

'Reach for the Stars...Strive to Succeed'



**Greentrees is an innovative, international school family where everyone matters.
Our children are happy, successful, healthy and safe.
Learning is fun!**

Learning at Greentrees – Our Curriculum Statement:

We aim to provide a learning journey that is vibrant and engaging. It is focused on developing the basic skills of **English** and **Mathematics** as well as providing a broad and balanced curriculum that develops skills, knowledge and understanding.

Positive attitudes to learning are essential as this impacts on learning behaviours. We want our children to be prepared for life in the 21st Century; they need to be able to work collaboratively and independently, they need to problem solve and have the ability to use computing skills. Children not only need to understand *what* they need to learn (content), but they also need to learn *how* to learn. To support this, we use Guy Claxton's '**Building Learning Power**' strategies to develop the '4Rs': Resilience, Reciprocity, Reflectiveness and Resourcefulness.

English

Through our programme of study for English we strive to develop the key literacy skills to support lifelong learning.

We aim to develop writers who have excellent transcription skills, a highly developed vocabulary and who have the ability to write fluently and with detail across a number of topics throughout the curriculum. Children will be inspired to write creatively and imaginatively, and develop a love of writing.

We aim to develop readers who will have the skills to read fluently and accurately, with an excellent comprehension of texts. They will be motivated to read, not only to support study, but also for pleasure. We aim to develop confident and articulate speakers who are able to engage in meaningful discussions across all areas of the curriculum, and who can debate issues effectively and formulate well constructed points. This is supported by, "Philosophy for Children."

Key teaching resources for English are:

- Oxford Reading Tree and Rigby reading schemes
- Jolly Phonics and Bug Club

Maths

Through our programme of study for Maths, we strive to develop learners' with a passion for Maths by enabling children to:

- Use and understand the four mathematical operations and see connections between them
- Perform written and mental calculations and mathematical techniques with fluency
- Use and apply skills of Maths richly
- Know number facts by heart and use their knowledge of number facts and the number system when calculating and problem solving

- Show initiative in solving problems in a wide range of contexts, including the new or unusual
- Think independently and to persevere when faced with challenges, tackling a problem by looking at what they 'do know'
- Embrace the value of learning from mistakes and false starts, show resilience
- Reason, generalise and make sense of solutions
- Use a wide range of mathematical vocabulary
- Show a commitment to and passion for the subject

At our school, we use Numicon as the primary resource to aid teachers in their planning and assessment of Maths. We feel the practical and visual nature of this scheme helps to move children from a concrete to an abstract understanding of number and mathematical concepts.

Personal, Social and Health Education supports the development of emotional literacy and enables children to grow as well-rounded individuals who achieve emotional and physical well-being. This is further developed through the **Physical Education** curriculum. Research shows that there is a significant link between health and well-being and the likelihood of achieving better academically. This is central to the school's ethos.

Spiritual, Moral, Social and Cultural (SMSC) development opportunities enrich learning and foster tolerance and understanding. **Religious Education** is an important aspect of learning in this area. Furthermore, our focus on the **Global Dimension** of learning enables learners to understand their place in the World. The modern foreign language curriculum fosters intercultural understanding, as well as developing speaking, reading and writing skills.

Science, History and Geography are seen as the drivers of the 'non-core' subject areas whilst the creative arts (**Art** and **Design Technology**) and the performing arts (music and dance) are seen as the enhancers. An overview of the programmes of study for all subjects can be seen on the 'class pages' of our website.

Our Vibrant Curriculum

We believe that learning should be fun!

We achieve high standards of achievement and attainment through a clear focus on teaching skills; in English, Maths, Computing and across all other subject areas. We fulfil all National Curriculum requirements.

Wherever possible **cross-curricular links** are made; class groups take a theme or topic as the basis for their studies. However this approach is not always possible and specific subjects will be taught separately when required.

Our most exciting initiative is 'Thinking Great Ideas on Fridays' (TGIF). This aims to develop thinking skills, problem solving and creativity using a collaborative approach and through an integrated curriculum. The children often work in vertical age groups on whole school integrated projects i.e. different age groups of children may work together, such as years 3 - 6. This project is always very successful and enjoyable and often innovative.

Relationships and Sex Education

Sex and Relationships Education is implemented as a natural development of pupils' needs and interests according to their age and circumstances. It is delivered by the children's teacher possibly with support from the school nurse, or other agencies, and will evolve throughout the school.

The policy for sex education and relationships is reviewed annually by the Governors working in partnership with the parents and teachers. Parents will be invited to a meeting where the scheme of work is explained. This policy is available on request.

Parents have the right to have their child wholly or partly excused from receiving sex education, except in so far as such education is comprised in the National Curriculum for Science.

Religious Education (RE)

Teaching and worship are broadly Christian based, in accordance with the Wiltshire Agreed Syllabus. This reflects the fact that the religious traditions in Great Britain are in the main Christian, whilst taking account of the teaching and practices of the other principal religions represented in Great Britain.

Extra-Curricular Activities

We offer a full range of extra curricular activities including sports and music. The programme will depend on staffing and the time of the year. Please let the school know if you are able to support us with extra curricular activities.

Peripatetic music lessons are also available. We currently offer violin, clarinet, flute, recorder and guitar lessons to Junior pupils. Please ask in the office for details of availability, charges etc.

Swimming

Children in year 3 have school swimming lessons at the Salisbury '5 Rivers Pool' throughout the year. There is a subsidised voluntary charge for this activity. Lessons are on a Tuesday afternoon from 2.30 pm – 3.00 pm

Visits

These are an important aspect of children's learning and are often remembered by children for a very long time. Whenever it is possible children will work 'in the field' e.g. visiting the local church, a farm, the theatre, museum etc. This helps to bring their studies to life. We organise residential visits for older children. Currently, the children in year 5 visit Braeside Residential Centre in Devizes for 3 days. The year 6 children spend 5 days at 'Hooke Court' in Dorset.

Study Support

On Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays, junior children can attend this session and receive support with their homework and reading. They have stories, play games and can use the computers. Please ask the Office staff for details.

Special Educational Needs and Disabilities (SEND)

Greentrees encourages the participation and inclusion of all children and, in accordance with our Equality Policy, this includes those with special educational needs and disabilities. We aim to support all learners and provide well-resourced, appropriate and effective provision which is personalised to meet the needs of individual children.