



**A Strategic Vision for Clipstone
Brook Lower School
And 3-year vision for
2022-2025**

September 2022

Our Mission and Purpose as a School

Our purpose is to provide support and challenge to pupils so that they develop the tools that they need to flourish in all that they do as individuals and members of the community.

Our Vision

Our Vision for Clipstone Brook is to be a friendly school at the heart of the community, providing ambitious outcomes for our pupils to give them the best start in education and in life.

Our Values

Belong, Thrive, Learn

In 2022 we changed the school strapline to reflect the core values that we believe drive our work at Clipstone Brook. We will use these as the foundation of the work that we do to embed values in our school community going forward.

Developing our Strategic Plan

Lead by Governors we have developed this strategic plan for the school as a high-level long-term plan for the next three years.

Using the school's mission, purpose, vision and values we have developed key priorities that we will focus on over the next three years in order to bring our vision for the school to life.

This is now the second time that we have produced a strategy for the school, our first being in 2019.

We have taken words and phrases that we've heard throughout our conversations with staff, pupils, parents and other stakeholders and selected values that we think represent the best of what the school represents, and the best of what we wish to become.

We have developed this plan by:

- Holding a Strategy Day for Governors at the school which we all attended. We worked together on developing the purpose for the school and spoke to pupils and staff on the day.
- Working in consultation with the Head to ensure that the School Development Plan (SDP) and other documents which drive the school's improvement and planning are in line with this strategic plan.
- Looking at the parent surveys carried out by the Headteacher and the Governors, in which questions were asked about the future of the school.
- Looking at SIP Reports throughout the school year
- Looking at feedback from Ofsted from our recent visits

Background of Clipstone Brook School

Established in 1972, Clipstone Brook is a maintained Lower School in the LC2 Learning Community in Central Bedfordshire. We are pleased to be a friendly community school and have taught multiple generations of local children. In 2015 we expanded with the need for more local school places and have added extra classrooms and facilities to the school grounds.

Ofsted Rating History

The school has been rated as follows by Ofsted:

October 2019: Good – current rating

January 2015: Good

May 2010: Good

February 2007: Satisfactory

Looking to the future

Whilst we don't currently have many details, we know that in the LC2 Learning Community there is likely to be a change from a three-tier system of education with Lower, Middle and Upper Schools, to a two-tier system of Primary and Secondary Education.

In May 2019 we responded to Central Bedfordshire's proposals for a two-tier system in Leighton Buzzard positively. We see Clipstone Brook as part of the LC2 Community and would welcome its expansion into a Primary School under the new system.

With this in mind we have begun to strengthen our ties and collaboration with the other local schools near us in order to work, not just with the local authority, but also with other local schools to provide the best for our pupils as the system changes.

The timetable for these plans has slipped from the original goal of making this change in the 2023/24 school year. However, the communication that we have had with local schools and the local authority about these changes continues and we are still working towards a plan that will see Clipstone Brook become a 2 form / class (60 PAN) Primary School for local pupils in Leighton Buzzard.

We have also considered the current DfE plans for all schools to move towards becoming academies. At the time of revising the current strategy (2022) Central Bedfordshire have indicated that they will support schools through this process, but will not choose to become a Multi Academy Trust themselves. With this in mind, we will be looking at how we can ensure the future of Clipstone Brook within this new landscape for schools.

Our Strategic Priorities over the next three years

Priority 1: Work with all stakeholder groups to develop an agreed set of values which properly represent the school's culture.

- Access appropriate training to secure an understanding of values and how they can be successfully implemented within the school.
- Discuss our new strapline with all stakeholders so that it is aligned and accurately reflects the school's current context and aspirations.
- Consider the use of our new strapline as the basis for a focus on other values that sit under these and align with the vision of the school.
- Publish these as widely as possible, including on the school website, newsletters and all policy documents.
- Monitor and refine the implementation and impact of the new vision and values statements.

Measures of success:

- Do all stakeholder groups [pupils, staff, governors, parents and the wider community] know the school's vision and values?
- Do pupils, staff, governors and parents 'live' and model the vision and values consistently?

Priority 2: Oversee the continued development and implementation of a challenging, exciting and engaging curriculum, rich in skills and knowledge.

- Regular reports from school leaders and subject leaders on the development of the curriculum.
- School website to have reference to schemes of work/programmes of study for all National Curriculum subjects which chart the knowledge and skills to be learned from Nursery to Year 4 and eventually to Year 6 on conversion to primary status [date as yet uncertain]
- Governors to access training so that their own curriculum subject knowledge enables them to support and challenge school leaders in this area. This may be achieved through regular meetings with/presentations from subject leaders, attendance at SIP/SIA visits, etc.
- Regular visits to school by governors to see the curriculum in action. Discussions with pupils and staff.

- Particular focus on vulnerable and disadvantaged groups: is the curriculum accessible to pupils with SEND and those in receipt of the PPG? Is the curriculum providing these pupils with the cultural capital they need to succeed?

Measures of success:

- Pupil attainment and progress in core curriculum areas [reading, writing and mathematics] remains broadly in line with or above the national average at the end of the EYFS and KS1 and broadly similar to the LA average at the end of Year 4.
- Attainment and progress in other curriculum areas is broadly similar to the core. Evidence in books and discussions with pupils show that they make good progress through the agreed curriculum. They can do and remember more as they progress through the school.

Priority 3: Continue to promote strong relationships with the local community, given its changing demographic.

- Continue to market the school actively to secure the current high popularity levels.
- Secure staff retention and continuity.
- Support and plan for staff and governor development.
- Secure succession planning for the governing board, including key officers [Chair].
- Actively preparing for the conversion to 2-tier, with a particular focus on curriculum readiness. Developing an understanding of the challenges of the Year 5/6 curriculum.
- Building direct relationships with other community groups to mutual benefit.
- Keep the school's relationship with the LA [maintained or academy status?] regularly under review.

Measures of success:

- Continued rising pupils numbers, with positive parent feedback when choosing the school - measured in parent surveys
- Positive feedback from staff and high staff retention - measured in feedback from staff (anonymous) about the working environment at Clipstone Brook
- An active and engaged Governing Body - measured by vacancies on the Governing Body being low