



Windhill21



PROSPECTUS



'Each time you
wake up on a
school day, you
feel excited!'

Pupil

Welcome to Windhill21

Learning in the 21st Century

Welcome to Windhill21 – a school where every child is valued and where the learning atmosphere is infectious. We are delighted that you are interested in joining our progressive and ambitious school.

Windhill21 is an academy which provides an outstanding education and prepares our children for life in the 21st century as global citizens. A stimulating curriculum equips our children with solid foundations, confidence and enthusiasm for life-long learning.

Our children represent our diverse community; being culturally aware provides an opportunity to stand back and consider that there are certain backgrounds, personal values, beliefs and upbringings that shape the things we all do. Windhill21's unique character makes our school an exceptional and vibrant place.

Outstanding staff and governors bring expertise, enthusiasm and experience to the school community. We are passionate about sharing high expectations and ensuring every child achieves their full potential, academically and personally. Children learn best when they feel safe to take on challenges; when they are inspired; when they feel valued and when their achievements are celebrated.

Our prospectus will give you a keen flavour of the outstanding educational opportunities that our school provides. To immerse yourself further in the rich experience the school offers, we encourage you to visit and witness our inspirational children in action within an exceptionally rich environment.

We look forward to welcoming you and your family.

Philippa Moore
Headteacher



A 21st Century School

Windhill21– a world of possibilities

Windhill21 promotes a 'growth mindset' culture which underpins a belief that hard work and effort leads to success, not just natural talent or ability.

Breadth of experience is a key feature. Whilst we expect children to achieve academically, we provide a balance between academic, artistic and physical endeavour, along with pastoral and moral guidance. Pastoral care begins as soon as the children arrive at school and extends beyond the end of the school day.

Our vision

Empowering Young People
to Take on The World

Our mission is to achieve our vision through:

- Creating and inspiring place to learn
- Delivering a connected and engaging curriculum
- Harnessing research to inform educational practice
- Developing and valuing pupil voice
- Building and nurturing pupil character
- Cultivating globally-conscious pupils

'Now away we go
towards the top.
Many still, small
voices are calling
'Come higher'.'

John Muir 1911



'We have found the teaching team at Windhill21 to be so positive and supportive that our children have made strides of progress, which has been a joy to watch. It's a fantastic school. We are very grateful to be part of it.'

Parent



21st Century Learning

Windhill21 - providing life-long learning

Through dynamic teaching methods and our inspirational ethos, our children become engaged and motivated learners. By steering children's natural curiosity, we ignite a life-long zest for learning; building high self esteem and a strong determination to succeed.

We believe that learning is for everyone and every child deserves the best possible start to their education. The school is committed to the continuing development of staff to ensure that the best professional practice underpins our drive for children's success. Specialist teachers deliver high quality computing, sport and performing arts throughout the school.

Children are encouraged to ask questions and to investigate. We recognise that children learn in different ways and so we teach in a variety of groupings and styles: whole class, small groups and individual support.

We have aspirational expectations. Challenge and engagement is the key to ensure that all of our children make rapid and sustained progress. We are proud of the excellent academic standards they achieve.

'The mind is like
a parachute,
it works only
when it is open.'

unknown



21st Century Curriculum

Windhill21 - delivering a curriculum for the future.....

Our aspirational curriculum at Windhill21 has been designed to excite, provoke, challenge, and inspire our children.

Windhill21 teachers and leaders keep up to date with all the latest research from 'thinkers' in the education sphere and we have crafted this curriculum for our children to ensure it is rooted in current best practice.

Each year, children will study three broad topics, which have been selected to entice children to engage with rigorous history and geography content, alongside current global themes. These global themes, such as 'equality' and 'society' are what bring our curriculum to life; we provoke children to consider current, real-world, gritty issues such as feminism and equal rights for women and understand how history has shaped thinking today.

Prioritising oracy in lessons enables every child to engage with the depth our curriculum provides and that is what makes it aspirational for all. We explicitly teach ambitious vocabulary to deepen learning for all children, regardless of their background or starting point.

Teachers use responsive instruction to ensure that every child is supported and challenged. We ensure that children master skills and knowledge through small steps, reasoning and problem solving. Responsive instruction, recall, retrieval, mini quizzes and skilful questioning are all used to make learning stick.

The curriculum is supported using Windhill21's extensive and well-maintained grounds and outstanding facilities which comprise of spacious sports fields, a multi-use games area and focused outdoor learning areas. Our Forest School enthuses learning in all aspects of the curriculum and our thriving garden is used to support practical science, enterprise and cookery. We have invested in high-quality equipment in our playgrounds to ensure that our children are engaged purposefully and can develop all-round physical fitness.

Windhill21 is at the forefront of the rapidly changing world of technology. Our Media Suite contains the latest computing technology as well as our envios and unique Immersion Room. Class sets of iPads enhance learning along with our filmmaking and photography initiatives.



'Life is either
a daring
adventure or
nothing.'

Helen Keller

Broadening horizons

Windhill21 - a far-reaching, visionary approach....

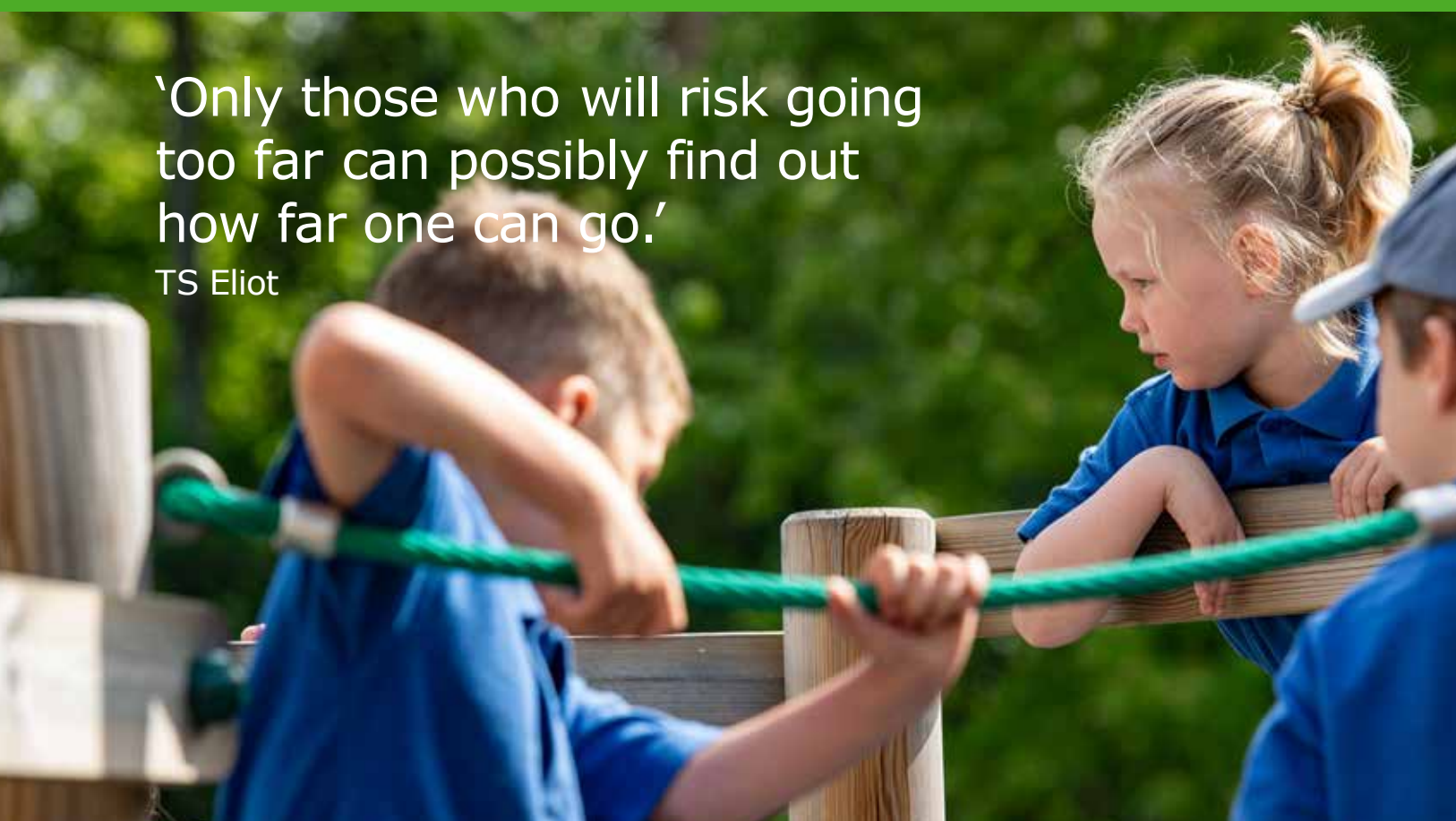
Enrichment opportunities are a feature of life at Windhill21 providing richness and breadth for our children. Pupil learning is embellished by a wide range of clubs, inspiring visits and trips and 'Wonder Days and Weeks'. Opportunities are woven into the curriculum to enthuse children, making learning more memorable, the experience of which may kindle future interest in specific aspects of life. The annual residential trip to The Somme in France in year 6 provides a fusion of learning: practice speaking the French language; understanding the French culture and the appreciation of World War 1 history.

Success in inter-schools' sports competitions are a regular feature of Windhill21 and all children are encouraged to experience the challenges and the joy of participating in activities beyond the immediate environment.

Windhill21 is committed to ensuring that all children's talents and abilities are nurtured, challenged and celebrated.

All pupils at Windhill21 are ambassadors within school and the wider community. All are given responsibilities and flourish in the knowledge that they are trusted. Year 6 pupils have the opportunity to become House Captains, Play Leaders, Digital Leaders or Arts Ambassadors – something for everyone.

The Head and Deputy Head pupils and deputies carry out a range of important duties, including attending meetings with staff and taking assemblies. Our Pupil Forum meets regularly, and forum members are given the opportunity to contribute to whole school development.

A photograph of three children in blue school uniforms playing on a wooden structure with green ropes. One boy is in the foreground, leaning over a rope. A girl is in the middle ground, looking down. Another boy is partially visible on the right. The background is a blurred green field.

'Only those who will risk going too far can possibly find out how far one can go.'

TS Eliot

A world in partnership

Windhill21 - committed to forging links with the community and beyond....

Windhill21 is an outward-looking and forward-thinking school which provides an excellent education for pupils aged from 3 to 11 years. By working in partnership with our 'in-house' preschool and out of hours care provider, we are able to deliver an outstanding wrap-around care service which is seamless and consistent in its approach.

Through partnership with other schools, businesses and community groups, Windhill21 shares ideas to develop the curriculum making it current and meaningful.

Mutual links with other excellent schools have ensured that Windhill21 shares a progressive outlook and an energising 21st century approach to learning. International links with schools have led to media projects and a deeper understanding of different cultures.

Windhill21 leads the 'Envision' Partnership of local primary schools and delivers local teacher Continuous Professional Development along with an exemplary Early Careers Teacher and Mentor training programme. Windhill21 believes that collaboration drives inspirational progress; this is achieved by being outward-facing and visiting and work in partnership with exemplary schools such as Inspire Partnership and Chiltern Learning Hub.

Windhill21 is committed to working with parents and carers to build each child's confidence. By creating a community atmosphere of high expectations, pupils achieve their full potential.

Positive communication between parents and the school is achieved through comprehensive newsletters, parent class representatives and an open-door approach.

'Sail away from
the safe harbour.
Catch the trade
winds in your sails.
Explore. Dream.
Discover.'

Mark Twain



Admissions

If you would like to send your child to Windhill21, or would like to know more about our creative, happy and successful school, please contact the school on:

01279 696850

Please visit our website for details of our admissions policies:

www.windhill.herts.sch.uk

Further admissions information and how to apply can be found on the Hertfordshire County Council website, please visit:

www.hertsdirect.org/services/edlearn/admissions

'Our international school is brilliant!
Our friends are from
all over the world.'

Year 6 Pupil





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