www.yewtreeprimary.co.uk

YEW TREE PRIMARY SCHOOL

PROSPECTUS

HEAD TEACHER – Mr Jamie Barry

HEAD TEACHER
Mr Jamie Barry

Welcome! Although it is hard to express on paper, we hope this prospectus will give you a glimpse of what life is like at Yew Tree Primary School.

I am proud to be the Head Teacher at Yew Tree – a happy, friendly, caring and exciting place where every child matters and children come first. The school is at the heart of the community and we have a wonderful set of pupils, staff, governors and parents/carers who contribute to the ongoing success of the school.

I hope this prospectus gives a flavour of Yew Tree: the well-behaved, inquisitive and hard-working children; the talented, professional and welcoming staff; the supportive and interested governors; and the caring and positive parents and friends of the community who all make this school a special place and work together as part of the Yew Tree family.

Our vision is summed up in our motto of 'Learning Without Limits'. We aim to make learning enjoyable, allowing every individual to achieve their best and to nurture their talents, as well as giving them safety, security and the skills they will need to be good citizens and the workforce of tomorrow.

I hope you enjoy finding out about Yew Tree and all the wonderful experiences and opportunities it offers. If you have any further questions then do not hesitate to get in touch with us for a chat or to arrange a visit.

HEAD TEACHER Mr Jamie Barry

WELCOME

Learning without Limits

VISION AND VALUES

Learning Without Limits is our commitment to ensure we unlock the potential inside all of our children. We aim to create an inclusive & exciting environment in which every child succeeds and achieves the best they can.

OUR VISION

Yew Tree Primary School is a unique and special place where our community matters and children are at the centre of all that we do.

A YEW TREE CHILD…

The development of children in our care is our absolute priority. The adults in their lives will nurture our core values so that Yew Tree children are…

- Healthy, happy individuals who believe in themselves and are aspirational about their futures
- Successful and confident learners who have a mastery of basic skills and a range of talents and interests which make them unique
- Caring and compassionate friends who are respectful, tolerant and kind towards others
- Resilient and prepared to take risks in order to persevere with learning even when it is tough
- Self aware, stand up for what they believe in and make a difference in the world they live in.

Yew Tree is an excellent school and teachers and staff do an excellent job. Not enough credit is given for what staff do day in and day out here.

Parents' View
April 2025

OUR 5 VALUES

RESPONSIBILITY:

We are responsible for what we do – if it's to be, it's up to me! We are prepared, organised and recognise consequences of our actions on ourselves and others.

RESPECT:

We are respectful by treating other how we wish to be treated – using manners, being thoughtful, kind and celebrating diversity.

COURAGE:

We are brave and we take chances. We develop resilience to keep going even when things are tough. We face our fears and we are not afraid to make mistakes.

AMBITION:

We believe we can achieve in anything that we put our mind to. We aim high, love learning, have a positive 'can do' attitude and aim to be the best!

PRIDE:

We are proud of who we are and where we are from. We believe in our abilities and celebrate our success. We are a family at Yew Tree!

HOME SCHOOL PARTNERSHIP

A child's education starts in the home and is continued as a partnership between home and school. So that this partnership gives every child the best possible chance of success, the partners should be clear about what each can reasonably expect of the others.

HOME-SCHOOL AGREEMENT

School Responsibilities

We, both as individual staff and as a whole school, will:

Value each child.

Make learning interesting.

Provide a safe, well-ordered and caring environment.

Have high expectations for all pupils related to their learning and behaviour.

Encourage children to do their best at all times.

Share achievements or concerns with parents/carers about their child's work or behaviour.

Share any relevant information with appropriate agencies for the safety and well-being of the children.

Promote our ethos of 'Learning Without Limits'.

Parent/Carer Responsibilities

As a parent/carer of a pupil I/we will:

Help my child to do well at school.

See that my child attends school, is on time and is properly dressed with all the things they need.

Support the school's policies and expectations regarding behaviour.

Help my child with their home learning and encourage them to read regularly.

Come to parents' evenings and meetings about my child's progress.

Take an interest in my child's learning.

Share important information with my child's school.

Act in a manner which is in line with the school's code of conduct.

Pupil Responsibilities

As a pupil I will:

Work hard, try my best and challenge myself to achieve at all times.

Show the core values and behaviours in all that I do.

Treat others with respect in the way I would like to be treated.

Understand that my actions affect others, take responsibility for my actions and accept any consequences.

Cooperate with others sensibly.

Apply my learning by remembering what I have been taught and using this in different lessons.

Remember I always represent Yew Tree when outside of school in the wider community.

*Yew Tree is a great school which I would highly recommend. My son has **SEND** and has come on a lot!*

Parents' View
April 2025

OUR CURRICULUM

Yew Tree curriculum is relevant and engaging, ensuring that children can develop skills, knowledge and concepts in a systematic way. It is carefully differentiated so that what is taught is matched to aptitude, ability and achievement. We aim to provide an extensive programme of extra-curricular activities after school and during lunchtimes in order to help children develop a range of skills and talents.

We have a full range of educational visits, including residential visits that are thoroughly enjoyed by the pupils and enhance the curriculum in really exciting ways. Our curriculum is also supported by an extensive range of resources and enrichment opportunities within school.

THESE INCLUDE, BUT ARE NOT LIMITED TO, OPPORTUNITIES SUCH AS:

- access to a mini-school farm with chickens, ducks, rabbits etc
- access to grow vegetables and plants within our allotments and sensor garden
- Spanish lessons for children in Y4 – Y6
- Forest School sessions in our extensive woodlands area
- active and engaging play opportunities utilising our Play Pod resources, outdoor gym area and the expertise of skilled coaches
- opportunities to learned tuned musical instruments as part of whole class tuition (provided freely by the school) and peripatetic instrumental tuition
- extensive computing facilities and digital learning provision

CURRICULUM AIM:

To offer a broad, balanced & inclusive curriculum which acts as a starting point to stimulate awe, wonder & curiosity and which encompasses 'Learning Without Limits' so that children are empowered and able to achieve their full potential.

CURRICULUM OBJECTIVES:

- To develop the child as a responsible and confident citizen who is prepared to live in an ever-changing and diverse world.
- To develop the child as an individual who embraces challenge and makes the most of every opportunity to learn.
- To develop the child as a life-long learner who has a range of skills which ensure a high level of achievement.

DIGITAL LEARNING

Our Digital Learning Strategy is a key part of the provision offered at Yew Tree. We have invested heavily, in infrastructure and training, so that technology can be used to enhance learning both within and out of school.

Our Digital Learning Strategy, which includes access to individual devices for pupils, is designed to support learning and extend beyond the school day. This includes **FREE** access to a range of learning platforms and sites for children of different ages.

Our practice and provision is in line with best practice guidance outlined from the Department for Education and the Ed Tech Demonstrator programme.

The latest information and guidance, about our Digital Learning Strategy, is available at: www.yewtreeprimary.co.uk/virtual-school

The behaviour and attendance strategies have a positive effect on my child and he is motivated and wanting to do better all the time.

Parents' View
April 2025

EVERY CHILD MATTERS

At Yew Tree Primary, we are lucky to have a fantastic team working to support our children and their families outside of the classroom. The 'Every Child Matters' (ECM) team works in close partnership with parents/carers, teachers and specialist agencies to identify issues or concerns early and to remove all possible barriers to learning, enabling pupils to reach their full potential.

The aims of the ECM team are to work together in order for children at Yew Tree to:

I should...

ENJOY AND ACHIEVE

- Do my best at school to make sure I achieve my full potential
- Enjoy my time at school and I should make effort to make the most of every opportunity

STAY SAFE

- Be respectful and be treated with respect and have the right to feel safe and secure at all times
- Be confident & ask for help if I experience any issues such as bullying

BE HEALTHY

- Look after my body by eating healthily and doing regular exercise
- Drink lots of water
- Look after my physical and mental health

ACHIEVE ECONOMIC WELLBEING

- Have an ambition or research possible careers to see what my future might look like; I could continue my education, go into training when I leave school, work or find a job that I would enjoy

MAKE A POSITIVE CONTRIBUTION

- Treat other people and the environment with respect. I need to support my community and always be positive. If I can, I could volunteer
- Have confidence in myself and ask for support if and when I need it

EQUALITY

The Governing Body are committed to promoting equality of opportunity for all. Our commitment to this is outlined through the policies and procedures in operation and summarised in our equality pledge:

"Yew Tree Primary School is committed to ensuring equality for all regardless of any differences including age, disabilities, gender, race, religion, gender identity or sexual orientation."

At some stage in their education, children may experience difficulties in one or more areas of the curriculum, or perhaps show signs of emotional or behavioural problems. Our Inclusion Leader will work with you and your child's teacher to ensure that appropriate support is put into place.

SEND (special educational needs and disabilities)

Our SEND and Inclusion Policy is available to download from our website. In addition, our SEND Local Offer, i.e. what we are able to offer at our school, is also available on our website: www.yewtreeprimary.co.uk/send-information-1

The school also recognises that there are children who are gifted or talented in one or more areas of the curriculum. The school aims to meet these needs through effective curriculum planning and delivery as well as special opportunities beyond the normal school day.

I cannot fault Yew Tree. I have four children at this school and they are all flourishing. The teachers are amazing and help my children achieve their dreams.

Parents' View
April 2025

ATTENDANCE MATTERS

We know that attendance really matters. If children attend school regularly, which includes being on time, then they have a much greater chance of success at Yew Tree. We rely on the support of parents/carers in ensuring this happens and that they work, in partnership with the school, where there are any barriers.

A full copy of our Attendance Policy is available at www.yewtreeprimary.co.uk.

We rely on our parents/carers to support us in this policy and ask that parents telephone the school on the first morning of absence using our dedicated attendance line by selecting the appropriate option when calling the school.

In line with Government guidelines, leave of absence during term time is not authorised unless there are exceptional circumstances. Parents/carers should always apply for leave of absence so that it can be considered by the Head Teacher. Authorisation is at the Head Teacher's discretion.

If unauthorised absence is taken, this may lead to further action being taken including a fixed penalty notice being issued or safeguarding professionals being informed in cases where we cannot locate a child.

Term dates are published well in advance on our school website and families are expected to plan their holidays around these times. We know that good attendance has a direct impact on how well children achieve at school. Therefore, we have an expectation that parents/carers support our approach to promoting good attendance.

100%
0 days of lost learning

Very best chance of success

96%
8 days of lost learning

Off to a flying start

94%
11 days of lost learning

Less chance of success

92%
15 days of lost learning

Harder to make progress

90%
19 days of lost learning

Persistent Absentee
(Not fair on your child)

SCHOOL UNIFORM

Our School Uniform is important to us. It is one way in which we identify ourselves as a school family and it promotes a strong, cohesive school identity which supports high standards and expectations in all areas of school life. It promotes harmony between different groups represented in the school. Smartness and high standards of appearance are expected at all times.

It is our policy that all children should wear school uniform when attending school or when participating in a school-organised event outside normal school hours. We provide a complete list of the items needed for school uniform in the Clothing and Uniform Policy which is available on our website.

We have quite clear rules about inappropriate clothing. This guidance also includes details about extreme hairstyles and jewellery so it is important that parents/carers read and understand this information.

If children come in to school in inappropriate clothing (including non-uniform or variations of the uniform) they will be spoken to by staff and will be provided with a spare uniform. Parents/carers will be involved at the earliest opportunity and sanctions may be applied in line with the school's Behaviour Policy.

POSITIVE BEHAVIOUR

Yew Tree Primary School operates a positive Behaviour Policy. This means that we focus on trying to recognise and reward the children for positive behaviours and values. We want the children in our school to develop the skills that will help them to succeed and achieve in line with our vision of 'Learning Without Limits'.

We can achieve this aim when we work as a team - children, parents/carers and staff - to create the best environment for learning.

- We believe that children who are treated with respect will learn how to offer that respect to others.
- We believe that good behaviour has a positive effect on progress and learning.
- We believe that we all have a responsibility to help children achieve a high level of positive behaviour. This can be achieved through the development of constructive relationships between children, adults working in school, parents/carers and other members of the wider school community.
- Children are rewarded for positive behaviour in a range of different ways.

Whilst we value positive behaviours, there are occasions where children make the wrong choice about their behaviour. In these circumstances we ensure that children understand the 'consequences' of their behaviour.
This restorative approach helps ensure that children take responsibility for their own actions. We train our staff to deal with behaviour in a way which ensures there is a climate of trust and respect so that children can learn without anxiety.

We have a zero tolerance approach when dealing with bullying and put a lot of effort in to educating the children about the impact of their behaviour on others. We have a school 'anti-bullying' promise which every member of the school commits to annually.

I cannot thank the school enough for the opportunities they have given to my children, from learning instruments to the themed curriculum weeks. Yew Tree has the most amazing outdoor space too.

Parents' View
April 2025

Yew Tree is such a welcoming school and my children are doing so well. I am delighted that my children go to this school.

Parents' View
April 2025

EXPECTED STANDARD A GREAT RESULT

Ofsted Their Voice.

Ofsted judge the School as **'EXPECTED STANDARD'** in all areas of the **NEW** inspection framework when they visited in January 2026. Whilst the full report is available on our website, some of their comments included:

WHAT IS IT LIKE TO ATTEND THIS SCHOOL?

"Pupils are delightful. They are friendly, welcoming caring and a pleasure to speak to". *Ofsted Jan 2026.*

"The school has carefully designed its curriculum. There is a focus on pupils securing the foundations they need to succeed." *Ofsted Jan 2026.*

"The curriculum in the early years is effective. Staff work rapidly to identify any barriers to learning children may have." *Ofsted Jan 2026.*

"Aspects of the school's leadership are impressive. Leaders have a thorough and deep understanding of their school." *Ofsted Jan 2026.*

"Professional training is tailored, up-to-date and research informed. Staff value this wide and rich professional department." *Ofsted Jan 2026.*

"In numerous clubs, pupils can become gardeners, farmers, football players and musicians. As a result, pupils are thriving." *Ofsted Jan 2026.*

"Leaders have established high expectations for pupils behaviour and conduct". *Ofsted Jan 2026.*

"Parents are largely positive about the school. They value the pastoral care their children receive and the many opportunities they have." *Ofsted Jan 2026.*

SAFEGUARDING

School staff have an important role to play in recognising and taking the appropriate action in where there are safeguarding issues or welfare concerns. All school staff, both teaching and non-teaching, receive regular training to help them understand their legal responsibilities in supporting the safeguarding and welfare of the children at our school.

Yew Tree Primary School is committed to the highest standards in protecting and safeguarding the children entrusted to our care.

OUR SCHOOL WILL SUPPORT ALL CHILDREN BY:

- Promoting a caring, safe and positive environment within the school.
- Encouraging self-esteem and self-assertiveness.
- Effectively tackling bullying and harassment.
- Promoting all aspects of the Equality Act 2010.

Any concerns about the safeguarding or well-being of our children must be reported to the Designated Safeguarding Lead (DSL). Information about our procedures, including how we work with Children's Services and other agencies, are detailed in the safeguarding section of our website.

The school is well led and is going in a good direction. Teachers are invested and communication is excellent.

Parents' View
April 2025

We look forward
to welcoming you
very soon.

SCHOOL –

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enquiries@yewtree.sandwell.sch.uk
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Learning without Limits

YEW TREE PRIMARY SCHOOL

LA Maintained School – 630 pupil capacity YR – Y6 (inc.52 Nursery Places).
Age Range 3 to 11 years old Three Form Entry – Three classes per year group average 30 pupils per class.