



**DESMOND
ANDERSON
PRIMARY ACADEMY**



University of Brighton

Academies Trust



PROSPECTUS

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ABOUT DESMOND ANDERSON PRIMARY ACADEMY

Our school first opened in 1958 and was originally a First and Middle School. In 2005 we became a Primary School and moved in to our beautiful new building. We enjoy working and playing in a light, bright environment with wonderful outdoor spaces to explore, for example our sensory garden, solar dome and conservation area. In February 2017 we became an academy and joined the University of Brighton Academies Trust.

HISTORY OF DESMOND ANDERSON

Desmond Anderson was born in 1885 in Cheshire. Following a distinguished military career at home and through two World Wars he took an active part in the community helping servicemen after the Wars and in children and their education. Desmond Anderson died in 1967, bequeathing the school his Anson Sword of Honour, which now hangs above the historical plaque in the reception area.



Look out for the views of our pupils
throughout our prospectus

WELCOME



Desmond Anderson Primary Academy is a dynamic, happy and welcoming academy at the heart of its local community.

We pride ourselves on having high expectations and with keeping the best interests of our pupils at the heart of all we do. Here at Desmond Anderson we want all children to love coming to school and this means ensuring that we have an engaging and creative approach to the curriculum, alongside staff who care about each and every child. We understand that all children are unique and the happy atmosphere in our Academy reflects this.

At Desmond Anderson we work closely with parents and carers, as we believe this is the key to creating an academy community where everyone feels a sense of belonging. We know that you are your child's first educator and the expert on your child. We offer opportunities for parents and carers to be involved, for example, through 'daily drop-ins,' weekly coffee mornings, workshops and much more.

Choosing a school for your child is one of the most important decisions you will ever make. We are passionate about what we do and would like to invite you to Desmond Anderson to see us in action and find out more. To join one of our visits to the Academy, or to find out more, please call the Academy office.



Mrs Felicity Cottrell
Acting Principal

OUR VISION AND ETHOS

OUR VISION

An outstanding education leads to a lifetime of opportunity.

OUR ETHOS

- We are a happy academy where we feel, secure, motivated and valued as individuals.
- We are challenged through high expectations and equal access to creative and stimulating learning opportunities.
- We promote independence and the highest standards for all.
- We become confident, respectful members of our community, contributing positively and appreciating the world in which we live.

OUR ROOT VALUES

We have included our whole academy community in creating our Root Values. They are the foundation of all that we do:

- Respect
- Aspiration
- Working Together
- Independence
- Resilience

“The Academy has a very nice atmosphere and has always encouraged my children to have a go and try. Everyone is always friendly and promotes a caring attitude to others.”

Parent

“Children are happy, safe and secure and are valued as individuals.”

Parent



Achieving excellence together

Desmond Anderson Primary Academy is part of the University of Brighton Academies Trust's network of 15 infant, primary and secondary academies, located across Sussex.

We believe that education transforms lives. Enriched by the University of Brighton's education expertise and our experience working with academy schools for almost 10 years, we want to ensure that our 7,500 pupils are inspired to meet their potential and develop a passion for life-long learning.

It is important to us that our academies have a positive impact on their local communities and that parents and carers are actively engaged with their child's learning. We look forward to welcoming your family to Desmond Anderson Primary Academy as we support each other – and your child – to excel.



Dr John Smith
Chief Executive
University of Brighton
Academies Trust



LEARNING

In our Academy, we strive to provide an attractive environment which stimulates children's curiosity and motivates their learning. We also work hard to create a secure and caring atmosphere in which children are valued and respected. All staff have high expectations and aim to ensure that all children achieve their full potential, whatever their aptitude and ability.

We also encourage our children to have open minds, think for themselves and to become independent learners.

CLASS ORGANISATION

Desmond Anderson is a two form entry academy. We have two classes of 30 children in our Reception Year. All of our classes are named after artists, from Kandinsky to Escher and from Klimt to Hockney.

We have a Special Support Centre (SSC) for children with Autism, for up to 20 children. We also have a nursery on site.

SUPPORTING SPECIAL EDUCATIONAL NEEDS AND DISABILITIES

At Desmond Anderson we want all pupils including those with Special Educational Needs and Disabilities (SEND) to succeed and are committed to providing the best possible environment for each pupil to learn.

We also have an Inclusion Leader who has day-to-day responsibility for SEND policy in the academy: providing advice and support for staff whilst working in partnership with parents and carers.

Pupils are regularly assessed so that SEND can be identified as early as possible. We follow an 'assess, plan, do and review' cycle to ensure individual needs and targets are met.

Our special support classes provide additional support for children on the Autistic Spectrum. Please note, our SSC has separate admission criteria and procedures to the mainstream school. Children are taught in the SSC and integrate into mainstream classes where appropriate.

Our Silver Star Classes currently have approximately 20 children on roll, across two classes:

- Silver Star Class 1 – for children in Reception to Year 2
- Silver Star Class 2 – for children in Year 3 to Year 6.

"The Academy show empathy towards my children and our family and that makes a huge difference."

Parent



RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

We learn about different religions, religious customs and places of worship. We also learn about many religious festivals and visit a local church for Harvest Festival."



DESIGN TECHNOLOGY

We get the chance to design, build and evaluate a number of products as we go through Desmond Anderson."



PERSONAL, SOCIAL, HEALTH AND CITIZENSHIP EDUCATION

The values we learn about in assembly and in class help us to be better people and consider how we can make our academy and community a better place. We also learn how to look after ourselves and others."



MATHS

Maths is fun. We do a problem solving morning every two weeks to practise the skills we have been learning in maths. We also do 'CLIC maths' which really helps us. It is a fun way to help us learn our times tables where we repeat them in different ways."



MUSIC

At Desmond Anderson we use a fun programme called Charanga! This is so much fun, not only does it get us using our voices but it keeps us moving too! We use the interactive whiteboard for our music sessions."



LANGUAGES

In the Infants we learn a different language each year, last year it was Russian! Now we get the chance to learn some Spanish as well as some French."



ART

We use art to help us learn in lots of subjects and our rooms are named after artists. There are lots of pictures and paintings we have done that have been inspired by our class artists."





THINGS WE ENJOY AT DESMOND ANDERSON

Our curriculum describes the subjects taught and everything that happens in our Academy, including the activities designed to promote the spiritual, moral, cultural, intellectual and physical development of pupils. It must also prepare pupils for the opportunities, responsibilities and experiences of life and society.

We have redesigned our curriculum to make sure it is engaging, rigorous and will allow us to take a more creative, fun and interactive approach to teaching and learning.

It includes a 'Life Skills' strand to help children to become increasingly confident, independent and self reliant, as they move through the Academy. This curriculum will be reviewed and adapted each year.

Our children receive daily phonics sessions; our main focus in these sessions is to improve listening skills, recognise the sounds in words, segmenting and blending the sounds.

“Families are encouraged to get involved with the school. The Principal makes herself available and is smiley and friendly every school morning!”

Parent



“ WRITING

At Desmond Anderson we are all Writing Agents and use the Big Writing Adventure approach. Every few weeks we get a new 'mission' to complete to make sure our writing gets better and better. Every few days we do a 'big write' where sometimes the whole academy writes about the same thing which is fun. Other times our teachers will give our class a topic to write about. We enjoy English because we get really fun activities, including retelling stories.”

“ SPELLING

In Key Stage Two we have spelling groups and we learn spelling in lots of different fun ways; especially for words and spelling patterns we find hard to learn. If you find spelling tricky, the teachers are really nice and help us improve for next time.”



“ SUPERSTAR OF THE WEEK

If you have been extra kind, worked extra hard or have done an especially good piece of work, you might get a Superstar of the Week certificate from Mrs Elledge in assembly.”



“ READING

We are starting a new programme for reading which is called Daily Supported Reader for our youngest children and Destination Reader from Year 2/3 to Year 6. This is a way of improving our reading and giving us a love of books at the same time! We do lots of things to help us with our reading. The best bit is 'Book Bingo'. This is a really fun way for everyone to get involved in reading. In Book Bingo we get a score card once a half term to take home with lots of reading challenges on. Book Bingo enables us to read different types of books that we wouldn't have thought of to read by ourselves!”



LEARNING ENVIRONMENT

We are proud of our learning environment and the facilities offered to the children. Some of our facilities include:



DRAMA STUDIO

Key Stage 1 have assemblies in here, plus a celebration assembly where Mrs Elledge gives out 'Star of the Week' certificates. It is sometimes also used for PE. When we have lunch or whole school activities it is opened up and creates a larger hall. Parents are invited to join Mrs Elledge once a week for a coffee morning for a chance to catch up!"



HALL

Key Stage 2 have their assemblies in here and we also use it at lunchtime. Most indoor PE lessons are in here as we have wall apparatuses. At Christmas we even perform on a stage in our hall."



MEDICAL ROOM

When you are not feeling well the medical room is the best place to make you feel a bit brighter since there are soft seats, comfortable cushions and nice, bright colours (there are even cute teddies to comfort you)."



ICT SUITE

We are very lucky in our academy as we have laptop and iPad trollies so we can use them if the ICT Suite is too busy."



LIBRARY

We love to read and our library is packed full of amazing books everywhere you look. Every class has a slot once a week to go to the library and change their book. Our library is available all day from 8:45am until 3:15pm."

OUTDOOR FACILITIES



SOLAR DOME

At Desmond Anderson we have a solar dome where we keep exotic plants. Our gardening club (run by Mrs Tope) looks after the plants in the solar dome, by watering the plants and keeping the solar dome clean. Occasionally classes visit the solar dome to look at the interesting things we are growing in there."



FIELD

We love our field. We can play on it in the summer and even use it for sports day. During really hot days we can sit in the shade and share a book with a friend."



PLAYGROUNDS

Key Stage 1 and Key Stage 2 have their own playgrounds."



SENSORY GARDEN

A quiet area with lots of nice plants, benches and a relaxing fish pond. Sometimes we go in there to read."

GOVERNANCE AND OUR SPONSOR

Our governance arrangements are set by the University of Brighton Academies Trust.

We have a Local Board that contributes to our Academy's vision and future strategy. It is responsible for ensuring that our Academy maintains strong community links and effective communication with all stakeholders including parents and carers. It is also responsible for monitoring student wellbeing, admissions, complaints and concerns.

Local Boards include individuals from the community, including parent and carers. They are accountable to the Trust's Board of Trustees.

BOARD OF TRUSTEES

The Trustees are responsible for determining the Trust's strategic direction, including overarching responsibility for the three core functions: the Trust's vision, educational performance, and financial performance. The Board of Trustees includes representatives from the Trust's sponsor and local people with a wide range of expertise.

ABOUT THE UNIVERSITY OF BRIGHTON ACADEMIES TRUST

The University of Brighton Academies Trust is a network of 15 academies in Sussex all supporting each other – and their pupils – to excel. It is a multi-academy trust and a not-for-profit charitable company limited by guarantee.

The University of Brighton is the Trust's sponsor.

Visit: www.brightonacademiestrust.org.uk

ABOUT THE UNIVERSITY OF BRIGHTON

The University of Brighton is a leading provider of higher education in the south east. Its School of Education has an 'Outstanding' rating from Ofsted for all of its early years, primary and secondary teacher training and it is ranked in the top five universities for education courses in England in The Times and Sunday Times Good University Guide 2018.

Visit: www.brighton.ac.uk

ADMISSIONS

Desmond Anderson Primary Academy will consider all applications for places.

Our admissions policy, which includes our admissions numbers and oversubscription criteria (which are applied when there are more applications than places) is available on our website:

www.desmondandersonprimaryacademy.org.uk/parents/admissions

Please note, our Special Support Centre has separate admission criteria and procedures to the mainstream school.

NORMAL ADMISSIONS ROUND

Most pupils join in Reception and applications for this year group will be made in accordance with West Sussex County Council's coordinated admissions arrangements and will be made on the Common Application Form provided and administered by West Sussex County Council's Admissions Team.

A leaflet describing the primary admissions procedure and application forms are available from West Sussex County Council or online at: www.westsussex.gov.uk/admissions. You can make your application online or by returning the completed form to the Schools Admissions Team at the county council.

IN-YEAR ADMISSIONS

The University of Brighton Academies Trust is responsible for and administers applications for places outside the normal admissions round (including Years 1 – 6, and applications to join the Academy part way through the Reception Year). Details of these arrangements are posted on the Academy's website.

FURTHER INFORMATION

For further information please contact the Admissions Manager by email on admissions@brightonacademiestrust.org.uk stating clearly the nature of your query, the academy to which you are applying and the year group in question.

OUR UNIFORM

At Desmond Anderson we wear a green, white and grey uniform. Our uniform is available from Taylor Made uniform or Tesco. For a full list of what we wear please visit our website: www.desmondandersonprimaryacademy.org.uk



ENQUIRIES

We are very proud of our Academy. If you would like to see more, please arrange a visit. We hope to see you soon!

01293 525596

office@desmondandersonprimaryacademy.org.uk

www.desmondandersonprimaryacademy.org.uk



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