



CONTACT DETAILS

We are always keen to hear from you so, if you would like any further information, please contact our Family Liaison Co-ordinator.

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You can also visit our website www.hopecommunityschool.org

A large, stylized "HOPE" logo in white capital letters, enclosed within large green square brackets. The background of the entire banner features a blue-tinted photograph of two young children, a boy and a girl, both smiling and looking towards the camera. The background is also decorated with white dandelion seed heads and stems.

INCREASING CHILDREN'S ASPIRATIONS & ENCOURAGING A SPIRIT OF ADVENTURE

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ADVENTURE
OPENNESS
CREATIVITY
EXCELLENCE
UNDERPINNED BY A CHRISTIAN ETHOS

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Excited to see Hope Community School develop in our city.

INCREASING CHILDREN'S ASPIRATIONS & ENCOURAGING A SPIRIT OF ADVENTURE

FROM THE CHAIR OF NEW GENERATION SCHOOLS TRUST

We have come a long way from the seed of an idea to parents like you being able to choose our school for your children.



Through the support of many local people, we have created a school that is designed to meet the needs of the community. When joining our school, children will join a safe, inclusive and stimulating environment. They will be taught to value themselves and others, to fulfil their potential, and to experience school as an exciting and enjoyable place.

We do this through community engagement, a broad curriculum and excellent teaching staff. The children are encouraged to be adventurous, confident, creative, passionate to learn and proud of their successes, along with developing independence, respect for others and self-discipline. Our school in Sidcup has been recognised by Ofsted as having outstanding behaviour and safety, which is something we are very proud of.

We look forward to working with you to make sure that our school will provide the highest quality of education for your child.

Paul Weston - Chair of New Generation Schools Trust



FROM THE PRINCIPAL

Welcome to Hope Community School, Southampton! We are delighted to welcome you and your family to our community. We are part of The New Generation Schools Trust and will be the first Free School to open in Southampton. The school will open its doors in September 2017, with two Reception classes of 30 children. We will increase our numbers year on year until we reach a full capacity of 420 primary pupils from Reception to Year 6 in 2023. The school will predominately serve the Bargate ward and surrounding areas. We are excited about working with and for our local community.

We aim for the highest possible educational standards so that pupils raise their aspirations and realise their potential. Here at Hope, we are also passionate about children becoming confident and articulate individuals who have the motivation, skills and character to become 'Community Pioneers' - the movers, shakers and ground breakers of their generation. We believe all children are born with this purpose - a divine spark - and it is up to everyone around them to fan that spark into flames.

Hope Community School, Southampton will be a mainstream primary school of Christian designation, open to families of all or no faiths. We present a Christian viewpoint, whilst giving children the freedom to explore, question and seek answers for themselves. We ensure children of all faiths feel included and valued and learn about all cultures, faiths and religions.

I look forward to welcoming you and your family on our journey!

Mr Wright - Principal



OUR MISSION STATEMENT

Hope Community School is at the heart of the community, reaching out to local families to increase children's aspirations, encouraging a spirit of adventure and maximising each child's talents and gifts.

We do this through underpinning Christian values such as kindness, generosity and hospitality to create community entrepreneurs. The school inspires children to be people who not only value their community but also have the desire, ability and tools to transform and enrich it through innovative and aspirational visions. Pupils of Hope Community School are encouraged to dream limitlessly, explore confidently, discover expectantly and take ownership of their futures.

We believe in education for all, allowing each child to enjoy and achieve their full potential at school. We are committed to every child, no matter their ability, ethnicity or background, thriving throughout their education. We intend to create an encouraging and inclusive environment that extends beyond the classroom and into the community, using links with local businesses. We will create an exciting and vibrant school that celebrates achievement and diversity. Education should be engaging and we will inspire children to learn and develop beyond the walls of a school. Our vision is to link school and community, teaching the value of each to the other, in order to better prepare both for their futures.



OUR VALUES

The vision of Hope Community School, Southampton is based on the following values:

- Adventure
- Openness
- Creativity
- Excellence

Underpinned by a Christian ethos

Adventure

We encourage our pupils to be adventurous and innovative in their learning. Our child-initiated curriculum topics and engaging themes foster curiosity in our pupils. We enable children to be confident decision makers, through discussion and questioning, giving space for them to voice their own views and grow in confidence. It also helps children to understand the importance of listening to others, learning from, and taking into consideration other people's ideas.

Openness

Our school is a welcoming and hospitable place where family involvement is valued. We are committed to being a positive asset not only to the lives of the children who attend but also their families and the wider community. Regular enrichment sessions are run outside the school day in order to provide families with opportunities to learn together. It is intended that the school is a community hub, a centre that is open and inviting to the community as a whole.

We are passionate about people and we want to invest in and bring life to the local area.

Creativity

We use a project based curriculum to develop creativity. We connect different aspects of learning and create fresh ways of thinking. We are dedicated to making our school environment vibrant, colourful and engaging.

Looking forward to seeing the new school opened!

Our school has vibrant and inviting spaces designed to suit all learners and learning opportunities. We promote the value of working in groups and pairs, providing an environment with open, light learning areas that encourage children to talk together, play games, share ideas or research in books, or on iPads and laptops. Equally important are our quiet areas that welcome reflection, prayer, quiet reading or just the chance for learning alone.

Our classrooms reflect our belief in 'experiencing learning'. They change regularly, providing stimulating and exciting spaces to take children on a journey through learning themes. Careful planning and thoughtful resourcing encourage independence, both within the classrooms and outside spaces. Children take responsibility for their own learning. They respect each other and value their learning environment. From the moment the children arrive at Hope, they begin to understand the world is their classroom.

Excellence

Everyone who works with, in and for Hope Community School, Southampton strives for excellence. Our staff are passionate about their work, value the individual aspirations of each child and encourage all pupils to be enthused about their learning and proud of their successes. No matter what their ability or background, we encourage every child to reach their potential.

Christian Ethos

We are registered as a school of religious designation within the Christian faith.

Our Christian ethos underpins the culture of our school. We aim to create space for children and the school community to explore their own personal beliefs and faith in a safe place where they can ask the big questions of life. We present a Christian viewpoint, whilst allowing children the freedom to explore, question and seek answers for themselves. We ensure children of all faiths and no faith feel included and valued and learn about all cultures, faiths and religions.

We have selected forty Christian values, many of which are shared by people of all faiths and no faith that are taught on a rolling two-year programme. These values seek to build character and draw out the full human potential of each child. The school is a community of practice that provides experiences in which the whole school community can consider and reflect on these values and translate this reflection into action. We do this at Hope in three main ways: by unpacking our values in our daily Collectives (assemblies), by exploring them in our class time through reflective activities and by communicating the values to parents and encouraging discussion and positive reinforcement at home. Our Christian ethos is further enhanced through our Christian prayer room and the provision of pastoral support through chaplaincy.

Partner Churches

All New Generation Schools Trust schools are set up in partnership with a local Church that is committed to supporting the Trusts schools in their vision to educate children and support families.

Partner churches contribute to the Christian ethos and values of the school and enhance the life of the local community. We believe that it takes a community to raise a child. As a result, schools benefit greatly when volunteers from the partner church invest their time and talent, energy and expertise in supporting and extending children's learning and offering family support. Hope Community School's partner church is New Community Church, Southampton, who has played a pivotal role in founding the school and has an ongoing involvement and investment in the school.

For more info, please visit our website. **newcommunity**
CHURCH

I believe that Hope Community School will offer local children a chance of having a good education that will bring communities together.

ADMISSIONS

For the first year only (2017/2018), Hope Community School will manage its own admissions process due to the timescale involved in opening a new Free School. Applications for admissions to Hope Community School's two Reception classes are open for children born between September 1st 2012 and August 31st 2013. Hope's Admissions Policy can be viewed on our website or copies are available from the school office.

Applications can be made through the online form on our website, via Southampton City Council's website (from Monday 12th September) or a paper form can be collected or sent out by post if applicants contact the school office.

As a school with religious designation, 20% of school places will be allocated to children from faith backgrounds if the school is oversubscribed. To apply for a faith based place, please complete our Supplementary Information Form, available on our website or a paper form can be collected or sent out by post if applicants contact the school office. Once completed, this form should be returned to the school office.

The deadline for applications is Monday 16th March 2017. If you apply for a school place, you will receive an email or a letter with the outcome of your application in the middle of April. For this year's dates, please refer to Hope's Admissions Policy available on our website. If you would like more information or to meet our Principal or the Chair of Hope Council, please contact the school office. Please see our website for details of a range of events and open days.

SPECIAL EDUCATION NEEDS PROVISION

In accordance with guidance provided by the SEND Code of Practice (2014), Hope Community School, Southampton is committed to providing excellent support for children who have special education needs, disabilities and additional needs, ensuring that all of our pupils achieve their full potential. Teaching, learning and pastoral care are designed to provide fair access to personalised learning activities, assessment and social development. For more information please visit the school's website.



This school will be a place of belonging and community that will enable children to reach their potential.

LEARNING

All learning at Hope Community School, Southampton reflects the importance of developing the whole child. We have created an engaging curriculum that inspires and excites pupils, resulting in excellent learning outcomes. The ethos of our school is based around developing adventure, openness, creativity and excellence in our children. It is our vision to develop a project based approach to learning across the school. We believe learning should be engaging and challenging. At Hope, we integrate learning holistically with 'real life' and the community across all subjects.

The thread of Christian values, including respect, hospitality, generosity, care for others, engaging in our community and putting others before yourself are at Hope's core, central to everything, every day and these enhance the moral, social, intellectual and spiritual life of the school. These values are explored further during planned PSHE learning, during Collective Worship and when visitors come to the school.

Teaching and Learning at Hope Community School is driven by high expectation. Inspirational teaching will motivate the aspiring learner and foster in them success and achievement for the future. We expect high achievement for our pupils, to raise aspirations and realise their potential. Whilst all schools want this, those that succeed have a culture of embedding a growth mind-set, something we not just recognise but aim to achieve. We want our children to have stamina for learning, perseverance in challenges, a range of skills and strategies to solve problems and the determination to face any obstacle with conviction.

Developing a child's character matters as much as his or her academic attainment, to ensure resilience in the face of increased challenge.

CURRICULUM

We aim to make education fun and engaging for our pupils, which is why, in addition to the National Curriculum subjects, we provide other creative options to extend the learning further. We see the community as our classroom and are keen to take advantage of it, such as our use of the local park for Forest School or a local allotment to extend pupil's understanding of the natural world. We use a project-based approach to education, grounded in the National Curriculum, maximising and deepening learning, whilst building our pupils capacity to apply their learning to the world in which they live.

At the heart of all learning is literature. This begins before the children enter the Foundation Stage with our pre-school reading project. We have a team of trained voluntary community readers who support us in a programme that aims to support the development of literacy skills and prepare the children for transition into primary school. As a school, we aim to promote a love of reading and encourage children to read 'real books', as well as using a scheme based approach.

The Hope Community School, Southampton Curriculum:

- Provides a unique curriculum designed by the teaching team, developed from the original Educational Vision for the school
- Focuses on learning, with additional community outcomes
- Creates Community Entrepreneurs - children who are empowered to engage with and change their communities
- Is committed to ensuring excellent academic outcomes by the end of each key stage
- Provides specialist teaching in Music, Mandarin, and PE

Our curriculum embraces a wide range of learning opportunities, with strong cross-curricular and community links, through effective local business partnerships.

INCREASING CHILDREN'S ASPIRATIONS & ENCOURAGING A SPIRIT OF ADVENTURE

We deliver a thematic approach to learning through implementing the Power of Reading approach developed by the Centre for Literacy in Primary Education (CLPE). It is an approach based on using recommended texts over a period of time and, where possible, the different subject areas are linked to the chosen text.

To ensure coverage of all the genres and skills within the English Curriculum, teachers look at the text to decide which genre/s and skills can be taught through the text, as well as how the text lends itself to other programmes of study.

A thematic, cross curricular approach is used to ensure meaningful links are made for pupils' understanding and building on their prior learning, whilst not compromising on delivering the depth and breadth of the National Curriculum. As a result, some subjects are taught discreetly, for example Phonics and Maths to ensure appropriate coverage.

At Hope Community School, our Foundation Stage follows the national Early Years Foundation Stage (EYFS) Framework. Children are currently assessed against the EYFS profile at the end of the Reception Year. The curriculum for Key Stage 1 follows our creative project and personalised learning curriculum which has the National Curriculum at its core. You can read more about the Year 1 and 2 Curriculum Framework on our website.

If you would like to discuss any aspects of our curriculum, please contact the school office.

Phonics

Our phonics programme in EYFS and through Key Stage 1 and 2 is developed from 'Letters and Sounds' and is taught daily for a 20-minute session. Each class differentiates according to the phase the children are working on and staff are deployed as necessary within the class.



INCREASING CHILDREN’S ASPIRATIONS & ENCOURAGING A SPIRIT OF ADVENTURE

We like the ethos of the school which helps in building strong morals.

ASPIRATIONS

The key driver for the curriculum is to ensure that pupils make rapid gains in their learning from their starting points, with a clear focus on mastery of skills and knowledge across the curriculum.

Current targets for the school are available on the website.

We also strive to ensure that the outcome of the curriculum results in our children:

- Becoming independent, motivated learners
- Being Community Entrepreneurs
- Having increased success at our school and in Secondary Education
- Creating a positive reputation of pupils in the area
- Developing strong community cohesion in Southampton

THE SCHOOL DAY

We have a ‘soft start’ at the beginning and a ‘soft finish’ at the end of the day, to allow flexibility for families to drop their children off but also to create opportunities for parents to interact with classroom staff. An average school day at Hope Community School runs from 8:30am to 4:00pm. By extending the length of the school day, we have gained an additional 2.5 hours of curricular time per week. The school day ends slightly earlier for Reception aged children to assist the transition into school life.

8.30am – 9.00am	Children arrive for soft start
9.00am – 12.00pm	Whole school learning
12.00pm – 1.15pm	Lunch
1.15pm – 3.00pm	Learning for Reception class
1.15pm – 3.40pm	Learning for KS1 classes
3.00pm – 3.30pm	Reception class leave during soft finish
3.40pm – 4.00pm	KS1 and KS2 classes leave during soft finish

COMMUNITY PARTNERS

We want to inspire children to learn and experience beyond the four walls of a classroom. We are partnering with local businesses and community organisations in order to offer practical and vocational opportunities as well as traditional pathways of learning.



GOVERNANCE

Hope Community School, Southampton is part of The New Generation Schools Trust (NGST). The Trust is responsible for the legal, financial and educational responsibilities of the school. As a free school, we have been set up by the Trust with the full support of the Government, in response to what local people feel they need in order to improve education for children in their community. We are established as an academy, which means we are independent from the Local Authority; therefore, we receive our funding directly from the Department for Education.

We are subject to inspections by Ofsted and our SATs results are published in tables in the same way as traditional state schools.

There are two elements to the governance of New Generation Schools Trust schools;

- local school governance that is delivered on behalf of the Trust via Hope Councils and
- Trust wide governance, delivered via the Board of Trustees and the Executive Team employed on their behalf.

Trust wide governance exists to ensure that all NGST schools share the same DNA and operate in a similar way across the family of schools. Hope Councils exist to challenge and support the school in delivering the vision of the Trust and to ensure each school has a distinct local identity that is relevant to and reflective of the community they serve.

The Trust has established four key roles for Hope Councils:

- To serve as ‘champions’ of the Trust’s vision and ethos within the School and to serve as champions of their local School within the Trust.
- To support and challenge the Principal and the School in their delivery of the vision and ethos of the Trust.
- To be both a “sounding board” and “think tank” for the Principal and school leaders, and to represent the views of the whole school community to influence decision making.
- To continually review the overall impact of the School, to make suggestions for improvement and ensure that the Trust’s vision and ethos remains at the heart of the school community.

FROM THE CHAIR OF THE HOPE COUNCIL

Thank you for your interest in Hope Community School, Southampton.

As Chair of Hope Council, I am privileged to be able to write to you and I hope this prospectus gives you a flavour of the vibrant and supportive environment our School offers.

Our desire for the pupils of Hope Community School, Southampton is that learning will be an adventure explored both inside and outside of the classroom. We aim for the highest possible standards so that pupils raise their aspirations and realise their potential. We want to provide our pupils with an education that strengthens their character so that they will become ‘Community Entrepreneurs’ children who are empowered to engage with and change their communities.



Members of the Hope School Council provide support to the School in a number of ways, using our experience from diverse and varied backgrounds. Our role is to ensure that the School’s performance is evaluated and continuously improves, to help provide the strategic direction for the school, to ensure legal obligations are met and to make sure that the children are given every opportunity to practice and develop their skills to the highest possible level.

The journey to opening Hope Community School would not have happened without support from the local community. We look forward to welcoming you onto this exciting adventure.

Billy Kennedy - Chair of Hope Council