



Prospectus

Vision and values

As a Church of England school, we have strong connections to St. Peter's church in Ravenshead as well as to Southwell Diocese. We welcome families and children of all faiths and learn about and celebrate different faiths during our RE sessions and Collective Worships.

Our school vision is based on the theme of 'Taking Care'. We strive to encourage our children, staff and wider community to 'take care' of one another through the core Christian Values of:

Kindness, Hope, Courage and Respect.

Our vision is inspired by the words in Corinthians

**"Let love and kindness be the motivation
behind all that you do"**

(1 Corinthians 16.14).



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Welcome from the Headteacher



We are a friendly, welcoming school with fantastic children who work hard in partnership with our established teaching staff to reach high standards in everything we do.

Our children are nurtured and encouraged to develop a sense of responsibility; to take care of their friends and their environment and become active members of the school community. The values of our school, based on kindness, are at the heart of everything we do.

We are incredibly fortunate to have our own extensive school wood. (approximately 2 acres). Every child in the school has regular outdoor learning sessions, providing them with learning opportunities through practical activities. Children enjoy the freedom to explore and experience the natural world, in all seasons and in all weathers.

Our outdoor learning embraces an approach of nurturing, supporting and developing the self-esteem of all children. It is an ideal environment in which to develop innovation, problem solving, risk-taking, creativity and teamwork.

We offer our children a rich and varied curriculum with increasing challenge as they progress through school, ensuring they are thoroughly ready for their move to secondary school.

In Maths, we focus on helping children to fluently adapt and apply strong mathematical reasoning to solve problems in varied contexts whilst promoting enthusiasm and enjoyment.

The children learn to 'think as a writer' within their English lessons, digging

deep into a variety of books to decode and understand the texts, identifying the structure and key themes that are used to engage the reader.

Teacher demonstration writing is used to explore the writing process, discussing with children how a sentence is constructed, and the reasons for vocabulary choices. Children go on to create their own version of the piece using the methods they have discussed.

Within the children's wider curriculum work, our curriculum follows a themed approach which allows children to develop inter-subject connection, leading to deeper understanding and a richer learning experience, as well as encouraging them to think about the subject knowledge and its application.

We are passionate about giving our children the best educational opportunities possible. We firmly believe that education is a partnership between home and school and as such, have strong relationships with our families, based on respect and kindness.

We look forward to welcoming you to our school.

Emma Johnson

hope



kindness

Ask the experts!



'Ravenshead C of E is an amazing place to be. Everyone is valued and kindness is at the heart of everything we do. The children and staff have such wonderful opportunities to develop in different ways - we have a fantastic woodland which provides everyone with the chance to learn different skills, work in different ways and find a moment of calm. It's great to see the children's faces light up when it's 'Woods day' and they know they have a chance to do something different.'

Becky Howard Year 4 Teacher



'I like playing with my friends and making models in the modelling area.'

Pupil, Ada, Foundation Stage

'I love teaching because it's not just about imparting knowledge; it's about lighting the spark of curiosity, nurturing the flame of creativity, and witnessing the transformative journey of each child as they discover their unique path to success. Ravenshead C of E Primary School is a wonderful environment, full of nurture and learning. One of the things that makes us stand out as a school are the musical opportunities that each child is given. A quarter of our KS1 and 2 children belong to our choir and we have an orchestra, ukulele group and music theory group. We also have a Musical Theatre group who are currently working on producing Alice in Wonderland. One of the most fulfilling memories I have from my own primary school was the music and I aspire to give this to our children on their journey through our school.'

Alison Eyre Year 2 Teacher



'The teachers are nice because they help you if something happens. They also make lessons fun.'

Pupil, Jack, Year 6

Things to look forward to..

Ravenshead C of E Academy is a Music Mark School.

Our 'Ravenshead Rocks' Orchestra performs termly to parents and 'Ravenshead Rocks Singers', is the school's choir who perform in the community and at school concerts.

We also have a Ukulele Club, and a Performing Arts Club.

Foundation children have 'Welly Wednesday' in the woods

Y1/2 children visit the woods weekly and Y3-6 every other week. Activities include lighting fires and cooking, carving, knot tying, orienteering, bark rubbing, bird spotting.

Worship in the Woods

We have a worship in the woods for each year group, each term.

Year 5 take part in the DaART programme

The Life Skills Education programme is delivered to Yr 5 pupils and equips young people with a range of knowledge and skills which they can use as the transition to secondary and beyond.

<https://lifeskillseducation.co.uk/resources/the-daart-primary-programme/>

Christingle, Carols in the Woods and Nativity performances

Our children make their own Christingles and take part in a wonderful outdoor service each year. Also during the Christmas season, our Yr3 and Yr5 children hold carol concerts, Yr4 children perform their Christmas play, and FSU and Yr2 perform the Nativity. These wonderful events are always well attended by our parents/ carers.

Easter adventure at the Church

Y3 and Y4 children enjoy an interactive afternoon led by the church in drama, arts, crafts and learning all about Easter.

Watch out for Break the Rules Day!

This is run by the PTA and is an exciting chance for children to break specific rules usually upheld, such as wearing uniform, no brightly coloured hair, no nail varnish and no fizzy drinks!

Our Smart School Council gives a voice to pupils' opinions

Children's ideas and concerns are explored, and put into action by Communication and Action Teams. This has led to successful charity fundraisers and wellbeing days organised by pupils. Our Smart Council plays an important role in school, looking at issues or ideas that affect children and gives every pupil an opportunity to be part of decisions that affect them.



Some of our clubs include...Musical Theatre, Ravenshead Rocks Choir, Ukulele, Christian, Chess, Football, Spanish, Tennis.

There is also a Before and After School Club offering a variety of indoor and outdoor sports activities running each day.

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Our children visit the local library every few weeks.

We promote a love of reading in all of our children, and they love to find new stories and subjects to explore.

courage



Outdoor Learning in the School Wood

We are incredibly fortunate to have our own extensive school wood, around two acres of beautiful, mature woodland.

Every child in the school has regular outdoor learning sessions, providing them with learning opportunities through practical activities.

Children enjoy the freedom to explore and experience the natural world, in all seasons and in all weathers.

Our outdoor learning embraces an approach of nurturing, supporting and developing the self-esteem of all children. It is an ideal environment in which to develop innovation, problem solving, risk-taking, creativity and teamwork, and we follow a skills and knowledge based curriculum.

What will Outdoor Learning Sessions be Like?

- Earlier sessions focus on core skills and safety, establishing boundaries and routines.
- Children will learn how to cook on an open fire, use tools, make dens, leave trails, go on scavenger hunts, make environmental art, mud sculptures and lots more.
- At the beginning of sessions, children sit together in the log circle or canopy and discuss what they are going to do. The class teacher reminds the children of the boundaries and does any safety talks before the children start their activities.
- On some occasions, children will have a snack, an opportunity to refuel and reflect on how the activities are going.
- Some of the activities will be teacher led, like using tools, and others will be child-led, like den building.

You can find out about Health and Safety procedures and the clothing children will need from our website.

respect



Nurture

We have two dedicated nurture rooms (one in KS1, one in KS2) and nurture teaching assistants. We run a range of individual and group interventions to support the emotional wellbeing of children.

Keep Safe Week

Children learn about protective behaviours <https://www.ravensheadcofeprimary.co.uk/protective-behaviours/>

Anti-bullying ambassadors

Our ambasssadors meet regularly and act as buddies on the playground, raising awareness of bullying and what to do if it is happening.

Wellbeing ambassadors

Our Wellbeing Ambassadors are nominated for each class and support children emotionally.

Learning Together Days in Foundation

Parents attend and complete a learning activity with their child.



Admissions

If your child will be 5 years old between 1st September 2025 and 31st August 2025 you will need to apply for a school place between:
Monday 4th November 2024 and Sunday 16th January 2025
National Offer Day : 17th April 2025

You can apply online to Nottinghamshire County Council at <http://www.nottinghamshire.gov.uk/admissions>. If you need help making an application, contact them on 0300 500 8080

It may be the case that we still have spaces in our Foundation Unit after the National Offer Day, so please contact the school directly on 01623 456516.



Foundation 1 Admissions (From age 3) - 15 hours and 30 hours government funded places)

We offer places for the 15 hours or 30 hours free government-funded entitlement for 3-year-olds.

A Foundation 1 place is available to children the first term after their third birthday. There is flexibility in the sessions that your child can attend, from whole days to half days. The sessions are allocated on a first come, first served basis. If you require sessions in addition to your 15 or 30 funded hours, these can now be paid for and are currently charged at £4.30 per extra hour. If your child attends all day, lunchtimes can be included in your hours or paid for in addition to your funded hours.

In-year applications

We may have spaces in Years 1 to 6 so please contact the Main Reception on 01623 456516 to arrange a visit or to get advice on how to apply for a place. Online applications can be submitted via:

<https://www.nottinghamshire.gov.uk/education/school-admissions/changing-school>



OPAL PLAY

OPAL(OUTDOOR PLAY AND LEARNING) IS A NATIONALLY RECOGNISED PROGRAMME THAT TRANSFORMS PLAYTIMES INTO RICH, INCLUSIVE AND CREATIVE EXPERIENCES.

OUR GOAL: EVERY CHILD HAS THE OPPORTUNITY TO PLAY EVERY DAY, IN ALL WEATHER, WITH A WIDE VARIETY OF RESOURCES.

WHY OPAL MATTERS

- PLAY IS A FUNDAMENTAL RIGHT (UNCRC ARTICLE 31).
- IT DEVELOPS CREATIVITY, PROBLEM-SOLVING, TEAMWORK AND RESILIENCE.
- HAPPIER PLAYTIMES = BETTER LEARNING, BEHAVIOUR AND WELLBEING IN THE CLASSROOM.



OUR PLAY PRINCIPLES

1. ALL CHILDREN ARE ENTITLED TO QUALITY PLAY.
2. CHILDREN CAN CHOOSE, CREATE, AND ADAPT THEIR OWN PLAY.
3. RISK-TAKING IN PLAY IS HEALTHY AND NECESSARY.
4. PLAY SHOULD BE INCLUSIVE AND ACCESSIBLE TO EVERYONE.



PLAY LEADS

SOPHIE KEIGHTLEY
MANDY BROADHEAD

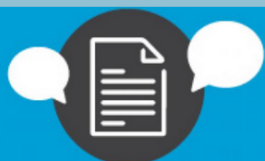
STAFF MEMBER ROLE

- VALUE PLAY AS ESSENTIAL TO CHILD'S DEVELOPMENT.
- ENCOURAGE INDEPENDENCE AND CREATIVITY - STEP BACK UNLESS SAFETY IS AN ISSUE.
- RANGING SUPERVISION - WALK AROUND THEIR DESIGNATED AREA CONSTANTLY TO OBSERVE PLAY, DYNAMIC RISK ASSESSING.
- SUPPORT POSITIVE RISK-TAKING (E.G. BALANCING, CLIMBING, EXPERIMENTING).
- ENHANCE THE PLAY E.G. THROUGH INTERACTIONS OR PROVIDE ADDITIONAL OBJECTS.



WHAT DOES THIS LOOK LIKE AT OUR SCHOOL?

- LOOSE PARTS (CRATES, TYRES, PIPES, FABRICS) AVAILABLE DAILY.
- CHILDREN PLAY IN ALL WEATHER - WATERPROOFS AND WELLIES ARE PART OF THE SCHOOL UNIFORM.
- STAFF SUPPORT PLAY BY OBSERVING, ENCOURAGING AND JOINING IN WHERE APPROPRIATE - NOT DIRECTING.
- PLAY IS CHILD-LED.



KEY DOCUMENTS

- PLAY POLICY IS ON THE SCHOOL WEBSITE.
- CHILDREN HAVE WEEKLY PLAY ASSEMBLIES WHERE DISCUSSIONS TAKE PLACE ABOUT ANY RISKS RELATING TO NEW EQUIPMENT AND WHAT MEASURES ARE IN PLACE TO MITIGATE THESE RISKS.
- CHILDREN DYNAMIC RISK ASSESS AS THEY PLAY

STAY AND PLAY EVENTS

- EACH TERM, THERE ARE STAY AND PLAY EVENTS FOR PARENTS/CARERS SO THAT THEY CAN GET TO EXPERIENCE THE JOY OF OPAL PLAY WITH THEIR CHILD.
- THESE HAPPEN WHATEVER THE WEATHER SO COME PREPARED WITH THE RIGHT CLOTHING AND FOOTWEAR!
- PARENTS/CARERS ARE ENCOURAGED TO USE THE EQUIPMENT AND PLAY!



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