



In Pursuit of Excellence

August 2027 Intake

Wednesday 16th Sept 6pm – Open evening
Saturday 7th Nov 9am-10.30am – Open morning

[Book now >>](#)



Our break times are an important part of every child's day

[Learn more >>](#)

2025-2026
PROSPECTUS



Supporting your Individual School
symphonylearningtrust.co.uk



Second highest
Reading, Writing and Maths score out of
42 schools
in North West Leicestershire - 2025 Result

Welcome

We are a 2-form entry primary school, located on the outskirts of the popular town of Ashby de la Zouch, overlooking the beautiful Leicestershire countryside.

We are the largest primary school in Ashby and pride ourselves on the welcoming 'family feel' that it has. This stems from our close family community including staff, pupils and families of our children. Everyone is made to feel valued and welcome, resulting in a happy, safe and positive place to learn.

Our pupils are known for their exceptional behaviour and kindness and are role models both in the local community and beyond.

Our dedicated staff are committed to ensuring that every child reaches their full potential. We have extremely high expectations which are reflected in our consistently high academic standards, behaviour and attitudes.



Chloe Dilks, Head Teacher



We have been made to feel welcome and included. We are all very happy.



OPAL

We have achieved the highest award for our Outdoor Play and Learning (OPAL) provision, transforming break and lunchtime experiences for all our children. A wide range of activity stations across the school grounds encourages creativity and imagination, making playtimes fun, engaging and meaningful.

Activities include mud kitchens, sand pits, den building, rope swings, bug exploration, bikes and scooters, crate construction and mud piles. While these can be used in familiar ways, there are no limits to how children choose to play. Crates become vehicles, kitchens turn into cauldrons, and imagination leads the way through creative, open-ended experiences.

Why is this important?

As well as learning through good teaching, children also learn when they play, and as 20% of their time in school is playtime, we want to make sure that this amount of time is as good as possible.

Importantly, meaningful playtimes help children return to the classroom feeling calmer, happier and ready to learn. By expending energy, engaging their imagination, and developing positive relationships during break and lunch, pupils are better able to focus, regulate their emotions and engage more effectively with their learning.

In 2018 OPAL won first prize in an EU funded award for the best active school's programme in Europe.





What Makes Us Unique

Sport

We are extremely proud of our excellent reputation for sport. We have won Primary School of the Year at the NW Leicestershire Sports Awards on several occasions, in recognition of our excellent attendance and engagement in sporting events. Our PE curriculum offers two hours of quality provision ranging from the learning of throwing and catching skills to outdoor and adventurous pursuits. Through our PE curriculum, our pupils also learn about perseverance and resilience and the benefits that sport brings to their physical and mental health. ME Sports coaches support our teaching and

learning as well as offering a variety of high-quality sports clubs after school. We aim for every pupil to experience a sporting enrichment opportunity, each year.

OPAL (Outdoor Play and Learning Programme)

Our new programme improves opportunities for physical activity, socialisation, co-operation, coordination, resilience, creativity, imagination and enjoyment through improved play. It is the result of 17 years testing and development in over 250 schools.



What Makes Us Unique

School Grounds

Our unique location provides us with the best opportunity to explore what Ashby has to offer as well as benefitting from the wellbeing associated with the countryside.

We are fortunate to have a large outdoor space and newly appointed buildings, carefully designed to suit our pupils' learning and cognition. Year 6 have a dedicated, air-conditioned learning space in the tree tops building. We have a recently landscaped sensory garden overlooking the neighbouring fields, a dedicated outdoor play area for children in EYFS and a Garden of Dreams where children can use their imagination for play.

Music

We provide music lessons for a range of instruments, including piano, flute, clarinet, guitar, saxophone, and recorder. Our school has dedicated specialist tutors who conduct these lessons during the school day.

In Year 4, all pupils learn to play an instrument eg clarinet and our curriculum is challenging, engaging and offers plenty of opportunity to play instruments. Our school choir attends Young Voices on an annual basis and regularly performs at school events.

[Book an Open Day >>](#)



What Makes Us Unique

ELSA

At Willesley, we prioritise the mental health and wellbeing of our pupils and staff. We recognise that children of any age can experience wellbeing or mental health issues at any time and make it our aim to offer support as early as possible. We have a qualified Emotional Literacy Support Assistant (ELSA) and a dedicated wellbeing room to support our pupils. We also have a senior children's mental health lead.

SEND

We have an experienced SENDCO whose role is to ensure that pupils with SEND have access to appropriate and targeted provision, to enable them to reach their full potential. We draw extensively on the expertise and support of external services and work in close partnership with parents. Our school environment and curriculum are carefully planned, taking into consideration the needs of all pupils.



An inclusive school.. where pupils with SEND are supported well.
Ofsted November 22

[Book an Open Day >>](#)



KS2

results were

16% above

the national average - 2025 Result

Our Vision

Our aim at Ashby Willesley is to nurture happy, well-rounded individuals who are equipped to achieve their full potential during their time with us and beyond.

Core Values

Our priority is that children feel safe and happy at school. To ensure this we have an ethos of encouraging and rewarding positive behaviour. Our children are taught about our 12 core values and the importance of demonstrating them on a daily basis.

Our 12 core values are: Communication, Confidence, Cooperation, Empathy, Friendship, Imagination, Independence, Kindness, Listening, Perseverance, Respect, Self Esteem.

[Book an Open Day >>](#)



Our Early Years

pupils achieved a good level of development
across all areas of learning

9% above

the national average - 2025 Result

EYFS

We consider your child's first year at school to be one of the most important. It is the foundations on which their future education is built.

Our Foundation Stage offers:

- ★ Highly skilled and dedicated Foundation Stage team.
- ★ Carefully scaffolded and inclusive curriculum which is centered around each child's unique starting point and interests.
- ★ An excellent balance of child-led and teacher-led learning.
- ★ Direct access to their own large outdoor classroom all year-round.
- ★ A large and modern open-plan learning environment.
- ★ Strong parent relationships.



My child has settled in really well and is loving school. I think this has been assisted by the gradual start and all the information we were given so we could talk at home. We couldn't be happier with Willesley. New Starter parents 23/24



Our Curriculum

We believe that children deserve a curriculum that is rich in the experiences, knowledge and skills that builds on what they have learnt in EYFS.

At Willesley we offer :

- ★ A well-sequenced curriculum that allows children to build on prior knowledge.
- ★ The teaching of subject specific skills and knowledge to allow success in school and life.
- ★ Opportunities to learn inside and outside of the classroom.
- ★ A curriculum of diversity where differences are celebrated.
- ★ A curriculum where all children can achieve and be proud of themselves.

[Learn more >>](#)



Reading

We value the importance of reading and believe that this is the key to future success as it unlocks all other subjects.

Our reading philosophy is 'Learn to Read...Read to Learn'

In EYFS and KS1 we 'Learn to Read' through:

- ★ Daily teaching of systematic phonics using Sounds Write
- ★ Exposure to quality texts in all curriculum areas
- ★ Carefully matched reading books to phonics
- ★ Promoting a love of reading
- ★ Encouraging a strong partnership between home and school

In KS2 we 'Read to Learn' through:

- ★ Exposure to high quality texts in all curriculum areas
- ★ Shared and guided reading
- ★ Using reading skills to learn more about children's own interest
- ★ Adult modelling of reading

[Book an Open Day >>](#)



Enrichment

We value the importance of ensuring that pupils have the opportunity to learn through experiences that enhance and go beyond our curriculum. These enrichment opportunities enable children to use their imagination, challenge themselves and create memories. All pupils in every year group are offered the following enrichment opportunities throughout the year.

	Examples
A big trip	Visit the Warning Zone
A local trip	Visit to Ashby Castle
A cultural experience	Global Leicester Trip
A visitor in school	Vet/Emergency Services

Alongside this, we provide activities throughout the year, such as:

Kimbles Music + Movement	EYFS
Forest School	A 6-week block for all pupils in Y2 + Y4
Residentials	Y4 and Y6
Martial Arts	A 6-week block for all pupils in Y6

A range of extracurricular clubs is offered each half term. For example:

Y1	Multi-Sports
Y2	Music Club
Y3	Gardening Club
Y3/4	Basketball
Y5/6	Performing Arts
KS2	KraftyKidz



Our Wraparound Care

To support our families, we offer term time wrap around care.

Breakfast Club: 7.30-8.40

Our breakfast club is run by school staff and provides a calm and nurturing start to the school day. Children are provided with a healthy breakfast and a variety of activities to engage in.

After School Club: 3.15-6.00

ME Sports in the Community run our after-school club. They work in partnership with the school and reflect our high expectations. A variety of sport, crafts, games and activities are delivered with additional specific year group clubs being offered alongside and in addition to the club.



Our Commitment to You

Children achieve their best when school and families have close working relationships. We are committed to establishing strong working partnerships with our parents and carers. We ensure that our communication channels are easily accessible to all through:

- ★ Reach More Parents – a simple online app
- ★ Year group emails
- ★ Open door policy
- ★ Half termly newsletters
- ★ Reading diaries
- ★ Weekly EYFS learning newsletters
- ★ Two formal parents evenings per year
- ★ End of year written reports
- ★ Friendly and approachable staff

[Book an Open Day >>](#)



Why Choose a Symphony Learning Trust School

The Trust is dedicated to upholding elevated standards and sparking the imaginations of young individuals.

In an ever-evolving world, the Senior Leadership Team (SLT) is resolute in delivering well-rounded, motivating, and captivating learning encounters for our students. Our core values of ambition, diligence, acceptance, and honesty serve as the foundation for this endeavour.

Symphony Learning Trust boasts a proven history of formulating and spearheading nationwide initiatives, along with highly effective inter-school support. We take pride in the influence we wield over

student outcomes across our institutions, and our unwavering commitment to enhancing standards and augmenting the calibre of education accessible to all our students.



Symphony Learning Trust



[symphony_learning_trust](#)

[Learn more click here >>](#)



Ashby Willesley Primary School

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Leicestershire LE65 2QG

 Ashby Willesley Primary School

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www.ashbywillesley.org.uk

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Email: office@willesley.leics.sch.uk

2026 Open days

Do you have a child due to start school August 2027?

We invite you to our new starters parents and carers presentation evening on **Wednesday 16th September 6pm** and our open morning for children and their families on **Saturday 7th November 9am-10.30am**.

To book your place please complete the online booking form. Alternatively call 01530 413654 or email reception@willesley.leics.sch.uk

[Book online >>](#)

[Email Willesley >>](#)

How to apply

For applications to our Reception class you must apply through Leicestershire County Council. Applications for entry in Autumn 2027 should be made by **15th January 2027. Applications are welcome from families who live in and out of our catchment area.**

[Apply now >>](#)

We have a few places available in different year groups. Please contact the school to see if we can accommodate your child.

[Contact Willesley >>](#)

The Symphony Learning Trust and Ashby Willesley Primary School is committed to safeguarding and safer recruitment. We are committed to promoting the welfare of children and expect all staff and volunteers to share this commitment.