



Great Orton Primary School

Prospectus 2025-2026

Welcome to Great Orton Primary School. We look forward to meeting you and your child in person at our school and hope that this prospectus provides an insight into our vibrant learning community.

We understand that choosing a Primary School for your child is an important decision. At Great Orton, our staff are committed to ensuring we get to know each child as an individual. This process starts before your child's first day, and is the beginning of a relationship that will build and grow throughout your child's successful and fulfilling learning journey at our school.

The staff at Great Orton Primary School are dedicated, talented and knowledgeable. Your child will be challenged and supported to achieve across the full breadth of our exciting Curriculum.

We place a great emphasis on nurturing every pupil's growth as responsible citizens. Respect, tolerance, honesty and positive behaviour are expected at all times, ensuring all pupils play an active, positive part in their communities.

We ensure all children are listened to, valued and encouraged. We celebrate individual successes and develop pupils' self esteem.





INTRODUCTION

At Great Orton Primary School, we aim for every child to learn in the best possible environment. The school's extensive school grounds, with a football pitch, climbing walls and outdoor play equipment, allow for a full range of extracurricular activities and playtime and lunchtime experiences. Great Orton is an inclusive school. We strive to achieve the highest standards for each and every child regardless of their starting points. Whatever your child's individual circumstances, we aim to tailor a curriculum to meet their needs; one which facilitates enjoyment in learning and equal opportunities for all. On behalf of all the pupils, staff and Governors, I look forward to welcoming you to Great Orton Primary School. If there is anything that you would like to discuss further, please do not hesitate to get in touch.

Mr Matthew Walker Headteacher, Great Orton Primary.

Great Orton is a traditional village school combining a warm, friendly welcoming atmosphere with modern facilities and equipment. The school is largely organised into three classes.

A separate Nursery is on site. This is provided by 'Messyhands' for children aged birth to 4.

A breakfast club is available from 08:00 am to 8:45 am each morning through our attached Nursery Messyhands. The charge is £6.50 per session plus an additional £1 per week if food is required.

After-school childcare is currently available on Tuesday (sports club 3:30 pm-4:30 pm, free), Wednesday and Thursday (ran by Mrs Blakey include arts and crafts, cooking and construction 3:30 pm- 4:30 pm, £5 per session)

" Teachers have high expectations of pupils' behaviour.

Lessons are rarely disrupted because pupils are keen to learn"

Ofsted Report Published January 2023



Curriculum

At Great Orton Primary School, we are designing and implementing a curriculum that is both immersive and progressive. We use a variety of high-quality resources to deliver our curriculum which allows for a good balance of breadth and depth. It is highly relevant and purposeful, exciting for both staff and pupils and truly broadens pupils' outlook and views by focussing on subject-specific knowledge and skills. Experiences are at the core of our curriculum.

We aim to offer active, challenging and inspiring learning opportunities. Subject-specific approaches allow children to explore their learning. We strive to help our pupils realise the full potential they have to achieve and succeed, not just at school, but as educated citizens within their own community and on a broader global scale. We want the pupils' learning to be more 'outward-facing', enabling them to become well-rounded and happy individuals who not only care about themselves but about others and the environment.

Our curriculum is designed to develop resilient, independent learners who can retain and apply their knowledge and skills appropriately.





“Pupils are proud to be part of this school family.

They are polite, friendly and respectful.

Pupils look after one another and make sure that everyone is included in school life “

Ofsted Report Published January 2023

Assessment

Great Orton Primary School constantly assesses each child to support teaching and learning. Understanding their individual development ensures we can meet every child's needs. Parent's evenings are held twice a year. These events provide a valuable personalised dialogue between you and your child's teachers. They highlight progress and achievements and keep you fully informed on the next steps in your learning journey. Comprehensive annual written reports are provided at the end of each academic year.

Extra-Curricular Activities

Great Orton Primary School actively encourage participation in extra-curricular activities organised by school and staff. Recent examples of our extra curricular clubs include;

Football
Multiskills
Music and Dance
Art Club
Table-Top Games

Good behaviour is expected at ALL times:

With praise and encouragement we expect that each child will develop a sense of self-discipline.

We do not condone bullying or any form of rough physical 'play'.

The school has a clear anti-bullying policy, a copy is available in school or can be viewed on the school website.

We expect that all children will be respectful and tolerant to others.



Inspiring You To Be Great!

PHSE

PHSE education within our school aims to provide opportunities for pupils to develop the skills, knowledge and understanding they need to lead confident, healthy independent lives and become active and informed citizens. Teaching PHSE enables pupils to contribute in an age appropriate way. This may be delivered in 'Circle Time', assemblies, or during curriculum lessons such as science or during our Sports and Health Week, for example.

Religious Education

Religious Education is a core subject which is taught following the guidelines of the agreed 'Cumbria Syllabus'. Assemblies are held daily which are broadly Christian in character, although we are a non-denominational school. If you would like to discuss this aspect of school life further do not hesitate to contact the Headteacher.



Physical Education

PE has an important place in the school day and the importance of exercise for a healthy lifestyle is one of the main aims of physical education at our school. All children have access to high quality provision in PE and sport.

Whether your child likes taking part 'for fun', or thrives through positive competition, we aim to offer high quality experiences for every student, regardless of their ability.

Our school is affiliated to the Carlisle School Sports Association and takes part in football league and cup competitions. Children also compete in numerous annual sporting events, including athletics, swimming and cross country.

The Art and Music

The Arts; comprising art, music, design, literacy and other creative activities; form a fundamental element of the Great Orton Primary School curriculum.

We believe that the arts offer invaluable opportunities for children to develop their creativity, self-esteem and confidence and ensure every child in Key Stage 2 are taught to play a musical instrument.

Term Dates 2025-26

Autumn Term

Start of Term	Wednesday 3 rd Sept 25
Half Term	Monday 27 th Oct 25 to Friday 31 st Oct 25
End of Term	Friday 19 th Dec 25

Spring Term

Start of Term	Wednesday 7 th Jan 26
Half Term	Monday 16 th Feb 26 to Friday 20 th Feb 26
End of Term	Friday 27 th March 26

Summer Term

Start of Term	Monday 13th Apr 26
Good Friday	Friday 3 rd Apr 26
Easter Monday	Monday 6 th Apr 26
May Bank Holiday	Monday 4 th May 26
Half Term	Monday 25 th May 26 to Friday 29 th May 26
End of Term	Friday 17th July 26

The Team

School Staff

Headteacher
Mr Walker

Admin and Business Manger

Mrs Wright

Teaching Staff

Mr Walker
Miss Shannon
Mrs Cuzick

Support Staff

Mrs Nolan
Miss Little
Mrs Bell

Lunch Staff

Mrs Blakey
Mrs Edwards

Governing Body

Chair of Governors
Miss McGaffin

Vice Chair

Mrs Lowe

Co-opted Governors

Mr Greig
Mrs Evans

Staff Governor

Mrs Cuzick

Headteacher

Mr Walker

The School Day

Great Orton Primary School's classes; Early Years Foundation Stage, Key Stage 1 and Key Stage 2; all follow the same daily timetable.

Morning Session: 8:45 a.m. to 12:00 noon

Afternoon Session: 1:00 p.m. to 3:30 p.m.





Uniform

We have high expectations of pupils' appearance.

Great Orton School Uniform Jewellery

- Navy sweatshirt, or cardigan with school logo.
- Navy/Black/Grey trousers.
- Blue/Black/Grey pinafore dress, or skirt with navy or red tights.
- Red polo shirt with optional school logo.
- Black school shoes with low heels or completely Black trainers.
- Navy book bag with logo.

Great Orton Primary School PE Kit

- Navy shorts.
- Plain white round-neck T-shirt.
- Plimsolls or trainers for outdoor lessons.
- Dark-coloured tracksuits may be worn in the winter months.

Optional items of Uniform

- During the Summer Term, and up to October half term, pupils are able to wear Navy/Black/Grey school shorts, or red checked summer dresses with a navy cardigan and ankle socks.
- In general jewellery is NOT encouraged. It is best if the jewellery is not worn at all, as the school cannot take responsibility for any loss or damage.
- Only plain stud earrings are permissible, but they MUST be removed for PE lessons.
- When removed the responsibility for the care of studs rests solely with the pupil. For this reason, we encourage ear piercing to be undertaken in the Summer Holidays to ensure they are healed, enabling safe. removal.
- If studs cannot be removed, pupils/parents must take responsibility for providing plasters/tape to cover them.

Unacceptable Clothing and Jewellery

- NOT Permitted: NO jeans, regardless of colour.
- NOT Permitted: NO trainers or sports shoes.
- NOT permitted: Apart from plain stud earrings, NO other jewellery, including chains, necklaces, bracelets, and any hoop, or drop earrings may be worn in school at all.

Thank you for your support in this matter.

Uniform items featuring the Great Orton school logo on can be purchased online, direct from our uniform supplier School Trends: www.schooltrends.co.uk/uniform/GreatOrtonSchoolCA56NA



School Policies

We place great emphasis on ensuring that your child is safe whilst they are in our care.

School Lunches

Our lunch provider creates a great menu of fresh, home cooked and nutritionally balanced meals every day. It is a tasty and popular menu that was created in close consultation with pupils and their parents. We do ask that school meals be ordered a full week in advance to enable fruit, meat and vegetables to be ordered and delivered. Meals are priced at just £3.00 per meal.

In September 2014, the Government introduced free school meals for ALL primary school pupils in Reception, Year 1 and Year 2 - regardless of circumstances.

However, please note that if you receive one of the qualifying benefits for Free School Meals and the Clothing Grant, please DO still apply for them as this qualifies your child to receive the 'Pupil Premium' as it provides extra funding for the school to help your child. Full details of these important grants can be found in the Pupil Premium section of our website.

Packed Lunches

If your child wishes to bring a packed lunch instead please note that as we are a 'healthy school', your child's packed lunch must not contain fizzy drinks or sweets (including chocolate bars).

Pastoral Care

All school staff are responsible for the pastoral care of pupils; the school has a caring and friendly atmosphere. Children are encouraged to speak to their class teacher, or the Headteacher about any problems or worries they may have.

If you have any concerns about your child, speak to us at your earliest convenience and we will help in any way that we can.

Absences from School

Where absence through illness cannot be avoided, it is important that parents ring school to inform of the reason by 9:15am on the day of absence. Where no notification is received, this will be followed up by our staff, and marked as 'unauthorised absence' until and unless a satisfactory reason can be ascertained.

It is also expected that the school will be provided with ample advance notice of Doctor, Dentist, Hospital Appointments wherever possible. If children must be taken out during the school day, parents should collect their child from the main school office where they will be signed out.

Persistent lateness will be challenged by the school, and where necessary, the Inclusion Officer from the Local Authority will become involved.

Due to recent changes in the law, Headteachers are no longer able to authorise any holidays in term time unless there are exceptional circumstances.

Any requests for a holiday to be authorised during term time need to be made in writing to Great Orton Primary School's Headteacher. All applications for holidays in term time are considered on an individual basis.

Site Security

We place great emphasis on ensuring that your child is safe whilst they are in our care. All visitors must report to the main school office upon arrival. All external doors are secured with keypads and the grounds and building are continually covered by CCTV.

Illness at School

When we suspect that a child is ill, parents are contacted by telephone. It is important that we have more than one contact telephone number, in case this situation arises.

Naturally, we care for the children to the very best of our ability until the parent arrives. There are a large number of qualified First Aiders in School.

Medicine

We do not usually give un-prescribed medicine to children in school. If it is necessary for a child to have un-prescribed medicine during school hours then please discuss this with the Headteacher and arrange to come to school to give the medicine to your child yourself.

If prescribed, medication has to be administered in school, please hand it in to the school office in its original packaging displaying the named prescription sticker and complete the relevant permission form. This must be signed by a parent or guardian. All medication must be prescribed by a doctor.

Should your child's requirements change over the year please inform the school office immediately. Thank you.

Where ongoing specific needs exist, a formal care plan will be drawn up and agreed between the parents/guardians, staff and the school nurse.

'Prevent' Duty

In-line with the Government's 'Prevent' agenda, our Child Protection Policy reiterates our commitment to ensuring our children grow as responsible, well-rounded citizens. We will do anything we can to protect our pupils from the threat of terrorism or radical ideology, and we have a zero tolerance approach to extremism in our school. Our staff are well-trained as to what to do in such circumstances.

We support and adhere to the latest guidance from the DfE which requires schools to actively promote the fundamental 'British Values' of democracy, the rule of law, individual liberty, and mutual respect for and tolerance of those with different faiths and beliefs and for those without faith. We do this through our broad and balanced curriculum which includes assemblies.

We encourage students to accept responsibility for their behaviour, show initiative, and to understand how they can contribute positively to the lives of those living and working in the locality of the school and to society more widely.

Complaints

If you become concerned in any way about your child's education it is important that you speak to us. As a first step you should discuss your concerns with your child's teacher.

If you are still concerned you should arrange to meet with the Headteacher. As a team we will do all we can to resolve your concerns and to ensure you are happy with your child's education.

A copy of Great Orton Primary School's complete Complaints Procedure is available either directly from the school office, or via the school website.

greatorton.cumbria.sch.uk



Admissions

Cumbria Education Service General Admissions Policy 2025/2026
for Community and Voluntary Controlled Schools

Where there are more applications than places available at a community or voluntary controlled school for entry to all year groups except Year 12, applications will be prioritised using the criteria below. They will be applied in conjunction with explanatory notes 1 - 6 which form part of the policy.

1. Children looked after and who were previously looked after, i.e. in public care, giving priority, if necessary, to the youngest child(ren). See Note 1.
2. Children who were previously looked after outside of England. See Note 1.
3. Children living in the catchment area who have brothers or sisters in the school (or associated infant or junior school) at the time of admission. See Notes 2, 3 and 4.
4. Children living outside the catchment area who, at the time of their admission, have brothers or sisters in the school (or associated infant or junior school) who were allocated a place at that school by the Local Authority either (a) in the absence of a place being available in the catchment area school due to oversubscription and the school was identified by the Local Authority as the next nearest with a place available or (b) the school is named in the sibling's Education, Health and Care Plan (EHCP). See Notes 2, 3 and 5.
5. Other children living in the catchment area giving priority to those living closest to the school, measured by a straight-line measurement between the centre of the pupil's home address and a common point on the school site as determined by the Local Authority. See Notes 6 and 7.
6. Children living outside the catchment area who have brothers or sisters in the school (or associated infant or junior school) at the time of their admission. See Notes 2, 3 and 4.
7. Children living outside the catchment area, giving priority to those who live closest to the school, measured by a straight-line measurement between the centre of the pupil's home address and a common point on the school site as determined by the Local Authority. See Notes 6 and 7.

Applications will be prioritised on the above basis. An exception will be made under the Local Authority's policy for the education of children with special educational needs where a child holds an Education, Health and Care Plan (EHCP), that names the school.



Explanatory Notes [These notes are part of the policy]

Note 1: A child looked after is a child in public care, who is looked after by a local authority within the meaning of Section 22 of the Children Act 1989. Children previously looked after are children who were looked after, but have ceased to be so because they were adopted (under the terms of the Adoption and Children Act 2002) or became subject to a Child Arrangements Order or Special Guardianship Order (Children Act 1989).

The provision to give the highest priority to looked after and previously looked after children applies to all children who have been adopted from local authority care.

Advice issued by the Department for Education (DfE) in August 2018 states that a child previously looked after outside of England is one that was looked after, outside England, by a public authority, a religious organisation or another provider of care whose sole purpose is to benefit society.

For a previously looked after child to be considered under criteria 1 or 2, the parent or carer must provide appropriate written evidence to support the application.

Note 2: In criteria 3, 4 and 6, priority will be given to those children with the youngest siblings. Brothers and sisters are those living at the same address and includes step and foster children. Priority will only be given where it is known at the time of allocating places that a sibling will be attending the school (excluding a nursery class – see Note 4) at the time of admission.

Note 3: Where reference is made to 'associated' infant and junior schools this is to describe those situations where infant and junior schools share the same catchment area.

Note 4: Brothers and sisters in the school at the time of admission does not include a brother or sister who will be attending a nursery class that is attached to the school.

Note 5: If a parent or carer believes that they qualify for consideration under criterion 4, they should indicate this on their preference form in the place provided for this purpose.

Note 6: Distance measurements will be undertaken using the Local Authority's computerised Geographical Information System [GIS]. This measures a straight-line measurement between the centre of the pupil's home address and a common point on the school site as determined by the Local Authority.

Note 7: Random allocation will be used as a tie-break in categories 5 and 7 to decide who has the highest priority for admission if the distance between the children's home address and the school is the same. This process will be independently verified.



Great Orton's School Rules

We always try our best.

We speak to others with kindness and respect.

We take responsibility for our actions.

We take pride in all that we do.

We care for each other and help other people.

We look after our school environment and the
school community.

We value differences in other people.

We speak to someone if we need help. These
important rules, which were agreed with the School
Council, help us to learn, stay safe and be happy.

Great Orton Primary School

Great Orton, Carlisle, Cumbria CA5 6NA.

01228 711602

www.greatorton.cumbria.sch.uk