

15th November 2018

Dear Parents,

It is once again the time in the year for us to reflect and evaluate all that has been achieved over the last twelve months and to identify our priorities for the next year or so. The Senior Management Team of the School and Nursery meet regularly throughout the year and we seek feedback from parents, teachers and children in an effort to maintain a really clear understanding of the education we offer from different perspectives and listen to the ideas of the whole Ashbridge community when planning ahead and developing our vision for the future.

For all of us, children, parents and everyone in our team, Ashbridge continues to be a unique place where we can all be proud of what we have achieved and clear about what we stand for. Our core values of Aspiration, Attitude and Achievement still underpin all that we do and we strive to put the children at the centre of all decision making relating to the quality of education and facilities we provide for them across all our settings.

As you know, our sites at Lindle Lane and Ashbridge on Ribble were inspected by the Independent School Inspectorate (ISI) in June 2017 and we were thrilled when our Early Years provision was judged to be **outstanding** in all areas across both sites. The school and nursery were also found to be **100% compliant** against over 400 ISI regulations.

Since the last inspection, our nursery and school provision has continued to improve; children at Ashbridge on Ribble are enjoying their new soft play area and outdoor classroom. The STEM Suite, opened in school this year, has made a significant impact on the computing curriculum offered by the school with children of all ages learning to create algorithms, work competently and creatively on screen and control robots and drones among other things. Our two STEM Clubs are very popular. In school, we were very proud to be awarded the Gold Award for School Sport, which was given in recognition of our commitment to, engagement with and delivery of competitive school sport. We also congratulated Mr Wood on his Teacher of the Year Award in his role as Parliament Ambassador and Miss Penarski who won a week at the Discovery Institute in the US, for her work with STEM subjects, one of only 5 teachers in the UK to be invited to go. Several members of our team were awarded the Level 3 Forest Award as we continue to develop the outdoor education provision. Our Music curriculum has also developed with all children in Year 5 learning a Brass instrument and the introduction of our very own Brass Band.

We have further enhanced the environment at Lindle Lane over the Summer with the addition of a variety of statues for the children to enjoy. We have begun an extensive programme of infrastructure improvement and redecoration which will see the school and nursery buildings change from red to gray over the next year or so and we have commissioned a fantastic new entrance and drive way, made from slate which will really enhance the overall perimeter and access ways for many many years to come. To improve security this will also include an increase in CCTV coverage outside and we will build an entry way at the Orchard entrance which will house a parent notice board to improve communication and access to information for children and parents who use this entrance.

Some of our new targets for the future are set out below and your feedback on these is most welcome.

- To use the expertise of senior and experienced staff to ensure consistently high standards in the quality of teaching across all classes.
- To look at other ways of involving the children in community events and further establish a strong personal development programme for all children which runs hand in hand with the academic curriculum.

- To review and update our current Curriculum Action Plan in school and nursery to ensure a curriculum that is rich, up to date, broad and challenging for all.
- To enhance the opportunities for our youngest children to use technology while remaining screen free in the Nursery Rooms.
- To raise the profile of what is on offer in the Upper Junior years so that all parents are well informed about the important final two years of primary education and all that Ashbridge does to successfully prepare children for High School.
- To provide more opportunities for parents to engage with the schools' wide range of expertise for early years learning and development.
- To continue to promote high quality learning outside of the classroom with the development of a Beach School at Ashbridge on Ribble for Spring/Summer 2019.

In school, the value of the month for November is Loyalty. Each month the children focus on a different value (chosen by them) and think about how they as individuals and we as a school can develop and promote these important ideals. Alongside the 3 As of Ashbridge, these values are a core feature of our personal development programme. This year we have also introduced the concept of rights. All children at Ashbridge have the right to

- Learn
- Be Happy
- Be Safe
- Be Themselves

The children are introduced to the concept of responsibility as we all work together to uphold these rights for everyone.

It is this vital combination of academic excellence, strong pastoral care and varied co curricular activities that will result in well educated, well balanced, confident and adventurous young people ready to take on any new challenge with enthusiasm.

Our vision is simple: To provide a top quality education for all of the children in our care.

Academic excellence in all year groups was once again clearly evident in the results in the July 2018 assessments. Many of our children achieved well above the expected levels for English, Maths and Science. The Ashbridge average score was above the national average across the board. Outcomes on the Early Years Profile at the end of Reception were strong again this year with the majority of the children achieving the highest levels, working within or beyond national expectations. Feedback received from families as their children have moved from Nursery to School showed a real appreciation for the way in which our nursery team develop nurturing relationships which lead to children who are confident and secure; ready for school.

The combination of high quality teaching, hard work from our pupils and great support from parents ensure we sustain such excellent levels of academic achievement year on year. On transfer to senior schools, children from Ashbridge continue to shine. When pupils leave our Year 6 they are particularly well prepared for the academic and other challenges ahead. Thank you for the positive feedback from our recent Upper Junior Presentation Evening which showcased all that was on offer in the final two years at Ashbridge.

Children entering our Reception Class this year have settled quickly and are making great progress in developing the essential basic skills which will act as a foundation for all future learning.

We have already received a large number of applications for Reception Class for September 2019 and expect the class to be full.

In the early years, high quality care in an excellent environment continues to be our top priority and this is regularly recognised by parents and visitors.

When allocating places, priority continues to be given to those families whose children have attended an Ashridge Nursery.

This year we have welcomed Mrs Karen Ward to Ashbridge. Karen has enjoyed her first few weeks as our new Music Teacher and really enjoyed taking the Lower Juniors to Preston's 'Gotta' Sing at the

Charter Theatre recently. The Upper Juniors are preparing for Young Voices in February and we are all looking forward to seeing the stage version of Dr Dolittle at the Lowry in December. Dr Alice Turner has joined the Senior Management Team as our new Director of Quality of Care and she will be working across all the Nursery settings. Part of her role is to produce the Early Years Bulletin for parents and a regular Staff Newsletter with interesting articles promoting best practice and quality care for all children. As a qualified Doctor, Alice brings a wealth of expertise and experience to her role. We have increased the number of Early Years teachers who working in Pre School classes across the settings and now have 5 qualified teachers working in the Nursery Team.

Through our weekly Newsletters, the Ashbridge website, Facebook and Twitter, we have celebrated children's achievements and showcased the busy life of the Nursery and School. Through successful Ashbridge Family events along with other local links such as the Heartbeat Festival, we are continuing to widen the Ashbridge community. As members of IAPS we are benefiting from links with other high quality Independent Schools across Lancashire and beyond.

As part of our membership of ISI we are required to report to parents the number of complaints received over the year in the school and nursery. For the academic year 2017- 2018 we received 5 complaints, 4 of which were successfully resolved at Level 1 of our Complaints Policy and 1 at Level 2.

I have included a summary of the reviewed fees for September 2019 which have been agreed by the Directors and Senior Management Team. We continue to try to ensure **excellent value for money** for all our families and have kept increases to a minimum despite significant increases in staffing costs. Our fees remain inclusive of wraparound care from 7.00am to 6.00pm and all meals. This means we offer the best value for money provision in the area.

We also continue to support families through discounts for those who have more two or more children with us. There is a 10% discount to families who have 2 children attending the Nursery, in addition to a 10% reduction for any child attending Nursery full time. For children in school the 10% discount is taken from the fees of the oldest child and continues while both are in school, Reception to Year 6.

I look forward to another busy and successful year at Ashbridge. As always, if there is anything you wish to discuss, please do not hesitate to come and see me or any member of our team.

Yours sincerely,

Karen Mehta

On behalf of Ashbridge Independent School and Nursery

SCHOOL AND NURSERY FEE SCHEDULE: From September 2019

<p style="text-align: center;">SCHOOL</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Infant and Junior</p>	<p>Inclusive of :</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Before and After School care 7.00 am - 8.45 am and 3.45 pm - 6.00 pm • all meals and snacks • non-prescription medication 	<p>From Sept 2019</p> <p>Annual Fees £8,775</p> <p>Termly £2,925</p> <p>Paid monthly by Direct Debit</p>
<p style="text-align: center;">Holiday Care</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Full day 7.00 am - 6.00 pm</p>	<p>Inclusive of :</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • all meals and snacks • non-prescription medication • Trips and visits 	<p style="text-align: center;">£ 32.50</p>
<p style="text-align: center;">NURSERY</p> <p style="text-align: center;">0 – 4 YEARS</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Full day 7.00 am - 6.00 pm</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Half day 7.00 am – 12.00 noon or 1.00 pm – 6.00 pm</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Extended session (includes lunch) 12.00 noon – 1.00 pm</p>	<p>Inclusive of :</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • all meals and snacks • nappies, creams and wipes including Sun Cream • non-prescription medication 	<p>Full Day £ 51.00</p> <p>Morning/Afternoon only £30.50</p> <p>Extended Session £ 7.00</p>

We operate a range of payment options to support families.

As per our terms and conditions of enrolment all school and nursery fees are payable by Direct Debit monthly in advance, a signed direct debit mandate **MUST** be in place for all children.

In addition to your direct debit we continue to accept childcare vouchers, Tax Free Childcare and offer at all sites EEF (Early Education Funding) for some 2 year olds and all 3-4 year olds in the term following their 3rd birthday) which all can be used in payment towards fees.

For further information regarding fee payments or funding please contact either Karen Conroy or Janette Corrigan (Bursars) on 01772 561186 or Erica Isaac-Clegg (Business Manager) on 01772 610894