



School Information

2021-22

Harvey Road Primary School aims to provide an excellent and broad based education for all pupils by achieving the following objectives:

- offer high standards of teaching, following the National Curriculum, which will encourage each child to realise and fulfil his or her potential
- provide a safe and caring environment with an atmosphere conducive to learning
- ensure that there is a wide range of tasks, activities and opportunities specially selected to develop children's individual talents, knowledge and interests
- encourage children to develop personal ideas and values of social awareness, self-discipline and life skills
- seek to understand the needs of individuals and respond to them
- develop in all children a sense of enjoyment in learning, the desire and confidence to think for themselves, the ability to be independent learners and the satisfaction of success
- set examples of industry, integrity and trust that children can clearly see and follow

The Curriculum

Harvey Road School's broad and balanced curriculum is designed to stimulate and nurture each child's developmental needs. Whole class, group and individual teaching approaches are used to ensure that every child's potential is fully realised. Our highly professional and dedicated team of teachers and support staff are always on hand to facilitate this. The school understands that, for a child to succeed academically, importance must be placed on their happiness, well-being and security. To this end we place a significant emphasis on creating a stimulating environment, both inside and outside the classroom.

MATHEMATICS AND ENGLISH are not only taught as subject specific lessons in all years, but are consolidated and extended through other subjects as well.

SCIENCE AND COMPUTING are often integrated with other subjects, although in Key Stage 2, Science is also taught as a discrete subject. As with Mathematics and English, Computing is integrated throughout all teaching.

HISTORY AND GEOGRAPHY are studied in the context of projects carefully selected to cover the main areas of the National Curriculum. Much use is made of the local environment and the curriculum regularly includes local studies and educational visits.

PHYSICAL EDUCATION is taught to all children. At Key Stage 1 and Key Stage 2 there are opportunities to join both lunchtime and after school clubs.

DRAMA focuses on communication skills and expression. It helps to develop self-confidence and creativity both of which are vital elements to a developing child.

DESIGN AND TECHNOLOGY teaches children how to draw designs that match specific requirements. Through the careful use of construction tools and a variety of hinges, levers and fixings, children can also explore the strengths and weaknesses of materials.

MUSIC has always played an important role in developing the whole child at Harvey Road. We not only have a Music Specialist Teacher who works in all of our classes but we also have a significant number of children who play a wide range of instruments. These range from woodwind and brass through to stringed instruments and guitar.

ART is a vital part of the curriculum in the school. Through the careful development of artistic skills children are given the opportunities to explore a wide range of materials, textures and tone.

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION is taught throughout the school and focuses on all the major world religions so that children can understand and celebrate people's differences as well as their similarities.

PERSONAL, SOCIAL AND HEALTH EDUCATION educates children in a range of areas, including an awareness of themselves as individuals, how to keep safe, healthy and contribute to the community and become active and aware citizens.

INCLUSION

Particular attention is given to children with specific learning needs. The school has a teacher who is responsible for organising work, supporting children and linking with outside agencies so that children receive the support that they need to move on. As well as being taught in a whole class setting by the class teacher, children can be taught individually or in small groups by a member of our support team.

PUPILS WITH DISABILITIES

The School does not discriminate against any pupil with disabilities whose parents wish their child to attend the school. At the time of application for a place it would be extremely useful for the School to receive early indication of any potential needs in respect of any disabilities. This is so that the School can work with Hertfordshire County Council to ensure that appropriate provision is made and that time is allowed to complete this before the child takes up the place.

THE WHOLE CHILD

The quality and commitment of our staff means we have been able to combine a mixture of the best aspects of 'traditional' and 'modern' teaching methods to evolve a teaching approach which challenges and extends each individual child within a secure environment. Every child's progress is carefully monitored throughout the year. By providing parents with regular opportunities for feedback we develop a partnership that encourages a positive response to a child's needs. Through differentiated tasks and well-managed adult support we are committed to building children's successes through promoting high self-esteem and personal confidence in their own ability.

Harvey Road School has a commitment to caring not only for a child's educational needs but also to reinforcing the standards of conduct that staff, parents and our wider community expect. We believe that every child should act with courtesy and consideration for other people and their property with the expectation of becoming responsible and caring members of our community.

OUR EXTENDED CURRICULUM

Harvey Road provides many opportunities for children to access a wide range of extended curriculum activities. These arrangements help to foster friendship, a sense of fun and purpose, fitness, as well as developing a talent. Clubs are extremely varied and popular with the children. These activities will frequently reflect the skills of our current staff as well as our links with professional coaches who are brought in from our local community. Although these can be subject to change, at present we have activities that include: Football, Netball, Tennis, Gymnastics, Dance, Archery, Art, Choir and Running.

There are also opportunities to learn musical instruments with our peripatetic teachers. Music is a significant feature of our school and there are regular concerts throughout the year to celebrate pupils' hard work and contribution to the school.

A PARTNERSHIP WITH PARENTS

At Harvey Road School, parental involvement is welcomed and highly valued. Parents are invited to assist in classrooms and club activities as well as on outings. Parent Consultation evenings are held twice a year and each child receives an annual progress report. There are also regular newsletters which include details of forthcoming events and important dates for the diary.

The Harvey Road School Association (PTA) is extremely active in organising social, educational and fund raising events for both children and parents throughout the year. As a direct consequence of their support we have been able to purchase many different items for the school, including costly ICT computers and laptops, projectors and large outdoor equipment.

THE GOVERNING BODY

Governors take a very active role in the school life and the continual drive for school improvement and excellence. They are always available to listen to your views on any aspects of the school you would like to discuss with them.

OTHER ACTIVITIES

All children join one of four 'houses', with siblings automatically belonging to the same house. These provide opportunities for competition throughout the school. School teams regularly compete against other schools and children are encouraged to support competitors and celebrate success.

Many opportunities are given for children to perform to others. Children show their work within their own class. Each class also holds an annual assembly, to which parents are invited, to present work from class based projects. Musical performances are presented during the year and children regularly contribute to special occasions such as Harvest Festivals and annual concerts.

Much use is made of our local environment through local studies and educational visits. Children in upper Key Stage 2 are given the opportunity to take part in residential trips during the summer term.

HOMEWORK

Harvey Road recognises the important role that homework can play in the education of a child. It also helps to develop a more effective partnership between parents and the school, so pupils can practise and develop skills they have learnt in the classroom.

Pupils are expected to work extremely hard during the school day and it is therefore not appropriate to overload their free time, which is, in itself, valuable. However, the quantity of work a child receives will increase as they go through the school, with possible variations at particular times of the year. At the beginning of each academic year, parents will be notified of when homework will be given and approximately how much time should be spent on it.

ACCESSIBILITY

Harvey Road is a modern, purpose built school that has many features that enable every child, no matter what their physical ability to access school resources. Wide doorways and two disabled toilets are but some of these features, along with a single level throughout the building. The School is also aware of the needs of adult users of the school. Information for parents can be provided in large print format on request. Should any parents need any other form of adaptation or accommodation we would ask them to discuss this with the school. Harvey Road School strictly follows a no smoking policy in all parts of the school buildings and grounds.

ADMISSIONS

The school follows the Hertfordshire County Council guidelines on admissions. For details of the criteria, please contact the school. Prospective parents are always welcome to visit by prior arrangement.

Nursery applications are made directly to the school. For more information please call the school office.

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HARVEY ROAD PRIMARY SCHOOL
HARVEY ROAD, CROXLEY GREEN, HERTFORDSHIRE, WD3 3BN
TEL: 01923 773801
email: admin@harveyroad.herts.sch.uk