

Houghton Conquest Primary School

Growing together



"Our school is a place where every child is empowered to learn and thrive in a caring and inclusive community."

“Growing Together”

A very warm welcome to Houghton Conquest Primary School!





As a cherished cornerstone of our village community for over 100 years, we are immensely proud of our close-knit, family atmosphere. We view education as a shared journey between home and school, working hand-in-hand with parents to ensure every child feels safe, valued, and genuinely excited to walk through our doors each morning.

“Every child is unique. Our mission is simple: to create a safe, happy, and nurturing environment where your child can explore, build resilience, and truly flourish.” — Headteacher

What Makes Our School Family Special?

- A Village Heart, a Big Future: We blend the warmth and personal care of a close village community with an ambitious, hands-on curriculum designed for modern learners.

- Learning Beyond the Classroom: From our strong classroom routines to our thriving Forest School provision, we encourage children to take safe risks, spark their curiosity, and develop a lasting connection with nature.

- A Values-Led Ethos: Embedded in everything we do, our values nurture respectful, confident, and kind individuals who support one another every step of the way.

Come and Discover Us

Prospectuses and websites only offer a small window into our daily life. The best way to feel the energy, warmth, and vibrancy of Houghton Conquest is to experience it yourself!

We warmly invite you to book a visit, step inside our classrooms, explore our outdoor learning spaces, and meet our fantastic pupils and staff. We can’t wait to welcome your family to ours.

Miss J. Heaslip
Headteacher





Empowering Confident Minds, Kind Hearts, & Curious Spirits

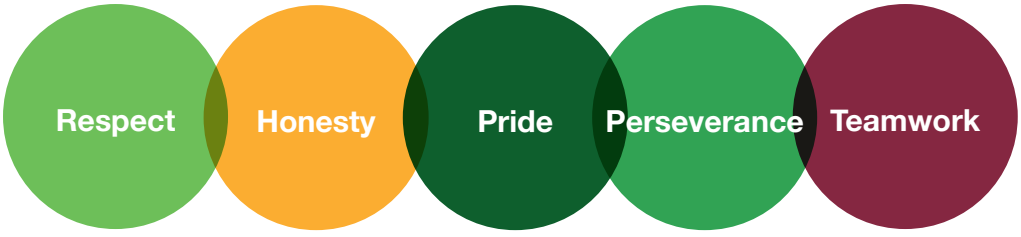
At Houghton Conquest Primary School, education isn't just about what children learn in books, it's about who they become. We believe that when children feel safe, deeply valued, and inspired by the world around them, there is no limit to what they can achieve.

Our vision is simple, to nurture confident, curious, and resilient lifelong learners who step forward into the 21st century with courage, kindness, and pride in who they are.

How We Bring Our Vision to Life

- We hold high ambitions for every child, balancing strong academic foundations with rich creative, social, and emotional development.
- Every voice is heard; every achievement is celebrated. Diversity is our strength, and every child finds their place in our school family.
- From classroom inquiry to our outdoor Forest School adventures, we encourage pupils to ask big questions, embrace mistakes, and keep exploring.

Our school is built on a foundation of core values that guide everything we do, alongside the promotion of fundamental British Values. We promote a values-based education that helps our pupils grow into well-rounded, responsible, and caring individuals. Our values are embedded in our daily lives and are celebrated through our "Golden Rules":





"We don't just teach children how to succeed academically, we give them the moral compass, emotional confidence, and curiosity to thrive anywhere in life."



"Our curriculum gives children the key to unlock their full potential, preparing them not just for secondary school, but for a bright future in an ever-changing world."

The “Creative Curriculum”: Learning Journeys





To spark imagination and make learning meaningful, we deliver much of our humanities, science, and arts subjects through our thematic Creative Curriculum whilst promoting them as stand-alone subjects.

Each term, classes embark on immersive, topic-based learning journeys where classrooms are transformed and subjects connect naturally.

The Pillars of Our Teaching

A Culture of Growth Mindset:
We teach our pupils to relish challenges, view mistakes as exciting steps in the learning process, and value the power of effort. Through patience and practice, children build the resilience needed to tackle complex problems with confidence.

Outdoor Learning & Exploration

Education doesn’t just happen at a desk. Whether through our dedicated Forest School sessions, outdoor sports, or hands-on fieldwork, we use our natural surroundings to bring scientific inquiry and teamwork to life.

Inclusive & Ambitious for All

Every child is an individual with unique talents. Our teaching provides a strong foundation for every learner, offering targeted support where needed and higher-order problem solving to stretch and challenge high attainers.

Beyond the Classroom

A complete education extends beyond academic subjects. We enrich our curriculum with:

- Residential & Day Trips: Bringing history, science, and geography into the real world.
- Music & Performing Arts: Opportunities for instrument tuition, whole-class music, and theatrical productions.
- Leadership & Citizenship: Opportunities through our School Council and Young Leaders roles.





Discover, Explore, Flourish: Our Forest School

At Houghton Conquest Primary School, learning extends far beyond the four walls of the classroom. Nestled within our dedicated outdoor environment, our Forest School provision offers all children a transformative educational experience that nurtures curiosity, resilience, and a lifelong connection with nature.

What is Forest School?

Forest School is an inspirational, child-led learning process that takes place regularly in a natural setting. Grounded in the outdoors, it provides holistic development opportunities through hands-on, practical experiences. Rain or shine, our pupils step into nature to explore, take safe risks, and develop essential life skills.

Core Pillars of Our Provision

- Child-Led Discovery: Children guide their own learning journey through hands-on exploration, building independence and problem-solving skills.

- Holistic Growth: We focus on the whole child, boosting emotional wellbeing, physical confidence, social cooperation, and cognitive curiosity.

- Managed Risk-Taking: Under supervision, pupils learn to assess and manage real-world risks through activities like shelter building, tool use, and fire safety.

- Environmental Stewardship: Regular immersion fosters a deep respect, understanding, and care for the natural world and local ecosystems.



“Forest School isn’t just about learning outdoors; it’s about watching children discover what they are capable of. Under the canopy of the trees, mistakes become discoveries, mud becomes art, and every climb builds a little more courage for life.”



"I like playing outside with my friends in Pre-School. Everyone is really kind and helps us when we need them."

Where the Journey Begins: Our Pre-School





Welcome to our Pre-School, a happy, nurturing, and spark-filled home for our youngest learners from the age of two. Here, in the very heart of Houghton Conquest Primary, early education is an adventure of wonder, play, and discovery.

What Makes Our Pre-School Special?

- **Learning Through Play:** Guided by the Early Years Foundation Stage (EYFS) framework, our play-based curriculum encourages children to explore, create, ask big questions, and build early friendships.

- **Outdoor Adventures Daily:** From messy play and mud-kitchen creation to early nature discovery, outdoor learning is woven into every single day.

- **Seamless Transitions:** Being part of the wider school family means our Pre-Schoolers share close links with our Reception class. When the time comes to move into 'main school', children step forward with confidence, familiar faces, and big smiles.

- **A Caring First Step:** Our experienced early years team takes the time to know every child individually, building strong partnerships with parents right from day one.





At the Heart of Our Community.

Houghton Conquest Primary School is more than just a place of learning, we are the beating heart of our village. For over 100 years, generations of families have walked through our doors, creating a rich history of shared memories, warm friendships, and strong community spirit.

Core Pillars of Our School Family

• Village Connections: We maintain close links with All Saints Church, the local parish council, and village groups, participating regularly in local traditions, seasonal festivals, and heritage events.

• Intergenerational Learning: From visiting local spaces to inviting community members into school to share their experiences, our pupils learn the value of respect, empathy, and community care.

• Pastoral Care & Wellbeing First: A child who feels safe, happy, and understood is a child who is ready to learn. Pastoral care is woven into everything we do. We provide a gentle, nurturing safety net where children can share their feelings, navigate friendships, and build emotional resilience. Whether through dedicated pastoral support, quiet sensory spaces, or mindfulness, we ensure every child feels seen, heard, and cared for as an individual.

• High Expectations for All: Believing in every child means setting high standards. We encourage every pupil to take pride in their work, aim high, and embrace challenge. By pairing ambitious learning goals with compassionate, individualised support, we empower children to achieve their absolute best.

• True Parent Partnership: We view education as a shared journey between home and school. When parents and staff work hand-in-hand, children flourish. Through an open-door policy, regular workshops, and transparent communication, we ensure you are an active partner in your child's learning and wellbeing.

• Empowering Pupil Voice: At Houghton Conquest, every child's perspective matters. Through our School Council, Eco-Committees, and daily classroom forums, pupils actively contribute to school life. Listening to our pupils builds confident, responsible young individuals who know their thoughts make a difference.

• The Friends of Houghton Conquest: The 'Friends of Houghton Conquest', brings families, the school, and neighbours together to host fantastic events and raise vital funds for our school. From seasonal fairs and school discos to outdoor projects, their hard work directly enriches our pupils' experience, funding specialist resources, trip subsidies, and enhancements for our Forest School.



"Academic achievement and happiness go hand in hand. By wrapping our children in a caring community and giving them a safe space to grow, we give them the confidence to reach as high as they can dream."

Joining Our School Family: Admissions & Contact

Choosing the right primary school for your child is one of the most important decisions you will make. At Houghton Conquest Primary School, we make the process as warm, open, and straightforward as possible. Whether your child is joining our Pre-School at age two, starting Reception, or moving in-year, we are here to support you every step of the way.



Your Pathway to Joining Us

Come and Visit

Experience our school in action. The best way to know if Houghton Conquest is right for your child is to feel the warmth of our community yourself. We run regular guided tours throughout the term where you can explore our classrooms, visit our Forest School, and meet our staff and pupils.

Apply for a Place

Coordinated admissions process.

• Pre-School (Ages 2–4): Admissions for our Pre-School are handled directly by the school. We accept applications year-round and offer flexible morning, afternoon, and full-day sessions, including government-funded early education hours.

• Primary School (Reception – Year 6): Main school admissions are managed in partnership with Central Bedfordshire Council. You can apply online via their admissions portal.

• Welcome & Transition: A gentle, happy start to school life. Once your place is confirmed, we host taster sessions, stay-and-play visits, and parent information events to ensure your child feels confident, secure, and excited for their first day.

How to Apply: Primary Admissions

Main Admission Round (Starting Reception)

If your child turns four before 31st August and is due to start Reception in September, you will need to apply through the Central Bedfordshire Council School Admissions portal.

• Application Window: The main admissions portal typically opens in September and closes in mid-January for entry the following September.

• Submitting Your Choice: You must apply online via the Central Bedfordshire Council website, listing Houghton Conquest Primary School as your preferred choice. National Offer Day takes place in mid-April.

• Our complete Admissions Policy is available to download from the policy section of our website at www.hcschool.org.uk Printed copies are available upon request from the school office.

In-Year Applications

If you have recently moved to the village, relocated within Bedfordshire, or are seeking a transfer for your child during the school year (for any group from Reception to Year 6):

• In-year admissions are managed through Central Bedfordshire Council's in-year admissions team in coordination with our school leadership.

Address:
Houghton Conquest Primary School, High Street, Houghton Conquest, Bedfordshire, MK45 3LL

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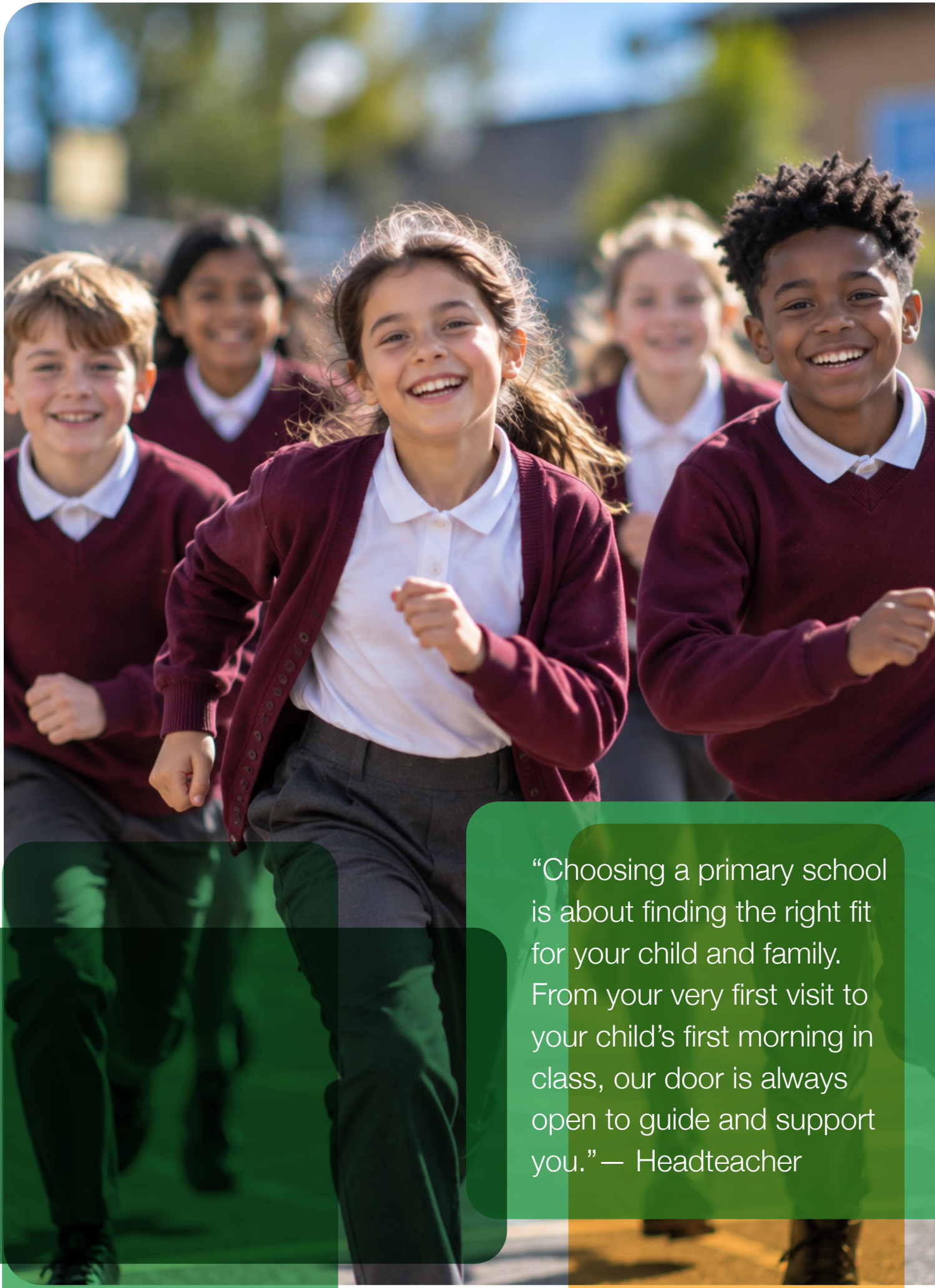
Email: office@hcschool.org.uk
Website: www.hcschool.org.uk



"Choosing a primary school is about finding the right fit for your child and family. From your very first visit to your child's first morning in class, our door is always open to guide and support you."— Headteacher



Houghton Conquest
Primary School

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