



ERNEST COOKSON SCHOOL

2016 - 17



“Ernest Cookson School helps pupils with emotional, behavioural or social difficulties to gain the self-esteem, self-identity, independence and skills to lead successful lives.”

Address	Ernest Cookson School 54 Bankfield Road Liverpool L13 0BQ
Type of School:	Special SEBD Boys – KS 1, KS2 and KS3 58 pupils
Tel No:	0151 235 1350
E mail:	@ernestcookson.com
Web Site:	www.ernestcookson.com
Headteacher	Mr. I. Moxham
Chair of Governors	Mr D Smith
School starts	08.45 a.m.
School finishes	2.50 p.m.
School Improvement Partner (SIP)	Mr. P. Cooper
School Governors:	
Mr D. Smith	Chairman
Mr G Garnett	Local Authority
Mrs P Goss	Parent Governor
Mrs J Mitchell	Co-opted Governor
Mrs D Stretton	Parent Governor
Mr J Lloyd	Co-opted Governor
Mrs K Maunder	Co-opted Governor
Ms L Guy	Co-opted Governor
Ms H McCarron	Staff Governor

STAFFING

Headteacher	Mr. I. Moxham
Assistant Headteacher	Mr. P. Finnegan
Assistant Headteacher	Miss G. James (Child Protection)
Assistant Headteacher	Mrs C Bolton
Teaching Staff :	Mrs H. Di Stefano Mr. T. Dykes Ms R. Price Miss L. Guy Mr D. Storey Mr R Stringfellow Mr I Laird Mrs K Donnelly Mrs M Shaw
Learning Mentor	Ms G Doyle (Child Protection)
Learning Support Assistants:	Miss L. Davies Mrs. P. Robinson Mrs. J. Smith Mr C. Morgan Miss E. Cardwell Miss J. Pattullo Miss H. McCarron Ms D. Philip Mr J Dennehey Mrs J Wollford Mrs S Whelan
School Counsellor:	Mrs. Y. Donovan
Outreach Staff:	Mr. P. Robinson Ms M. Sikora Mrs A. Marsh Mrs. G. Porter Mrs. Y. Donovan
Outreach Therapist:	Mr E. Schumann
School Admin Officer	Mrs. E. Timmins
Admin Assistant	Mr K. Pittam
Site Manager	Mr. A. O'Shaunessy

Advisory Staff

School Nurse	-	tbc
Education Psychologist	-	Dr. J. Bowden
Statementing Officer	-	Mrs J. Byrne
Education Welfare Officer	-	Mrs B. Sherlock

2016/17

Autumn Term 2016

- **Starts:** Monday 5th September
- **Half Term:** Monday 24th to Friday 28th October
- **Ends:** Wednesday 21st December

Spring Term 2017

- **Starts:** Wednesday 4th January
- **Half term** Monday 20th to Friday 24th February
- **Ends:** Friday 7th April

Summer Term 2017

- **Starts:** Monday 24th April
- **May Day:** Monday 1st May
- **Half Term:** Monday 29th May to Friday 2nd June
- **Ends:** Friday 21st July

Total School Days 195

Parents are formally requested not to take their child out of school, on holiday, during the school term.

The School Day

<u>Start</u>	<u>Finish</u>	
8.45	8.50 a.m.	Registration
8.50	9.05 a.m.	Assembly
9:05	9.55 a.m.	Lesson 1
9.55	10.45 a.m.	Lesson 2
10.45	11.00 a.m.	Break
11.00	11.50 a.m.	Lesson 3
11.50	12.40 a.m.	Lesson 4
12.40	1.10 p.m.	Lunch
1.10	1.25 p.m.	Reading
1.25	2.15 p.m.	Lesson 5
2.15	2.50 p.m.	Review and Option
2.50 p.m.		Dismissal Taxi/Bus

ADMISSIONS POLICY

The Ernest Cookson School is a day school for boys in National Curriculum years 1 – 6. The school caters for pupils with a wide range of Emotional, Social and Mental Health difficulties. The children who come to us have had a variety of difficulties in coping within the mainstream environment. These difficulties range from quiet, withdrawn behaviours to hyperactive and aggressive behaviours. The children are referred to the school by a combination of people including the School Medical Officer, Educational Psychologist and the previous school. All admissions to Ernest Cookson School are directed by the L.A.

REVIEWS

The aim of the school is to help both the child and his family come to terms with his problems and co-ordinate an effective and consistent education and behavioural plan in order to overcome his problems and return to mainstream education.

Your child's progress will be continually monitored on a weekly basis. Each year a formal review of his progress will be held, when all the staff involved in teaching your child review his progress and set targets for the following year. You will be invited into the school to discuss the Annual Review and copies of all reports will be sent to you and the L.A.

METHODOLOGY

The school uses a behaviour management and behaviour modification system and presents firm, consistent guidelines and expectations. We use a variety of techniques in order to change the behaviours that are causing difficulty and provide support to help our children come to terms with the emotional damage they have experienced. We use behavioural targeting, one to one and group counselling, interpretation and modelling. We teach our children that behaviours have consequences; we reward good behaviour and use a hierarchical system of consequences to manage and modify unacceptable behaviours.

PHILOSOPHY OF THE SCHOOL

The Ernest Cookson School is a caring therapeutic environment. We believe the following aspects are essential to the therapeutic process and the successful progress of our children.

1. We value and accept the child as he is.
2. The school presents opportunities for making and strengthening relationships.
3. The school does not have punitive attitudes amongst staff and attempts to reinforce the good aspects of his behaviour so he can gain in confidence and feel good about himself thus improving self-esteem and self-image.
4. The school has positive and appropriate controls.

5. The school provides a broad and balanced curriculum where all pupils follow the National Curriculum.
6. We try to help the parents. They are often forgotten and have to live with the behaviour problem. We act as a resource and advice centre.
7. We provide opportunities for children to understand their behaviour and that of their classmates so that they can come to terms with themselves and their behaviour.
8. Communications between staff and pupils, staff and parents and inter-staff must be good if manipulation, trust and misunderstandings are not to take place.

The factors outlined above are all essential parts of the education process and are all equally important to our children's well being.

TRANSPORT

Junior aged children arrive at school by taxi, children who misbehave on transport to school will be returned home and parents will be expected to bring them to school. Similarly if a child misbehaves on the way home from school he will be returned to school to await collection.

Senior pupils are expected to travel on public transport and bus pass application forms are available from the administration officer. Independent travel is encouraged as part of the pupils' social development.

THE SCHOOL AND THE TAXI COMPANY'S HAVE TO DELIVER YOUR CHILD TO THEIR HOME ADDRESS UNLESS WE ARE INFORMED IN WRITING THAT ALTERNATIVE ARRANGEMENTS ARE REQUIRED.

WE CANNOT RELEASE CHILDREN TO RELATIVES, FRIENDS ETC. WITHOUT PRIOR PERMISSION FROM THE PARENT/GUARDIAN.

If your child misbehaves while travelling to or from school on:

(a) PUBLIC TRANSPORT

This privilege will be removed and parents will be responsible for bringing him to and from school.

(b) SPECIAL TRANSPORT

He will be stopped from travelling in the Special School transport and the parents will be responsible for bringing him to and from school.

SCHOOL UNIFORM

The school uniform is black shoes, black or dark grey trousers, and a school jumper (available from school office).

Children are encouraged to wear their school uniform to show that they are part of this school community.

SCHOOL PE KIT

Juniors aged children are recommended to keep their kit in school all week and take it home on Friday for washing.

Senior aged children should bring in PE kit on the appropriate day. **ALL SCHOOL CLOTHING AND KIT SHOULD BE CLEARLY MARKED WITH YOUR CHILDS NAME.**

N.B.

The school **cannot** be responsible for any articles brought into school by pupils or left in school overnight.

CHARGING POLICY

We do not make any charges for day educational visits. However we may request a nominal sum towards any residential activities and visits that the school may organise involving your child. These activities and visits are part of your child's educational entitlement and usually support class work.

PARENTAL VISITS

Parents are welcome to visit the school at any time subject to appointment - please telephone 0151 235 1350 to make an appointment. Interest shown by parents in their child's work has an extremely beneficial effect and the encouragement they show is a major factor in the child's future development.

SCHOOL DINNERS

Most children eat a school dinner, but are able to bring packed lunches to the school. The cost of a school meal is currently £2.10 per day for senior and junior aged boys. The lunch break is an extremely important time for us, when we teach our children to socialise and play together.

DISCIPLINE

A list of rules and their consequences was drawn up by the children at the school. Periodically the list is reviewed. Because the children and not the staff have drawn up the list, they OWN the rules and have a vested interest in making them work. Changes to this code of conduct can only take place with the agreement of the whole school.

Meetings between parents / carers and the school are arranged following serious behavioural incidents.

Behaviour letters and telephone calls are used to communicate less serious behavioural issues to parents / carers.

All pupils in the school are subject to behavioural policies which incorporate, assertive discipline, positive discipline, and behaviour targeting. Pupils who behave appropriately are recognised, praised and rewarded.

CURRICULUM

We offer a broad and balanced curriculum which is designed to allow each pupil to achieve his potential.

The school curriculum is designed to ensure that all children have contact with nine areas of essential experience to the educational process. They are:-

AESTHETIC/CREATIVE
ETHICAL
LINGUISTIC/COMMUNICATION
MATHEMATICAL
PHYSICAL
SCIENTIFIC
SOCIAL/POLITICAL
SPIRITUAL
TECHNOLOGICAL

In our school a relevant curriculum is particularly important. In a society where there is high unemployment and the need for flexibility of training, it is important that, especially in the senior school, that the curriculum take account of the world of work and adult life. Consequently pupils are involved in college vocational courses.

In teaching of all subjects there should be:

- An element of discussion between the teacher and pupils.
- The opportunity for pupils to discuss in pairs and in groups.
- The opportunity for pupils to work in pairs and in groups.
- The opportunity for pupils to do research and present individual work.
- Explanation of why a particular task is being done with reference to its value.
- The recognition of the importance of process.
- Due recognition given to the importance of recording achievement in

skills other than written skills.

Generally speaking the curriculum presented at Ernest Cookson is that dictated by the *individual needs* of the pupil - his ability, his interests and his learning difficulties.

Most pupils need help with the basic skills in literacy and numeracy, without which all other subjects are going to present problems. Due emphasis therefore is placed on achieving a reasonable standard in reading, writing and arithmetic.

There are six classes in the school

Where appropriate pupils will follow programmes of study from a previous Key Stage.

Reports are issued to coincide with annual reviews and parents are encouraged to visit the school to discuss their sons' progress and behaviour.

The subjects offered at Ernest Cookson are: Maths, English, Science, CDT, History, Geography, PE, PSE, Art, RE and Cookery.

Trips out are also a regular feature of school life and provide an added stimulus as well as a valuable contribution to Leisure Activities.

In conclusion the ultimate goal of Ernest Cookson School is to provide a framework within which the children can be helped to overcome their emotional, social or psychological problems, together with the associated educational failure, so that they can recover their self esteem, grow in confidence, play a positive role in the life of the school and acquire skills that will prepare them for life after school.

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

Religious Education is taught throughout the Key Stages, although parents are reminded they can withdraw their child from all or part of religious education and assemblies if they so wish.

SUMMARY OF SEX EDUCATION POLICY

Through our Sex Education Policy we aim to inform each child about the physical aspects of sex, and stress the value of relationships and encourage healthy choices.

SPORTING AIMS

It is the aim of Ernest Cookson School to improve the health and well being of young people by creating positive attitudes towards physical activity through sporting challenges both competitive and non competitive.

SUMMARY OF GOVERNORS POLICY FOR SEN

Through our SEN Policy we aim to provide an environment that is conducive to self-development and academic learning. All subjects of the National Curriculum are offered. High emphasis is placed on personal and social development.

All pupils have individual behavioural targets that are negotiated and constantly monitored. Further, where appropriate, pupils have Action Plans for Progress that target curriculum objectives in English, Mathematics, ICT, and Science.

Parents are welcome to make appointments at any time to come into school to discuss their child.

ATTENDANCE

Attendance Rates:

Attendance	2011/12	2012/13	2013/14	2014/15	2015/16
Ernest Cookson	83.93%	90.72%	92.2%	90.5%	93%

We request parents inform us in writing of the reasons for any absence from school and are committed to improving attendance. This will be achieved by:

- 1) Ringing absent pupil's parents on the first day of absence to find out why the pupil is absent.
- 2) Informing the Education Welfare Officer and requesting that a home visit is made if we are unable to contact parents by phone or are suspicious of the reasons for absence.
- 3) Providing a taxi to assist the pupil in travelling to school. (subject to LA agreement)
- 4) Issuing certificates for 100% attendance and punctuality on a weekly basis.

COMPLAINTS

Parents are requested to make an appointment with the Headteacher to discuss complaints arising from curriculum, school issues or behavioural matters; unresolved complaints or complaints against the Headteacher should be made in writing and addressed to the Chair of Governors.

CHILD PROTECTION

The school will take any reasonable action to ensure the safety of its pupils. In cases where the school has reason to be concerned that a child may be subject to ill-treatment, neglect or other forms of abuse, staff have no alternative but to follow Liverpool Child Protection Manual procedures and inform Social Services of their concern.

Parents will **not** always be fully informed of concerns unless staff is certain that the safety of the child will not be prejudiced by their doing so.