

Personal Development at Knowles Primary School

At Knowles Primary School, cultural capital is about preparing children with knowledge and skills for future success. It is about developing a pupil's character, resilience, confidence and independence; nurturing talents and interests. We want to develop responsible, respectful, well rounded and active citizens.

Our Shared Values

We teach children to build confidence and resilience through our whole school values. Our values help develop responsible, respectful and active citizens who are able to play their part and become actively involved in school life and the wider community. Our values support the deepening understanding of the Fundamental British Values.

Our values guidelines support us to think about the kind of people we aspire to be and the education we aspire to. It supports children and young people to learn about human diversity, and instil in them knowledge, skills and attitudes they need to live together.

Breakfast	Kaleidoscope	Enrichment Activities	Extra-Curricular Activities
<p>Children's well-being is very important to us at Knowles so each day begins with the option for all children to enjoy a healthy breakfast in the classroom before their day starts.</p>	<p>Kaleidoscope is a whole school mental health and well-being programme for all children carefully designed to give children time to be still, to reflect and to make sense of who they are and their place in the world.</p> <p>Children learn to express thoughts and feelings through colour and they are supported to self-regulate, reflect on their actions, kindle healthy relationships and find the resources and resilience within themselves to persevere and be successful.</p> <p>Kaleidoscope includes relaxation, self-expression and a variety of fun, accessible games enabling all children to feel confident and experience success. Kaleidoscope promotes the release of feel-good brain chemicals.</p>	<p>Our curriculum is further enhanced by weekly enrichment sessions where all children develop talents and passions beyond the classroom such as; musical theatre, gardening, yoga, astronomy and cooking.</p> <p>All children have the opportunity to access activities of their choice following their interests on a six week rolling programme each week. Whilst we offer a wide range of after school clubs and activities the take up of such activities is not as high as we would like so we developed the enrichment hour to provide new and exciting opportunities for all.</p>	<p>The school provides a range of after school clubs for children across all year groups. We offer clubs such as: Football, Choir, Performing Arts, Dodgeball, Yoga, Dance, Multi-skills and Maths. The sporting clubs develop pupils' understanding of maintaining an active lifestyle and keeping physically healthy. Other clubs promote opportunities for the children to thrive beyond academics. All clubs are inclusive.</p>
Family Support Team	Trips and Visitors	Therapy Dogs	Forest Schools
<p>The school has a Family support team that are employed within the school to offer early help to families and children, to support them before situations get to crisis point. Their aim is prevention, not cure. They remove barriers to children's learning, build relationships with parents and carers and are the link between school and home that enables us to understand more about the children's home lives and the impact this has on them in school. They support with issues such as housing, homelessness, finances, domestic abuse, mobility difficulties, health problems, parents in prison, bereavement, attendance, parenting capacity, family separation, attachment issues and any other things that will be having a negative impact on children and families. They are able to provide high quality interventions and signpost effectively.</p>	<p>Within the curriculum, there are planned opportunities for trips and visitors to support children's learning and their personal development. Children are given opportunities to engage with experiences first hand, that they might not otherwise have had the opportunity to. Children can draw on these experiences to build their background knowledge. Visitors also provide discussions about future careers and opportunities.</p> <p>Our programme of 'Big Hearts' and 'Big Dreams' provide children with the experiences that build a childhood. Each child gets the chance to experience one 'Big Hearts' visit or experience and one 'Big Dreams' every year. See our hearts and dreams page for the visits and visitors planned for the coming year.</p>	<p>We have four accredited Pets as Therapy dogs.</p> <p>Dogs have been proven to; reduce stress, promote greater self esteem, develop friendship and communication skills, improve attendance and make the environment happier and more enjoyable. A dog is a calming influence.</p> <p>In addition, therapy dogs can work with individuals or small groups of children in a variety of ways to support their;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Emotional wellbeing ● Anxiety ● Confidence ● Friendships ● Communication skills ● Self-esteem ● Reading 	<p>Forest School enables children to learn in an outdoor environment which supports all aspects of development. All activities are set to the individual's abilities and interests and observations are made on their children to see their progress. They will be provided with the opportunity to explore, find their own limitations, make sensible choices when taking risks as well as introducing practical skills such as knot tying, using tools, fire lighting, cooking and building constructions. Each activity will challenge the children with small achievable tasks to help raise their self-esteem and boost their confidence. From this the children will develop their independence and skills which will support them throughout their lives.</p>

