



# Southway Junior School

## Learning & Achieving Together

*Prospectus 2025 - 2026*



# Welcome

Welcome to Southway Junior School and thank you for your interest in our school.

Southway is a warm, vibrant school with happy children who love to learn. We have beautiful, spacious grounds, including a large field, wildlife areas, two playgrounds, forest school and a large pond



Our dedicated team of staff work closely together and with you to make the children's time at school successful, happy and safe. We believe that our relationship with parents/carers is especially important, because with the combined efforts of staff, parent and child, we can reflect our motto '**Learning and Achieving Together.**' I hope this prospectus gives a brief glimpse of school life at Southway, but would urge you, if possible, to come and take a look for yourself. We are always happy to show prospective children and their parents/carers around, both during our open-morning or individually by appointment. Please contact the office for further details.

**I look forward to meeting you.**

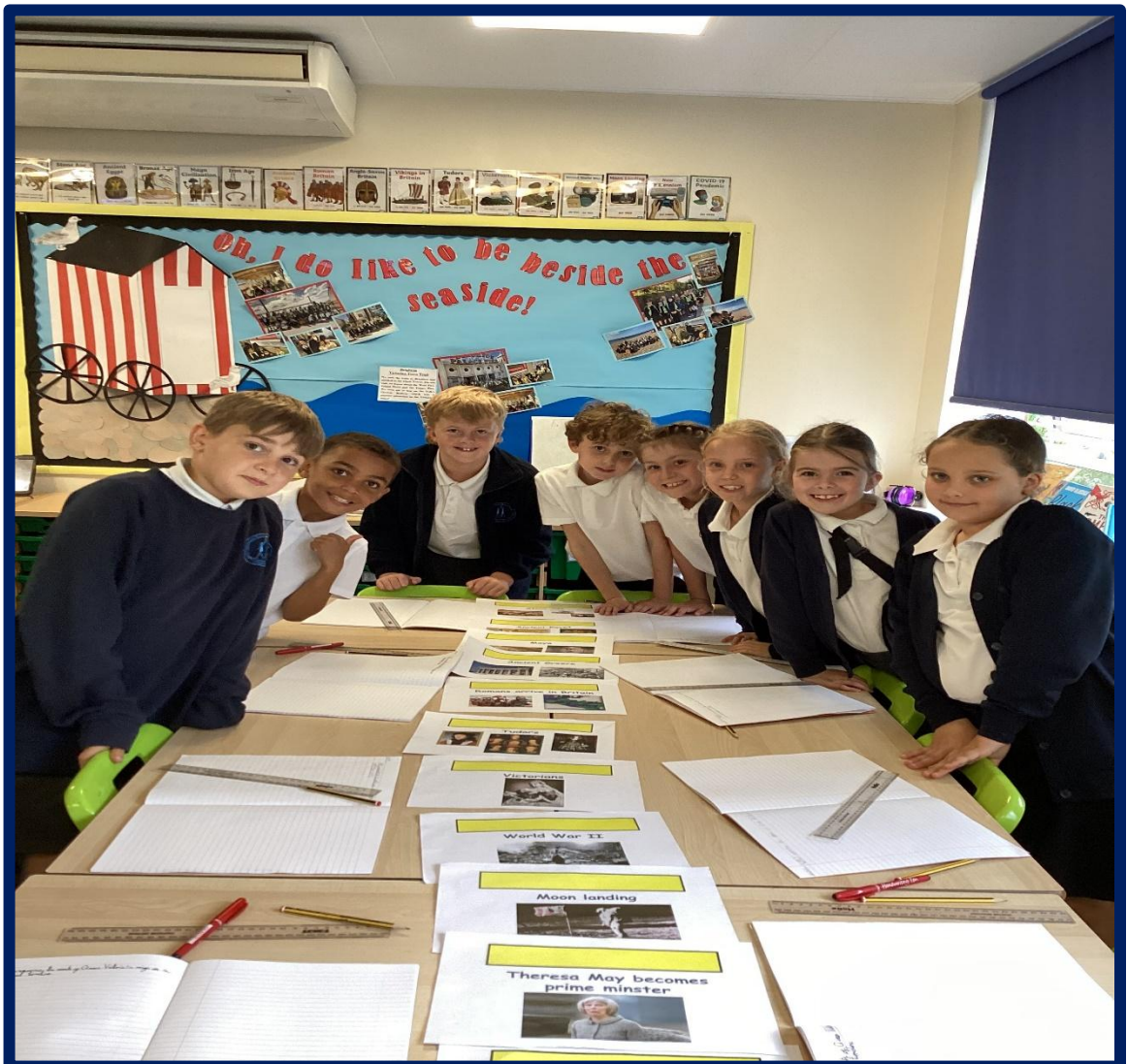
Best wishes  
Vanessa Smith  
Headteacher



# The School

At Southway Junior School we have children in single-aged classes from Years 3 to 6. Our published admissions number is 360 and there are three classes in each year group. The number of children in a class is usually around 30. The vast majority of children transfer to us from The Gattons Infant School and we try to keep them in their same classes in Year 3 to smooth their transition from Key Stage 1 to Key Stage 2.

Our teaching team includes 15 Teaching Assistants who support children in class in the mornings. Each week, when class teachers have their statutory planning, preparation and assessment (PPA) time out of class, the children are taught by the same HLTA (Higher Level Teaching Assistant) to ensure good continuity of teaching and learning.



# School facilities include:



- CleverTouch TVs in every class
- LARC (learning and resource centre)
- Separate dining hall, also used for PE and drama
- An adventure playground and tyre parks
- A bird hide and boardwalk
- Two ponds with decking
- A market garden area with fruit trees and raised vegetable beds
- A cookery and Art / DT classroom
- A hall with staging and lights
- Large fields
- Forest School
- Sensory garden
- Trim trails
- Story telling garden
- And much more...

# Southway Junior School Vision and Aims

We want all Southway children to be happy and confident, achieve personal success and develop a love for learning.

## Aims

High aspiration for all children to make progress and reach their full potential.

Teach a creative and ambitious curriculum that enables academic achievement and readiness for secondary school.

Develop a community of learners who understand the positive contribution they can make locally and globally.

Develop the “whole child” through teaching the importance of positive self-awareness, self-respect, respect and kindness for others.

## Pupil Voice 2024

The best thing about my school is...

“Everyone is kind to each other”

“Being able to have help when I need it”

“The amount of opportunities we have to do exciting things”



# Southway Curriculum Intent

## 'Learning and achieving together'



### High Aspiration

- Ambitious curriculum planned and sequenced
- Confidence and **resilience**
- Lessons inspire and excite
- Outdoor learning
- Creativity, critical thinking and a thirst for learning
- Celebrate successes
- **All** pupils have full entitlement
- **All** progress and achieve their full potential



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### Academic Success

- Breadth, depth and challenge
- Teachers assess
- Planning builds on prior learning and deepens knowledge
- Pupils well prepared for their next step
- Be curious, communicate, question and observe
- Rich reading culture



### Community

- Welcome and celebrate difference and diversity
- Broadening horizons
- Tolerant, responsible and **respectful** of others
- Understand the positive contribution they make locally and globally
- Working in partnership (**teamwork**) with parents/carers to get the best outcomes



### The Whole Child

- Values based curriculum
- Collaborative, reflective and independent
- Understand cause and effect and self-regulation
- RSHE focuses on safety, well-being, positive self-awareness, relationships and the wider world
- **Kindness** to self and others is a high priority

# Learning at Southway

As a junior school we educate children from ages 7 to 11, covering Key Stage 2. The National Curriculum subjects are taught through a range of exciting topics. We are passionate about teaching an ambitious, creative and knowledge-rich curriculum.

Year Group	Autumn Term	Spring Term	Summer Term
<b>Year 3</b>	<b>Me and My World / Habitats</b> Geography focus – local area study Science focus – Plants, living things in habitats	<b>Battles and Bangs</b> History focus – Roman Britain, Pompeii Science focus – Volcanoes, Rocks & Soils	<b>Invaders and Raiders!</b> History focus - Vikings, Anglo-Saxons Science focus – Human Body
<b>Year 4</b>	<b>Victorian Towns and Twisted Tales</b> History focus – Victorian children, Queen Victoria, local area study, rich and poor	<b>Marvelous Mayans</b> History – The Mayans – society study Geography – The Americas	<b>To Infinity &amp; Beyond</b> Science focus - Earth and Space, Solids, Liquids & Gases
<b>Year 5</b>	<b>Power &amp; Palaces</b> History focus – Tudors – Henry VIII, Elizabeth I, Court Life, Shakespeare, Town life	<b>We'll Meet Again</b> History Focus – World War II	<b>Seas, Storms &amp; Survival</b> Geography focus – Rivers & Coasts, Map Skills, Water Usage Science – The Water Cycle
<b>Year 6</b>	<b>Frozen in Time</b> Geography focus – atlas skills, world maps, biomes, polar regions	<b>Walk Like an Egyptian</b> History focus – Egypt / Ancient Civilisations Geography focus – The River Nile	<b>Blood, Bones and Body Bits</b> Science focus – Animals including humans – The Human Body

The children are given opportunities to practise, discuss and develop their knowledge and skills through a wide range of subjects. Children are encouraged to reflect on what they have learnt and on how their knowledge and skills can be applied to different subjects and real life situations. We place a great emphasis on questioning, communication, observation, and on meaningful links made between subjects to ensure learning has a shared context.

# Homework and Take-Away Tasks



## ***Pupil Voice 2024***

*'The best  
thing about  
my school is  
the teachers'*

Children spend more than 80% of their time at home and we are keen that they have the opportunity to consolidate and extend their learning wherever possible. One of the best things parents/carers can do to help your child at home is to **read** with them, and we ask that you do this for at least ten minutes, preferably every day.

Each year group sets regular homework tasks each week, and these typically often include learning times tables or mental arithmetic facts or investigating spellings. In addition, **take-away tasks** are usually set over a period of a few weeks, to encourage children to persevere at a longer-term project, often with family support.

Homework expectations are outlined by Year Group Leaders in their curriculum letters at the beginning of each academic year.

# Inclusion



In 'Learning and Achieving Together' we aim to support the children so that everyone can succeed. Within class, lessons are adapted to cater for children of differing abilities. Our Special Educational Needs co-ordinator (SENDCo) liaises closely with teachers through the school in order to identify swiftly any concerns and advise on how best to cater for different needs. They also work closely with the SENDCo from our infant feeder school to ensure appropriate provision is made for children who have already been identified as having Special Educational Needs. Once a difficulty is identified, provision is made to meet that need and progress is carefully monitored through an Individual Support Plan (ISP) or, if appropriate an Education Health Care Plan (EHCP). At later stages the class teacher and SENDCo may receive support from outside agencies. Parents/carers are fully consulted and encouraged to take a full part in all stages.

**To all the teaching and admin staff THANK YOU! Today is a big day today - our 14 years involvement with Southway will come to an end. All of our four children have come to Southway and today, our youngest will finish. It started a LONG time ago with our eldest in September 2009! But I am writing on behalf of my wife and myself to say thank you - all of our kids have loved Southway. They made friendships that still continue and it laid such a great foundation for their next steps. The school has always celebrated children so well and created such a fun learning environment. We know that teaching is so demanding - there are so many pressures on you all in whatever role you play at the school. As parents, our kids spend a lot of time in your care and we are just so, so grateful. For every way you have cared, for every way you have invested, for every way you have challenged them to believe in themselves more, for every way you have encouraged them and taught them and told them when they have crossed a line - thank you so much! We are very, very grateful.**

***Year 6 parent***



# Children as leaders

Children fulfil a variety of leadership roles in the school. These include positions such as House and Sports Captains, Bird Hide monitors, Storytelling Garden monitors and Values Visionaries. We encourage all children to act responsibly to sustain the natural environment.



# The Southway Day

8.35 - 8.45am School opens & Registration

8.45 - 10.00am Learning

10.00 - 10.20am Assembly

10.20 – 10.45am Break time

10.45 – 12.15pm Learning

12.15 - 1.15pm Lunch break

1.15 – 3.15pm Learning

3.15pm End of school day

Children come directly into school between 8.35am and 8.45am, when the register is taken. Children arriving later than 8.45am must enter through the reception area.

Year 3 and 4 children are met on the lower school playground by staff at the start of the school day. Parents are welcome to accompany their child(ren) to drop them off.

Years 5 and 6 children are met by staff at the large gate. Parents are welcome to accompany their child(ren) to drop them off.

**Assembly** is held each morning, Monday to Friday. Assembly is an important part of the school day when we meet together as a community. It is a time when we place emphasis on the development of values and attitudes towards each other and the world around us. Assemblies are non-denominational and although they are of a broadly Christian nature, due consideration is given to the multicultural society in which we live. Friday mornings often feature a class-led assembly, to which parents and carers are warmly welcomed.

Parents have the right to withdraw their children from religious education and collective worship should they so wish. If parents do not wish their child to be taught the agreed syllabus or take part in short acts of collective worship then they should inform us in writing. Their child can then be excused and suitable alternative arrangements made



# Playtimes



**Playtimes** are an important part of the children's day at school and an essential opportunity to exercise, develop social skills and learn how best to get along with each other. We are lucky enough to have plenty of outdoor space at Southway and try to use as much of it as possible during playtimes.

We have two playgrounds, - the main one is used by everybody but the small playground at the front of the school is just for Years 3 and 4 to use. Both playgrounds have a tyre park and a range of play equipment for children to use. During the summer months, the children can spread out and play on the field as well. Children love to play amongst the mature trees, often collecting acorns and conkers, but the most popular item is the Adventure Playground, which is timetabled for different year groups through the week. The tyre parks and Adventure Playground were bought for the children by the Home School Association, following consultation with the children's school council.

## ***Pupil Survey 2024***

*'The best thing about my school is everybody is kind nobody is ever left out'*

**Morning break: 10.20am – 10.45am**

**Lunchtime: 12.15pm – 1.15pm**

Teachers work hard to find ways in which to enrich the children's learning with a variety of educational trips and visits. These can include visits to the British Museum, Hampton Court Palace and Preston Park Manor. Our Year 6 residential visit is currently to France with NST.

In addition, children learn about religious faiths and beliefs during their Religious Education (RE) lessons in accordance with the Local Authority's agreed RE syllabus.



## Educational Trips and Visits

# School Trips and Visits

## Year 3

Autumn Term	Spring Term	Summer Term
Burgess Hill Town Walk	Hands on History- Vikings	Fishbourne Roman Palace
<b>No cost</b>	<b>£8.00</b>	<b>£24.00</b>
Drusillas		Burgess Hill Roman Walk
<b>£18.50</b>		<b>No cost</b>

### Additional costs

School Photos - £8.00 minimum - optional  
Christmas Cards - £6.00 minimum - optional

Comic Relief - £1.50 - optional

Children in Need donation - £1.00 minimum - optional

Christmas Giving Tree – optional

Harvest Donations – optional

St Peter & St James Hospice Elf Run – optional

Please note - All costings are approximate and may be subject to change



# School Trips and Visits

## Year 4

Autumn Term	Spring Term	Summer Term
Brighton Victorian Town Trail	Hands on History - Mayans	South Downs Planetarium
<b>£9.50</b>	<b>£8.50</b>	<b>£19.00</b>
Preston Manor		
<b>£20.00</b>		

### Additional costs

Lodge Hill Two Day Residential  
Approximately £175.00

School Photos - £8.00 minimum - optional  
Christmas Cards - £6.00 minimum - optional  
Comic Relief - £1.50 - optional  
Children in Need donation - £1.00 minimum - optional  
Swimming lessons - £47.00  
Christmas Giving Tree – optional  
Harvest Donations – optional  
St Peter & St James Hospice Elf Run – optional

Please note - All costings are approximate and may be subject to change



# School Trips and Visits

## Year 5

Autumn Term	Spring Term	Summer Term
Hampton Court	Newhaven Fort	Seven Sisters
<b>£24.50</b>	<b>£17.00</b>	<b>£12.50</b>

Additional costs

**Forward payment for five day Year 6 residential**  
**Approximately £400.00**

School Photos - £8.00 minimum - optional

Christmas Cards - £6.00 minimum - optional

Comic Relief - £1.50 - optional

Children in Need donation - £1.00 minimum - optional

Christmas Giving Tree – optional

Harvest Donations – optional

St Peter & St James Hospice Elf Run – optional

Please note - All costings are approximate and may be subject to change



# School Trips and Visits

## Year 6

Autumn Term	Spring Term	Summer Term
Climbing Wall	British Museum	Chessington
<b>£9.50</b>	<b>£17.50</b>	<b>£30.00</b>
Amex Stadium		Magistrates
<b>£15.00</b>		<b>£1.50</b>
		Brighton Museum
		<b>£20.00</b>

### Additional costs

School Photos - £8.00 minimum - optional

Christmas Cards - £6.00 minimum - optional

Comic Relief - £1.50 - optional

Children in Need donation - £1.00 minimum - optional

Christmas Giving Tree – optional

Harvest Donations – optional

St Peter & St James Hospice Elf Run – optional

Year 6 also have the option to buy leavers hoodies, t-shirts, autographs and photos

Please note - All costings are approximate and may be subject to change





Children behave well at Southway and we expect and encourage them to take responsibility for what they do.

We believe that children respond best to praise and positive behaviour management techniques and reward good behaviour in a number of ways. House points are always popular rewards, but so also is our weekly commendation assembly in which good learning, effort, attitudes or behaviour are recognised. At the end of each term we hold a special Teachers' 'Golden Awards' assembly, during which children's efforts over the preceding term are celebrated. Parents/carers of these children are notified in confidence in advance and invited to the assembly, so they can share their children's successes.

*'The school provides a caring environment where all pupils are made to feel welcome. Pupils are safe and well looked after. They enjoy positive relationships with staff who motivate pupils to do their best.'*

**Ofsted  
Jan 2025**

## **Safeguarding**

Southway Junior School is committed to ensuring that children are safe and that their well-being is promoted at all times. Safeguarding systems and procedures are in place to ensure that concerns are investigated and appropriate action; usually involving other agencies and services is taken. Parents and carers are encouraged to join with our staff, pupils and governors to ensure that all concerns are passed on confidentially to a senior member of staff. The school has a duty of care and will make referrals to other agencies where necessary.

# School uniform

At Southway we encourage children to wear school uniform to show they are a proud part of our school community.

## Uniform Requirements

White polo shirt / white shirt

Navy blue sweatshirt / cardigan with logo

Dark grey / navy / black skirt school style trousers or shorts/skorts

Navy fleece with logo (optional)

Black suitable shoes (leather or leather look) – no boots / heels / backless sandals or canvas shoes

Black/grey/navy/white socks or tights

## Summer Option:

Blue/White striped or checked dress/shorts/skorts

## PE Uniform

House colour T-shirt with school logo

Royal blue shorts

Sweatshirt

Plimsolls or trainers are required for field or playground games

Track-suit for outdoor PE in cold weather (preferably navy blue or black)

A cloakroom bag for PE

Football boots are not compulsory but may be bought if desired

## Swimming Kit

Swimming costume

Swimming hat (compulsory for all can be purchased from the office)

Towel

All in a named bag

As regards the school logo, as long as your child wears the correct school colours we do not insist on having the school logo on items.



## **Year 5 pupil**

*'The best thing about school is the fact that at playtimes there is plenty to do e.g. bird hide, games area and gym equipment'*

### **Pupil Survey 2024**

## **Uniform for sale**

School uniform with the logo can be purchased from Monkhouse Schoolwear, based at Units 1 and 2 Bridge Road Business Park, Haywards Heath or can be ordered online at [www.monkhouse.com](http://www.monkhouse.com)

## **Jewellery and Hair**

Long hair should be tied back. Jewellery should not be worn to school. If your child has pierced ears, small stud ear-rings are allowed, but must be removed or taped up for PE and games. If your child wears a watch to school they must be responsible for it. Smart watches are not permitted. MedicAlert bracelets are permitted.

## **Personal Belongings**

Although we welcome items of interest that support the class learning, staff cannot accept responsibility should they get lost or broken. It is far better to leave any personal items at home, especially if they are of value. Children are expected to be responsible for their own personal school equipment; which should be clearly named.

## **School meals**

Tasty, nutritious hot meals are provided by Chartwells and can be ordered online up to 10 weeks in advance <https://parentpay.com>. Meals cost £3.20 per day. Families in receipt of certain benefits (e.g. Income support) are entitled to free school meals – applications should be made at <https://www.westsussex.gov.uk/education-children-and-families/schools-and-colleges/free-school-meals/>

Children may bring in a packed lunch, which they eat with their year group in the dining hall. In keeping with our Healthy School ethos, we ask that you provide a healthy lunch and suggest that it includes at least one item of fruit or vegetable and no more than one 'treat' (eg chocolate bar or packet of crisps). Fizzy drinks, cans or glass bottles **are not allowed** in school.

## **Break time snack**

Children can bring in a healthy fruit or vegetable snack for morning break time to keep them going until lunchtime.



## Partnership with Parents, Carers and the Local Community

At Southway we value the relationships school has with parents and carers. The school has an 'open-door' policy to encourage parents/carers to alert the school of any issues which may be affecting a child, or to pop in should you wish to discuss something. Teachers escort their classes to the playground at the end of each day, and this is often a useful, informal opportunity to share good news or iron out any concerns.

## Friends of Southway (FoS)

All parents/carers are automatically members of the FoS when they join the school community. We are very lucky to have a really committed and dynamic committee which leads the fundraising for school and runs social events for families and children. As well as the much-loved Christmas and summer fairs, the FoS holds other events such as the family bingo evening and adult quiz night. Thanks to their fundraising, children at playtimes can now practise their balancing on the tyre parks and exercise their upper body strength on the adventure playground, and access our large wildlife pond.

## Governing Body

The Governing Body is a mixture of Local Authority, Parent/carer, Co-Opted and Staff Governors, who bring to the school a broad range of skills, interests and experience. The Governing Body sits monthly. Copies of the minutes are available on request from the Clerk [clerktogovernors@southwayjunior.co.uk](mailto:clerktogovernors@southwayjunior.co.uk)

## Induction and Transition

We have very close links with The Gattons, our feeder Infant school, and staff from Years 2 and 3 work closely together throughout the year to ensure a smooth transition. During the summer term, children from Year 2 have various opportunities to work with teachers and Year 3 at Southway, so that they know the routines and are acclimatised to their new school. Parents and Carers are also invited to an induction meeting on transition mornings, so that they can see their children in what will be their new classroom.



### **Year 6 pupil**

*'The best thing about my school is the lessons, the trips, I can be heard, our rights and responsibilities, playing with friends and reading for pleasure'*

### **Pupil Survey 2024**

In Year 6, all children have a day in the summer term when they will attend their new secondary school. Year 6 teachers liaise closely with the Year 7 team to ensure as smooth a hand-over as possible. Our SENDCo also arranges extra visits where appropriate for some children. In addition, children in Years 5 and 6 will often have opportunities to attend enrichment courses at local secondary schools



## Key Stage 2 Results

Shown below are the end of Key Stage 2 results for the 2025 year six cohort. More detailed information can be found on the following website:

<https://www.compare-school-performance.service.gov.uk/school/125941>

They are made up of test results for reading, maths and GPS (grammar, punctuation and spelling) and teacher assessments for writing. RWM is a combined measure of reading, writing and maths. Figures indicate the percentage reaching age expectations.

Subject Test Results	Southway 2025	National 2025
Age Related Expectation		
Reading	82%	74%
Maths	87%	72%
GPS	88%	72%
Writing	76%	73%
RWM	73%	59%

We hope that this prospectus has given you a flavour of what Southway is all about, but nothing can compare with visiting the school in person. For details of prospective new parents meetings, or to make an appointment, please contact the school office on 01444 233824.

*We look forward to meeting you.*

**Headteacher:** Mrs V Smith  
**Chair of Governors:** Mrs Elinor Wood

## Contact Details

Southway Junior School  
 Southway  
 Burgess Hill  
 West Sussex  
 RH15 9SU

Tel: 01444 233824

Email

[parentline@southwayjunior.co.uk](mailto:parentline@southwayjunior.co.uk)

Website

<http://www.southwayjunior.co.uk>