



## **CAVENDISH CLOSE JUNIOR ACADEMY PROSPECTUS**

All Trustees and staff wish to extend a warm welcome to all parents, carers and children. We hope that this prospectus will provide you with helpful information and some understanding of the philosophy, aims and organisation of Cavendish Close Junior Academy.

We are a caring and hardworking academy and pride ourselves on giving our children a well-balanced, enriched curriculum. Our aim is to work with you in educating your children, encouraging them to develop and fulfil their full potential and succeed as an individual. We provide equality of opportunity, priding ourselves on quality educational and pastoral support, and we promote high standards in all aspects of academy life.

We are confident that your child will settle happily into our academy and that you will take advantage of the many opportunities offered to strengthen links between home and academy life.

As part of The Harmony Trust, we have a strong moral purpose to do what is best for children and families, which underpins our ethos. We aim to raise aspirations and attainment of all children, developing pupils with high self-esteem and responsibility. The Trust and academy are committed to the delivery of high-quality education delivered by excellent staff, in a caring, supportive learning environment. The key drivers in everything we do are celebrated through our 'ACE' curriculum: Aspiration, Collaboration, Experience.

If we are to achieve the best for your child, we believe in full co-operation between the academy and yourselves. It is only when home and the academy work in partnership that the children receive maximum benefit. We want you to feel part of our community, just as we want the academy to be part of the local community. There will be regular opportunities for you to visit the academy to hear about your child's progress, to join in with activities and to find out about the work we do.

For those of you who are new to our academy, we look forward to getting to know you, as well as your child, over the next few years.

Michelle Tague

Principal



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## **THE ACADEMY VISION**

Our vision for children at Cavendish Close Junior Academy, is to support them so that they have:

- a curiosity to learn about the world around them, questioning what they do not understand;
- the confidence and resilience to make mistakes and to learn from them;
- the skills required to be independent learners, as well as the ability to work together with others when appropriate;
- the determination to succeed and to achieve their full potential.

To achieve this, we will:

- ensure the academy is an inclusive, happy, safe and caring environment;
- provide exciting opportunities that develop a wide range of knowledge, skills, concepts and understanding;
- recognise and celebrate all children's achievements.

## **Equal Opportunities**

Within the philosophy of the academy, it is recognised that all children are entitled to full access to the curriculum regardless of race/religious belief, gender, physical ability or special needs.

Incidents of racism or sexism will not be tolerated, and, when/if they do occur, they will be dealt with in a sensitive manner. Incidents will be recorded.

The Relationships and Health (RSE) curriculum, which was implemented in September 2021, promotes a positive image of all members of society, with particular reference to race/religious belief, gender, physical ability and special needs.

## THE ACADEMY BUILDING AND HISTORY

Cavendish Close Junior Academy is a large academy in Chaddesden, a suburb of Derby. The academy is popular and currently draws its pupils from a very varied catchment area. The academy occupies extensive grounds with a playing field, sports field and two playgrounds. The original building was opened in 1933, with additional classrooms being built on in the 1970's. We moved into the new building ready for the start of the Spring Term 2016.

We have a large hall which can accommodate the whole academy for assemblies and collective worship. It is also used for: physical activities; as a dining room; to accommodate our many after academy clubs and breakfast club. We also have two Libraries and some small intervention spaces, which can be used for multiple purposes.



## THE ACADEMY DAY

**Our academy day begins at 8.50 am.** The children arrive from 8.40am, when the doors are opened. Any children arriving after 8:50 am will be marked in as late. Please note there is no supervision for children until they enter the building, so it is important that children arrive on time every day. This is the timetable for a typical day:



8:40 – 8:50	Children arrive
8:50 – 8:55	Registration
8:55- 10.00	Maths
10.00 – 10.10	Assembly
10:10 – 10:25	Morning break
10:25 – 11.25	English
11.25 – 11:55	Reciprocal Reading
11:55 – 12.55	Lunchtime
12.55 - 1.15	Phonics and/or spelling
1:15 – 3:15	Afternoon sessions

We offer a **breakfast club** from 7.30am each day at a cost of £4.00 per session, places can be reserved at the school office or by emailing [info@cavendish.theharmonytrust.org](mailto:info@cavendish.theharmonytrust.org). Payment can be made through the tax-free childcare government account, which offers a 20% discount. Please contact the school office for further details.

### **Parents' Access to Academy**

In the first instance, parents should use class dojo to contact their child's class teacher. If an urgent message is needed, parents should contact the school office on 01332 672338 or email [info@cavendish.theharmonytrust.org](mailto:info@cavendish.theharmonytrust.org). As a final option, parents may use the main front door to see a member of our office. These systems are in place to ensure the safety of all the children in the academy and to maintain the security of the building. The path from the infant school site is not accessible during the hours of 9am and 3pm. Teachers are always outside or at their classroom doors at the end of the day.

Please note that The Harmony Trust and Cavendish Close Junior Academy operate a zero tolerance policy towards abusive or aggressive visitors. Meetings will be terminated, and action taken should a visitor become abusive or aggressive.

## **ADMISSION TO THE ACADEMY**

At Cavendish Close Junior Academy, we have spaces for a maximum of 90 pupils in each year group. Priority for places is given to those parents who register their preference for their child to attend the academy with the Local Authority Admissions Office. The deadline for applications is available from the above office. Occasionally, the academy does not have enough places for every child whose parents/carers have expressed a preference.

The order of priority is:

- children living in the normal area served by the academy, including those who have siblings at the academy at the time of admission;
- children who do not live in the normal area, but who have siblings at the academy at the time of admission;
- other children whose parents/carers have expressed a preference by the published date.

If you are not offered a place for your child, you have a right to appeal to an independent appeal panel – details from the Admission's Office.

### **Year 3 induction**

Moving to a new academy is a big event in any child's life. We intend for your child's transfer to Cavendish Close Junior Academy to run smoothly and for them to feel 'at home' here as quickly as possible. The first week will be full of fun activities based around a piece of art aimed at welcoming your child and helping them to settle in. The Year 3 team will already be familiar faces (due to visits during Year 2), but further introductions to the other junior staff will ensure your child knows all those involved in their day-to-day care and education. There will be academy tours helping each child to find their way around and your child will be taught routines, have rules explained and work co-operatively within their class – so quickly becoming a happy, settled member of our junior academy.

### **Secondary Transfer**

Children leave Cavendish Close Junior Academy at the end of Year 6 to go to secondary school. You will receive a letter asking you to state your preference in the Autumn term of Year 6. During the summer term Year 6 staff work closely with the secondary school that your child will go to, to ensure all relevant information is passed on. All children visit their new schools for one or two day's induction. All year 6 children may also have the opportunity to visit for Extra-Curricular opportunities, such as Junior Links (Lees Brook). In addition to this, Year 6 children who are identified as needing extra support with transfer are given additional visits to their next school.

Further information is available from Derby City Council at the following address:

*Primary Academy Admissions  
The Council House  
Corporation Street  
Derby  
DE1 2FS*

Phone: 01332 642725

Email: [primary.admissions@derby.go.uk](mailto:primary.admissions@derby.go.uk)

## **ACADEMY UNIFORM**

We require all children to adhere to the academy dress code. This provides pupils with a sense of belonging to the academy and improves our profile within the community. It also promotes the right tone for learning and a sense of pride in their appearance. We also feel that from a practical point of view it will help parents take the worry out of what children wear and, in the long term, reduces the financial burden.

The academy uniform consists of:

Black/dark grey pinafore dress, skirt, trousers or tailored shorts (No jeans or leggings)

Royal blue jumper/cardigan/sweatshirt (preferably academy issue)

White polo shirt/shirt/blouse

White/black/dark grey socks

Black/dark grey tights may be worn instead of socks

Black shoes – practical/hardwearing with no heel that can be easily cleaned

Boots are NOT allowed in academy but practical boots (eg Wellingtons) may be worn for the journey to and from academy in bad weather.

In summer, royal blue gingham or striped dresses may be worn as well as practical sandals (not slip-ons).

The following items, with our academy emblem on, are available:

Sweatshirt, Royal blue cardigans, Royal blue fleeces, T-shirts, Book bags, PE Bags

They are available from:

Morleys Academy wear

Unit 2

446 Nottingham Road

Derby

Derbyshire

DE21 6PE

Tel: 01332 281 311

An apron or an old shirt is also useful for art/craft activities.

**NB: All articles of clothing and footwear should be clearly marked with your child's name.**



## Physical Education

All children are required to come to school in PE kit on their PE days. Your child's class teacher will inform you of the days. Your child will need the following kit:

### Indoor P.E.

Plain white T-shirt  
Black shorts

### Outdoor P.E.

Plain white T-shirt  
Black shorts  
Plain black or navy tracksuit  
Plain black or navy sweatshirt  
Trainers

We recommend that children have a separate kit and outdoor trainers for outdoor activities.

**NB: All articles of clothing and footwear should be clearly marked with your child's name.**



## Swimming

All children who go swimming require a swimming costume/trunks, a towel and a bag. Girls or boys with long hair will require a swimming hat. Children will complete at least one term of swimming before they leave us at the end of Year 6.

## Jewellery and Earrings

Children with pierced ears may wear a single set of small metal studs, but these must be removed for all PE sessions due to Health and Safety Regulations. Children may wear a watch. Smart watches are not allowed. No other jewellery is allowed.

*We advise that, if you have your child's ears pierced, it is done at the start of the six-week summer break, giving the holes a chance to heal so that studs can be easily removed by the child. **Academy staff are not allowed to remove or replace studs.***

## Hair/Cosmetics etc

All children are expected to have sensible hair styles. Shaved designs (in hair or eyebrows), extensions and dyes are not appropriate for the academy, and are therefore not permitted. Make-up, including nail varnish, is also inappropriate and should not be worn.

## Temporary Tattoos

Please do not allow your child to come to academy with temporary tattoos.



## **CARING FOR YOUR CHILD**

We have a Health and Safety Policy and a Child protection and Safeguarding Policy which are reviewed every year. Everyone who works at Cavendish Close Junior Academy takes the safety of each child seriously. However, there may be times when your child has an accident, or becomes poorly during the day. Most of our staff are trained First Aiders and they will look after your child. If you need to be contacted, we do this as soon as we can. If we are unable to contact you, then the Principal and/or the Deputy Principal will ensure that your child receives the appropriate medical attention.

If your child has asthma, they should bring an inhaler (named) to be kept in their classroom. Other prescribed medicines can be given in school but a form would need to be filled in at the academy office. Without this form, medicines cannot be administered.

### **Contact numbers**

We must always have an up to date telephone contact number for you and a close relative or friend. If you change your number, address or job, please let us know, so that we can keep our records up to date. We do not give this information to anyone without your permission, unless we are enforced to do so by authorised agencies.

### **Text Messaging Service**

We send some information by text message (e.g. emergency academy closures, cancelled events, reminders and merit messages). Please ensure that you let us have your latest mobile number.

### **Class Dojo**

We use the Class Dojo system in our academy to keep you informed of class and academy events as well as important reminders. You will receive an email for you to join Class Dojo when your child starts with us. This system also allows you to message your child's class teacher if there is anything important that you need to tell to us about.

### **Child Protection**

In cases where the academy has reason to be concerned that a child may be subject to ill treatment or any form of abuse, the Child Protection Officer (in our academy this is the Principal) is obliged to follow child protection procedures and inform Social Care of the concern.

### **Absence from Academy**

There are two kinds of absence from the academy – authorised and unauthorised. An authorised absence is usually when a child is too poorly to attend or has a medical appointment which cannot be made outside academy hours. All other absences are classed as unauthorised and must be reported as such. So that we know that your child is with you – and safe – please notify the academy by phone as soon as possible on the first day of the absence. Please note that academy staff will telephone you to find out where your child is if you do not do this. Please ensure that you provide evidence of any medical appointments.

Government policy now says that Principals should not authorise leave for holidays during term time except in exceptional circumstances. It is essential that children attend the academy regularly – long or persistent absences will have a detrimental effect on your child's

education. If you need to take your child out of the academy during term time, please contact the Principal to discuss the reasons. Leave that is not authorised may be subject to a penalty notice, with the decision taken by an Education Welfare Officer. Payment of a Penalty Notice is £60 (per parent, per child) if paid within 21 days of receipt and £120 if paid after this but within 28 days of receipt.

**For safety reasons, children will not be allowed to leave academy premises during academy hours without a responsible adult. If you need to collect your child please see the academy office staff who will collect your child from the classroom.**

## **Medicines in the Academy**

Pupils who are unwell should not be sent to the academy and parents/carers must ring in to notify the academy they will not be attending. However, many pupils need to attend the academy while taking prescribed medicines either because they are:

- suffering from an illness or allergy
- recovering from a short term illness and are undergoing a course of treatment using prescribed medicines

To help avoid unnecessary taking of medicines at the academy, parents/guardians should:

- be aware that a three times daily dosage can usually be spaced evenly throughout the day and does not necessarily have to be taken at lunchtimes
- ask the family doctor if it is possible to adjust the medication to avoid academy time doses.

Therefore, when essential medicines are brought to the academy we ask that:

- the medicine is brought to the office in it's original box/container with the pharmacists label clearly on the medication.
- a form must be completed by the parent/carer (these will be given to you to complete) by a member of the office staff.
- The medicines will be stored in a safe place and administered as per the prescribed instructions.

A form must also be completed for any adrenaline pens and inhalers, they must be in their original boxes along with the pharmacists prescribed label. The inhalers will then be taken to the child's classroom. It is your responsibility to ensure your child's medication is kept in date.

There may be some illnesses and allergies that we will need you to complete an Individual Health Care Plan for your child.

## Infectious Diseases

The following is a guide to the normal periods that children should stay away from the academy after contracting infectious diseases. However, these periods may be varied in individual cases at the discretion of the medical practitioner.

Minimum period of exclusion from the academy:

CHICKEN POX	Five days from onset of rash and the blisters have dried
DYSENTERY	Until free from symptoms
GERMAN MEASLES (Rubella)	Five days from onset of rash
MEASLES	Four days from onset of rash and child recovered
MUMPS	Five days from onset of swelling
MENINGITIS	Until declared fit to return to academy by a Medical Practitioner
IMPETIGO	Legions are cleared/crusted/ 48 hours after starting the antibiotic treatment

COVID-19	Self-isolation if showing any of the signs <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• a high temperature – this means you feel hot to touch on your chest or back (you do not need to measure your temperature)</li><li>• a new, continuous cough – this means coughing a lot for more than an hour, or 3 or more coughing episodes in 24 hours (if you usually have a cough, it may be worse than usual)</li><li>• a loss or change to your sense of smell or taste – this means you've noticed you cannot smell or taste anything, or things smell or taste different to normal.</li></ul>
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HEAD LICE	Please notify academy if you see eggs or lice in your child's hair. If staff see headlice on a child, the whole year group will receive a text advising that parents check and treat accordingly. In persistent cases, parents may be contacted to take their child home for treatment. Advice may also be offered by the academy nurse.
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We will only be able to administer medicines in academy that have been prescribed by a GP/medical practitioner.

## **THE COMMUNITY AND THE ACADEMY**

We aim to be an open and welcoming academy to children, their parents and other members of the community.

If you are a part of a local group or have connections in a business that would be interested in getting involved in our academy, please let us know. We are always on the lookout for new ideas – the more the merrier!

### **Activities / Clubs**

Staff, outside providers, volunteers and parents give time to provide a variety of activities out of class time. These do a great deal to widen the children's horizons and improve their skills. We want the children to develop healthy bodies and lively minds – and to get involved. Clubs that run regularly are football, netball, drama, gymnastics, rounders, gymnastics, fencing, tennis, cookery, rugby, golf, cricket, dance and cheerleading.

### **Keeping parents informed**

There are formal Parents' Evenings each term, but the teachers are always willing to meet to talk about your child's progress. You are welcome to make an appointment with your child's teacher through our school spider app or by phoning the academy office.

Your child's progress is monitored at the academy to make sure that teaching is at an appropriate level. At the end of Year 6 children's work and ability in Maths and English is assessed formally in national Standard Assessment Tests (SATs). A written report is given at the end of each academic year.

Any concern we have about your child's progress or behaviour will be discussed with you at one of the Parents' Evening or earlier if necessary. This works both ways and you should voice any worries you may have as soon as possible.

Each class uses the Class Dojo reward system which will help you to keep updated with how your child is doing. You will also be able to message your child's class teacher on here during school hours.

The best education for your child will be achieved when home and the academy work together.

## **ACADEMY BEHAVIOUR POLICY**

At Cavendish Close Junior Academy, we believe that teachers must be allowed to teach in an environment which is relaxed and free from unnecessary interruptions and that children's education should not suffer because it is disrupted by the poor behaviour of others. Pupils will be rewarded for a positive attitude to academy life both in and out of the classroom. We are aware that pupils are at different levels in their personal development and will respond to academy life in various ways. However, we also believe that pupils can learn to manage their own behaviour when given a consistent set of guidelines.

We have 5 rules that we expect children to follow:

- Respect the people and property around you.
- Do as you are asked by academy staff first time.
- Always try your best and allow others to do the same.
- Keep your hands and feet to yourself.
- Be polite and kind in what you do and say.

When children follow these rules they are praised and rewarded. However, if they break any of the rules then they will be sanctioned following the behaviour policy.

Whatever happens on one day, the children return to academy each day with a fresh start and back on the star.

We do not accept any form of bullying in our academy. Unpleasant verbal comments including racist comments and physical attacks are dealt with according to the relevant policies.

**The academy will also intervene where there are incidents on the way to and from the academy, or in incidents of "cyber-bullying".**

### **Celebration Assembly**

We have a weekly celebration assembly during which we celebrate the achievement of the children who have worked well in class and those that have completed extra-curricular activities. The children receive a certificate which they will bring home.

### **Team Points**

Each child will be designated a member of a house team for which they can earn 'Team Points'. Each term, the winning team receives a reward such as a go on a bouncy castle.

## **Class Dojo**

Each child has their own Dojo, collecting points for good learning behaviours, trying their best, following the academy rules, being kind etc. This can be accessed by parents and can be used as a tool to communicate between home and the academy.

## **Hot Chocolate**

Each week, a child from each class will receive an award from our principal and an invite to her office for Hot Chocolate. This is for those children who follow our academy rules and are role models for the rest of the children.

## **Star of the Week**

Each week, the pupils vote for a class member to be star of the week and the teacher chooses one member of the class. They are presented a certificate in assembly.

## **SPECIAL EDUCATIONAL NEEDS AND DISABILITY (SEND)**

### **If a child has special educational needs or a disability, what does this mean?**

A child has SEND if he or she has:

- Learning difficulties which are significantly greater than the majority of children of their age.
- Disabilities which prevent or hinder them from making use of the educational facilities provided by the academy.
- Behavioural difficulties or emotional problems, which affect their learning.

### **So what happens next?**

If you or your child's teacher think that your child is having difficulties, there will be an opportunity for you to discuss this with the teacher and/or the Special Educational Needs and Disability Co-ordinator, Mrs Fowler.

We believe the best way to help your child is through a home/academy partnership and we value all information you can give regarding their health, development and behaviour at home as well as your thoughts on how they feel they are getting on at the academy.

### **What is the next step?**

Once a child has been identified as having SEND their name will be put on the Special Needs List. All children with SEND have a Target Grid written by their teacher – these grids are shared with parents at individual meetings.

### **What are Target Grids?**

A Target Grid is a multi-element programme, written by the class teacher, which sets (up to) four learning targets for your child to achieve by the date given for review. It will also suggest some ways that your child may be helped to achieve those targets both at the academy and at home. Please read the Target Grid carefully, discuss it with your child's teacher. All Target Grids will be reviewed throughout the year, usually at the time of parent's evening.



## Support Given

A 'graduated response' will be made to your child's needs – Targeted Support, Specialist Support or an Education, Health and Care Plan.

**Targeted Support** - This means that your child will be given support using resources already in the academy. This may include working in a small group or one to one, having work set differently from their peers which is at a more appropriate level for them, this is called differentiation. If more help is needed your child will move to...

**Specialist Support** - At this level, our academy will request advice from an outside agency such as a Speech and Language Therapist, Educational Psychologist or Advisory Teacher who will help set targets and advise staff. If your child is still having extreme difficulty, it may be necessary to request an Education, Health and Care Plan.

**Education, Health and Care Plan** - Having an EHC Plan means that the Local Education Authority becomes involved in your child's education and this may result in a greater amount of support.

## Can I come in and talk?

Yes, your support and encouragement is vital. If at any time you have queries or would like further explanation please contact the academy to make an appointment with your child's class teacher, SEND Co-ordinator or the Principal.

Your contribution will be greatly appreciated at the Target Grid Review and of value to your child's progress.

There are other agencies who can give support to parents outside of the academy. These are:

Derby SEND Information, Advice and Support Service 01332 641414  
sendiass@derby.gov.uk

Umbrella 01332 625658



## **ACADEMY MEALS**



Most parents decide to allow their children to stay at the academy for lunch.

We operate our own academy meals service, employing the staff directly, ordering good quality food and cooking it freshly on the academy premises.

Academy meals meet current Government guidelines. We operate a cafeteria system of dining, each year group going into the hall in turn, and there is always a choice of meal, including vegetarian each day. There is also a fresh salad bar. The current price of an academy meal is £2.40 per day, including a dessert and a drink, which we feel is excellent value.

Please pay for your child's meals on Parent Pay, our online payment system. You do not need to "sign up" for academy meals – your child can have one occasionally, or just one or two days a week if that suits you. No notice needs to be given.

If debts are incurred, the academy budget must pay for them. This means that money which should be spent on the children's education has to be used to pay for debts incurred by parents. The academy budget cannot support this debt.

Children will not be provided with an academy dinner unless it is paid for, or unless they are entitled to free school meals. Children in families receiving income support benefit are entitled to free meals. Please apply if you think you may be eligible, as this can affect our funding within academy. Forms are available from the academy office.

## **Sandwiches**

We also allow children to bring packed lunches to the academy for their mid-day meal if parents so wish. We ask that only box drinks or plastic bottles should be part of the packed lunch because of supervision and storage problems. A drink of water is provided for every child who has a packed lunch and does not bring a drink.

We also encourage parents and carers to make their children's lunchboxes as healthy as possible. In particular, we ask that you do not include sweets or chocolate. For advice about healthy packed lunches, you can go to <http://www.healthylunch.org.uk/government/>.

## **Breaktime snack**

We have a healthy eating policy at our academy and we are a nut free school. The children may bring their own mid-morning snack of fruit, or vegetables. **Sweets, crisps, biscuits and chocolate are not permitted**. We no longer run a tuck shop.

## THE CURRICULUM

We aim to provide an excellent education for our children, which develops the highest possible standards. We have an ACE curriculum which has been developed by the academy. Everything children do in our academy is part of this curriculum. The total learning experience is designed to maximise achievement within the National Curriculum and develop skills, attitudes and attainment in the widest sense.

At Cavendish there is a common goal that every member of the academy community can succeed. Staff members have high expectations and senior leaders are aspirational for both the children and staff. Opportunities to increase cultural capital are planned, so that learning will go beyond the minimum requirements of the National Curriculum. It is expected that through effective teaching and learning children will experience both academic and social success.

The ACE (Aspiration, Collaboration, Experience) curriculum aims to equip pupils with the necessary knowledge, skills and concepts to achieve in the next stage of education and in later life. So that children make optimum progress, we expect well planned and sequenced learning enabling pupils to know more and remember more of what they have learned.

### English - Reading and Writing

(Reading cabin)



(Library)



Communication and rich language development is an essential part of our learning for all pupils.

Through our 4 weekly Reciprocal Reading sessions, 'reading for pleasure and purpose' activities and well-matched reading books at home, we put reading at the heart of our ACE curriculum.

We use a range of fiction, non – fiction and poetry texts, which are well mapped across each year group and allow for progression from year to year. These texts are often cross curricular, linking to one of our topic or science areas.

In writing sessions, we write for a range of audiences and purposes, always starting each three-week unit with a speaking and listening hook. Children have many opportunities to write independently and edit and improve their own work. Key vocabulary and oracy is a key focus across the whole curriculum.

Parents are asked to play an active part in this by sharing and discussing texts at home at least three times per week and encouraging children to complete Accelerated Reader quizzes.

## **Mathematics**

We use 'Maths - No Problem' Singapore style books to plan and teach our maths lessons. These are based on a maths mastery approach to teaching and learning. The only way to achieve mastery is to build upon a solid foundation of conceptual understanding and procedural fluency. To ensure a good level of understanding, it is necessary to move through the curriculum at a different pace to previous years. Children will spend much longer on certain areas to fully embed the concept before moving on rather than how they were historically taught by spending approximately 1 - 2 weeks on each area, each term. We explicitly teach each topic once throughout the year but these areas of maths are met continuously through our representations and lead in stories in other maths lessons. Therefore nothing is truly taught in isolation.

## **Science**

Science lessons provide a great opportunity for the children to find out more about the world around them and how it works. Their knowledge and understanding will be developed in three main areas: 'living things', 'materials' and physical processes'. They will be encouraged to observe, to question and to discover through experiment and investigation – designing fair tests and recording/interpreting results with increasing independence. Science lessons will also enhance skills developed in other curriculum areas – particularly English and Maths. Primarily science is a 'hands on', practical subject and your children will learn by 'doing'.

## **Design Technology**

At Cavendish Close Junior Academy our Design and Technology aims to develop in all children their designing and making skills, to extend their knowledge and understanding of processes and materials; to provide children with activities which interest them, set suitable learning challenges which will provide them with a sense of success; to utilise creativity and innovation through designing, modifying and making and to explore values and attitudes towards the 'made world'.

## **History**

Children at Cavendish Close Junior Academy study at least two history units per year group, learning about different aspects of local, British and world-wide history. They discuss and enquire as to why things happened or change and are encouraged to carry out independent research using various information sources. A range of visits to local historical places of interest supplement this.



## Geography

Children at Cavendish Close Junior Academy are helped to make sense of their immediate environment and of the wider world. The aim of our academy is to offer children opportunities to study a variety of places, a range of physical processes and the effects of people on the environment and the environment on the people. Children are made aware of environmental issues such as recycling and energy saving, all necessary to protect the world's natural resources for the future. This helps them realise how people rely on each other. It can inspire them to think about their own place in their world, their values and their rights and responsibilities to other people and the environment. As such it prepares children for adult life and future employment.

## Art



Art offers means by which children can express themselves and learning can be recorded in a variety of ways – painting, drawing, construction, sewing, weaving, modelling etc. We aim to teach the children skills and to encourage their creativity and enjoyment. They will learn about the work of a range of artists and create their own work supported by this knowledge.

## Music

Music is included in the National Curriculum as a foundation subject and all children follow the statutory requirements. Teaching ensures that listening, as well as applying knowledge and understanding, is developed through the interrelated skills of performing, composing and appraising. We have a close relationship with the Derbyshire Music Partnership who support us in performances with different year groups. Most recently, year 5 have performed Carmen and year 3 children have performed singing based on 'The Carnival of the Animals'.

For those children who want to take their music further, instrumental tutors visit the academy. The costs of these lessons and the hire of the instruments are paid for by parents. The academy also accesses the Wider Opportunities programme to offer free instrumental teaching to whole classes when funding is available.

All children in Year 4 learn to play a brass instrument throughout the year.

## Physical Education

PE, games, dance, gym and swimming play an important part in the children's development. Social as well as physical skills are learned. PE kit is described in the section on Academy Uniform. Swimming lessons take place for everyone before they leave the academy.

## **Computing and iPads**

Cavendish Close Junior Academy is committed to the use technology to enhance learning. All children have their own iPad, which they use both in school and at home, following our bespoke iPad induction sessions. The computing curriculum teaches pupils how to, amongst other things, design, write and debug simple programs that accomplish specific goals, understand computer networks including the internet, and to use technology safely, respectfully and responsibly.

## **Modern Foreign Languages (MFL)**

Pupils are taught French from Year 3 through to Year 6 and they also have the opportunity to make comparisons between other foreign languages, discovering some of the many similarities as well as differences.

Learning French not only teaches the children a valuable skill in itself, but it also provides other benefits, giving them an enjoyable way to improve their listening ability; practising skills that can later be applied to the learning of any other language; and opening up their horizons and increasing their awareness of different cultures.

## **Relationships and Health Education**

The aims of Relationships and Health Education (RHE) at Cavendish Close Junior Academy are to:

- Provide a framework in which sensitive discussions can take place where staff will answer any questions sensitively and appropriately to the pupil's age and context.
- Prepare pupils for puberty and give them an age-appropriate understanding of positive relationships and the importance of health and hygiene.
- Support all our pupils to be safe, healthy and happy as set out in The Harmony Pledge. Provide the skills and knowledge that our pupils need to keep themselves safe, both in the 'real world' and online.
- Assist pupils develop feelings of self-respect, confidence and empathy through a culture where we equip our pupils for their adult life and prepare them to make a positive contribution to society.
- Create a positive culture around issues of relationships where pupils recognise families can take various forms.
- Teach pupils the correct vocabulary to describe themselves and their bodies.
- Ensure pupils can develop their own well-being and high self-esteem

## **Religious Education**

Religious Education plays an important part in the children's spiritual and moral development. Christianity is the main religion covered in our academy. The children visit local places of worship including Derby Cathedral. A group of members of St Mary's Church visit to take regular assemblies.

We also study Hinduism, Sikhism, Judaism and Islam where we reflect and study the richness of cultural differences in British Society. Parents are entitled to exclude their child from RE or the act of worship at the academy. If they wish to do so they should talk to the Principal.



## **Drama**

Drama is an active way of learning and feeds into many areas of the Key Stage 2 curriculum. It works on intellectual, aesthetic and emotional levels to provide a powerful and effective way of learning, as well as being an art form in its own right. The ultimate purpose of drama in education is to open children's minds, stimulate their imaginations and language abilities and spark their enthusiasm for continued personal development and discovery.

## **Educational Trips (including residential)**

We run a range of trips which support our work in the wider curriculum. Children in Years 4, 5 and 6 also have the opportunity to take part in an outdoor and adventurous residential visit. All trips are carefully planned and well-supervised, with risk assessments completed before departure. We try to keep costs to a minimum, and trips are subsidised where possible, but we do ask for a voluntary contribution. Please note that due to health and safety reasons, your child will not be allowed to go on academy trips if his/her behaviour causes concern.



## **ASSESSMENT**

The children are assessed regularly by their teachers to provide information on their next steps in learning. This is done in several different ways including: quizzes, short tests, observations, marking work and discussions with the children. Teachers provide regular feedback to the children both verbally and in their books. Children also take termly assessments so that we can accurately judge current attainment for their year group. This information is shared with you through parents' evenings and reports.

Year 6 pupils will take the Key Stage 2 SAT papers towards the end of their time at Cavendish Close Junior Academy. These are externally set and marked. They will test their skills in mathematics, reading and spelling and grammar. The children will also have their writing assessed by their class teacher.

## **HOW YOU CAN HELP YOUR CHILD DO WELL**

Children's lives are enriched in families that "do things together". The best way you can help (and the most rewarding) is to show an interest in what your child does at our academy, what they achieve and what they find difficult.

You can help your child by:

- ❖ Listening to them when they get home from our academy.
- ❖ Reading to them and listening to them read to you.
- ❖ Encouraging them to join in activities and clubs in and out of the academy (like Brownies, Cubs, and Sports etc.).
- ❖ Joining in with some of the family events at the academy, shows how much you value our academy.

## **Homework**



After a hard day's work, junior age children should spend their time in the evening being with friends and family, and perhaps taking part in one of the many activities organised for young people beyond academy life e.g. Brownies, Cubs, Sport, Music and Dance Clubs etc. However, we do set a certain amount of homework, according to your child's year group, and they will be encouraged to take their reading books home daily. You can help your child make good progress by getting involved.

We encourage the children to practise the skills that they have learnt in school and have several online platforms to support the children with their homework. The children will be able to access Times Tables Rockstars and Sum Dog to support their knowledge of number. They use Spelling Shed to reinforce spelling patterns. They will also be set work on Purple Mash which will support their writing and wider curriculum knowledge. As an academy, we encourage the children to read as much as possible at home and would ideally like this to be a minimum of 3 times a week. Children can take a quiz on their reading book on Accelerated Reader and can expand their book choices by using the online books on Myon.

## GDPR

The Harmony Trust is committed to protecting and managing the data we hold. We manage our data in line with the law – in particular, the General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR) which came into effect throughout Europe on the 25<sup>th</sup> May 2018. You can find out more about how we are responding to this change in the law by reading our simple guide which you can download at the bottom of this page.

One of the requirements is that we appoint a Data Protection Officer (DPO). Their role is to help the academy meet the demands of the legislation by reviewing our procedures and policies. They will also answer any questions you may have or help you make a relevant enquiry to the academy. Our academy has contracted the role of the DPO out to an external company. We have done this to ensure that we are fully compliant and that any advice or guidance we receive from them is independent. You can contact our DPO in the following ways:

**Name :** Illuminate Learning Ltd

**E-mail :** [gdpr@illuminatelearning.org](mailto:gdpr@illuminatelearning.org)

**Telephone :** 01704 320507

As an academy, we are required to have a formally approved policy (Data Protection Policy) which outlines how we manage all the data we hold. This can be read on our website.

The GDPR establishes certain rights in relation to those whose data we hold. As a trust, these rights are applicable to those holding parental responsibility of any child who attends here. Two of the main rights are the right to (a) request a review of any data we hold on your child and (b) the right to have any incorrect data put 'right'. If you would like to request either of these, please download the relevant form below OR collect one from the academy office. Once completed, you can either hand it back into the academy office or send it directly to Illuminate Learning Ltd. The DPO can offer help and guidance on these requests.

## COMPLAINTS PROCEDURE

Throughout this booklet you will have read that the academy aims to work with parents to best benefit each child. Should any parents feel unhappy about any aspect of their child's life at our academy, they should first talk to their child's class teacher or year group leader. Time will always be found as soon as possible to deal with any problems at the academy.

Having done so, parents may still wish to contact The Harmony Trust. However, we would hope that most problems at the academy can be resolved through discussion and openness.

