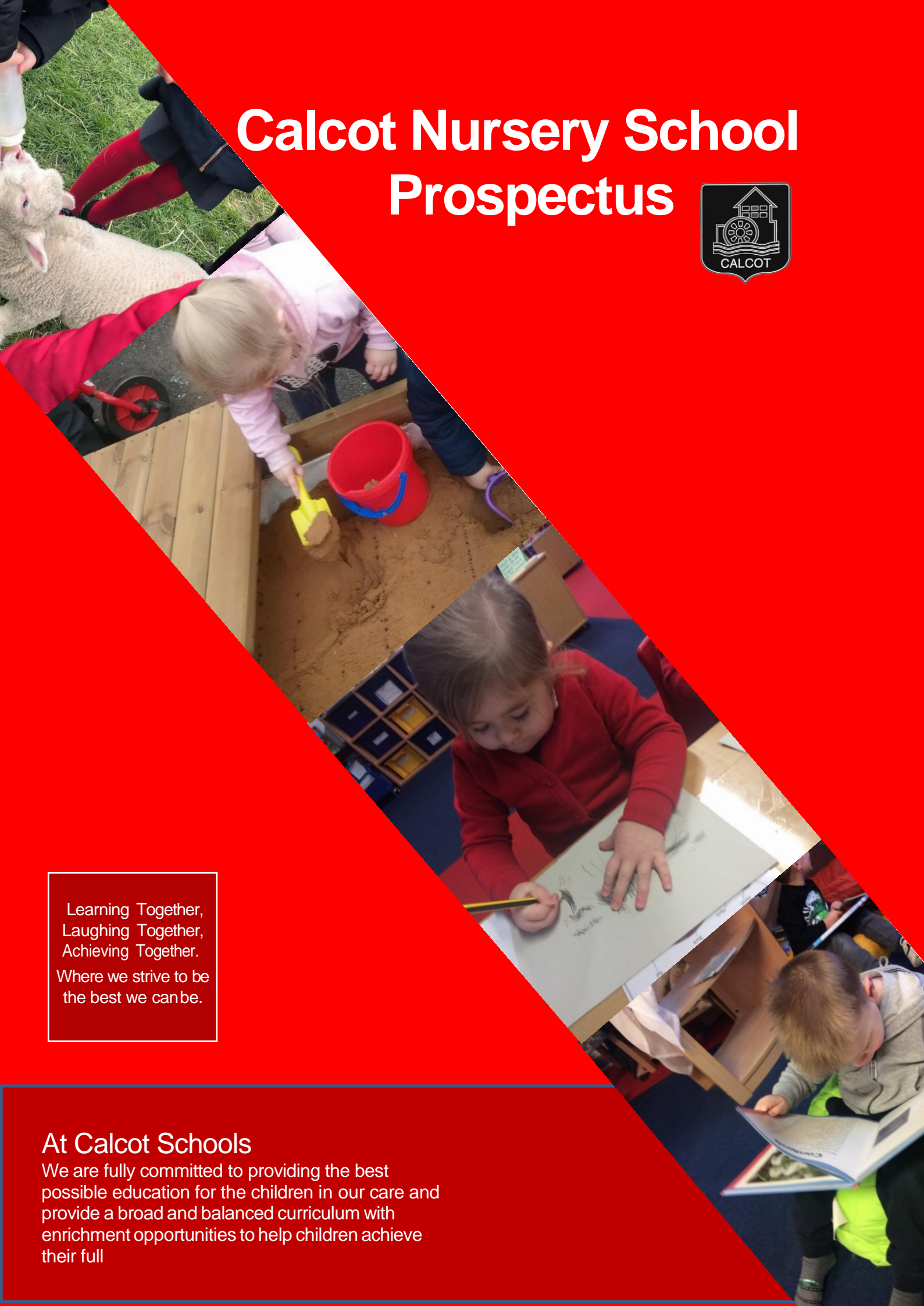


# Calcot Nursery School Prospectus



Learning Together,  
Laughing Together,  
Achieving Together.

Where we strive to be  
the best we can be.

## At Calcot Schools

We are fully committed to providing the best possible education for the children in our care and provide a broad and balanced curriculum with enrichment opportunities to help children achieve their full



# Introduction to our school

## Welcome from the Headteacher

I would like to warmly welcome you to Calcot Schools. We consist of a nursery, Infant and Junior school and we work together to ensure children have excellent support throughout their first years of education. The school is thriving and we serve a diverse catchment and have many families who are very supportive of the learning environment and ethos of our school.

The behaviour of our children is exemplary and we are very proud of the working partnership between the children, staff and parents. At Calcot the children come first and everything we do is aimed at extending children's learning experiences, enriching lives through the opportunities we offer, and encouraging children to have enthusiasm for their learning.

We work tirelessly to ensure the education and pastoral support for our children enables them to achieve their full potential. We have an 'open door' policy and we encourage parents to come into school and play an active part in their children's learning. The staff, governors and parents form a strong team working to maintain and continuously improve the standards and achievements in school and nurture our children through their formative years.

It is difficult to capture the friendly and welcoming ethos in writing, so I would strongly encourage you to visit our school, meet the staff, children and experience this for yourselves. I would encourage you to read our Aims and Philosophies to find out more about our philosophy for learning and what we believe is important for children to thrive.

I look forward to welcoming you to our wonderful school.

Florence Rostron





## Vision and values

The behaviour in Calcot schools is exemplary and this is because we uphold our values and ethos in all that we do. We pride ourselves on shared and mutual respect and this is evident in the children's manners. Visitors to the school always comment on how polite and courteous our children are. We are incredibly proud of this.



Children learn best in a well-organised, calm and secure environment. We want every child in our school to feel confident, happy and safe. We have the highest of expectations in terms of learning, behaviour and attitudes, and encourage our children to develop high self-esteem and pride in their achievements. We also encourage them to celebrate others' success, showing kindness and care.

We strongly believe in identifying every child's strengths and celebrating their successes as praise and recognition lead to sustained effort and hard work.

All forms of bullying and harassment are considered to be unacceptable and are not tolerated within the school environment. Any incidents will be taken very seriously and followed up in accordance with our Anti-bullying Policy which is available via the school's website



**“I was very impressed by the confidence of the children and their excellent, calm behaviour.”**



**We will provide experiences appropriate to the early years' age group (3-5 yrs) at each child's level of development. Your child will thrive in a safe and engaging environment in which they can develop at their own pace. Each child is unique and has a right to be so, and we celebrate diversity and individuality.**



We believe children deserve the best start to their education and we are committed to making the child the centre of our work by providing a stimulating, exciting, spontaneous, approach to learning. We will support children to develop the confidence to have a go themselves, ask for support when they need it and develop the independence to learn by trial and error. We want all our children to reach for the stars!

**We will provide opportunities for our children to:**

- Explore, enjoy, learn and practise their new skills and understanding.
- Apply their skills in a range of contexts and for a purpose.
- Develop the confidence and disposition to achieve.

**Through these opportunities, we want our children to:**

- Be happy, active, independent, confident and curious learners.
- Make links in their learning.
- Feel valued, respected and included.
- Be challenged and excited with a real desire to find out more.
- Have a positive 'I can!' attitude.



## What happens when my child starts Nursery?

Children of nursery age, attend school for 15 hours per week. This can be spread across two and a half days or 5 morning/afternoon sessions. Additionally we can provide 30 hours of nursery provision per week. The morning session begins at 9.00am and finishes at 12.00pm. Nursery children staying all day or coming in for the afternoon session, have lunch over in the main school. Children who are having lunch will need to come in with a packed lunch. The afternoon session will be from 12.00pm until 3.00pm.

All staff in Nursery are responsible for the welfare of your child, however they will be given a key worker who will be responsible for completing observations and small group activities with your child.

Informal parent consultation meetings are arranged termly with your child's nursery teacher to discuss progress, set targets and discuss any issues you may like to raise. In addition, prior to your child starting with us, we visit them in their own home and invite them into nursery for some trial sessions. We find that these help them settle and feel more at ease with our nursery staff.

## Bringing and collecting your child

Please ensure you bring your child to school on time each day. It helps your child to settle much quicker if they can come in with their friends! Usually, we would ask that you bring them into Nursery and encourage them to hang up their coats and put their book bags on their pegs. The children will quickly become familiar with our routines and will soon show you what to do.



At the end of the session we open the door, your child will be sitting on the carpet and we will call their name one at a time to come to you.

Please bear with us as we may be a little slow recognising new faces initially! Please let us know if anyone different will be picking up your child. We will not let them go until we have sought your permission. We take our safeguarding responsibilities extremely seriously.



# Curriculum

We provide all our children with a diverse curriculum which allows them to develop a love of learning. In both our outdoor and indoor learning we provide an array of activities that will inspire the children and engage them. The activities will allow them to develop skills across all seven areas of the early years curriculum. We plan for visitors to come in and talk to the children and lead workshops. These have included the RSPB, a junk model artist, firefighters, police and paramedics, a local vicar, actors from the young Shakespeare company, and sporting coaches.

The children follow the Early Years Foundation Curriculum in Nursery and until the end of the reception year.

Early years learning concentrates on 7 areas split between prime and specific areas of learning.

The prime areas of learning are:

- communication and language
- physical development
- personal, social and emotional development

• The specific areas of learning are:

- literacy
- mathematics
- understanding the world
- expressive arts and design





"An amazing school that supports every single child to reach their fullest potential."-parent

We are lucky enough to have a large school site with plenty of playing fields, our very own forest school area and swimming pool. Each week we enjoy outdoor learning in forest school and using our vast grounds for exploration.



"A nurturing school, full of wonderful opportunities"-parent





## Safeguarding

### “Security is very good.”

Safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children is integral to effective management in our school and nursery. This school is committed to safeguarding children and promoting the welfare of children and young people, and expects all staff and volunteers to share this commitment.

We will ensure that all our staff recruitment and selection practices reflect this commitment. All successful candidates will be subject to Disclosure and Barring Service (DBS) checks in line with safer recruitment procedures along with other relevant employment checks.

Parents and carers send their children to this school each day with the expectation that we will provide a secure environment in which their children can flourish. The governors and staff at Calcot Schools will ensure that this expectation becomes reality. In order to do this a wide range of measures are put in place through the implementation of safeguarding policies, including the school’s Child Protection Policy, which is in line with West Berkshire Council’s Child Protection and Safeguarding procedures, available in our policies area on our school website.

At least two members of our recruitment panel are trained in safer recruitment to ensure that unsuitable people are prevented from working with our children. We recognise that all matters relating to safeguarding suitability checks are confidential. It is vital that we identify children who are suffering or likely to suffer significant harm and take appropriate action, with the aim of making sure that they are kept safe both at home and in the education setting.

Sometimes we may need to share information and work in partnership with other agencies when there are concerns about a child’s welfare. We will ensure that our concerns about our pupils are discussed with his/her parents/carers first unless we have reason to believe that such a move would be contrary to the child’s welfare.







## What will my child need to bring to nursery?

In Nursery, and throughout Calcot Schools we think it is important that the children wear school uniform. Equally, we don't get 'fanatical' if the red cardigan is from Sainsbury's or doesn't have the school logo on as we know uniform is very expensive.

Items such as grey trousers, shorts, skirts and pinafore dresses can be purchased for a reasonable price at shops such as Tesco, Sainsbury's and Marks and Spencer.

We thoroughly love active learning so please do not be alarmed if your child comes home rather mucky. This is often a sign of a busy and fun day of learning!

Once a week the children will have a Forest School session. During this session, we ask that the children dress in long sleeved tops and trousers, with suitable footwear (trainers or wellingtons). In the winter months, it is essential that the children have appropriate coats, gloves, hats and scarves too.

Please make sure that all clothing is **clearly and securely labelled** – we gather many items of lost property every term which can't always be identified and therefore returned to their owner.



Uniform
Red cardigan, jumper or sweatshirt.
Black or grey trousers, shorts, shirt or pinafore dress
White shirt, blouse or polo shirt.
Dark socks, black or grey tights or white socks (with summer dresses)
(Optional) Red and white gingham summer dress (Between Easter and November)

Milk is provided free of charge to your child when they are in Nursery. If your child does not like milk, water is always available. We have fruit with our milk every day and this is provided free as part of the 5-a-day scheme. If you would like to send your child into Nursery with a bottle of water each day you are more than welcome.

Additionally your child is welcome to bring a small rucksack or book bag into school to carry reading books, letters or pieces of art work to and from school.

If your child is attending our nursery for the afternoon session or staying the whole day your child will need to come into school with a healthy packed lunch.

Please ensure that you keep the school informed of your child's dietary and medical needs. This is so that we have up to date information regarding allergies.



# When things go wrong/when we get it right

## When things go wrong?

At Calcot Schools we promote an open door policy which encourages parents and carers to come into school and speak to the nursery teacher, nursery nurse or teaching assistant whenever you have any concerns. There are always staff available at the beginning of the day on the doors as children come into nursery, or at the end of the day. If you are worried about your child, or think that they may be experiencing any kind of difficulty with friends, work or home life, then please talk to a staff member.

We want the children to have a positive and happy time at Nursery and at Calcot School. However no matter how hard we try there may be times when you are worried or concerned and there will certainly be occasions when we may make a mistake. Please come and see us – we will be pleased to see you and will do whatever we can to move things forward in a positive way.

Any complaints about school matters should first be brought to the attention of your nursery class teacher. If the complaint is not resolved, you can contact the school to arrange an appointment with the Senior Management Team who may then refer you to the Headteacher or Governors.



## Calcot Schools Complaints policy

### When we get it right.

We hope there are many times during the school year when you are really pleased with your child's experience at school. Please let us know!





## Calcot Schools

Curtis Road, Calcot, Reading Berkshire RG31 4XG

### Calcot Infants

Telephone: 0118 941 8189

Infant Email: [office@c-inf.w-berks.sch.uk](mailto:office@c-inf.w-berks.sch.uk)

### Calcot Juniors

Telephone (Juniors): 0118 9428727

Junior Email: [office@c-jun.w-berks.sch.uk](mailto:office@c-jun.w-berks.sch.uk)

[www.calcotschools.co.uk](http://www.calcotschools.co.uk)