

Find the perfect fit for your child at Polam

Support

Nurture

Inspire

Achieve

“Providing a happy, safe and very homely environment”



Find the perfect fit for your child at Polam

Choosing the right school for your child can be a puzzle but at Polam we believe we have all the right pieces to create the perfect start to your child's education. Educating a child is not just about traditional classroom-based learning – we believe children benefit from being exposed to as many opportunities and experiences as possible, to create a love and excitement for learning.

As you would expect, we have superb facilities and resources but we believe we offer much more. The formative years of a child's life are recognised as being the most critical for their development and with our exceptionally small class sizes, passionate teachers and home from home setting we know we give our children the best possible start in life.

Whether your child joins us at school age or progresses right through from the Nursery, they will be offered a broad and exciting curriculum which, piece by piece, will provide them with every opportunity to succeed.

As you arrive through the doors of Polam School you will immediately feel the happy, friendly atmosphere that permeates our School. We very much look forward to welcoming you and showing you around.



Our Philosophy

Learning for Life

The greatest gift we can give a child is to instil a love of learning that will stay with them through life. We achieve this by creating a culture of high expectations, where children are challenged to exceed their own goals. We aim to inspire and to encourage a spirit of enquiry and exploration; to give them the confidence to question and to search for answers; to become independent but also to work collaboratively. We guide them in making sensible choices and teach them to be caring. Through celebrating their achievements we build their confidence and enable them to develop a sense of pride in what they do.

Taking Time With Every Child

Class sizes are deliberately small and staff to pupil ratios unusually high. In such a small setting we can genuinely focus on each child, enabling them to develop at their own pace and fulfil their potential. Our experienced teachers and qualified nursery nurses quickly develop positive relationships with both the parents and their parents.

Our school ethos

At Polam, we know that every second of a child's education is precious. To ensure they get the perfect start in life we...

Support

...support our children, providing a home from home environment where every day is filled with new learning adventures...

Nurture

...where all children are nurtured as individuals and feel safe and secure...

Inspire

...where a welcoming, stimulating learning environment inspires, enabling our pupils to become independent lifelong learners...

Achieve

...in their journey to achieve their full and unique potential.

Support

Nurture

Inspire

Achieve

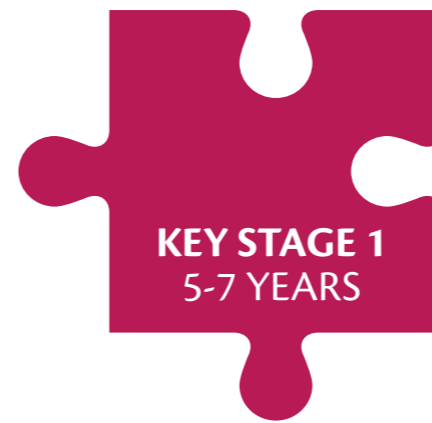
Love of learning





Outstanding Nursery

The baby and toddler rooms provide the perfect environment in which to gently prepare your child for life in the School and our small classes ensure that he or she receives personal attention at all times. Judged Outstanding in all areas, our well-equipped and comfortable Nursery is a fully integrated part of our School, which gives your child the opportunity to benefit from an extensive range of facilities and specialist teaching, as well as easing transition into School.



A broad and balanced education

In Years 1 and 2 the children continue their learning journey accessing a more structured curriculum with their skills, knowledge and understanding further developed across the full range of subjects. Languages, Music, Swimming and PE are taught by specialist teachers. A team of qualified and experienced teaching assistants help teachers in their role. School productions, assemblies and public performances help to develop the children's creativity and imagination, with local visits and trips further afield enriching their learning experience and building their understanding of the world around them. We have an excellent pass rate for children who take entrance exams during Year 2.



Gaining confidence

As the children approach school age we encourage them to become more independent and self-reliant. They follow a curriculum that includes a focus on early literacy, including phonics, and early maths work. While the emphasis is still very much on learning through play, the children do embark on a more structured programme with Languages, Music, PE and Swimming all forming a part of the weekly timetable.



Preparing for the next stage of their educational journey

As children progress to Years 3 and 4 they are ready to accept greater challenges and responsibilities. The curriculum becomes even broader and deeper and includes additional languages and performing arts, with all children being taught a musical instrument. With the high teacher to child ratios, their self-esteem and confidence continues to flourish, equipping them fully for the next stage of their educational journey.



Not all children are ready socially, emotionally or academically to move on to larger transition schools at the age of 7 so our small Year 3 and Year 4 classes provide the perfect opportunity for children to increase their self-esteem and confidence in readiness for this next step and to sit entrance exams at the age of 9. At this age most pupils at Polam make more progress in one year than the national average of two years, meaning an extra two years with us can make a huge difference.

The Wider Curriculum

We aim to educate in the broadest sense, providing our children with a wide range of opportunities to experience new areas of learning. Our focus isn't just on traditional classroom-based education; we offer an extensive range of extra-curricular activities and clubs, much of which is part of the weekly timetable – from ballet to soccer, Mandarin to maths puzzles, bead craft to sketching, tennis to IT and everything in between.

Polam Swim School

Our team of highly qualified and experienced swimming staff teach the children in small groups on a weekly basis. We also provide one of the town's premier swim schools with a variety of lessons taking place each week, including antenatal, baby and toddler, squad swimming, intensive holiday courses and adult beginners.

Wraparound care

Daily extended care is available from 8am to 6pm for 48 weeks of the year. We have an excellent reputation for our friendly and fun holiday clubs which run throughout the year and attract people from all over Bedford. The home from home environment and family atmosphere ensure that children feel safe, secure and at ease, providing them with the confidence to make new friends and try a variety of new activities.

Maintaining Traditions

As well as educating our children academically, we believe it is equally important to instruct them in good manners and respectful behaviour. At dinner time the children sit at tables laid with cutlery and tablecloths and are guided to use good table manners by their teachers who eat with them. In assembly they say prayers and sing hymns. From our Foundation 2 class upwards, all children are allocated to a school House – Herons, Hawks, Owls and Eagles. Children compete on Sports Day and undertake charity fundraising activities in their respective houses, as well as earning house points in class and around the school for good work and good behaviour. At the end of each academic year at our Achievement Assembly the House Cup is awarded to the winning house and individual awards and achievements are recognised and celebrated across the school.

Developing bodies
as well as minds





Moving on

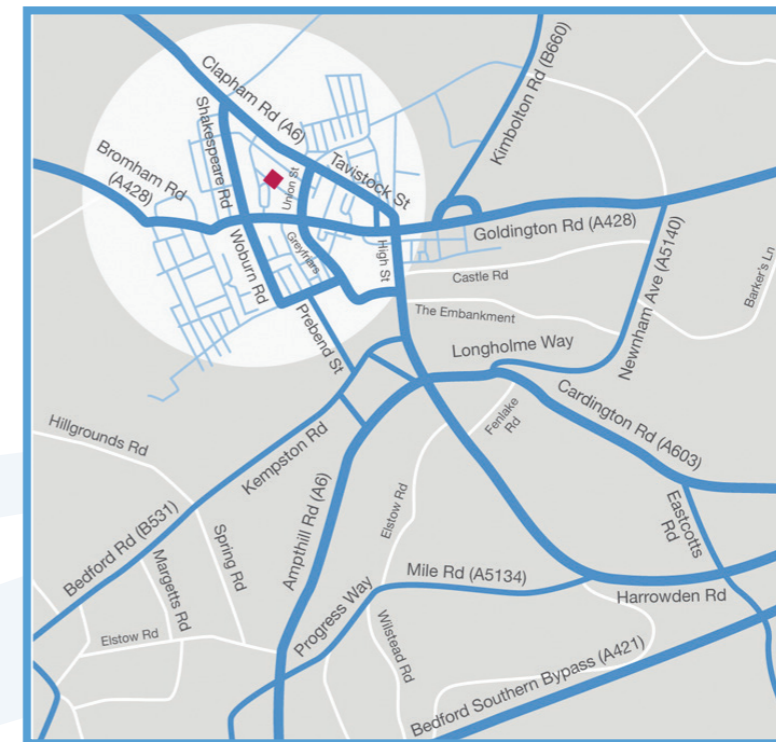
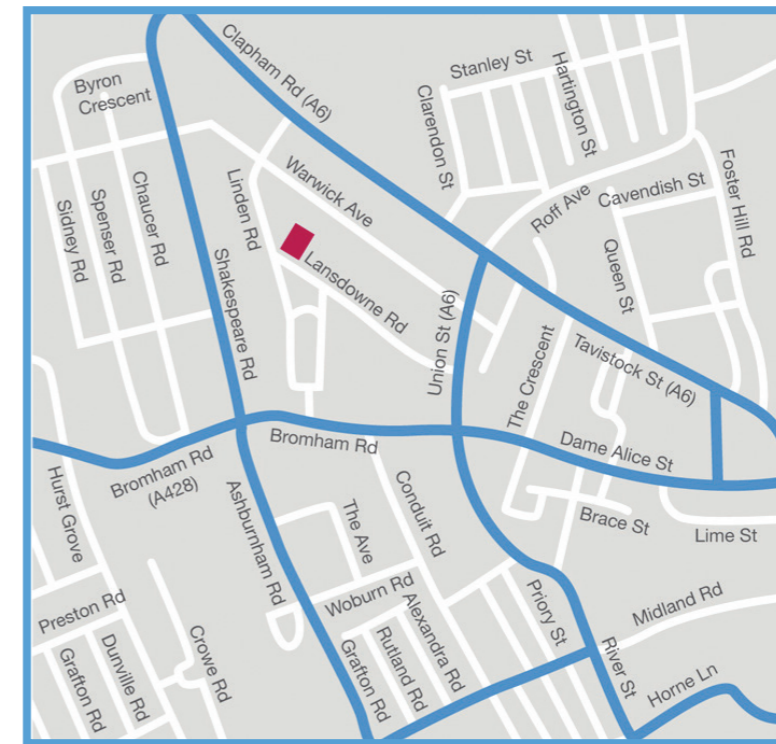
We believe we give our children the best possible foundation for the future, but the journey doesn't end here. We work closely with parents to help establish the best path forward, advising on which school to apply to and providing you and your child with support every step of the way. We enjoy very strong links with all the independent schools in Bedford and our children attend a number of events and activities throughout the year at each of these schools. We also see a number of children each year moving into the state sector. Whatever their path for the future, our parents are happy in the knowledge that their child has received the best possible start to their educational journey.

Come and visit us

We hold a number of Open Day events throughout the year but private tours of the school are available at any time by request.

To make an appointment please call **01234 261864** or email: admissions@polamschool.co.uk

We hope you will visit us soon.



Polam School, 43-45 Lansdowne Road, Bedford MK40 2BU

Telephone: 01234 261864

General enquiries: info@polamschool.co.uk **Admissions:** admissions@polamschool.co.uk

Swimming: swimming@polamschool.co.uk

www.polamschool.co.uk

www.polamschool.co.uk

COGNITA
TEACHING EXCELLENCE

Polam School is part of the Cognita Schools Group.

Cognita Schools Ltd, 5 & 7 Diamond Court, Eastlake Park, Opal Drive, Fox Milne, Milton Keynes MK15 0DU
T: 01908 396 250 F: 01908 396 251 E: uk@cognitaschools.com www.cognitaschools.co.uk

Whilst Cognita endeavours to ensure that the information in this prospectus is accurate, complete and up to date, it makes no warranties or representation in respect of this. You are strongly advised to visit us to discuss your requirements before committing to place your child or children with us.