

What we know about our school!



My child(ren) feel safe at Colyton

At Colyton we have three key principles; We are caring and kind, we are safe and we try.

This year we have learnt all about the brain and how this regulates our own behaviour and what behaviour looks like of someone who may be struggling with this. We have talked a lot about mental health and have mental health ambassadors to promote this.

We have regular assemblies about mental health, keeping safe, being kind as well as Internet Safety.

In our curriculum we talk about beach safety, being safe online, gambling, eating healthily as well as being safe from risk and harm.

Colyton has a clear expectation of behaviour and does its best to make sure children behave well.

We do this through our three core principles; we are caring and kind, we are safe, we try.

We also have a relational approach to behaviour management which means we know all our children really well and take the time to understand a situation. We talk to children to make sure they can reflect on situations and make amends.

There are clear rules and boundaries that the children know. We also talk a lot about British Values and Protected Characteristics and how this helps us to behave well and be good citizens. All staff have had training in Trauma Informed Approaches so that we work with children to understand their specific needs, especially if they have had a trauma.

We want to support children to make good choices but we also know that they are children and sometimes things can go wrong. When they do there are clear consequences in place, a chance to talk through an action and most importantly to say sorry and make the situation right.

My child knows what bullying is. The school deal with bullying quickly and effectively (can include online and outside of school)

Every year we take part in anti-bullying week and we regularly remind the children that bullying is not someone being unkind or having a fall out with your friend.

When we know bullying happens we always act quickly and will talk to the individual children, parents and follow it up.

We make sure children know that bullying is a serious word and that bullying is deliberate, happens over time and is targeted. We teach children about the difference between bullying and normal falling out that is age appropriate.

When we have seen bullying happen outside of school e.g. on WhatsApp groups we always act by talking to the children and parents.

I know what my child is learning through the year

This is all on our website.

We send diary dates for the events at the beginning of the year, they are on the website, newsletter and in the FAFA calendar.

This half term we have sent out curriculum overviews for each year group.

We also regularly send you the overview for the year.

We have two parents evenings and we encourage everyone to attend but we always are available if you need to speak to a teacher (meeting, phone or email).

At the end of the year you get a school report.

If you are still not sure what your child is learning about then go to the curriculum page on our website.

My child has SEND, and Colyton gives them the support they need to succeed as best they can.

Children with SEND needs have a PLP which is reviewed regularly and changed so that children can make progress. The SENDCo will get help for outside agencies, although we know there are waiting lists for some.

The SENDCo or teacher will meet with you for a TAF meeting to review provision.

Colyton has high expectations and aspirations for my child.

We follow the National Curriculum but we have added a lot to this that link to personal development of the children. E.g. in year 3/4 the children learnt about sound in science but they also thought about what it meant to be hearing impaired.

We have a really well defined careers curriculum (6 lessons a year linked to different job sectors) with visitors throughout the year and in Hope and Dreams week. This is extra to the National Curriculum.

Our quality of books is high and we are relentless about spelling and presentation.

Children in KS1 learn phonics daily and this is a strength of our school. We read with everyone each week and for some children this is up to 3 times a week (This is thanks to our wonderful volunteers bank!) Every child can read fluently when they leave our school.

Our school teach the children using metacognitive practices and this has been recognised by other schools in our trust and celebrated at a National Conference as being a strength of our school.

My child does well at Colyton.

This does not just mean in their maths and English but in the development of their character too. We want them to succeed at little things as well as the big ones!

There is a good range of subject available at Colyton.

We teach all of the national curriculum subjects as well as enhancing them plus our careers curriculum. We also make sure that there are lots of extra opportunities such as trips to farms, local care homes, residentials and London (every other year in 5 & 6) The school is mindful not to book too many as they can cost a lot.

My child can take part in lunchtime and after school clubs at Colyton.

Lunchtime clubs we run are; Lego, colouring, chess, choir, ukulele, Afterschool clubs; country dancing, gardening, multi-skills, craft club, sats club.

We would love to offer more clubs but we are limited with staff numbers.

If you have any ideas of more clubs or would be happy to pay for more clubs then please let us know.

Colyton supports my child's wider personal development;

These are all the ways we think we do this really well...careers curriculum, British Values, mental health week, the environment and being sustainable, taking part in community events like reading at pre-school and care homes, knowing how to stay safe etc. We send you the Online Safety Newsletter. We make sure we celebrate International Women's Day, Reindeer Run, Maypole Dancing, holding sport's day, teddy bear's picnic for new starters, as well as a play in year 3/4 and year 6.

We also are proud of taking children on a London trip every other year to the Houses of Parliament.

We have launched our Mental Health campaign with families this year (hope you are enjoying the recipes!) with things like Family Time bingo.

We also asked...

What other clubs you would like or could help with?

If we offered a before school breakfast club and after school club (paid for by parents) would you be keen? Lots of you said yes!

What other things would you like to see us do to share successes with you?

Some of you said parent workshops, more involvement days for parents - so we have booked these in for next year already! Some of you asked how you can help your chil at home and that is what we will focus parent workshops on!

We asked for any other ideas - some of you said a more succinct newsletter so we are looking at options for this too.

It is not too late to let us have your ideas - just email the office or catch me on the gate.