff and volunteers at Milton Abbot Primary School are committed to safeguarding. Staff attend regular safeguarding training and work hard to maintain a safe and secure environment for the children to be in. Volunteers who come into school and assist with reading or driving to events, have all had full DBS checks.

If you would like more information regarding our Safeguarding Policy, please speak to our Principal, or our Lead Teacher who are our designated members of staff for Child Protection.

### d. Admissions

Children who will be aged 4 between 1<sup>st</sup> September 2024 and 31<sup>st</sup> August 2025 will attend school full time from September 2024. We encourage new children to attend transition sessions during the summer term. These visits help your child to settle more easily when they start full time. Children will become accustomed to the new routines of school, meet and get to know the other children and staff, and develop their independence in the setting.

If you would like your children to attend Milton Abbot Primary School, please apply online to Devon County Council via their website <https://new.devon.gov.uk/educationandfamilies/school-information/apply-for-a-school-place>.





## 2. School life

### a. Attendance

Every child has the right to a fantastic education (Dame Rachel de Souza, Children's commissioner for England). For children to make progress, they should be in school every day, supported and ready to learn. If your child is seriously unwell and unable to attend school, it is important that the school is notified as soon as possible. Please call the school office by 9 am.

We would ask parents to make non urgent appointments such as dentist and optician appointments during the school holidays or after school. If your child is going to arrive at school late or need to leave early, please ask our administrator for an absence form.

The law does not grant parents an automatic right to take their child out of school for holidays during term time. You must apply for permission in advance and if the school refuses your request and the child is still taken out of school, this will be recorded as an unauthorised absence, and this may make you liable to a fine.

### b. Time of the School Day

School starts at 8:45 for all classes including nursery. To ensure we can start our day efficiently and make the most of our early morning time, the school gate opens at 8:30. All children in should arrive as close to 8:30 as possible.

School ends at 3:30 for all children.

Details of breakfast clubs and afterschool clubs will be shared with parents on their start in September.

### c. Break and lunch times

Children from Reception to Year 6 have breaktime together on the playground in the mid-morning. Sports Leaders are trained as play leaders and facilitate games and resources for the other children. The mixture of ages allows a strong sense of school family. Children in reception are entitled to a free piece of fruit at breaktimes. In Little Owls pre-school and in Years 1-6 children can bring a healthy snack to eat at breaktime. Free milk is also provided for those children under 5.

Lunch is a communal meal for all our children including our pre-school children. School meals are available every day and are freshly cooked in our on-site kitchen. There is always a choice of meal including a vegetarian option, baked potato or sandwich. The kitchen staff are allergen aware and are happy to provide allergy information on request. All children in Foundation and Key Stage 1 are eligible for Universal Free School Meals.



You can read more about our lunches provided by Norse here: [norse induction pack.pdf](#)  
([miltonabbot.devon.sch.uk](#))

#### **d. Term Dates**

Our term dates can be found on the school website. Please also check the school newsletter for regular key date reminders.

## 3. Curriculum

### a. Introduction

At Milton Abbot Primary School we follow an ambitious, knowledge rich curriculum which is supported by colleagues from across the Trust. Our curriculum is engaging, thought provoking and gives the children a solid foundation of knowledge. Areas of study are broad and balanced and allow children to follow their interests whilst meeting the requirements of the National Curriculum 2014. Curriculum policies and long and medium term planning are available for English, Mathematics, Science, Design & Technology, Computing, History, Geography, Music, Art, P.E., R.E. and PSHE. In our Early Years classrooms (pre-school and reception) we follow the Birth to Five Matters framework.

### b. English

English is at the heart of our curriculum and therefore we invest heavily in our early reading and phonics programme. We follow the Read Write Inc programme, which is a systematic synthetic phonics teaching programme. We believe that every child has the right to be successful and fluent readers and writers and that Phonics and Early Reading is the door to access lifelong learning.

Parents can find out more about our phonics programme at our parents information events and they can also watch these videos:

- How to say the sounds: [click here](#)
- Using Fred Talk and Fred Fingers to segment and blend words: [click here](#)

### c. Mathematics

We use White Rose as a basis for all of our Mathematics teaching. Staff develop and enhance this scheme with their knowledge and understanding of their individual class needs. All pupils also have access to Times Tables Rock Stars or Numbots to practise their fluency online. We will also share information on how we teach mathematics with parents throughout the year.

## d. Wider Curriculum

### Key Stage One

- science
- design and technology
- history
- geography
- art and design
- music
- physical education (PE)
- computing
- relationships and health education
- religious education
- personal, social and health education (PSHE)

### Key Stage Two

- science
- design and technology
- history
- geography
- art and design
- music
- physical education (PE)
- computing
- relationships and health education
- religious education
- personal, social and health education (PSHE)
- French

## e. Off Site Activities

The school organises a range of offsite activities to supplement and extend the curriculum and may ask for voluntary contributions to help fund them. The older children will have opportunities such as a trip to a large city, and to experience a residential trip.

## f. PE and Sport

All of our children get to take part in a variety of activities and sports throughout the academic year, some of which are led by either teaching staff or others by outside coaches. In the summer term, our oldest pupils take part in weekly swimming lessons. We also attend a number of sporting events, hosted by neighbouring primaries, such as Cross Country, Multi-skills, Orienteering, Tag Rugby, Cricket, Rounders, Football and Netball.

## g. Extra-curricular activities

As enrichment, we offer a range of extra-curricular clubs including; Multi-skills, Cookery, Mindfulness, French, Music, Netball, Dance, Orienteering and Craft club throughout the year. Details of the afterschool clubs will be shared In September.

## h. Forest School

We are fortunate that we have forest school qualified staff at Milton Abbot, as well as a fantastic site to carry out our forest school activities. All children participate in Forest School activities. This universal offer to our children allows outdoor exploration, connection with nature, mindfulness and learning opportunities.

# 4. Getting Ready for School

## a. Uniform

All children at Milton Abbot Primary School are required to wear uniform. This builds a sense of community and belonging to our school. Our School uniform can be ordered through Schoolwear direct please follow this [link](#) to order.

All children should wear:

White shirt or polo shirt  
Grey or black trousers/skirt/pinafore\*  
Blue school jumper/cardigan  
Blue school fleece (optional)  
Black shoes

\*In the summer, a blue and white checked school dress may be worn instead

PE kit:  
Blue t-shirt  
Dark shorts  
Leggings for colder weather  
Blue hoodie for colder weather  
Trainers

Optional school reversible jacket

## b. Transition

Mrs Jinman, our School Administrator, is always available to welcome visitors to our school. We consider ourselves to have a friendly, family-orientated environment for educating your child, so if you would like to make an appointment to come and see us, please contact the School Office on 01822 870273. Our office hours are 8.30am – 3.45pm Monday-Friday during term time.

Our children transfer to Tavistock Community College or Launceston College at the age of eleven. Parents will receive detailed information from the Local Authority on this matter.

The Staff who teach Year 7 children visit us during the final year and the children also visit the College. This enables smooth transition from the primary to secondary phase of your child's education.

## c. Travel to school

Some of our pupils are entitled to receive free school transport from Devon County Council. Please contact the Devon County Council School Transport team to see if you qualify for transport. [School and college transport – Education and Families \(devon.gov.uk\)](#)

## d. Communicating with school

If you wish to speak to someone at school, please leave a message in one of the ways below, and someone will get back to you within two working days. If you have an urgent enquiry, please ensure you phone the school.

➤ Call or email the school administrator Mrs Jinman 01822 870273 / [admin@miltonabbot.devon.sch.uk](mailto:admin@miltonabbot.devon.sch.uk) ➤ Send a message on the school gateway app (click on the message icon at the bottom of the screen)

The school gateway app has a number of functions including ordering and paying for lunches, paying nursery fees, booking onto clubs as well as sending and receiving messages (app messages and emails).

Staff are able to login and see all messages to the school. With emails, although you receive emails from a Milton Abbot Primary school email address, if you reply to this email the sender of the original email will receive your reply.

If you haven't yet created a school gateway account, please watch this short video about how to login. There are a number of other useful videos to help you get started:

[School gateway](#)

[School Gateway - Get Started - The Leading Parent App for Schools](#)

In addition to this online communication, we very much look forward to welcoming you into school. Look out for our book and biscuit sessions, as well as parent consultations and volunteering opportunities.

## e. Friends of Milton Abbot Primary (HOOT)

Hoot is a group of parents and carers who fundraise and volunteer to support the school with extra-curricular activities. They have regularly supported school trips and visits, donated hoodies to Year 6 leavers and planned and facilitated many school events. Please look out for details of how to get involved or support our fundraising in our school newsletter.

