



Barn Croft Primary School

Reception Parent Prospectus September 2024

Welcome to Barn Croft Primary School!

We are a small, one form entry school nestled in the heart of Waltham Forest, where children feel secure, enjoy their learning, and develop respect for themselves, others and the world around them. With high expectations for all our pupils, both socially and academically, we strive to ensure that each child reaches their full potential.

Barn Croft Primary is proud to be one of the few remaining single form entry schools in the borough, allowing us to know each child as an individual. Our school has been on an exciting journey of improvement over the last 18 months, with significant growth in curriculum coherence, teaching quality, progress and outcomes for children and inclusive SEND support. We offer both academic challenge and nurturing provision, ensuring that every child thrives.

We look forward to welcoming you to our Barn Croft Community!

Our Vision and Values

At Barn Croft Primary, our motto is “**Hand in Hand to Success**”. We believe that only by working together will we secure the best possible future for our children.

Everything we do is rooted in our core values of **Courage, Love, and Excellence**:

- **Courage:** Standing up for what we believe in and challenging ourselves, even when things are hard.
- **Love:** Nurturing compassion towards each other and caring for everyone and the world around us.
- **Excellence:** Striving to achieve our best in all that we do, reaching for the stars, and achieving our dreams.

Inclusion is key to our ethos. We go the extra mile to ensure that every child, regardless of their background or needs, is provided with tools to succeed and experience the joy of primary school. Through a stimulating and ambitious curriculum, we challenge our pupils to become lifelong learners and develop the skills needed to achieve their dreams.

Curriculum Overview in Reception

Our Reception curriculum is based around **play-based learning** in both indoor and outdoor environments. We have an extensive Early Years space where children explore the 13 areas of learning throughout the day. Using high-quality texts, we build a curriculum that links thematic topics across terms and enriches learning with hands-on experiences.

We offer short, focused micro-teaching sessions, supported by follow-up activities, and high-quality interactions that develop language, enquiry, and social skills. Phonics is taught in small, engaging groups, while number fluency is reinforced through mastering number activities. Writing focuses on purpose, storytelling, and book-making, while learning across all areas of the EYFS curriculum is woven into play and discreet teaching.

Our curriculum follows a **spiralling and progressive approach**, revisiting and building on previous learning. As the year progresses, children are gradually introduced to more formal learning opportunities to prepare them for the transition to Year 1.

Our School Facilities

Barn Croft Primary is fortunate to have **beautiful green surroundings** and plenty of space for children to explore. We have indoor and outdoor classrooms, breakout rooms, and a **Nurture Provision** to support children with additional needs. Our facilities also include a **sensory room**, fixed and loose parts play areas, and a small lunchtime club for social skills support.

Children can enjoy a variety of enrichment opportunities, such as opera workshops, music lessons with a specialist teacher and half-termly curriculum-linked trips. Our outdoor spaces include an allotment, a wildlife garden and ponds, which provide endless opportunities for hands-on learning and discovery.

Pastoral Care and Wellbeing

At Barn Croft, **pastoral care and wellbeing** are at the heart of everything we do. Our staff are highly trained to support the emotional and social needs of all children. We offer nurture groups, social skills development, transition support, and mental health drop-in sessions. Additionally, our team includes **ELSA-trained staff**, who provide support through group interventions and lunchtime social groups in our Acorn Room.

Children are explicitly taught **emotional literacy** and the **Zones of Regulation** to help them understand and manage their emotions. As a **No Outsiders!** school, we embrace diversity and inclusion, teaching children about equality and fostering inclusive behaviours. We provide a **calm and nurturing environment** that supports the whole child, while still maintaining a strong focus on academic excellence for all.

Admissions Process

Admissions to Barn Croft are managed through the **Waltham Forest Admissions Service**. For detailed information on how to apply for a place, please visit the following link:

[Apply for a Primary School Place in Waltham Forest.](#)

- **Online application deadline:** 15th January 2025
- **Late applications:** Applications received after 15th January 2025 will be reviewed after 16th April 2025.

Parent Engagement

We place great value on **parent engagement** at Barn Croft and offer a wide variety of workshops and events throughout the year. These include induction meetings, stay and play sessions, parent-teacher meetings, shared reading sessions, phonics and maths workshops, and more. We also offer Mental Health Support Team workshops and the Solihull Parenting Course periodically through the year.

Our **active PTA** organises numerous fundraising and community events such as tea parties, summer fairs, Eid parties, and art trails. They fundraise to support school enrichment opportunities, such as specialist music lessons and resources for learning. Friends of Barn Croft PTA is always seeking new members and is a welcoming and friendly team to join.

Extra-Curricular Activities

At Barn Croft, we offer a wide range of **extra-curricular opportunities**, including half-termly trips linked to the curriculum and exciting experiences like visits to the theatre, cinema and sports events. We also run a variety of after-school clubs for all ages, with options that change each term.

For working families, we provide wraparound care from 7:30 am to 6:00 pm, available to Reception-aged children and up (extended services are chargeable).

External Review of Barn Croft Early Years (July 2024)

The free flow activities, both indoors and outdoors, offer engaging tasks that build on focused carpet learning and link to current topics and interests. The children are fully engaged in their learning, with warm and confident interactions between staff and peers that extend language and deepen learning. SEND pupils engage with increasing independence, with evident interest and calm behaviour. The atmosphere is both purposeful and enjoyable, with strong learning behaviours in place and a well-paced session that highlights the school's commitment to academic excellence.

We welcome visits to Barn Croft through our Reception parent tours. These tours will provide an opportunity to see our values, curriculum and the nurturing environment we create for every child through our provision. We look forward to welcoming you and your child to Barn Croft!