

PROSPECTUS

2022-2023



CASTLEFORD PARK JUNIOR ACADEMY



Medley Street
Castleford
WF10 4BB

☎ 01977 518959

✉ enquiries@pjademy.net

🌐 www.pjademy.net

Take a look at our website for further details, using the QR code below:



@ParkJAcad



Prospectus

Castleford Park Junior Academy

From the Headteacher

Welcome to Castleford Park Junior Academy.

At Castleford Park Junior Academy we strive to ensure that our school is **child-centred** and our pupils have the **vision, self-belief** and **confidence** to achieve their goals, knowing how to overcome challenges along the way. They will understand the importance of being **independent** and thinking for themselves, taking responsibility for and showing **commitment** in their learning in order to become **self-motivated** individuals who will achieve their full potential. We expect our pupils to see the value in taking **pride** in everything they do and the importance of having the ability to work **collaboratively** with others. By cultivating such attitudes, we aim to provide them with everything they may need to lead a successful life in the future.

As a whole staff team, we hope to ensure that your children have the opportunity to experience an exciting, challenging curriculum. We strive to inspire life-long learning and equip our pupils for whatever aims and aspirations they have.

The children are at the centre of everything that we aim to achieve – considering their safety, happiness and learning needs. As a team, we work hard to ensure that this is possible at all times. We welcome any feedback that will help us improve further in order to meet this aim.

*Miss K. Law
(Headteacher)*



Pupil Voice

We believe it is important for children to feel that their voice is valued in school to help them become confident individuals who know that their opinions matter. With this in mind, we have a School Council, consisting of members from each class, who meet regularly to discuss and act on school issues brought to their attention by their peers. Pupils regularly help make important decisions such as how the outdoor environment should be designed and what they should learn about in their lessons.

Message from the School Council to new pupils:

Our school is a friendly and safe environment for children to learn in. Everyone here is approachable and welcoming, so don't be scared because there is always someone to help.

The classrooms are big and there is room for the various enjoyable activities that we do here. This in turn, gives us a fun, caring, educational environment to help us improve our learning skills. The dinners here are healthy and delicious and everyone encourages you to have a balanced meal.

Playtimes outside provide us with lots of fun filled activities. We have a vast field full of green grass, huge playgrounds, a trim trail and boxes of equipment to play with and, should you need it, allocated playground buddies are at hand to find you a friend to play with.

We at Castleford Park Junior Academy believe that we are all stars that must shine.



The School Day

- 08.00 Breakfast Club
- 08.50 Registration
- 08.55 Lessons begin
- 10.20 AM break
- 12.00 Lunch, 1st sitting
- 12.30 Lunch, 2nd sitting
- 12.45 1st PM session begins
- 13.15 2nd PM session begins
- 15.05 End of school day
- Mon – Thurs after school 'wrap around care' available from 15.05 – 17.30

Pupil Views

- 'Everyone gets the respect they deserve, teachers are kind and helpful – they help you with your problems'
- '**Friendly children, lots of challenges**'
- 'We use real artefacts in lessons'
- '**We use iPads and computers**'
- 'You can choose a variety of things at dinner and there are lots of different lessons throughout school'.
- '**My friends help me when I'm struggling... all the teachers are kind**'.
- 'My teacher makes learning fun'.
- '**My school is fab. It keeps me safe. I enjoy school a lot**'.
- 'The teachers inspire me to do things and take a new step in life'.
- '**We are welcomed and respected when we start school**'.
- 'I like it that at my school I can be pushed to achieving everything that I can in a lesson'.

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Please see www.ofsted.gov.uk for our most recent OFSTED report

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School Aims

Aspire: - We passionately believe that every child should have the opportunity to achieve their dreams. We work hard as a staff team to open our pupils' eyes to the many exciting possibilities their lives could have in the future.

Achieve: - We believe in high standards for behaviour, presentation and learning attitude to provide the best possible atmosphere for high quality achievement.

Enjoy: - We deliver a broad, balanced curriculum that aims to emphasise to pupils that learning – both independently and collaboratively – can be exciting and stimulating. We aim to cultivate curiosity and wonder that will inspire our pupils to learn new things.

The Curriculum

Our children spend most of their curriculum time exploring the answer to big questions through a thematic approach. By doing this, children are provided with the opportunities to make links to real life in their learning and develop the values that we believe are important for them to be an effective community member. In each subject area, key knowledge is sequenced and taught progressively. Each time the children come back to these concepts, their understanding and application deepens, until it is successfully embedded – helping prepare them for an aspirational future.

Our school also places strong emphasis on the type of learning attitude that is important to succeed in life – particularly when solving problems and meeting challenges. We consistently discuss the 'learning muscles' that make success possible – actively teaching resilience, focus and collaboration in the face of a challenge, to be a truly independent learner.

English and maths are taught daily; prioritising reading and arithmetic fluency. Children are active through PE and at playtime, and have swimming lessons in Year 5. We also emphasise healthy and respectful relationships continually through our PSHCE scheme, making additions where needed that reflect what our children need the most. We follow our Local Authority syllabus for RE and ensure that we continually highlight equality, diversity and the importance of celebrating being unique. We encourage pupils to develop their own values, having respect for others and developing a sense of responsibility. Computing is also seen as an integral part of our learning. As the technological world around us develops at such a rapid rate, we believe it is essential that our pupils have the knowledge necessary for jobs that have yet to be created.

Behaviour

Behaviour is excellent at Park Junior Academy. A tiered, traffic light system is used to manage behaviour. At the beginning of each half day, each child starts on 'green'. If unacceptable behaviour is seen, they will be given a verbal and a written warning that asks for improvement – if this persists then they will move to an amber card that indicates 'wobbly behaviour'. Any continued poor behaviour after this leads to playtime reflection, a discussion with a Senior Leader or a member of the Inclusion Team and a meeting with parents. WOW behaviour is rewarded by movement to the purple section of the display and is celebrated with parents using Bloomz.

Good behaviour is rewarded with 'caught being good' stickers and postcards sent home. We encourage all children to try their best to achieve their goals. They also understand that it is the responsibility of staff and pupils to uphold and maintain our school rules in order for this to happen. For occasions when rules are broken, we use a restorative approach to resolve the situation. We believe that by using this system, we are giving pupils the skills to independently make better and more informed choices in their future.

The 'Restorative Approach' encourages pupils to think about how their behaviour affects others - both pupils and staff. It helps children to develop respect, responsibility and truth telling. If a pupil in our school has been negatively affected by someone's behaviour, we will try our very best to make sure they feel that it has been put right for them and that it will not happen again. If a child has done something wrong, they will be asked to put things right and change their behaviour so it does not happen again. If an adult has unknowingly caused upset, or made a mistake, they will also say sorry, modelling respect as is expected from the children. Our pupils say that they prefer the 'Restorative Approach' as it allows ALL parties to have their say AND be listened to.



"Teaching, learning and assessment and outcomes are now securely good. The teaching of the basic skills of reading, writing and mathematics has improved and is effective across the school."
Ofsted 2019

Disability Equality

We work pro-actively with pupils to promote disability, equality and inclusion.

Special Educational Needs

The school works closely with any children who have special needs. Those needing a little extra support create individual targets with their teachers to help them with their next steps in learning. Children with more specific needs, who may need the support of outside agencies, have a 'My Support Plan' to help them to continue to make good progress. A range of intervention programmes run throughout the year to support children in their learning. Parents and carers are invited to work with us to ensure the best learning environment for their child is created.

Accessibility Plan

The Governing Body aims to increase access to education for disabled pupils in the three areas required by the Disability Discrimination Act 1995.

Equal Opportunities

Park Junior is an inclusive school. The school actively supports and promotes equal opportunities for all.

Emergency Closures

In the event of emergency closure of the school, usually due to bad weather, we will post this on Bloomz and send a text. A notice will also be posted on the school website.



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Anti-Bullying

The school operates a 'Zero Tolerance' approach to bullying. Staff work closely with children through Personal, Social, Health and Relationship and philosophy lessons to raise awareness about issues relating to bullying and what the long-term impact can be. As a result of this, we have extremely happy children who are able to work and play together without any worries. Please see the 'Keeping your Children Safe' section on our website where more details can be found regarding school safety and wellbeing.



"Strengths in pupils' attitudes contribute to their successful learning and development."
Ofsted 2019

School Uniform

Children at Park Junior are very proud of their school uniform as it gives them a sense of identity and brings the school together as a community.

School Uniform

Purple v-neck sweatshirt or cardigan with school logo
Gold/purple striped tie
White cotton shirt/blouse
Black trousers or skirt
No Jewellery



Long hair must be tied up for health and safety purposes and hair accessories must be plain and fit in with the school uniform.

It is imperative that clothing is marked with your child's name as we have over 400 children in school. We have a lost property area in school but if uniform is anonymous, it is very hard to find missing items.

PE Kit

Black shorts
Black tracksuits bottoms (for outdoor games)
Purple t-shirt/polo shirt
Sensible trainers

Uniform is available from Better and Bright and M&S are our online suppliers. Please see the uniform section on our website.

Home School Links Parent Involvement

We are passionate about parents and carers being part of school life. We actively encourage parent/carer volunteers and have a regular number of parents who help out in school in different ways - including hearing readers and helping in lessons. If you would like to contribute your time, please contact the school office to discuss this further.

We keep parents and carers up to date with what's happening in school and send out regular newsletters to keep everyone informed. We are also very excited to introduce our parents to Bloomz, a new way for parents and teachers to communicate. You can download the Bloomz App for your phone to receive notifications from your child's class and whole school messages.

Additionally, specific events are held throughout the year where we invite family members into school to learn alongside their children. Such events can range from the children teaching a French lesson for their parents; to a dance or drama performance celebrating another culture; or involve working alongside the children in class.

ABSENCE FROM SCHOOL: if your child is absent from school, please notify us by telephone before 9:15 am on each day of absence. Please give the reason for the absence and an idea of the expected duration of the absence. Tel: 01977 518959 (option 1). We operate a first day response and will contact you on any contact number we have available to us. Donna is our Inclusion Manager and Mrs Tonks is our attendance officer and they will work with parents and pupils to improve their attendance record.

HOLIDAY ABSENCE: As a collective, the Castleford schools have a policy that any holidays taken during term time will be classed as unauthorised – only in exceptional circumstances will they be granted. If you feel there are exceptional circumstances, written requests **MUST** be made to the headteacher and the governors using the form available to download from our website, or that can be obtained from reception.

Penalty Notices **are issued** for term time holidays.

Extra-Curricular Activities

We offer a wide range of extra-curricular activities throughout the year. It is our belief that these activities offer exciting, enriching opportunities for learning. The school clubs are run usually by school staff, or external partners, after school. Their finish times and the places that parents should pick up from is updated on our website.

Activities include: Multi-sports, Choir, Forest Schools, Homework Club and Lego Club. The school also seeks to take part in a range of other activities, including sports and non-sporting activities. They are advertised on our website.



"Pupils say that they enjoy school, which is reflected in their steadily improving attendance. They are eager to learn and work hard." Ofsted 2019

Well-Being

Breakfast club runs every morning from 8.00am. For just £2.50 per day, children are provided with a healthy breakfast and have access to a range of games and activities. A range of healthy snacks are also available to buy each break time at tuck shop. Your child needs no more than 50p to spend per day.

We have a large Inclusion Department with many options of provision. We have two sensory rooms that offer physical and mental stimulus and a construction room where children can work with adults to take a break from learning or to review their learning mindset and get ready for the next challenge. We also have a small 'chill' room where children can be safely supervised to have time alone if they need it, or time to resolve a problem with their friendship group. We are very proud to be able to offer all our pupils open door mentoring should they need it – in addition to the option of talking to a mental health drop-in mentor. We also now have a 'calming cube' where pupils can read in a rocking chair in a relaxed atmosphere at social times. Castleford Park Junior Academy also benefits from a Nurture Resource, which is a bespoke learning, sensory and emotional development safe space where children who are struggling with anxiety, the demands of the classroom, socialising with peers or have low self-esteem can be supported in developing positive relationships. We offer a short term focussed intervention, which lasts several weeks, which addresses barriers to learning arising from social or emotional difficulties.

Mental health is also an integral part of our curriculum. We directly teach our pupils what mental health is and about how caring for our own mental health through self-care is essential; how to recognise triggers that can affect our mental health negatively and early warning signs that our mental health may be declining. This then helps pupils feel confident enough to ask for support when they need it – which they actively do. Through our curriculum, we intend for pupils to recognise mental health as a 'normal' part of life for everyone and to have the skills and confidence to be resilient when faced with a challenge. Please see our website which explains more about our approach and offers support for parents and carers who are worried about their children's mental health.

Indoor PE/Outdoor Games

Children will always be expected to take a full part in PE lessons if they are well enough to be at school. Long hair should always be tied back and jewellery will be removed for Health and Safety purposes. If your child is not provided with a kit, they will wear a spare one kept in school.

Physical Education is a statutory requirement and children are encouraged to take a full and active part in all wellbeing activities, including outdoor break and lunchtimes.

The school has the Healthy School Status and has achieved the School Games, gold status award. We are proud winners of many local school tournaments in a range of sports.

Safeguarding and Child Protection

The welfare of all children is paramount in our school and we maintain strong links with other agencies in order to ensure they are safe and well cared for.

The Designated Safeguarding Leads in School are:-

Miss K Law, Headteacher; Mrs J Roberts, Deputy Headteacher; Mr L Booth, Deputy Headteacher; Mrs J Pender, Assistant Headteacher and Donna, Inclusion Manager.

Social Care Direct will be contacted if we feel we have concerns regarding a child's safety or wellbeing. We strive to support parents to give their child the best and hold this partnership in high importance. We will always consult with you before we take steps to work with external agencies.



"Leaders have a good knowledge and understanding of the needs of pupils with special educational needs and/or disabilities (SEND).

Pupils have detailed support plans, which ensure that they make good progress from their different starting points." Ofsted 2019

Staff List

Miss K Law – Headteacher

Mrs J Roberts – Deputy Headteacher
SENCO

Mr. L Booth – Deputy Headteacher
Mrs J Pender – Assistant Headteacher
Mrs K Ineson – School Business Manager
Mrs D Foster – Inclusion Manager

Mrs Z Mawson – Administration Officer
Mrs C Tonks – PA to the Headteacher
Mrs P Turner – Senior Administration Officer
Miss K Walker – Receptionist

Mrs A Filburn – Inclusion Mentor
Mrs L Walton – Inclusion Mentor
Mrs J Burton – Mental Health Mentor

Mrs T Lane – Caretaker
Mrs A Anderson – Kitchen Manager

Teaching Staff

Mrs C Bednar	Mrs J Hurdiss
Miss C Bennett	Mrs R Ibbotson
Mrs L Blanchard	Mr A Knapp
Miss A Dixon	Miss E Nicholson
Miss S Whittle	Mrs H Nicholls
Miss S Duggan	Miss S Reed
Mrs S Towell	Ms S Wood

Teaching Assistants

Mrs H Watts, Mrs J Parker, Mrs J Couch, Mrs L Reynolds, Mrs H Westmoreland, Mrs R Sanderson, Mrs A Spears, Mrs R Johnson, Mrs Z Farrar, Miss N Fisher, Mrs J Allison, Miss K Walton, Mrs S Sweeting, Mrs T Barnaby, Mrs N Huddleston, Mrs L Edwards, Mrs C Rotherforth, Mr O. Burton, Mrs J. Burton, Mrs G. Broughton, Mrs J. Lister



"Teaching assistants make a valuable contribution to pupils' learning. They provide pupils with advice, support and additional challenge." Ofsted 2019

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If you have any concerns regarding the welfare of a child – yours or others, please come into school to seek the necessary support, or guidance you require. We are only too happy to help. Please see 'Keeping your child safe' on our school website for further details.

School Dinners

School meals are nutritionally balanced, competitively priced at £2.20 per day and offer children a tasty and enjoyable way to catch up with friends. They should be paid for in advance using the school's convenient online system 'ParentPay'.

If your child chooses to have school dinners, a cooked meal is prepared daily in the school's kitchen. The children are served 'cafeteria style' with a choice of menu and are encouraged to try the different meals. They are cared for by dining room supervisors who also supervise the children at play until afternoon school begins.

We have our own catering services under the leadership of Mrs A. Anderson, our Kitchen Manager, providing high quality meals using local suppliers to ensure we receive high quality food. Please see the lunch menu on our website for further details.

Our hall is used as a dining room and children are encouraged to choose where to sit. Quality crockery and cutlery are used to raise the lunch experience into an enjoyable dining experience. Children are not rushed, however we do only have a limited time period in which to seat over 400 children so a rota makes sure that every class has an equal chance of being first in for dinner!

Packed Lunches

It is possible for pupils to bring a packed lunch by prior arrangement. Packed lunches should be full of 'healthy' options as we are a 'Healthy School'. The packed lunch policy is available on the website.

Sweets, chocolate and fizzy drinks are **NOT** allowed.

Chocolate biscuits, for example Kit Kats and items bought on the cakes/biscuits aisle of supermarket are allowed within reasonable amounts.

Peanuts and any other form of NUT product is STRICTLY forbidden as we have a number of children and staff with severe nut allergies in school, in some cases requiring immediate hospital treatment.

Children are encouraged to drink water each lunch time. Jugs of water are available on each table. Children are also able to bring a sports style bottle each day containing **ONLY FRESH** drinking water

One week's written notice is required for any changes to lunch time meal arrangements.



"Pupils are clear about who they would speak to if they had any concerns or worries about anything. They speak highly of the inclusion leader and team who operate an 'open door' policy that is valued by pupils." Ofsted 2019



"Pupils listen to each other and collaborate well, often supporting each other and checking and editing each other's work." Ofsted 2019

Pupil Premium

School receives additional funding for some children based upon their personal circumstances (low income families, children of parents in the Armed Forces and children in Local Authority Care).

If you think you are eligible for this funding, which is paid to your child's school, please speak with the office staff. They will be happy to help you claim this.

The Pupil Premium money **MUST** be used to improve the achievement in school of the eligible pupils. This is spent in a range of ways to support each individual to achieve their full potential. A copy of how our Pupil Premium funding is used is available on the school website. Our Resources Committee and the full Governing Body have a responsibility to ensure all allocated funds are used appropriately.

Pupils who are eligible are also allocated an annual £50 bank account, to spend on enriching learning. This could be spent on music lessons, after school clubs, or even to pay towards trips. For regular and up to date information, visit our website...

Governors

The governors and school work together to ensure the school fulfils its statutory requirements. This body is made up of volunteer representatives from various walks of life. The governors act as a critical friend to the school being supportive whilst at the same time ensuring a level of challenge.

Governors

Chair Mrs T Sycamore
Vice Chair: Mrs R Davies
Headteacher: Miss K Law

Staff Members

Mrs J Roberts
Mrs J Lister

Parent Governors

Mr J Haslam
Mrs T Sycamore

Community Governors

Mr K Patrick
Mr J Hughes
Mr A Carlin
Mrs R Davies

Associate Governors

Mrs A Walker

Senior Leadership Team

Headteacher

Miss K Law

Deputy Headteachers

Mrs J Roberts
Mr L Booth

Assistant Headteacher

Mrs J Pender

School Business Manager

Mrs K Ineson

Inclusion Manager

Mrs D Foster

Parent Views

'Thank you for being the school we have dreamed of.'

'We are very happy with the school and all its staff. We feel very lucky our child comes here.'

'Really happy with the way my child's teacher and others are helping my daughter in all aspects of teaching.'

'I feel very happy that my children attend this school. The teachers have been very supportive, patient and helpful for both my children and myself to help guide my children to do their best.'

'Castleford Park Junior Academy is a fantastic school. My daughter is thriving here and has achieved so much since joining this school – the level of teaching is amazing and communication between parents and teachers is fantastic.'

Ofsted Say...

'The academy's work to support the learning and welfare needs of pupils whose circumstances may make them feel vulnerable is very effective.'

'Pupils behave in a mature and respectful manner in lessons and around the Academy'.

'Pupils are effectively prepared for a life in modern Britain.'

'Well established systems and practices ensure that the academy's work to safeguard pupils is strong.'

'Teaching, learning and assessment and outcomes are now securely good. Pupils make good progress from their differing starting points.'

'Teachers' high expectations mean that most pupils produce a good amount of work to a high standard.'
'The curriculum is effectively planned and implemented'.

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