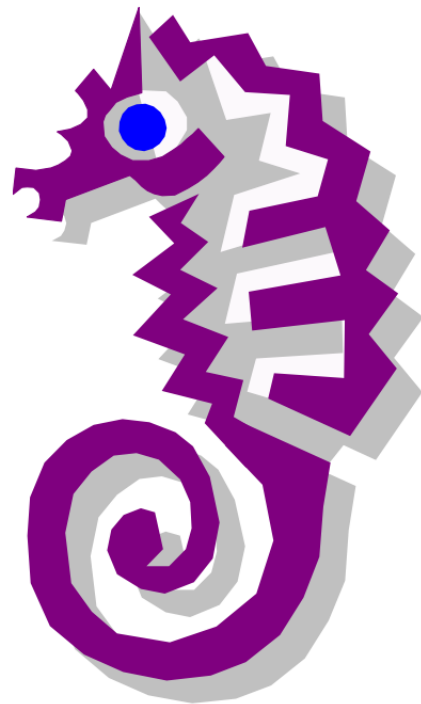


Sandham

Prospectus

2009 / 2010



*This is a digital download version, subject to any changes,
for the latest FULL version, please contact the school office.*

'Learning for Life'

Welcome to Sandham Middle School, a community school for children aged 9 – 13. Sandham is a dynamic school, committed to providing a rich education that interests, enthuses and rewards each child. We have *high expectations for every child*, and are dedicated to meeting each child's individual needs by developing their curiosity and confidence to take a variety of learning challenges, both now and in the future.

Our children come from a variety of backgrounds, learning together in an atmosphere of high expectations, *mutual respect and friendship*. We know and value each child in our school and believe in ensuring that each child achieves their best, through high quality teaching and support.

Curriculum opportunities...

Learning at Sandham is an exciting and challenging experience for each child. There is a strong emphasis on delivering all areas of the curriculum to a high standard, so that each child experiences a broad and balanced curriculum; developing skills, knowledge and understanding in:

Literacy

Numeracy

Science

Information Communication Technology

History

Geography

Music

PE

RE

French

Design Technology

Our religious education programme aims to develop children's knowledge and understanding of all the major faiths, promoting tolerance and respect for each other as members of our multi-cultural society.

Personal, Social and Health Education is regarded as a central and valuable area of the curriculum, and children take part in all year groups. Strands of the PSHE curriculum include:

Developing confidence, How to build positive relationships, Taking responsibility for ones actions, Drug Education and making good choices, Dealing with peer pressure, Respecting differences between people, Healthy & safe lifestyles including Sex education.

Our facilities

The learning environment is supported by our modern, well designed facilities which include up to date technology in many classrooms, 4 specialist ICT suites, a fully resourced library which is open from 8.30 – 4.00 pm daily, 3 specialist science rooms, a specialist design technology room, art room and music centre. Our PE department includes separate girls/ boys changing rooms and a shower area for use after 'sweaty / muddy' sessions. Our landscaped grounds include spacious play areas, quiet areas, a sports field and an all weather sports pitch.

The uniqueness of the middle school system allows the school to provide the opportunity to be taught by specialist teachers, which is particularly the case in years 6,7 and 8.

Learning together.....

'Opening the door to opportunities'

The School Day

Timing of the School Day

8.35am	Bell signalling pupil movement in the building
8.40am	Tutor group registration
8.50 am	Lesson 1 begins
9.50am	Lesson 2 begins
10.50am	KS3 Assembly/KS2 Break
11.05am	KS2 Assembly/KS3 Break
11.20am	Lesson 3 begins
12.15pm	KS2 Lunch Lesson 4 begins for KS3
1.10pm	KS3 Lunch Lesson 4 begins for KS2
2.05pm	Lesson 5 begins
3.00pm	Dismissal from school. Clubs begin

Grouping the children

Each child is placed in a tutor group, and the class tutor takes primary responsibility for the child's welfare in school. Teaching groups are organised in a variety of ways, including ability sets and mixed ability groups. Throughout the school the children are ability set for English and Mathematics. The make up of the sets are reviewed each term and amended if needed.

We recognise that a significant number of our children can be classed as *higher achievers*, in one or several areas of the curriculum. As such we make special provision to ensure they reach their potential. When the children are organised in mixed ability groups, extension activities are provided in order to challenge and extend the children's thinking skills. We also have a register of children who are gifted and talented and provide additional opportunities to stimulate and broaden their learning.

The average size for each tutor group is 28. This number varies when the children are organised in ability groups with the intention of creating an effective balance of adults to pupils depending on the needs of each group.

Extra-curricular provision

The curriculum is enriched through the innovative use of a range of visitors to the school including: theatre groups, musicians, dance groups, authors etc. who perform and lead workshops for the children. In order to further enrich the curriculum we organise a whole programme of day trips for every year group to complement the topics being covered in school. Children are also offered the opportunity to take part in residential trips, which focus on environmental studies, language studies or outdoor education. The additional cost of these opportunities is met by parental contributions.

Music opportunities

A number of peripatetic music teachers are employed to offer music tuition in a variety of instruments including: flute, oboe, clarinet, saxophone, trumpet, cornet, French horn, keyboard, trombone, violin, double bass, cello, drums, percussion and guitar. Lessons take place during the school day. For further details of cost and hire of instruments, please see our specialist music teacher.

After school clubs

Sandham is fortunate to have staff who are willing to offer a range of after school clubs / activities which give children the opportunity to extend their skills or develop another interest. Clubs usually run until 4.00 p.m. and all children need parental permission to attend a club.

A range of clubs offered over the year include:

Athletics	Cricket	Rugby
Art	Dance	Soccer
Basketball	Drama	Textiles
Carnival club	French	Volleyball
Choir	Netball	and others...
Computer	Orchestra	

There is a strong sporting tradition at Sandham and children have the opportunity to participate in a range of sports for enjoyment. As a school we participate in a number of leagues, tournaments and competitions, and are proud of the school's sporting achievements.

Home Learning

This is seen as an integral part of the curriculum, which is used to support pupils and to reinforce the on-going work in the classroom. Home learning is also a useful tool for involving parents in, and informing parents of the education of their children. Home learning tasks are linked with the work being covered within the class at that time. Every pupil is issued with a home learning diary at the beginning of each academic year, in which they record relevant details. The demands it makes on personal organisation help develop attitudes and habits that prepare children for further education. Parents are informed at the beginning of the school year about the frequency of home learning tasks, together with timings. We ask that you regularly check your child's home learning diary and provide a signature to keep the class tutor informed of your monitoring and support. We ask that parents provide a good supportive environment for study at home and encourage your child to develop a routine for home learning tasks to be completed.

Building on success.....

Achievement for all

Provision for children with additional needs

We recognise that some children have special educational needs that make learning more challenging. We believe that early intervention and support are the most effective strategies for helping children overcome their difficulties. We work closely with parents in agreeing strategies, which are appropriate for our children's individual needs. Strategies used include group work, special intervention programmes and additional support. Please ask for our policy on 'Special Needs' or speak to our 'Co-ordinator for Inclusion' if you require further information.

Provision for children with physical needs

Our school is fully accessible to people with physical disabilities or medical needs. The whole school is on one floor and all rooms and facilities are set out to allow full wheelchair access. We offer an inclusive curriculum and should a child have a physical disability, the curriculum is modified to allow the child to take a full and active part.

At Sandham we have a strong team of support staff, who work in partnership with the teaching staff in ensuring the needs of the children are met.

Medical needs

Our medical support co-ordinator oversees and contributes to the provision for children with medical needs. We have procedures for the administration of medicines in school, such as inhalers, details of which are available from Reception. First Aid is available during the school day from Reception and will be administered by qualified First Aiders.

National assessments

Unless there are exceptional circumstances, every child participates in national assessments at the end of Year 6 (The end of Key Stage 2).

Throughout each year, children are assessed in a variety of ways in order to carefully track each child's progress. This information is used to identify children who may need additional support.

Behaviour for learning

Promoting excellent behaviour

Our positive behaviour management strategy underpins every aspect of the work we do at Sandham. As such the children are taught and expected to treat everyone and everything in our school community with respect and understanding. Your child will receive rewards such as praise and merits for displaying a positive attitude towards all aspects of school work and life.

We also have a clear system of consequences should a child choose not to behave appropriately. Consequences include:

- Verbal reprimands
- Removal of free time
- Exit from lessons
- Detention
- Enhanced supervision
- Internal exclusion
- Restricted timetable
- Exclusion from school

Should a child's behaviour be a cause for concern we would endeavour to solve the problem in partnership with parents. As such we would invite parents to discuss our concern and agree a way forward which will include support from home.

It is every child's right to feel safe, supported and able to make the most of the educational opportunities offered to them. Any persistent unacceptable behaviour that disrupts the learning of others or in any way threatens a child's feeling of personal well-being is not tolerated. Sandham has a well-established anti-bullying policy that will result in the school taking firm action to resolve any issues.

Encouraging independence

Each year group has a main allocated year base area, and every child has an allocated coat peg and a secure storage locker. Locker keys are issued at the beginning of each year for a returnable deposit of £2.50. (Lost keys are replaced at a charge of £2.50). Every child needs a small, robust bag for carrying books and equipment between home and school. It is expected that bags are kept in lockers and are not taken to lessons.

Attendance & Achievement

Good attendance makes a difference to the educational success of each child; as such we actively promote regular attendance and good punctuality. As the children are only at school for 190 days each year, it is expected that routine appointments and family events / holidays be booked to coincide with the 175 non school days. Any requests for 'leave of absence' will only be considered when there are exceptional circumstances.

Any absence from school has to be recorded as either authorised or unauthorised. In order to make this decision, any period of absence needs to be followed up by a letter from parents / carers that explains the reason for absence. Should your child be absent for any reason, parents are asked to telephone the school by 9.30 am on the first day of absence. The school works closely with the Education Welfare Officer from the Local Authority and our local Home-School Liaison officer to support parents in overcoming attendance / welfare issues.

Contact details: EWO - Tel: 409741

Home School Liaison – Tel: 409115

Working in partnership

With parents & carers

Parents / Carers play an essential part in their child's education; therefore we use a variety of strategies to ensure we work in partnership with parents. Each term we hold two consultation evenings, when parents / carers are invited to meet with their child's form tutor/subject teacher to discuss their child's progress. The Headteacher holds a weekly surgery between 5.30 - 6.30 for parents to call in and discuss urgent or important matters.

A written annual report is given to parents at the end of the academic year, which provides a summary of the each child's achievement in each area of the curriculum.

Should there be any concerns that arise during the year, parents are encouraged to contact their child's form tutor in the first instance, so that issues can be discussed and addressed as soon as possible. The form tutor may take the decision to involve staff in senior roles if appropriate.

Throughout the year each child is helped to build up their own record of achievement.

What parents can do to help?

Parents share with the school an important responsibility in helping their child to achieve their potential. Some of the ways in which parents can supplement and extend the school programme.

- Reinforce with your child how important their education is and how they should always try their best.
- Share an interest in reading with your child. Read to them and discuss with them the books they are reading. Encourage them to use the school library.
- Encourage originality. Help your child to make their own toys, projects or models from wood, textiles or any other materials which may be available.
- Encourage questions. Help your child to find sources which provide them with the answers, rather than attempting to answer them all yourself.
- Stimulate creative thinking and problem solving. Encourage them to find out without fear of making mistake. Help them to value their own thinking, learn from their mistakes and encourage them to try again.
- Foster good works habits. Help your child to plan their work and then be sure they complete their plan. This applies to all types of tasks at home, in the community as well as school.
- Find time for the family to talk together about many different things. Help you child work towards expressing themselves clearly.
- Take trips together to places of interests for example: museums, exhibitions, fairs, theatres etc.
- Encourage a variety of experiences. Help your child to become interested in many activities and develop hobbies.
- Allow for some free time – to encourage your child to wonder and appreciate the world around them.

Be a real companion to your child. Explore and share each other's thinking. Enjoy your child/children and help them to remember their childhood with pleasure.

For Up-to-date school information, please see the school website - which can be found online at: www.sandham.iofw.co.uk

Working in partnership

School Forum

Our school forum has been actively operating in the school for a number of years. Representatives from each tutor group are elected by their peers to attend school forum meetings, which are held regularly throughout the year. Through the forum the children are involved in making decisions about what they want in our school and how they want it to be.

With local schools

Most of our children transfer from nearby primary schools and many of our children transfer on to Sandown High School. For community schools, places are predominantly allocated according to the child's address / proximity to the school. As the Local Authority organise admission to all community schools, all application forms and accompanying documents need to be sent direct to the Local Authority. Late applications are only considered once all applications have been processed, therefore it is important to send applications in on time.

In order to ensure a smooth transfer from Primary to Middle and Middle to High School we work closely with schools in the surrounding area. Staff work together on curriculum projects and meet to discuss pupils' educational needs when transferring between schools. Induction days are organised for children to spend time in their new school before they actually transfer. Details of visits and meetings for parents are publicised through letters home and the newsletter.

Encouraging dreams and ambitions.....

Taking pride in appearance

School uniform

The wearing of school uniform symbolises membership of our school, and all children / parents are expected to support the school policy on school uniform. Children will need the following items:

Girls uniform	Boys uniform
<p>General uniform</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Navy V neck sweatshirt/fleece with school emblem ✓ Light blue polo shirt or polo shirt with school emblem ✓ Plain navy skirt (no split) or ✓ Plain navy trousers (hemmed to floor level) ✓ Black plain school shoes (low heel, not boots) or plain black trainers ✓ White or navy socks / tights 	<p>General uniform</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Navy V neck sweatshirt/fleece with school emblem ✓ Light blue polo shirt or polo shirt with school emblem ✓ Dark grey school trousers ✓ Black school shoes or plain black trainers ✓ Plain dark socks
<p>P.E. Kit</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Maroon sweatshirt with PE logo ✓ Tracksuit bottom with PE logo ✓ White polo shirt with PE logo ✓ Navy blue shorts with PE logo ✓ White sports socks ✓ Long navy sports socks ✓ Shin guards for soccer / hockey ✓ Non-marking trainers for use in the hall ✓ Towel ✓ Waterproof kit bag 	<p>P.E. Kit</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Maroon sweatshirt with PE logo ✓ Tracksuit bottom with PE logo ✓ White polo shirt with PE logo ✓ Navy blue shorts with PE logo ✓ White sports socks ✓ Long navy sports socks ✓ Shin guards for soccer / hockey ✓ Yrs 7/8 Mouth guard for Rugby ✓ Studded boots for field games ✓ Non-marking trainers for use in the hall ✓ Towel ✓ Waterproof kit bag
<p>General items</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ A weatherproof coat ✓ A small / robust / weatherproof school bag 	<p>General items</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ A weatherproof coat ✓ A small / robust / weatherproof school bag

Where to purchase school uniform

All uniform can be purchased from our school supplier Kids & Co, 22 High Street, Ryde. Tel 615244. They will accept credit cards, cheques or cash and orders can be made on line on WWW.KIDS&CODIRECT.CO.UK .

Jewellery etc...

No jewellery, including watches, should be worn to school. For children with pierced ears, a single pair of small studs may be worn, which will need to be removed / taped for P.E. lessons.

Mobile phones are not permitted in school, unless permission has been sought from a senior member of staff. If permission has been granted the phone must be handed in to the school office at the beginning of the day and collected at the end of the day.

Complaints procedure

Parents are welcome to come into school to discuss aspects of their child's education with staff. Formal meetings are published through the newsletter and occur throughout the year.

Individual discussions can be generated by the school or family whenever appropriate. We hope the majority of these result in mutual understanding and an agreed strategy to further the education of the child.

However if you remain dissatisfied with the handling of any aspects of our provision, parents are asked to put any concerns in writing to the Headteacher, which is the first step in our complaints procedure. A copy of the complaints policy is available on request from the school office.

School Contact Details

You can contact the school in a variety of ways;

School Office Telephone: **01983 404297**

Email: **office@sandham.iow.sch.uk**

Website: **www.sandham.iofw.co.uk**

Address: **Sandham Middle School, Perowne Way, Sandown, PO36 9JU**

Building self belief.....

Valuing the contributions of all

<p>Headteacher – Mr G Booth Deputy Head – Mrs L. Shenton Assistant Head – Mr P. Drummer Assistant Head – Mr I. Carnegie Assistant Head – Mr S. Holland</p>		
<p>Teaching staff Mrs L. Churchill-Slough Mrs K. Davis Mrs S. Devine Mrs G. Dyer Mr J. Edgerton Mr D. Edmonston Mrs L Feist Ms R. Havard Mr J. Haydon Miss C. Jackson Miss H. Larkin Ms T. Lingard Lane Mr L. Lockey</p>	<p>Teaching Staff Mrs A McGhie Mr D. Minnis Mr M. Page Miss L Payn Ms D. Redfern Mrs S. Shepherd Mrs A. Silcox Miss K. Walker Mr S. Weir Mr P, Wells Mrs C. White Ms H. Williams</p>	<p>Teaching Assistants Mrs E. Adduono Mrs K. Austin Mrs A. Donson Mrs Y Elkins Mr S Freeman Miss A. Price Mrs J. Selby Mrs L. Shilton Mrs C. Stone Mrs W. Walsh Mrs K. Whitewood</p> <p>Inclusion Leader Ms H. Williams</p> <p>Learning Mentors Mrs C. Rackett Mrs M. Morritt Mrs J. Donbavand</p>

Bursar/PA	Mrs P. Freeman
Office Manager	Mrs C. Diffey
Admin Assistant	Mrs A. Fountaine
Resource Assistant	Miss C. Martin
SEN Admin	Mrs S Brading
Family Support Worker	Mrs M Reddington
PA Deputy	Mrs N Alexander
Site Manager	Mr D. Morris
Caretaker	Mr G. Smith
DT Technician	Mr P Wells
Librarian	Mrs A. Bloodworth
ICT Network Manager	Mr P. Gerfen
ICT Technician	Mr J Rylatt
School Cleaners	Mrs E. Adduono
	Ms T Cheeseman
	Mrs V Cheeseman
	Miss H Cooper
	Mrs L Shilton
Lunchtime Supervisors	Mrs J Fleming
	Mrs C Skeels
	Mrs C Upton
Governing Body	
Chair of Governors	Mr P. Brading
LEA	Mrs H. Humby
LEA	Mrs J. Philips
LEA	Mr D. Williams
Teacher Governor	Vacancy
Support Staff	Mrs L. Shilton
Community	Mr G. Smart
Community	Mr G. Webster
Community	Vacancy
Parent	Mr J. Fountaine
Parent	Mr D. Monger
Parent	Mrs C. Hobbs
Parent	Mr C. Potter
Parent	Mr S. Rue
Clerk to Governors	Mr R. Crossley

School Holiday Dates

School Development Days will be confirmed throughout the year
<u>AUTUMN HALF TERM 2009</u> School finishes –Friday 23 rd October School opens – Monday 2 nd November
<u>CHRISTMAS 2009</u> School finishes – Friday 18 th December School opens – Monday 5 th January 2010
<u>SPRING HALF TERM 2010</u> School finishes – Friday 12 th February School opens – Monday 22 nd February
<u>EASTER HOLIDAY 2010</u> School finishes – Thursday 1 st April School opens – Monday 19 th April
<u>MAY DAY BANK HOLIDAY 2010</u> School closed Monday 3 rd May
<u>SUMMER HALF TERM 2010</u> School finishes Friday 28 th May School reopens Monday 7 th June
<u>SUMMER TERM 2010</u> School finishes Tuesday 20 th July School reopens Tuesday 7 th September