



# Cross Farm Infant Academy

## *Opening the Gates to a World of Possibilities*

Cross Farm Infant Academy is a place where children discover their love of learning, individuality is embraced and all achievements are celebrated. With an 'I can' attitude, no fear of failure or holding back, we will ensure children are prepared for the next stage of their learning journey.

Cross Farm Infant Academy accepts pupils from Reception (4 years old) – Year 2 (7 years old). We have up to 60 children per year group and a total of up to 180 children in the whole academy.



*“The best classroom and the richest cupboard is roofed only by the sky”*

*Margaret McMillan (c 1925)*

## *Curriculum*

At Cross Farm Infant Academy the curriculum is designed to: nurture independent, inquisitive and enthusiastic learners, encourage children to take measured risks when faced with a challenge, enable them to develop their emotional awareness and empathy and equip children for life.

Every child is recognised as a unique individual. We celebrate and welcome differences within our school community. The ability to learn is underpinned by the teaching of basic skills, knowledge, concepts and values. We constantly provide enhancement opportunities to engage learning, utilising the indoor and outdoor environments, and believe that childhood should be a happy, inquisitive and enquiring time in our lives where there are no limits to curiosity and there is a thirst for new experiences and knowledge.

Our outdoor environment is our largest classroom where children can have hands on, multi-sensory experiences. The outdoor environment is the foundation of our curriculum and every interaction with nature is seen as a learning opportunity.

Community involvement is an essential part of our curriculum as we invite the community in to share skills and expertise, enable children to take an active role in events throughout the year and form partnerships with local community groups.

Children leave the academy with a sense of belonging to a tightly knit community which inspires a lifelong love for learning.



## *Facilities*

We are very lucky at Cross Farm to have a range of areas for children to use with the Outdoor Area being our biggest classroom. Our outdoor learning environments have been developed well and will continue to be developed. We have 2 Forest School trained teachers who share their expertise across the school to enable all children to access the outdoor environment. Within the school we have 6 large classrooms, a library and intervention space, a large school hall and a range of small group spaces to support learning.

## *Extra-curricular Opportunities*

We offer a range of trips and additional clubs for children to take part in. Every year these change as we develop our curriculum around the children's interests. This year children will be visiting Windsor Castle, the local churches, museums and farms.

In school we offer a range of free clubs either at lunchtime or after school to support children in accessing additional extra-curricular clubs. We currently offer Choir, Brilliant Builders, Bamboo Tamboo, German, Spanish, Ukulele, Reading for Pleasure, Eco Club and many more.

In addition to the free clubs there are a range of paid for clubs that occur after school such as Theatre Club, Cheerleading, Dance and Gymnastics.

## *Wrap around Care*

We have our own in house breakfast and after school club which follow our school vision and values. They offer child care between 7:45am – 8:50am and 3:10pm – 6:15pm. Breakfast club offers breakfast to children as well as a range of wonderful activities that promote play. After school club offer a snack to children as well as supporting play and having a range of activities. All our adults are skilled in joining in with this play to help build social skills and turn taking.

## *Friends of Cross Farm*

Cross Farm has a fantastic PTA that supports the academy. They offer a range of events for children and also purchase different things for the academy to ensure the children receive the best education. Some of the events over this year are: Christmas Fair, Rock and Roll Bingo, May Fair, Mothers' Day Gifts, Fathers' Day Gifts, Christmas Shopping for children, School Discos and many, many more. This year so far the PTA have helped to fund 32 iPads, a workshop for every year group and maths resources.