

## Q&As with Headteacher Richard Kitching



### **What's so good about Egginton Primary School?**

We pride ourselves in the happy, caring, friendly ethos that we have created that enables learning to thrive. Our small pupil numbers mean we have created a nurturing learning environment where we really get to know everyone. Behaviour is excellent and relationships between staff and the pupils and their families are really strong.



### **How many children are in each class and how are they organised?**

Because we mix year groups together, we only have 3 classes in the school. Even so, the small numbers of pupils in each class are well below the national average. Currently, we have class sizes of just 22, 22 and 20. This makes an enormous difference to the educational experience of a child because it means our staff can offer more time and support for each pupil. It also means that a pupil may spend 2-3 years with the same teacher, providing many benefits from that continuity.

### **How do you manage having different year groups in each class?**

We are fortunate to have a team of very talented, enthusiastic teachers and teaching assistants that differentiate tasks, explanations and questions to suit the learning needs of each pupil. Within our team there is a wealth of experience and we support one another with ideas and strategies. We are very conscious of the more academically able in the class and we make every effort to stretch them in their learning. Being in a class with children from other year groups works well for the pupils too. This encourages friendships throughout the school and adds enormously to the general family feeling.

### **Do many pupils join the school after Reception year? How do these children settle in?**

Yes. Currently, 17 out of our 64 pupils have joined since Reception. The environment helps new pupils settle in seamlessly, and the children at Egginton are very kind and welcoming. The feedback has been overwhelmingly positive.

### **What else do you feel are the school's strengths?**

We are lucky to be in such a lovely village and we have great links with the local community. We enjoy participating fully in local events such as the village fete. Many of our children play instruments and we have a proud musical heritage. In recent years, we have become more involved in sporting events and we have proudly fielded teams in football, cricket and dodgeball competitions. Our PTA are very active and organise many fundraising events. This strong sense of community contributes to the lovely atmosphere and supportive ethos.

### **Do all of the children come from Egginton?**

No, we have had children from all the surrounding villages: Hilton, Etwall, Willington, Repton and some even making the 5 minute journey on the A38 from Littleover.

### **Are there any spaces available at the moment?**

At the moment, we do have some spaces in the following years:

2 spaces in the Reception year which begins in September 2021

2 spaces in the current Reception Year (Year 1 in September)

5 spaces in the current Year 1 (Year 2 in September)

1 space in Year 2 (Year 3 in September)

### **Are parents/carers welcome to come and have a look at the school?**

Of course! We like showing people around. However, at present, school tours are taking place out of school hours due to Covid 19 restrictions. In the first instance, you can email or call me. My email is [Headteacher@egginton.derbyshire.sch.uk](mailto:Headteacher@egginton.derbyshire.sch.uk) or the school office phone number is 01283 732748.