



GORSE RIDE SCHOOLS





Welcome

At Gorse Ride Schools, we aim to provide a broad, all-round education of which pastoral care, excellent teaching and a strong emphasis on core values are essential components.

We are a vibrant, 2 form entry federated Nursery, Infant and Junior School with an environment designed to encourage every child, of all ages and abilities, to achieve their maximum potential. As the Executive Head Teacher, I am fortunate to work with a team of staff and governors who are extremely dedicated and truly want the best for all the children at Gorse Ride Schools.

Choosing the right school for your child is really important and we hope that you will be excited about your child joining our school community.

E.M. Rogers

Eileen Rogers
Executive Head Teacher
Gorse Ride Schools

About Us

We are a two form entry federated Nursery, Infant and Junior school with over 70 dedicated, talented and vocational staff.

At Gorse Ride Schools we offer:

- Extensive grounds and facilities, including two halls, two ITC suites, a dedicated food technology kitchen, a sensory garden, outdoor learning areas, large playing field, two trim trails, outdoor gym, wellbeing hub and a dedicated reading hub
- A wide range of extracurricular activities including sports, music, dance and drama
- Our own breakfast and after school child care provision (7.30am – 6pm) for working parents
- An active, creative PTA (Parent Teacher Association) who organise social and fundraising events
- A dedicated, hard-working Board of Governors who oversee the strategic direction of the school



SELF BELIEF
EQUALITY
KINDNESS
COMPASSION
FRIENDSHIP
RESPONSIBILITY
TRUST
BELONGING
HONESTY
POSITIVITY
DETERMINATION
RESILIENCE

Values

Having strong morals and values is at the heart of Gorse Ride School's ethos and we are proud to embrace the principles of values based education

We promote core values such as kindness, self belief, respect, determination and acceptance, empowering our pupils to be reflective and resilient learners and ensuring they develop the skills they need to be successful at school and beyond.

The whole school community were involved in identifying 12 core values which were felt to be the foundations on which our pupils can develop and grow to be stable, educated and responsible adults. These are explored through lessons and assemblies but also permeate the whole curriculum and form the basis for the social, intellectual, emotional, spiritual and moral development of our pupils.

Learning Journey

During their time at Gorse Ride Schools, children are taught all the subjects of the National Curriculum in exciting and creative contexts.

Our aim is to provide an inspiring, outward looking, global curriculum that not only develops high standards in English and Maths (which are taught daily) but stimulates children's curiosity and creativity and ensures a global dimension to their knowledge and understanding of the humanities, arts and technology. We also have specialist Sports Coaches who run all of our KS2 PE lessons. Learning is enriched through a wide range of trips, visiting specialists, exciting projects and workshops and outdoor learning.



At Gorse Ride Schools We Commit To:

- ★ Providing the highest quality educational experience for all children regardless of their age, sex, ability or cultural background.
- ★ Providing a happy, safe, secure and stimulating environment in which every child is valued as an individual.
- ★ Giving all children the opportunity to develop socially, emotionally and with confidence at a rate that is appropriate to their individual ability.
- ★ Ensuring all children receive a broad, balanced, exciting and differentiated curriculum within a rich and stimulating environment.
- ★ Working to the best of our ability to make sure all children leave us with the academic, social and emotional skills needed to cope in the next stage of their education.
- ★ Encouraging all children to participate in extra curricular activities. The school aims to promote the areas of sport, music, drama and other creative arts by giving children the opportunity to take part in team games, clubs, and to learn to play a musical instrument.
- ★ Enabling every child to reach their full potential in all areas of learning, by recognising that every child is unique.
- ★ Through high standards and high, but achievable, expectations provide a relevant and meaningful educational experience where a child's enjoyment, self-motivation and success become the most important factors.
- ★ Creating a positive, caring ethos throughout school and in our local community.
- ★ Providing children with the experiences needed to be resilient, responsible individuals who are well equipped with the skills required to meet the demands of 21st century life.
- ★ Working in close partnership with our parents to recognise the developmental needs of each child. All children will be respected, and their individuality and potential recognised, valued and promoted.
- ★ Developing a growth mindset approach to learning and life.
- ★ Creating challenging and stimulating experiences from which children will gain in confidence and self esteem and flourish.
- ★ Offering equal opportunities for all children by making them active in their own learning.



Outdoor Learning

At Gorse Ride Schools we are incredibly fortunate to have outdoor learning areas for our children.

Children don't simply learn more or learn better when freed from their desks; they also learn differently – experiencing an impact cognitively, actively, interpersonally, socially and physically.

As our pupils progress through the school, our outdoor learning areas continue to support learning across the curriculum. We have areas where we learn to grow our own food, areas where we learn the value of team work, where we investigate and learn to appreciate and conserve our natural resources.

Healthy Living

This is promoted through:

- High quality PE and sports provision, run by qualified sports coaches encouraging children to exercise and keep fit
- Nutritious, delicious and well-balanced school meals, freshly cooked on site
- Opportunities through PHSE and Values Learning to promote wellbeing and strong mental health

Wellbeing

Evidence shows that across the UK, mental health issues in children are increasing while child wellbeing is deteriorating.

Young people today have to navigate a complex and ever-changing world, facing challenges and pressures in numerous aspects of their life. At Gorse Ride Schools we believe that children deserve an excellent education that prepares them both academically and emotionally for the challenges they will face when they transition to secondary school, and for the world they will enter when they leave college/university.

Our purpose built Wellbeing Hub is a vital provision for enhancing children's resilience, pro-social behaviour and learning outcomes. It offers a dedicated area to support pupils by building a sense of security and trust, enhancing skills and opportunities for good communication and building a sense of positive regard through valued participation and engagement in school life.





Special Needs

As a highly inclusive school, we do our best to cater for all children's needs, be they learning, social, behavioural, physical or emotional.

Our experienced Inclusion Manager leads a team of knowledgeable Learning Mentors who have had specific training to equip them to support a range of additional needs displayed by our children.

Safeguarding

At Gorse Ride Schools we take this matter very seriously.

All schools have a legal duty to look for signs of abuse (physical, emotional, sexual or neglect) and report suspected cases to social services which will then carry out any necessary investigation. We want all our children to be safe and to feel safe and are committed to following stringent processes and robust procedures when carrying out our duty of care towards our children.

Partnerships With Parents

Your child is at a crucial stage in their development with research showing that children learn more rapidly in the first seven years of life than at any other time.

It is therefore important that children are given every opportunity to fulfil their potential. As parents you are the first educators of your children and therefore play a very important role. We believe in a close partnership between parents and staff as we join you in educating your child. Good communication between staff and parents enables us to inform each other of relevant matters concerning your child. We appreciate being informed of any change at home that might affect your child and will treat anything you tell us in strict confidence.

We hold two Parent Evenings each year when you will be invited to discuss your child's progress with their Class Teacher. However, there is no need to wait for these if you have questions or concerns. We want the parents to feel just as welcome as our children - we have an open door policy and we always find the time, however busy school life is, to talk through any concerns you might have.



After Gorse Ride

77% of Gorse Ride children selected Bohunt as their first choice and were all successful in securing a place this academic year. The remaining children chose Reading Boys, The Holt, Luckley House, Kings Academy, St Crispins, Yately and Ranelagh





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