Meir Heath Academy

Principal: Mrs M Southern

Golborn Avenue, Meir Heath, Staffordshire, ST3 7JQ

Telephone (01782) 393856 or 392755, e-mail meirheathoffice@sbmat.org

September 2026

Dear Parents,

Choosing the right primary school for your child is one of the most important decisions you will make as a parent. As a mother myself, I completely understand how significant this choice is, and I want to help you get a true sense of what our school offers to support your decision.

We like to think of ourselves as the "Meir Heath Family." Once you join, you'll never want to leave. Many parents who entrust us with their children were once students here themselves, and they wouldn't choose any other school. Likewise, many of our teachers began their careers here as Newly Qualified Teachers and have never left—some have been part of our school for over 20 years. I began my journey at Meir Heath 16 years ago as Deputy Headteacher and took on the role of Principal 9 years ago after the retirement of my predecessor. Every day, I feel incredibly fortunate to work with such wonderful staff and students—they make this the perfect job for me. We are truly a happy, dedicated, and supportive team.

We are a welcoming schools. During our OFSTED inspection in June 2025, the inspector remarked our school fosters an environment that is aspirational for the acheivement of all. They also identified that the children achieve well and in many subjects excel and that the school's use of technology is impressive. Pupils and staff use technology in innovative ways. The children spoke very proudly to the OFSTED inspector about our school saying "We are young leaders and make good choices for our school." They also told the inspector how much they love school. From the Reception year, it was identified that children build strong relationships and behaviour across the school is often exemplary.

Our core values—Happy, Hardworking, and Caring—shine through to everyone who visits us. I believe this magic stems from the love, care, and passion our entire team brings to everything we do. Children are at the heart of everything we do, and strong relationships—with pupils, families, and each other—are another key to our success. As a school, we take safeguarding seriously, recognising it as everyone's responsibility. You can find more about our safeguarding policies on our website.

At Meir Heath, we've created what I believe is the perfect recipe for an outstanding education. Our curriculum is ambitious, engaging, and designed to maintain high academic standards, as reflected in our excellent results. We are fortunate to have specialist teachers for PE and music, both of whom are invaluable assets to our team. Their dedication enriches our students' lives through numerous community events, after-school clubs, and an active sporting and musical calendar. We've been honoured with the Sports Platinum Award and the Silver Music Mark for our efforts.

In addition to our academic success, we have fully embraced the OPAL (Outdoor Play and Learning) play initiative, which has completely transformed our lunchtimes. OPAL is a nationally recognised program designed to enhance the quality of children's play by encouraging creative, adventurous, and inclusive outdoor play across the entire school grounds. At Meir Heath, children now have access to a wide range of outdoor activities that engage their imaginations and physical abilities. Whether they are building dens, climbing, or exploring nature, the children absolutely love their time outside. The positive impact on their social skills, well-being, and overall happiness is clear to see. Our play provision has been so successful that we've been commended and even featured in the highlights on the OPAL Schools website—an achievement we are incredibly proud of!

Throughout the year, we plan many events that invite parents to actively participate in their child's learning. From creative workshops and outdoor sessions to our popular "special person lunches" (for EYFS and KS1 parents) and Bee Active workshops, there are many opportunities to be part of your child's school experience. In addition, we host performances such as nativities, plays, and class assemblies. Feedback from parents is consistently positive, and the children love sharing their learning with their families.

Our Early Years Team is truly exceptional, with a wealth of experience and dedication. Mrs. Fisher, our EYFS Leader and Assistant Principal, is a former Meir Heath student herself and has been teaching here for 19 years. She has the biggest heart and embodies our school values in everything she does. The entire team radiates warmth and possesses the essential qualities needed to nurture young children.

We also use ClassDojo as our main platform for communication between school and home. ClassDojo is a secure app that allows teachers to share important updates, announcements, and classroom activities directly with parents. It enables you to stay informed about your child's progress and school events in real-time, as well as receive photos, videos, and messages about their learning experiences. One of the key benefits of ClassDojo is that it encourages positive reinforcement, with teachers awarding points for good behavior, effort, and teamwork. This allows you to see and celebrate your child's achievements throughout the day. By using ClassDojo, we foster strong home-school connections, ensuring you're always informed and engaged in your child's educational journey.

We are proud members of the St. Bart's Multi Academy Trust (SBMAT), which brings many benefits to our school. We joined the trust in 2017 because of its unwavering focus on educational excellence, a vision that aligns with our own values. With 23 academies across Cheshire, Stoke, and Staffordshire, SBMAT provides a wealth of experience and opportunities for collaboration. Our central leadership team offers regular support and challenge, ensuring we continue to grow.

Additionally, we are part of the Partners in Excellence cluster with Blythe Bridge High School, providing valuable opportunities for collaboration, transition, and sporting events.

In 2021, we embarked on an exciting journey to become an Apple School. Now, all our students from Year 1 upwards use one-to-one iPads in their lessons. Our teachers receive regular, up-to-date training, and this initiative has transformed our approach to learning, greatly enhancing pupil engagement. While we've embraced technology, we still value traditional methods, ensuring that pen-and-paper skills remain fundamental.

To give you a better sense of our school, I've created a short film showcasing our vibrant learning environments. You can watch it by clicking on the film strip next to this text.

For more details on our curriculum, visit the relevant section of our website at www.meirheathacademy.org. Our topics change each half term, ensuring that learning stays fresh and engaging. In EYFS, we enhance the indoor and outdoor classroom environments weekly, aligning them with the children's interests and the Development Matters curriculum. The excitement on the children's faces as they explore new topics is wonderful—one of my personal favorites is the "Supertato" topic, where characters from the book come to life in the classroom!

To stay connected with our school community, visit our Facebook page, where we share updates and news regularly.

We understand that navigating the admissions process can be challenging, so we've created an "Admissions to Primary School Help Sheet" available on our website under the "How to Apply for a Place at Meir Heath Academy" tab. This guide is particularly useful in helping you determine which local authority you should apply to, whether it be Staffordshire or Stoke-on-Trent. If you have any questions or need further assistance, please don't hesitate to contact us—we're here to help.

Yours faithfully,



Mrs M. Southern
Proud Principal of Meir Heath Academy