



INCREASING CHILDREN'S ASPIRATIONS & ENCOURAGING A SPIRIT OF ADVENTURE



ADVENTURE  
OPENNESS  
CREATIVITY  
EXCELLENCE

UNDERPINNED BY A CHRISTIAN ETHOS

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I couldn't ask for anything better for my child, I just feel so relieved she is so happy.

## FROM THE CHAIR OF NEW GENERATION SCHOOLS TRUST

We have come a long way from the seed of an idea to parents being able to choose our school for their children.

Through the support of many local people we have created a school that is designed to meet the needs of the community. When joining our school, children will be part of a safe, inclusive and stimulating environment. They will be taught to value themselves and others, to fulfil their potential and to experience school as an exciting and enjoyable place.



We do this through community engagement, a broad curriculum and excellent teaching staff.

The children are encouraged to be adventurous, confident, creative, passionate to learn and proud of their successes, along with developing independence, respect for others and self-discipline. We are proud that in 2019, our school in Sidcup has been recognised by the Section 48 Inspection Team as being 'Good'.

We look forward to working with you to make sure that our school will provide the highest quality of education for your child.



*Terry Millar -  
Chair of New  
Generation  
Schools Trust*

*Paul Weston -  
Vice Chair & Founder  
of New Generation  
Schools Trust*



## FROM THE PRINCIPAL

Welcome to Hope Community School Sidcup! We are delighted to welcome you and your family to our Community. We are a happy, nurturing school whose emphasis is working with and for our local community, ensuring the best outcomes for both. We believe children deserve to be treated as the individuals they are, and we work hard to help each and every child reach their full potential.

At Hope Community School, we ensure children receive a first class education, which is rich in immersive, exciting experiences and designed to stimulate curiosity and excellence. At Hope our curriculum includes a wide range of outdoor learning opportunities, hands-on experiences and engaging ways to discover the world around us.

Hope Community School, Sidcup is a mainstream primary school of Christian designation, open to families of all or no faiths. We present a Christian viewpoint, whilst giving children the freedom to explore, question and seek answers for themselves. At Hope children of all faiths feel included and valued and learn about all cultures, faiths and religions.

We want to provide our pupils with an education that strengthens their character, developing resilience, critical thinking and responsible attitudes so that they will become "Community Entrepreneurs" - children who are empowered to engage with and change their communities and our world for the better.

I look forward to welcoming you and your family on our journey!

*Mrs Sara Donnelly - Principal*





## INCREASING CHILDREN'S ASPIRATIONS &amp; ENCOURAGING A SPIRIT OF ADVENTURE

## MISSION STATEMENT

Hope Community School is at the heart of the community, reaching out to local families to increase children's aspirations, encouraging a spirit of adventure and maximising each child's talents and gifts.

We do this through underpinning Christian values such as kindness, generosity and hospitality to create community entrepreneurs. The school inspires children to be people who not only value their community but also have the desire, ability and tools to transform and enrich it through innovative and aspirational visions. Pupils of Hope Community School are encouraged to dream limitlessly, explore confidently, discover expectantly and take ownership of their futures.

We believe in education for all, allowing each child to enjoy and achieve their full potential at school. We are committed to every child, no matter their ability, ethnicity or background, thriving throughout their education. We intend to create an encouraging and inclusive environment that extends beyond the classroom and into the community, using links with local businesses. We create an exciting and vibrant school that celebrates achievement and diversity. Education should be engaging and we inspire children to learn and develop beyond the walls of a school. Our vision is to link school and community, teaching the value of each to the other, in order to better prepare both for their future. Our Community Room, which lies at the heart of our school, is a physical reminder that Community is core to our school and vision.

## OUR VALUES

The Vision of Hope Community School, Sidcup is based on the following values:

- Adventure
- Openness
- Creativity
- Excellence

Underpinned by a Christian Ethos.

### Adventure

We encourage our pupils to be adventurous and innovative in their learning. We enable children to be confident decision makers, through discussion and questioning, giving space for them to voice their own views and grow in confidence. It also helps children to understand the importance of listening to others, learning from and taking into consideration other people's ideas.

### Openness

Our school is a welcoming and hospitable place where family involvement is valued. We are committed to being a positive asset not only to the lives of the children who attend but also their families and the wider community. Regular enrichment sessions are run outside the school day in order to provide families with opportunities to learn together. It is intended that the school is a Community Hub, a centre that is open and inviting to the community as a whole. We are passionate about people and we want to invest in and bring life to the local area.

### Creativity

Our curriculum is designed to inspire creativity in all aspects of the children's learning. From English, where children are exposed to exciting texts and narratives, to the arts where the children are able to take inspiration from the work of famous artists through to science, where children are encouraged to think outside of the box and develop their scientific enquiry skills. We connect different aspects of learning and create fresh ways of thinking. We are dedicated to making our school environment vibrant, colourful and engaging.



## SCHOOL INFORMATION

Our daughter is in the right school for her and is progressing well. She is getting personalised intervention which is also helping her.

Our school has vibrant and inviting spaces designed to suit all learners and learning opportunities. We promote the value of working in groups and pairs, providing an environment with open, light learning areas that encourage children to talk together, play games, share ideas or research in books, or on iPads and laptops. Equally important are our quiet areas that welcome reflection, prayer, quiet reading or just the chance for learning alone.

Our classrooms reflect our belief in 'experiencing learning'. Careful planning and thoughtful resourcing encourage independence both within the classrooms and in outside spaces. Children take responsibility for their own learning.

They respect each other and value their learning environment. From the moment the children arrive at Hope they begin to understand the world is their classroom.

## EXCELLENCE

Everyone who works with, in and for Hope Community School, Sidcup strives for excellence. Our staff are passionate about their work, value the individual aspirations of each child and encourage all pupils to be enthused about their learning and proud of their successes. No matter what their ability or background, we encourage every child to reach their potential.

## CHRISTIAN ETHOS

We are registered as a school of religious designation within the Christian faith.

Our Christian Ethos underpins the culture of our school. We aim to create space for children and the school community to explore their own personal beliefs and faith in a safe place where they can ask the big questions of life. We present a Christian viewpoint, whilst allowing children the freedom to explore, question and seek answers for themselves. We ensure children of all faiths and no faith, feel included and valued and learn about all cultures, faiths and religions.

We have selected forty Christian values, many of which are shared by people of all faiths and no faith, that are taught on a rolling two-year programme. These values seek to build character and draw out the full human potential of each child. The school is a community of practise that provides experiences in which the whole school community can consider and reflect on these values and translate this reflection into action. We do this at Hope in three main ways: by unpacking our values in our daily Collectives (assemblies), by exploring them in our class time through reflective activities and by communicating the values to parents and encouraging discussion and positive reinforcement at home. Our Christian Ethos is further enhanced through our Christian Prayer Room and the provision of pastoral support through Chaplaincy.

## PARTNER CHURCHES

All New Generation Schools Trust schools are set up in partnership with a local Church that is committed to supporting the Trusts' schools in their vision to educate children and support families.

Partner Churches contribute to the Christian Ethos and values of the school and enhance the life of the local community. We believe that it takes a community to raise a child. As a result, schools benefit greatly when volunteers from the Partner Church invest their time and talent, energy and expertise in supporting and extending children's learning and offer family support.

Hope Community School's partner church in Sidcup is New Generation Church, who played a pivotal role in founding the school and have an ongoing involvement and investment in the school.

My daughter has been up since 6:20 this morning, ready for school because she just cannot wait to be there!

## SCHOOL INFORMATION

Hope Community School, Sidcup provides an exciting, creative and adventurous educational experience. The family style mealtimes, visits, trips, projects and activities, collective worship, prayer and reflective areas, support from local faith and community organisations help to develop a body of pupils with outstanding moral, social and cultural development.

Hope Community School, Sidcup's distinctive features include:

- Partnerships with local businesses
- A Curriculum that impacts the community
- Classrooms in the community, such as lessons in Footscray Meadows and local businesses
- A school for all, welcoming families of all and no faiths and world views
- The teaching of Mandarin as a Modern Foreign Language

We will provide parents and children with engaging opportunities to learn together and we will strive to forge collaborative partnerships with local businesses, churches and other organisations.

## ADMISSIONS

Applications for admissions to Hope Community School's Reception class opens in September the year before the child is due to start school. The London Borough of Bexley administers the applications process according to Hope's Admissions Policy which can be viewed on the school's website or copies are available from the school office.

Applications need to be made through the online form on the London Borough of Bexley website. The deadline for applying for Reception class places is the 15th January in the year the child will start school. Applicants will receive an email with the outcome of their application on the 16th April. As a school with religious designation, 20% of school places will be allocated to children from faith backgrounds if oversubscribed. To apply for a Faith Based Place please complete our Supplementary Information Form, available from the school office or the school's website. (This should be handed in directly to the school.)

If you are looking for a school place for your child who is in a different year group, please contact the School Office who will be able to update you with our current vacancies. If you would like more information or to come and see the school, please call the office on 020 3223 2000.

## SPECIAL EDUCATIONAL NEEDS PROVISION

In accordance with guidance provided by the SEND Code of Practice (2014), Hope Community School is committed to providing excellent support for children who have special education needs, disabilities and additional needs, ensuring that all of our pupils achieve their full potential. Teaching, learning and pastoral care are designed to provide fair access to personalised learning activities, assessment and social development.

For more information please visit the school's website.





My child responds very well to the nurturing and caring emphasis at this school and has made excellent progress this term.

### LEARNING

All learning at Hope Community School, Sidcup reflects the importance of developing the whole child. We have created an engaging curriculum which inspires and excites pupils, resulting in excellent learning outcomes. The ethos of our school is based around developing adventure, openness, creativity and excellence and values in our children. We believe learning should be engaging and challenging. At Hope, we integrate learning holistically with 'real life' and the community across all subjects

The thread of Christian values, including respect, hospitality, generosity, care for others, engaging in our community and putting others before yourself are at Hope's core, central to everything, every day and enhances the moral, social, intellectual and spiritual life of the school. These values are explored further during planned PSHE learning, during Collectives and when visitors come to the school. We include everyone, irrespective of faith or anything else.

Teaching and Learning at Hope Community School is driven by high expectation. Inspirational teaching motivates the aspiring learner and fosters in them success and achievement for the future. We expect high academic achievement for our pupils to raise aspirations and realise their potential. Whilst all schools want this, those that succeed have a culture of embedding a growth mindset, something we not just recognise but aim to achieve. We want our children to have: stamina for learning; perseverance in challenges; a range of skills and strategies to solve problems; and the determination to face any obstacle with conviction. Developing a child's character matters as much as his or her academic attainment, to ensure resilience in the face of increased challenge.

### CURRICULUM

We aim to make education fun and engaging for our pupils, which is why in addition to the National Curriculum subjects we provide other creative options to extend the learning further. We use a core knowledge approach to learning designed to embed long term knowledge and skills, grounded in the National Curriculum, maximising and deepening learning, whilst building our pupils' capacity to apply their learning to the world in which they live.

At the heart of all learning is literature. The children enter the Foundation Stage with our Pre-School Reading Project. As a school, we aim to promote a love of reading and encourage children to read widely. We regularly visit local libraries.

### THE HOPE COMMUNITY SCHOOL, SIDCUP CURRICULUM:

At Hope Community School, Sidcup, we consider our Curriculum to be the starting point of the life-long learning journey that children embark on when they begin their Primary School career with us. Our Curriculum enables our children to access a wide range of experiences and is rooted in quality first teaching and learning for all children regardless of age, gender, circumstance or ability. Although we are a relatively new school, opening in 2013, our Christian Values underpin all that we do here – they are at the heart of everything we try to achieve for all pupils.

We have designed a Curriculum based on our knowledge of our children and the community we serve, their cultural capital deficits and a clear understanding of the experiences that children need in order to prepare them for the future. Our aim is to provide a broad and balanced curriculum that is tailored to meet the specific needs of the children within our local community that our school serves.



My child's experience is a happy, confident one. He has his own identity and this is nurtured.

## CURRICULUM INTENT

Having carefully considered the needs of our community, we have selected Adventure, Creativity, Aspiration and Diversity as qualities to drive the children's learning across all areas of the curriculum.

Our Curriculum enables children to acquire key skills and knowledge in each subject area. During each child's time at the school, knowledge is revisited in all subjects to ensure that it is securely embedded in the children's long term memory. Age appropriate knowledge is clearly planned across each subject and in line with National Curriculum expectations. Each Curriculum subject is led by an expert who oversees the on-going development of their subject. Leaders ensure that subject specific knowledge is progressive and sequential.

We acknowledge that reading skills are a vital and integral part of the curriculum. A robust reading curriculum from Reception to Year 6 broadens children's language and vocabulary. It gives our children access to all areas of the curriculum and promotes enjoyment and love of learning from the earliest age. The school operates a quality Phonics Programme as soon as children start school and this is built upon from Year 2 upwards as fluency and comprehension skills develop. Each year group learn from a carefully selected range of quality texts from a variety of genres which are selected to develop an inquisitive mind, vocabulary, inference and deduction. All children achieving strong numeracy and literacy skills is a key objective for children in our school and we endeavour to achieve this through our approach.

At Hope Community School our Foundation Stage follows the national EYFS Framework. Children are currently assessed against the EYFS Profile at the end of the Reception Year.



The teacher knows my son and understands his personality almost as well as I do. It's just the perfect school for our family.

## PHONICS AND READING

Our Phonics Program starts in the Reception Class in EYFS and runs through Key Stage 1 and 2. We use the Little Wandle Letters and Sounds Revised to plan and provide daily engaging phonics lessons. In the younger years, children participate in a daily 20-minute session. Each class differentiates according to the phase the children are working on and staff are deployed as necessary within the class. The teaching of reading is a core component for all areas of learning. The school focuses on:

- Developing reading skills through the teaching of phonics and other skills so children become confident and fluent readers
- Developing pupils' vocabulary, their skills in understanding a variety of texts (stories, poems, rhymes, and non-fiction texts)
- Developing a love of reading

## FUNDAMENTAL BRITISH VALUES

Five key British Values are promoted explicitly and implicitly through the curriculum, the core four values and Christian ethos of our community school. Activities in and out of the classroom allow children to develop socially, morally, culturally and spiritually.

What are the 5 key British Values?

- Democracy
- The Rule of Law
- Individual Liberty
- Mutual Respect
- Tolerance of those with Different Faiths and Beliefs

## ASPIRATIONS

The key driver for our curriculum is to ensure that there are rapid gains in a child's learning from their starting points; with a clear focus on mastery of skills and knowledge across the curriculum.

Our expectation is that every pupil at Hope has attendance of 97% and above. When a pupil's attendance reaches 98% it is outstanding.

## WE STRIVE TO ENSURE THAT OUR CHILDREN:

- Become independent motivated learners
- Are Community Entrepreneurs
- Have increased success in Secondary Education and our school
- Create a positive reputation of pupils in the area
- Developing strong community cohesion in Sidcup

## THE SCHOOL DAY

8.40am – 8.50am	Children arrive for their learning
8.50am – 12.00pm	Whole school learning
8.55am	Collective and on Friday morning -Lovely Hat Collective and Celebrations
12.00pm – 1.00pm	Lunch <i>Children participate in exercise and games outside in one of our playgrounds.</i>
1.00pm – 3.20pm	Learning for our Reception Class
1.00pm – 3.30pm	Learning for all other classes
3.30pm – 4.00pm	Intervention groups, clubs and enrichment





We love the family friendly atmosphere and most of all the ethos of the school which helps in building strong morals.

## GOVERNANCE

Hope Community School, Sidcup is part of The New Generation Schools Trust. The Trust is responsible for the legal, financial and educational responsibilities of the school. As a free school, we have been set up by the Trust with the full support of the government in response to what local people feel they need in order to improve education for children in their community. We are established as an academy, which means we are independent from the local authority, therefore, we receive our funding directly from the central government and have the flexibility to set our own curriculum.

We are subject to inspections by Ofsted, Section 48 and our SATs results are published in tables in the same way as traditional state schools.

There are two elements of the governance of New Generation Schools Trust schools;

- A local school council which is responsible for working with the school to ensure it delivers high-quality education.
- A board of Trustees which is responsible for Trust wide decisions. Trust wide governance exists to ensure that all NGST schools share the same DNA and operate in a similar way across the family of schools. Hope Councils exist to challenge and support the school in delivering the vision of the Trust and to ensure each school has a distinct local identity that is relevant to and reflective of the community they serve.

## The Trust has established four key roles for Hope Councils:

- To serve as 'champions' of the Trust's vision and ethos within the school and to serve as champions of their local school within the Trust
- To support and challenge the Principal and the school in their delivery of the vision and ethos of the Trust
- To be both a 'sounding board' and 'think tank' for the Principal and school leaders, and to represent the views of the whole school community to influence decision making.
- To continually review the overall impact of the School, to make suggestions for improvement and ensure that the Trust vision and ethos remains at the heart of the school community.





On the 4th and 5th December 2019, the School was inspected under Section 48 (s48) of the Education Act 2005. The Inspectors concluded that with respect to Vision and Leadership and provision for Collective Worship and RE, Hope Community School, Sidcup is a Good and Improving School with some Outstanding Features.

In May 2019, Early Years Provision was judged as 'Good' by Ofsted.



## CONTACT DETAILS

We are always keen to hear from you, so if you would like any further information please contact the school office.

Rectory Lane, Sidcup,  
Kent, DA14 5BU

Telephone: 020 3223 2000

Email: [enquiries@hopecommunityschool.org](mailto:enquiries@hopecommunityschool.org)

You can visit our website [www.hopecommunityschool.org](http://www.hopecommunityschool.org)

