



Pre-School AVANNAH



Our Mission

Havannah Primary School prides itself on the outstanding emotional care and well being we offer to all of our pupils and families. Our school 'moto' is Believe and Achieve! We feel that this underpins our core values as a school community .

We are proud of our caring ethos and high level of academic achievement through which all students are encouraged to fulfil their individual potential. Our guiding principle at Havannah is to work with parents and others in the community to provide the best for all children in their future. We do this by "working together; shaping tomorrow". It is a culture that leads teaching at all levels.

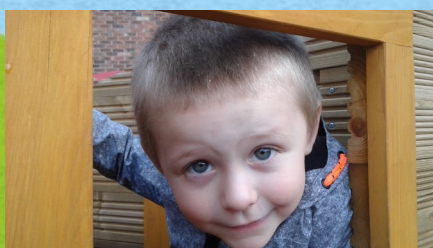
Our school has recently been judged as a 'Good' school by Ofsted 2015. We are a 1 Form Entry school with an intake of 30 pupils. The school has a number of nationally recognized awards including ArtsMark Gold, Inclusion Quality Mark, Dyslexia Friendly Schools Award, EcoSchools Green Flag and the Prestigious Investors in Pupils Award.

We offer a wide ranging curriculum matched as much as possible to the needs of individuals.

The size of our school means we can create the individual, caring environment whilst being large enough to offer a full programme of curriculum and extra-curriculum activities.

In order for a school to be successful, it must be happy, we have nurtured a strong sense of partnership between the school and the family, and this lies at the heart of the children's happiness and success. Havannah Primary is a fun place to be, and there is always something happening to enhance an already exciting curriculum. It is not unusual to see the staff and children dressed up as historical characters, or perhaps World War 2 refugees. These events bring the curriculum to life and make learning fun for everyone. We hold regular workshops to share the exciting learning that goes on in school.

Success is something we readily celebrate, both academic and personal. We know this helps the children develop their self-confidence and self-esteem, which in turn encourages them to continue to do their very best. We hold a wide range of events throughout the year where we invite parents into the school to help us celebrate the achievements of all the children. We hope this website is a useful introduction to the school. If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to call us or, better still, come and see us at work during a school day. The teachers, children and I will be very pleased to welcome you. To arrange a visit please telephone or email the school and we will be happy to organise this for you.



Staff

Clare Thornborrow



Since graduating in 2000, I have been lucky enough to work in a variety of schools in many roles. As class teacher in various year groups, Deputy Head, Local Authority leading maths teacher, safeguarding lead and behaviour specialist, I have a diverse breadth of educational experience.

But, most importantly I am a mum who is passionate about nurturing in my son a curiosity and love of learning, I bring this enthusiasm to our new setting. The early years in a child's life are essential in order to enable children to become explorers in their world, together we will provide opportunities and a setting which supports their natural desire to acquire skills and explore their curiosities.

Sophie Slater



I've worked as a teacher at Havannah Primary School for 13 years and worked in Reception all the way up to Year 5. At the moment I teach in Reception for 3 days but then I also work as the school SENCO and Deputy Safeguarding Lead. My passion and joy is working with children in the Early Years. Being able to teach children something new and seeing the twinkle in their eyes when they understand is a magical moment! We have so much fun learning and I count myself very lucky that I share these experiences with children in my job. A little about me... I love to travel and see the World. I'm interested in clouds and I love walking in the Peak District or the Lakes and feel very grateful that I get to do these things that I enjoy



Louise Bown

Hello, my name is Louise Bown, I am 26 years old and I have a lovely son called Lewis. I was born in Rochdale but moved as a young child to Congleton. I have fond childhood memories of playing in forests and woods, making dens, rope swings and climbing trees. When I left high school, I went on to complete my Level 2 in Children's Care Learning and Development at college. Whilst studying for this I worked 3 days a week in a pre-school. I was then taken on by the pre-school as staff for 16 hours a week and I volunteered the remaining hours and as I continued to complete my Level 3 course.

During this time, I worked as bank staff at a local nursery, which gave me the opportunity to interact with children aged from 3 months to 4 years old. I also worked at a local restaurant serving customers and working as part of a happy team. I was delighted when I had the offer of a full time position at the pre-school which I took and I have been there ever since.

I have always had an interest in the outdoors and feel that children thrive, their minds and bodies develop best, when they have free access to stimulating outdoor environments. I enjoy implementing this into my job, but after hearing about 'Forest School' and the philosophy behind it, I began to grow a greater interest in this and I felt I could excel my learning by enrolling on the Level 3 Forest School training course. I have now completed my training and I feel it has given me a real passion to help children excel by learning through nature, setting their own goals and building key life skills along the way from an early age.



Caroline Thorley

Hello, my name is Caroline Thorley, I was born and raised in Congleton and have one son. It has always been a goal of mine to have a career working with children and after leaving school I went on to study childcare where I gained the NNEB certificate. It was exciting times when I began my career as a nanny and I have worked in London and Canada. In 2005 I began to work in the pre-school based at Havannah and it has been some of the most rewarding years of my career; being involved with the care and education of children from the local area.

When the opportunity came for me to develop my own education, I did so achieving a B.A. (Hons) in Early Childhood Studies at Manchester Metropolitan University in 2013. This further learning has given me a greater understanding of how children learn and develop and the importance of quality learning experiences and positive interactions in early childhood and enabled me to encompass this in practice.

I believe in the individuality of children and am committed to meeting individual differences to the best of my ability. I am conscious about the role that I have to influence a child's early years and learning outcomes and endeavour to provide a positive pre-school experience. I am a naturally nurturing person and enjoy the responsibility that comes with working with children being still enthralled and enthused by how children learn, develop and interact as I ever was. I am delighted and excited by the opportunity to be a part of Havannah Pre-school and working with the school as a whole.

Pre-school Curriculum and Activities

We aim to enable your child to learn through play in a safe environment and to develop social confidence among their peers and the adult helpers in the group.

We offer Forest Schools sessions with our qualified Forest Schools staff to inspire and nurture the children's outdoor learning experience.

The pre-school's curriculum follows the foundation stage guidelines drawn up by the DFEE and is organised into 7 areas of learning.

Area of Learning and Development	Aspect
Prime Areas	
Personal, Social and Emotional Development	Making relationships
	Self-confidence and self-awareness
	Managing feelings and behaviour
Physical Development	Moving and handling
	Health and self-care
Communication and Language	Listening and attention
	Understanding
	Speaking
Specific areas	
Literacy	Reading
	Writing
Mathematics	Numbers
	Shape, space and measure
Understanding the World	People and communities
	The world
	Technology
Expressive Arts and Design	Exploring and using media and materials
	Being imaginative

These 7 areas help the pre-school plan the learning environment, activities and experiences, but this does not mean that all of the children's learning is divided up into 7 separate areas - one experience may provide a child with opportunities to develop skills and concepts across several areas of learning.



The Importance of Play

Play underpins the EYFS. It also underpins learning and all aspects of children's development. Through play, children develop language skills, their emotions and creativity, social and intellectual skills. For most children their play is natural and spontaneous although some children may need extra help from adults. Play takes place indoors and outdoors and it is in these different environments that children explore and discover their immediate world. It is here they practise new ideas and skills, they take risks, show imagination and solve problems on their own or with others.

Providing high quality planned experiences for children's play is an important way for adults to support children's learning that is both enjoyable and challenging. When children play, they are learning at the highest level. Play can extend certain areas of their learning – for example, developing language skills by promoting talk between children or introducing new vocabulary that they use and act out in their play. a playful approach to learning builds on children's interests and responds to their ideas for play and also allows scope for structured activities to teach specific skills and knowledge.



Characteristics of Effective Learning

The Unique Child reaches out to relate to people and things through the Characteristics of Effective Learning, these are promoted through all areas of learning.

- **playing and exploring** - children investigate and experience things, and 'have a go';
- **active learning** - children concentrate and keep on trying if they encounter difficulties, and enjoy achievements; and
- **creating and thinking critically** - children have and develop their own ideas, make links between ideas, and develop strategies for doing things.

*"Go and open the door
maybe outside there's a tree, a wood
a garden or a magical city."*

MIROSLAV GOLUB

Forest School



The philosophy of Forest Schools is to encourage and inspire children through positive outdoor experiences.

By participating in engaging, motivating and achievable tasks and activities in a woodland environment each child has an opportunity to develop intrinsic motivation, sound emotional and social skills. These, through self awareness can be developed to reach personal potential.

Forest school enables children through play, to have the opportunity to learn about the natural environment, how to handle risks and most importantly to use their own initiative to solve problems and co-operate with others.

Session Times

Monday - Friday mornings:	9:00 - 12:00
Monday - Friday afternoons:	12:00 - 3:00
Full day	9:00 - 3:00

Fees

Prior to becoming eligible for government funded sessions you are responsible for the payment of all fees. A bill is issued at the end of each month, detailing the total amount of fees due. Cheques should be made payable to 'Havannah Primary School. Fees are still due if your child is absent for a session. We currently charge £5.00 per hour, £13 for the session, £26 for the day or £ 130 for the week. Staying through lunchtime is an additional £2.50 per half hour and if you wish your child to have a school lunch, then there is an additional charge of £2.40 .

For more information on funding, entitlement and eligibility, please contact the school office.

Key Worker

A key worker system is in place, whereby individual members of staff are responsible for maintaining the assessment records for specific children. Key workers form close relationships with children and are able to ensure that individual child's interests are promoted within the setting. The key worker system also provides a familiar point of contact for both parent and child.



Contacts

If there is anything you are unsure about or which is not covered here please do not hesitate to contact either:

The Pre-School Teacher: Mrs Clare Thornborrow

The EYFS Leader: Miss Sophie Slater

Admissions Office: Mrs Debra Ball / Mrs Joanne Worrall

Tel: 01260 387060

Email: admin@havannah.cheshire.sch.uk

*Don't forget to look at our website
www.Havannah.cheshire.sch.uk to find out all the latest
Pre-School news, notices and events!*

**PLEASE BE AWARE THAT HAVANNAH PRE-SCHOOL
OPERATES A POLICY OF NO SMOKING ON THE PREMISES
AND IN THE OUTSIDE AREA**