Our Time to Shine

Tudhoe Colliery Primary School

Head Teacher: Allison Boustead

Tel: 01388 814399

Website: www.tudhoecolliery primaryschool.co.uk

Email:
office@tudhoecolliery.co.uk

Facebook: Tudhoe Colliery Primary School

Welcome...

General Information

We are proud to be a member of Tudhoe Learning Trust, a Multi-Academy Trust of seven primary schools.

Our mission statement: *At Tudhoe Colliery, we offer the opportunity for achievement, the motivation for development and the support for independent growth in a caring environment which values every individual, learning together to achieve our full potential.*

No Outsiders

Our school is proud to be part of the No Outsiders programme, ensuring that in our school, everyone is welcome. By being part of our school, you agree to join us in treating everyone equally.

Safeguarding

Keeping our children safe in school is our highest priority. Our Safeguarding Lead in school is Miss Boustead and our Deputy Safeguarding Leads are Miss Gray and Mr Dixon. If you have any concerns over the safety of a child, please contact the school office and ask to speak to one of the adults named above.

Communication

We are always available to speak to if you have any issues, with your child's class teacher being your first point of contact. If you would like to speak to a senior member of staff, please contact Miss Boustead (Headteacher), Miss Gray (Deputy Headteacher), or Mr Dixon (Assistant Headteacher) on 01388 814399.

ParentMail

We use ParentMail for the majority of our communication in school: sending letters, receiving permission slips and confirming attendance at events. Once your child has started school, you will be able to download the ParentMail app, or use the site through your web browser. You can log in using your email address and then create yourself a password. If you have any issues with logging in, contact the school office.

Arbor

In school, the vast majority of our payments are made using Arbor: dinner money, breakfast and teatime clubs and trips. We also use Arbor for booking Parents' Evenings, SEND consultations and to select lunch options. Once your child has started school, you can log onto www.login.arbor.sc using the email address that you supplied to school.

Seesaw

Seesaw is an App designed to develop parents' involvement in their child's education. The App allows teachers to send updates to parents about what the children have been working on in class. They can send messages to parents of the whole class, groups of children or individual children. Once your child has started school, they will receive a unique code and all you need to do is download the app and get started.

Uniform

The children wear white a polo shirt or shirt and a red sweatshirt, jumper or cardigan with black/grey skirt, shorts or trousers. Children can also wear school dresses. If you would like to purchase school uniform with the school logo, our official uniform supplier is Cre8tive. More information is available on our school website including link to our school ordering page. Please ensure that all items of clothing are named (including shoes - it's amazing how many go missing!)

Friends

We have an active group, 'Friends of Tudhoe Colliery Primary School,' who run various events throughout the year to support the school. Please speak to Miss Gray if you are interested in joining the Friends - we are always looking for new members!

Medicines

If children require medicines during the school day, a medicine form must be completed (available from the office or school website). Medicines must be clearly labelled and handed to a member of staff, who will ensure that they are correctly administered. If children require inhalers, school must be informed and a care plan completed.

School Day

We have a flexible start to the school day where children can arrive between 8.40am and 8:55am. Miss Boustead will be on the door each morning and available for parents to speak to. School finishes at 3:25pm for Year 1 and 2 and 3:30pm for Reception, Year 3, Year 4, Year 5 and Year 6.

Playtime

Children have a morning break for 15 minutes each day. All children play on the yard or field together. The playground has a number of different zones: games, running area, skipping area, Taggessel trail, floor trail, MUGA, garden and dancing area. The older children also run games with the younger children several times a week.

Milk and Fruit

All children in Reception and KS1 receive a fruit snack daily. Children can also bring in a small snack from home for playtime e.g. a cereal bar or fruit.
You can also register your child for Cool Milk through the Cool Milk Website. Milk is free until children are 5 at which point there is a charge. More information is available on the Cool Milk website.

School Meals

School meals are cooked on the premises and are currently free for all Reception and KS1 children. Dinners for Key stage 2 cost £3.08. Our school meal provider is Chartwells. Dinners are pre ordered using Arbor - parents select their child's meal from the options available.

Breakfast Club

Our Breakfast Club starts at 7:45am each morning and runs until the start of the school day at 8:55am. The cost is £3 per day and there is no requirement to pre book. All payments should be made via Arbor. Children must arrive before 8:25am if they require breakfast.

Teatime Club

Our Teatime Club runs from 3:30pm to 5:30pm. The cost is £7 per pupil, per night.
All bookings for Teatime Club must be made via ParentMail, with only emergency bookings being taken over the phone. A form will be sent on a Monday to book for the following week. Payments can be made via Arbor and accounts must be in credit, meaning payments must be paid in advance.
Children at both clubs have an opportunity to play with a range of different toys and activities, including colouring, construction, board games, pool and table football. Children can also read, or complete their homework if they choose to. It's a brilliant way to start and end the day!

Our School Dog

As of September 2020, we have a school dog—Arthur. Arthur is a cavapoochon, a hypoallergenic breed. At the time of writing, Arthur is 6 years old.

No child will ever be forced to work with Arthur - everything will be at the choice of the child.

Arthur is currently on an extended break from school, but we are hoping he will return soon!

Communication

There are several ways you can contact staff in school:

School phone: 01388 814399

School email: office@tudhoecolliery.co.uk

Class email addresses:

- DTCYearR@tudhoecolliery.co.uk
- DTCYear1@tudhoecolliery.co.uk
- DTCYear2@tudhoecolliery.co.uk
- DTCYear3@tudhoecolliery.co.uk
- DTCYear4@tudhoecolliery.co.uk
- DTCYear5@tudhoecolliery.co.uk
- DTCYear6@tudhoecolliery.co.uk

Class email addresses will only be monitored during school hours.

Updates will also be given via our school website:

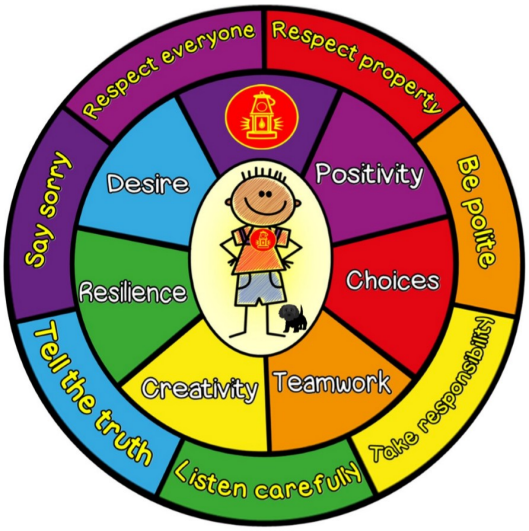
www.tudhoecollieryprimaryschool.co.uk

Facebook:

Search for Tudhoe Colliery Primary School and give us a follow!

We also send termly class newsletters and half termly whole school newsletters and send regular communication via ParentMail.

Behaviour & Rewards



Our Behaviour Policy:

We have a very simple set of agreed rules for behaviour across school which are displayed within all classrooms, shared areas and outside areas.

The child at the centre is 'TC' - a typical Tudhoe Colliery child and the little dog with him is Arthur! The outer ring shows our behaviour non-negotiables - the behaviours we expect from all of our children, staff and parents. By choosing our school, you agree to follow these behaviours too. The inner ring shows our independent learning behaviours. Each class in school has an independence reward system (see below for details) and children earn points for demonstrating these behaviours in school.

Our full Behaviour Policy is available on our school website.

Behaviour Trackers:

Each class from Reception to 6 has a traffic light system for behaviour and a behaviour tracker on the wall. This serves as a reminder for the children and names are moved to amber or red if children are spoken to about their behaviour. All children start the day on green - every day is a fresh start.

Tudhoe Tokens:

As well as earning Independence Points for their behaviours in class, children can earn Tudhoe Tokens for their class by representing their class well around school. This could be helping younger children, modelling great behaviour in assembly, lining up smartly, etc. These tokens go towards a class total with one year group winning a prize each week e.g. an extra playtime or hot chocolate treat.

Arthur Postcards

Arthur postcards are given out weekly in classes. Children can earn postcards for good work, behaviour - anything really!

Other Rewards

Classes have their own weekly reward systems based around rewarding children for independence and general brilliance!!

Leadership Rewards

We also have a leadership rewards programme in school where our older children can earn points for completing leadership tasks, e.g. being 'Peer Mediators' at playtime, being 'Reading Ambassadors,' or 'Leap Leaders' who run games for the younger children. Children earn points towards bronze, silver and gold Leadership Badges.

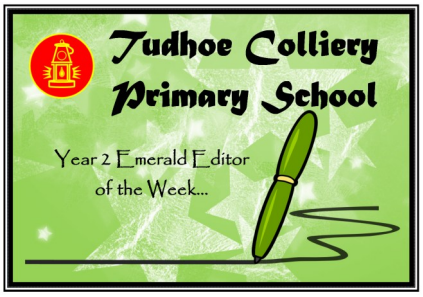
Spelling Homework Rewards

Children earn up to 2 minutes bouncy castle time a week for completing their spelling homework. Our spelling homework is based around the children practising the spelling of 'tricky words' taken from age group word lists.

In Reception, children will earn Bouncy Castle time for completing work at home. More details will be given in September.

Golden Pen/Pencil

Each week, a child in each class will earn the Gold Pen or Pencil for the most effort in their writing. Key stage 2 children earn the use of the class 'Gold Pen' for the week and earn a reward pencil to take home and keep with a special certificate. Reception and Key Stage 1 children earn a golden pencil to use in school and to take home.



Emerald Editor

We have a big focus in school on children editing and improving their own work, using green pen to show where they have made changes. Every week from Year 1to Year 6, a child wins 'Emerald Editor' for brilliant work on editing and improving their own work.

Learning Together

Every term, we have several opportunities for you to get involved and share learning with your child:

Learning Together

This is where we invite you to come into school to take part in a lesson with your child. It could be on reading, writing, Maths – whatever the children are working on at that time. Don't worry that you won't know what to do! The sessions are designed for you to come and see what your child is doing. We won't put you on the spot and the lessons are designed to be very informal.

Reading Together

Friday morning is our 'Love Reading' session across school. We also regularly invite parents to come in and share this with us. It is an opportunity for you to come into your child's class and share a book with them. It is also an opportunity for you to ask staff any questions/queries you may have about reading with your child. We often combine these sessions with information sessions for parents, for example a phonics workshop for parents, followed by reading with the children.

Parent workshops

At different points through the year, we will run parent workshops or information sessions, for example on phonics or online safety.

Parent Communication Meetings

Each term, Miss Gray holds a Parent Communication Meeting. Parents are invited into school to discuss specific topics, or share their opinions and ideas about anything they wish. These meetings are a great way to hear from parents and discuss school ideas.

Details of all events will be given in a date list given out at the start of each term.

Our Curriculum

Topics

Classes from Reception to Year 6 cover a range of topics per year with links being made between subjects wherever possible. Books are also central to our curriculum and Reception and Year 1 base a lot of their wider curriculum learning around stories and key non-fiction texts. Classes from Year 2-6 also have a class novel each half term which forms the basis of their English teaching and is linked to the topic children are working on where possible.

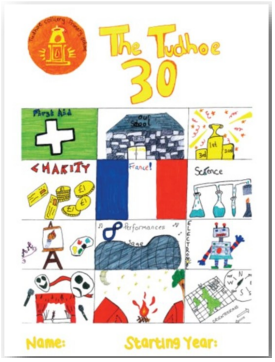
Examples of our curriculum planning for Reception to Year 6 are available on our website.

Books, books and more books!!

Literacy and developing a love of reading are at the heart of our curriculum. Phonics is taught daily across Reception and Year 1, following the Read Write Inc phonics approach and Reading is taught daily across every class in the school. Our reading approach focuses on developing fluency, comprehension, language and a love of reading. More details are available on the school website.

A record of which books children are reading is kept in school. In Reception and KS1 books are changed weekly; in Key Stage 2 children can keep a book for up to 45 days. If books are damaged, or lost, a minimum charge of £5 will be made in order for school to replace the book.

Every Friday the whole school takes part in a 'Love Reading' session where we can bring in books from home and children also have an opportunity to pair up and read with other classes across the school.



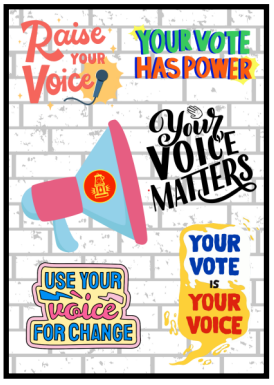
Tudhoe 30

Each class has a number of planned experiences to enrich their curriculum learning each term, e.g. a trip or visitor into school. Not all trips or experiences will be linked to the topic children are working on. The school has a list of 30 experiences children will have during their time at our school. These are allocated by year group and recorded in each child's individual 'Tudhoe 30' book. The big display behind the stage in the hall shows all 30!

Outdoor Learning

We have a woodland attached to our school and use it as much as possible! Children can take part in a wide range of activities, such as den building and nature spotting, as well as developing team work, survival skills and environmental awareness. The area can also be used as practical learning for example in Science, Design Technology, or providing Creative Writing opportunities in English lessons.

We also have an 'eco garden' with polytunnel, planters, and an outdoor classroom which classes can use to support their curriculum work.



Talk Assemblies

In addition to normal assemblies, we also hold Talk Assemblies each week with two classes at a time. We discuss big topics for example whether money makes you happy, or whether it is more important to be brave or kind. Children then have an opportunity to vote using counters and our ballot boxes.

Specialist Teachers

Our Music and Spanish lessons are taught by specialist teachers. Teachers from Durham Music Service teach lessons across the school from Reception to Year 6. Each class has a weekly lesson in a half term block. Spanish is taught by Mr Matias to all KS2 children on a two week timetable.

After School Clubs

Every term we have several after school clubs available which cover a variety of topics, for example Art, Science, Reading, Gymnastics, Dance, Athletics, Football, Basketball or Gardening. Club places are booked via ParentMail on a first come, first served basis. All clubs run from 3:30pm-4:15pm.

Emotional and Wellbeing Support

Our school Counsellor runs our Social and Emotional support interventions in school on a Friday. We also work with a number of outside agencies such as the Resilience Nurse and CAMHs to support children's mental health and wellbeing, as well as teaching a very comprehensive PSHCE curriculum which is available to view on the school website.

Home Learning Information

We use a variety of online learning websites as part of our homework provision in school:

Fast paced games to support children with learning their times tables.	Spelling games linked to spelling patterns children are learning in school.
An app which allows children to build an online portfolio of their work, send work to their teacher and receive feedback.	Fast paced games for KS1 children to help secure basic addition and subtraction facts.

Our website also has other information about how you can support your child at home, including details of the Read Write Inc phonics programme we use in school, and activity booklets for Spelling and Times Tables.

Helping at Home

Reading:

We use our Daily Homework Books to record home reading. Children in Reception, Year 1 and Year 2 will bring home a Read Write Inc Phonics home reading book and once children have completed the phonics programme, they will bring home a book from our class libraries.

Spellings:

Spelling homework is set every week for Year 1-6 children. This booklet gives example games and strategies you could use to support your child with their spellings at home. Remember, you can also use Spelling Shed!

Spelling homework is also an opportunity for children to practise handwriting – you can find our handwriting policy here.

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Times Tables:

The National Curriculum states that all children should know their times tables up to 12×12 by the end of Year 4. The booklet below gives different games you could use to help your child learn their tables. Remember, you can also use TT Rockstars!

Phonics:

We follow the Read Write Inc Phonics Programme across Reception, Year 1 and Year 2. The booklets below explain how your child will be taught to read throu Inc. More information for parents can be found on the Read Write Inc site HERE.

You will need...

Red book bag

When they start in Reception, your child will be given a Tudhoe Colliery book bag; please bring it to school every day. School book bags are a perfect size for reading folders and take up less space than backpacks: they have fewer zips and compartments, making it easier for children and staff to find letters or money. To help avoid spillages, we ask that water bottles are not stored in book bags!

The majority of communication will be completed via Parentmail, and payments through Arbor, however if you need to send letters/money into school, please ensure they are in a sealed envelope which is labelled with the contents.

Reading wallets

As children in Reception, Year 1 and Year 2 move into colour groups for phonics, they will be given a plastic wallet with their phonics books inside. These are used within lessons and changed regularly. They will need to bring it to school every day.

Homework Book

Children across the school will have a homework book which they will take home each night and bring to school daily. Homework books are used to record home reading, times tables and spelling homework.

PE kit

PE kit consists of a plain red t-shirt, black or grey bottoms (jogging bottoms, leggings or shorts), a red sweatshirt and trainers. Each class has a designated PE day and children will come to school dressed in their PE kit on that day - they do not need to get changed in school. This helps us ensure that no time is wasted getting changed into different clothes for PE. PE days will be confirmed in September and change each term due to timetables and sports coaches. New PE days will be given in class newsletters at the start of each term.

Water Bottles

We encourage all children to bring a named water bottle to school everyday. They then have an opportunity to fill this bottle throughout the school day. Water bottles must be standard size, not made of glass and children must be able to open them themselves.

Who's who?

Current Staffing

Staffing teams are currently being finalised for September 2026.

Teachers

Mrs Purvis
Mrs Winter
Miss Freeman
Miss Hall
Mrs Gulliver
Miss Gray
Mrs Pickard
Mr Dixon

Teaching Assistants

Mrs Kyle
Miss Appleby
Miss Hackers
Miss Collins (currently on maternity leave)
Miss Davies
Miss Liddell
Mrs Sheldon
Miss Lowery
Miss Bright
Miss Barrass
Miss McMahon
Miss Stone
Miss Dodds

Breakfast Club Staff:

- Miss Cannon
- Mrs Brown
- Mrs Gent
- Miss Appleby

Dinner Staff:

- Mrs Decloquement
- Mrs Brown
- Mrs Gent

Teatime Club Staff:

- Mrs Brown
- Mrs Gent
- Mrs Decloquement

Headteacher: Miss Boustead
Deputy Headteacher: Miss Gray
Assistant Headteacher: Mr Dixon

Designated Teacher for Children who are Looked After: Miss Hall

SENDCO: Mrs Addison
Premises Manager: Mr Harrison
Office Manager: Mrs Armstrong