

# Mytham Primary School

Little Lever



**School information Pack**

**Head teacher**

**Recruitment for September 2026**

# Welcome from the Chair of Governors

## Mrs Louisa Halliwell

You can be assured of a warm welcome from the Mytham community as we begin the search for our new headteacher. Since 2006, Mrs Angela Bogle has guided our school with dedication and resilience, leading us through many highs and lows. As she prepares to hand over the baton, we are seeking an inspirational leader eager to make a meaningful difference to the Mytham and Little Lever community—someone who will confidently lead the school into the future.

This is a pivotal appointment for us all, and we are committed to finding the right person to lead Mytham forward into the next stage of its journey.

### Why come to Mytham?



Mytham Primary School is at the heart of Little Lever, a village two miles southeast of Bolton and two miles west of Radcliffe. Little Lever is a close-knit, family-friendly community with a busy shopping centre, a local Tesco, and easy access to the Manchester, Bolton, and Bury Canal. The canal and surrounding country park provide beautiful countryside walks and is regularly incorporated into our curriculum, enriching pupils' learning beyond the classroom.

Our school is proud to be an active part of village life. We participate in annual events such as Remembrance Sunday and the Christmas Lights switch-on, reflecting our commitment to strong local connections. While Mytham is not a church school, we value our close relationship with Christ Church, our neighbour. Many school celebrations, including Christmas carols and the Year 6 Leavers Service, are held there, strengthening the bond between school and community.

Mytham belongs to Cluster Three, partnering with local schools including Masefield, St Teresa's, St Matthew's, Bowness, and Little Lever High School. We are distinctive as the only community school in the cluster, while others are academies or faith schools. Cluster Three also includes schools in Kearsley and Ringley, offering opportunities for collaboration and shared development.

Our catchment reflects the diversity of the local area, with families drawn mainly from Little Lever and some from the Radcliffe/Bury border. The village has a mix of social housing, private housing, and a new development near the canal. This diversity enriches our school community, ensuring Mytham remains inclusive, welcoming, and representative of the families we serve.

## About Mytham Primary School



Due to falling rolls and lower birth rates in the Little Lever area, our Published Admission Number (PAN) was reduced from 50 to 30, following consultation with the local authority. The first single-form intake began in September 2025. Over the next few years, Mytham will transition to a one-form entry school of 210 pupils, placing us in Group 2. By September 2026, our school roll is projected to be 261 pupils.

In September 2017, we expanded our provision by opening our governor led nursery, Mytham Little Stars. We now welcome 16 two-year-olds and 26 three- and four-year-olds. Our thriving nursery enhances our commitment to providing high-quality education to our families.

## School Performance

School performance data, our School Improvement Plan and current priorities are available via the School Performance link on our website. Shortlisted candidates will access detailed plans.

Our attainment is strong in EYFS and KS1, and we were pleased with our KS2 data in 2025 despite cohort challenges. We provide extensive support for UKS2 pupils, including before/after school booster sessions, Easter holiday school, and breakfast support for Year 6 in preparation for SATs.

Our School Improvement Advisor, Mrs Deb Butler, works closely with us and the local authority. Mrs Bogle is well respected in Bolton, chairing the 'Staying Safe' Headteacher Consultation Group and serving as one of the chairs of Bolton Primary Heads.

Our last Ofsted inspection was in February 2023, resulting in a 'Good' outcome. We continue to build on our strengths, particularly in Early Years, KS1, and Pastoral/Safeguarding. We approach Ofsted as an opportunity to showcase progress rather than a daunting challenge.

We have a larger-than-average cohort of SEND pupils (24.9% in 2024-25 vs. 17.1% nationally). We proactively identify emerging needs, work closely with families and collaborate with Bolton SEND services. Pupil Premium attainment remains a key focus of our improvement plans.

Attendance is positive at 95%+, with targeted support for a minority of vulnerable families facing punctuality issues.

## Financial Situation

We continue to address a longstanding deficit budget, driven in part by high SEND costs and falling rolls. Measures have been implemented to manage this without compromising teaching and learning. Full financial details will be provided to shortlisted candidates. Mytham is not a chequebook school.

## Staff Overview

Mytham Primary School benefits from a dedicated and skilled team who work together to provide high-quality teaching and learning across all phases.

## Leadership and Teaching Staff

- Headteacher – teaches KS2 Art two afternoons per week, releases subject leaders for curriculum development.
- Deputy Headteacher – teaches part-time in KS1.
- KS2 Team Leader / Curriculum & Assessment Lead – Y4 teacher with management time.
- Two SENCOs – full-time teaching responsibilities plus management time.
- All teachers hold subject leadership roles.
- Projected 9 FTE teachers by September 2026; no ECT teachers currently.

## Teaching Assistants & Support Staff

- TAs present in all classes; additional support in KS2 practical subjects.
- HLTAs lead curriculum areas including RE and KS1 Art.
- Full-time Pastoral Care Coordinator.

## Early Years Provision

- Nursery led by Manager and Deputy Manager, fully staffed to meet EYFS ratios.
- Additional SEND support in each class - 11 pupils currently have EHCPs, with several pending.

## Administrative & Site Team

- Full-time Business Manager
- Two full-time administrative staff.
- Full-time Site Manager and SMSA team.

## Staff Development

- Strong commitment to professional growth; school awarded **Investor in People** four times.
- Staff attend INSET sessions and have opportunities across primary phases.
- Focus on well-being, teamwork, career development, mentoring, and appraisals.

## Governance

We have a strong and dedicated team of governors, actively involved in the recruitment of our new headteacher. Governors hold specific areas of responsibility and engage in monitoring activities alongside SLT and subject leaders. Our committee meetings are supported by our Mytham School Business Manager and the LA Governor Support Service.

- Mytham Board consists of 10 governors.
- 3 committee and 1 Full Governing Board meeting each term, Monday evenings.

## School Environment



As with any building, wear and tear means that we must constantly manage funds carefully to ensure that we keep on top of the maintenance of the building. There is currently a bid for a DFE grant for roof repairs on the ‘newer’ part of the building. The fabric of the older part of the school is in good condition, although classrooms need some refurbishment e.g. new carpets and decoration when funds allow.

We are fully compliant with all aspects of health and safety and are due a health and safety review in spring 2026.

- Two-story, over 100-year-old building with 12 classrooms, nursery, SLT room, PPA areas, wellbeing room, office, staffroom, and reception.
- Extensive grounds including hard-surfaced playgrounds, ball court, all-weather surface, trim trail, and Forest School areas.
- Excellent outdoor provision for EYFS.
- Ongoing maintenance and improvement projects, including roof repairs and classroom refurbishments.
- The website has a short film which shows the extent of the building and grounds

## Creative and Vibrant Curriculum

One of the school’s core strengths is its commitment to a creative and community-focused curriculum. As we move toward a one-form entry model, we are redesigning our curriculum to meet current guidance and strengthen standards in the foundation subjects. We are also integrating our ‘Principles of Effective Teaching and Learning,’ which underpin metacognition, consistency and inclusion across the school.

- Staff lead curriculum areas and work collaboratively towards awards such as PE Mark, Artsmark, Rights Respecting Schools Award, and Healthy Schools.
- Curriculum redesign underway to accommodate one-form entry and improve foundation subjects.
- Focus on Global Citizenship: Green School with Distinction, Rights Respecting Schools Gold, Climate Action, and outdoor learning.

## Global Citizenship

We love to use the outdoors in our curriculum and are currently focusing on refurbishing our two Forest School areas.

- We achieved the Green School with Distinction Award in 2024.
- We are enhancing our outdoor environment to incorporate more habitats for wildlife, including a newly added wildlife pond.
- We hold Earth Day activities each year, led by our Eco Team.
- In 2025, our Change Makers are helping us work toward the Rights Respecting Schools Gold Award.
- We have a Climate Action Plan in place and are focusing on reducing energy costs and continue to prioritise recycling projects.

## Safeguarding & Pastoral Support

Pastoral support is a priority at Mytham and one which we continually work to improve. *'Good care and pastoral support for pupils are woven into all aspects of school life'*. Ofsted 2023. The senior leaders support staff to ensure that all children's needs are met and that families are supported when required. Our Safeguarding Policy can be viewed in full on the school website.

- Strong pastoral provision with systems for Early Help and safeguarding.
- Preventative Offer introduced in 2024 to support families proactively.
- Full-time Pastoral Care Coordinator supports families, behavioural issues, social care thresholds, and trauma-informed care.
- MHST school, training to implement the Thrive model.

## Values, Personal Development & Extra-Curricular



At Mytham, our work goes well beyond developing literacy and numeracy. Since introducing our simplified set of values in 2023, these principles have become embedded and respected across the school. Our motto, *"Mytham... more than just a school!"* captures our dedication to nurturing pupils' essential life skills and their development into responsible, active citizens.

- Focus on life and citizenship skills alongside academic development.
- Termly RESPECT weeks, Healthy Schools initiatives, emotional health projects.
- Extra-curricular activities include gardening, dance, nature, choir, netball, football, and more.

## Families, Community and Special Events



The school is continuing to develop many links with parents and the community. The well supported 'Friends of Mytham' group is a valuable part of school life. Links with many outside bodies and organisations are well established and continue to grow and strengthen. We actively participate in village, borough and national events and celebrations alongside Mytham centred events and celebrations.

- Strong partnerships with parents, grandparents, Friends of Mytham, Christ Church, and local sports clubs.
- Active participation in village events and national celebrations such as the Little Lever Summer Carnival, the Queens Diamond and Platinum Jubilees and the Kings Coronation in May 2023 and his visit, alongside the Queen, to Bolton in 2024.
- Our very own 'MyFest 25' a stunning celebration of the best of Mytham.



We hope that this information has given you a flavour of our school and you are excited to find out more. We very much look forward to meeting you!

Warmest Regards



**Mrs Louisa Halliwell (Chair of Governors)**

Please note, we would expect candidates to come and view the school prior to submitting an application. Mrs Bogle will be conducting the tours and looks forward to meeting you.

Please call 01204 333556 or email [office@mytham.bolton.sch.uk](mailto:office@mytham.bolton.sch.uk) to arrange a visit.



For further information about Mytham School, please visit our website at [www.mytham.bolton.sch.uk](http://www.mytham.bolton.sch.uk)

You can also keep up to date with our latest news and events by following us on  at *mythamprimary* and  at *Mytham Primary School*.



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Good Provider



Anti Bullying



Artsmark  
Silver Award  
Awarded by Arts  
Council England

Artsmark Silver



Mental Health Award



Quality Mark



Music Mark



Healthy Schools



Eco-Schools Distinction



LOTTERY FUNDED

Lottery Funded



Green Tree Award



Rights Respecting School