

# **Welcome to Weetwood Primary School**



**Respecting each other**

**Striving to be our best**

**Learning in a happy school**



# Welcome to Weetwood Primary School

We hope that this prospectus will give you a flavour of the rich and varied life at our school.

There are many important aspects to Weetwood Primary School. Amongst those that we value most are the positive, family atmosphere and the emphasis placed on mutual respect. We are also proud of the staff and pupils, who are friendly and welcoming.

It is important to us that every child enjoys school and feels a sense of belonging. We are proud of our inclusive ethos, in which all contributions to the school community are valued and pupils are given the opportunity to achieve their best.

By providing a broad curriculum, we are able to develop each child's interests and horizons, and recognise individual talents. We aim to educate the whole child, reinforcing positive social, cultural and moral values in our assemblies and through the curriculum. Pupils are given the opportunity to contribute through the School Council and regular class circle times, and to celebrate their success at our "Wizards and Superstars" assemblies.

For most children, starting school will bring them into contact with their peers in greater numbers and for longer periods than they have previously experienced. They will be away from parents and carers for more time than ever before and will experience a range of different activities and situations. To ensure that this transition period runs smoothly, we endeavour to provide a secure and exciting environment in which your child will quickly learn to co-operate and respond positively to others.

Choosing your child's school is an important decision and we welcome the opportunity to meet parents and carers of prospective pupils. If there are any points, which need further discussion, then we will be only too happy to discuss them with you.

Please contact us to arrange a convenient time to look round and talk to staff. Phone number: 0113 3230450  
Email [bursar@weetwoodprimary.co.uk](mailto:bursar@weetwoodprimary.co.uk)

Edward Langham  
Chair of Governors

Anna Ellison  
Headteacher

## School Mission Statement and Aims

*Respecting each other,  
striving to be our Learning  
in a happy school.*

We feel it is our task to identify the needs of pupils and help them to:

- ❖ **Develop values** and attitudes such as self-respect, curiosity, open-mindedness, justice and fairness;
- ❖ **Develop skills** for intellectual, physical, emotional and social learning;
- ❖ **Acquire knowledge** in a way that encourages concept formation, independent learning and self-assessment;
- ❖ **Be properly equipped** with the skills they will need to have control over their own lives and environment, and to be able to take a positive role in the community;
- ❖ **Acquire the skills and knowledge** necessary for now and for their future family, community and work roles;
- ❖ **Begin to understand** the complex world in which they live;
- ❖ **Become aware** of their environment, locally, nationally and globally, of its ecological importance and the influences of human beings upon it;
- ❖ **Appreciate, and develop the confidence** to contribute to human achievements;
- ❖ **Value and have confidence in themselves**, to care for others and recognise our human interdependence as individuals, groups and nations;
- ❖ **Learn important social skills** through interaction with others, thus enabling them to take responsibility for their own actions and become aware that these have an effect on the wider environment.

## Inclusion

Weetwood aims to be an inclusive school, valuing the contribution made by each of its members to school life and placing importance on the welfare of individuals. We strive to ensure that everyone in our school is treated with respect and dignity and that diversity is celebrated. Each person in our school will be given fair and equal opportunities to develop their full potential, regardless of ethnicity, cultural and religious background, gender, sexuality, physical or learning ability. The school is fully committed to tackling discrimination, actively promoting race equality and fostering positive attitudes and commitment to an education for equality. If you would like to know more, the following policies are available on the website ([www.weetwoodschool.co.uk](http://www.weetwoodschool.co.uk)):

Single Equality Scheme  
Equality and Diversity Policy  
Race Equality Policy and Race Equality Action Plan  
Racial Harassment Policy  
Community Cohesion Policy  
Disability Equality Scheme and Disability Equality Scheme Action Plan  
Policy for Pupils with Special Educational Needs  
Behaviour Policy  
Online Safety Policy  
Anti-Bullying Policy  
Induction of Bi-lingual Children and Children with English as an Additional Language Policy  
Policy for Gifted and Talented Children  
Gender Equality Scheme / Gender Equality Plan  
Assembly and Collective Worship/ Reflection Policy  
Parent/Carer Partnership Policy

Parents / carers are welcome to discuss any aspects of the above with the Head Teacher.

## **Promoting Race Equality and Community Cohesion**

Weetwood School is committed to ensuring that the culture and ethos of the school are such that everyone in the school community, whatever their heritage or origins, is equally valued and treated with respect.

Our commitment to race equality and promotion of community cohesion will be demonstrated through:

- Fostering respect for and understanding of all groups and individuals, irrespective of ethnicity, cultural or religious background, gender, sexuality, physical or learning ability.
- Promoting positive non-discriminatory behaviour in a safe, anti-racist and anti-bullying culture in which stereotyping and prejudice are challenged and where adults provide good role models.
- Dealing with any incidents or discriminatory behaviour sensitively and effectively.
- Ensuring that every child and school member is valued and appropriately supported to fulfil their potential in every area of school life.
- Ensuring we provide all pupils with opportunities to experience, understand and celebrate diversity.
- Working in partnership with parents and carers and the wider community, actively promoting positive relationships and learning.
- Promoting a sense of community belonging, global awareness and responsibility.

We aim to prepare all children for life in a culturally diverse society. Our pupil charter, written by the children themselves is as follows:

- I will treat others in a way I would like to be treated.
- I will value people's differences and get to know the person inside.
- I will not join in if I see discrimination; instead I will stand up for those who need my help.

## **The School Rules**

### **The Weetwood promise**

I promise to:

Be Ready, Be Safe, Be Respectful.

Our School Values spell out the word PRIDE:

Positivity  
Respect  
Inclusivity  
Determination  
Excellence.

We take PRIDE in all we do.

The values underpin all aspects of learning and are woven in to the curriculum.

## **Parent / Carer Partnership and Open-Door Policy**

We believe that the success of our school depends on children, teachers and parents/carers working together and we operate an “open door” policy. We like to keep our parents/carers regularly informed of all aspects of school life so that they can play their part in supporting their child’s education. The school is committed to regularly reviewing, and improving still further, its communication with parents/carers.

All staff are keen to listen and help, and any concerns will be addressed promptly, confidentially and helpfully. In the first instance please have a word with your child’s class teacher. In accordance with DFES guidelines the school has an official complaints policy, which is available from the school office on request.

In addition, and in conformity with the Freedom of Information Act, much of the paperwork that is necessary to run the school is made available on the school website.

The following are some of the regular ways in which we try to foster and develop the home-school partnership:

### **Communication and Information**

Information about events in school will be sent out regularly in the School Newsletter, either via email or using class dojo. Last minute messages may be sent by the messaging system on Class Dojo. Some school information is available in different languages – if you would like to receive this or would like help with any information sent home, please ask at the office. We also use an App called Class Dojo to communicate to parents. Class Dojo allows staff to send whole school / class messages but also has the facility to message your child’s class teacher directly.

School policies, which outline the school’s aims and objectives in curriculum subjects and other areas such as child protection and sustainability, can be found on the school website, as can a range of other information including minutes of School Association meetings.

Information sessions, such as Residential and Sex and Relationship Education briefing meetings, will be held as required.

### **School Website – [www.weetwoodschool.co.uk](http://www.weetwoodschool.co.uk)**

Weetwood’s website is a regularly updated source of information about the school. The school prospectus (which includes systems and procedures within school), school policies, action plans, consultation documents and reports can all be found here.

### **Regular informal contact with parents**

The school welcomes contact with parents/carers and staff are pleased to share information or concerns informally. Staff will inform parents/carers of any concerns they have at the time they arise, any time during the school year, and parents/carers are invited to let staff know of any aspect of the child’s life that may be relevant for them in school.

Class teachers are available in the morning for a quick verbal message. Alternatively, written messages can be sent with the child, and comments about reading made in their Reading Record.

If a longer meeting is required, however, parents/carers and teachers can arrange a mutually convenient time by phoning school on 0113 3230450 or emailing the school office – [bursar@weetwoodprimary.co.uk](mailto:bursar@weetwoodprimary.co.uk)

### **Assembly**

Parents/carers are warmly invited to our ‘Superstars and Wizards’ Celebration assembly every Friday morning at 9am, to share in the successes of our children, and to other special assemblies from time to time. Entrance is via the After School Club gate which is the second gate along on Hollin Mount.

### **Parents’ Evening**

Parents/carers are invited to attend two Parents’ Evenings during the course of the academic year, as well as information evenings relevant to particular year groups.

### **Supporting Learning and Becoming Involved in School Life**

Weetwood hopes that every member of the school community feels welcomed, respected and valued at school and enjoys taking part in school life. We also aim to make sure that the school and its facilities can benefit and be used by everyone equally. There are many ways in which parents/carers and other community members can support their child's learning and development and contribute to the richness of the school, both in and out of school hours. Some examples are:

#### **The PTA**

The PTA is very active and contributes in many ways, organising fundraising and social events and participating in other activities run by the school. The PTA comprises all adults linked to the school, including all staff, parents and carers, and forges strong links between parents/carers and staff. When your child attends the school, you automatically become a member of the PTA. This means that you are welcome to come to meetings and have a say in what the PTA does. Parents/carers can volunteer to help with organising or helping out at events, supporting new parents (e.g. those with English as an additional language), selling second hand uniform, or offering a particular skill, resource or contact.

#### **Helping in School**

Parents / carers are always welcome in school to help and support staff and pupils. If you have professional skills/talents, or just some time to spare, and want to help in school please let us know what you can offer / when / how often etc. The office staff will be happy to take details and pass on the information to relevant staff. Parents / carers can support in a wide variety of ways such as helping with practical activities (e.g: arts and crafts, cooking, sewing), helping with administrative tasks, reading or number work, accompanying school visits, assisting with school clubs, talking to the children about specialist topics, delivering workshops, sharing an aspect of your community or culture with others in school, helping school make links with local community groups and businesses to enhance the curriculum, or accessing expertise to support school development. School is also very grateful for your views on a range of school issues, policies and practices, which help to shape school development and priorities, and we encourage all parents and carers to consider becoming a governor. We welcome people from all backgrounds to ensure that Weetwood's Governing Body is truly representative of the school community and offer support as required.

#### **Admission to school**

Children are normally admitted to the Reception class in September if their 5<sup>th</sup> birthday is in the school year between the 1<sup>st</sup> September and the 31<sup>st</sup> August of the following year. Legally, children must be in full-time education from the start of the term following their 5<sup>th</sup> birthday. For children due to start Reception, Leeds City Council sends application forms directly to parents in the October preceding the school year in which they are 5. Parents record their preferences and places are allocated in accordance with the Leeds City Council's admissions policy. In the spring term parents are notified of the school to which their child has been allocated. Parents have the right to appeal to Pupil Admissions if they are unhappy with the place allocated.

#### **The School Day**

School starts at 8.55 a.m. The bell is rung outside school at 8.50 a.m. The children should start to line up when they hear this bell if they are not already lined up. The staff come out at 8.45 a.m. to collect the children and take them inside. This is an opportunity to have a very quick word with the class teacher. It usually takes about 5 minutes for the children to be led inside the school. At 8.55 a.m. the door is closed. If the children arrive after this time they will have to use the front entrance to get into school and will receive a present late mark (showing they were late but present during registration). If the children arrive at school after 9.30 a.m. they are given an absent late mark (showing they were late, and did not arrive until after registration closed). There is usually a lovely atmosphere in the playground between 8.45 a.m. and 8.55 a.m. with children and adults chatting and socialising. This is a lovely relaxed way to start the day for everybody. We will work with parents of Reception children to help them settle at the start of the day. There is a mid-morning break at 10.30 a.m. and lunchtime for Reception is 11.30 to 12.30pm and for the rest of the school is 12.00 to 1.00pm. There is a short mid-afternoon break for the younger children in Year 1 and 2 and school finishes at 3.15pm.

The class teachers greet their class on the playground and shepherd them out of school at the end of the day. This provides informal opportunities for you to talk to your child's teacher, exchange information and raise any query or concern you may have. Assemblies takes place on a Tuesday and Friday. Assemblies are planned around a theme and include stories from different faiths or with a moral content. We sing a song or inspirational song and often reflect on what we have learnt.

Friday's assembly, "The Superstars and Wizards", is a celebration of good work and behaviours. It takes place at 9am and parents/carers are welcome to attend.

### What if my child is away?

If your child is ill, please inform us on the first morning of their absence from school by telephoning the school office on 3230450 and leaving a message on the absence line. This enables us to comply with attendance and registration requirements. If your child continues to be absent from school due to illness you need to still report this each day of the absence by leaving a message on the absence line.

It is very helpful if class teachers are notified in writing of medical and dental appointments in advance by emailing Mrs Haworth on [rhaworth@weetwoodprimary.co.uk](mailto:rhaworth@weetwoodprimary.co.uk). Requests for permission to take your child out of school for reasons other than medical / dental should be made to the Head teacher at least two weeks in advance. We do strongly advise, however, that such absences during term time should be avoided wherever possible, owing to the detrimental affect they may have on your child's education. Such absences will only be authorised when there are exceptional reasons that the absence cannot take place during a school holiday.

### School Meals

Catering at school is provided by Catering Leeds. They have an online ordering system through SchoolGrid and more information about this would be provided if you were to start at the school. The current menu is available on the website [www.weetwoodschool.co.uk](http://www.weetwoodschool.co.uk).

We encourage parents/carers to help their children make choices by talking through the menu with them.

### Universal Free School Meals

All children in Reception, Year 1 and Year 2 will be entitled to free school meals. Children are able to concentrate and learn better when they have eaten a healthy, balanced lunch. Our school menus have been designed and developed by a qualified food technologist to provide nutritionally balanced, delicious and healthy choices for your child and wherever possible use locally grown seasonal fruit and vegetables and our fresh meat is sourced from carefully selected suppliers. All medical and religious diets can be catered for.

At Weetwood we serve 4 meal choices each day, which includes a vegetarian dish, a halal dish and a jacket potato or sandwich option. Each meal includes a main course, vegetables and salad, pudding of the day or fruit or yoghurt and chilled water.

#### Cost of school meals:

Pre-School	£2.75 per day/£13.75 per week
Year R, 1 & 2	Universal Free School Meals
Years 3 – 6	£2.95 per day/£14.75 per week

Payment for school meals should be made in advance on SchoolGrid or they offer a direct debit scheme which means you only pay for the school meals taken.

Children may bring a packed lunch and a drink in a clearly named lunch box. Do not send fizzy drinks, cans or glass bottles to school and please bear in mind that we are a **nut-free** school. Please consider packaging when preparing packed lunches. We try to recycle as much of our waste as possible. The nutritional content of the food prepared for packed lunches is a cause for concern nationally. The national quality of packed lunches is currently below recommended standards. We urge you to follow the guidelines below.

#### It is recommended that packed lunches should include:

- at least one portion of fruit and one portion of vegetables every day.
- meat, fish or other source of non-dairy protein (e.g. lentils, kidney beans, chickpeas, hummus and falafel) every day
- oily fish, such as salmon, at least once every three weeks.
- a starchy food such as any type of bread, pasta, rice, couscous, noodles, potatoes or other type of cereals every day.
- dairy food such as milk, cheese, yoghurt, fromage frais or custard everyday
- only water, still or sparkling, fruit juice, semi-skimmed or skimmed milk, yoghurt or milk drinks and smoothies. (School provides water for drinking at lunchtime)

It is recommended that packed lunches should not include:

- snacks such as crisps. Instead, include seeds, vegetables and fruit (with no added salt, sugar or fat). Savoury crackers or breadsticks served with fruit, vegetables or dairy food are also a good choice.
- confectionery such as chocolate bars, chocolate-coated biscuits and sweets. Cakes and biscuits are allowed but encourage your child to eat these only as part of a balanced meal.
- Meat products such as sausage rolls, individual pies, corned meat and sausages / chipolatas should be included only occasionally.

The SchoolGrid system allows you to also have a combination of school meals and packed lunches but please ensure you order a school meal for the days you need them.

### **Milk**

Parents/carers can order milk for break times through Cool Milk. Children in Reception are eligible for free milk in the weeks they remain 4 years of age. You will have to start paying for milk in the week during which your child turns 5. Further details of this will be provided if you secure a place at our school.

### **Uniform and Clothing**

The Governors have endorsed the following dress code after consultation with pupils, parents and teachers:

School colours are red and grey. We expect all the children to take pride in their appearance and wear the school uniform, thus helping to preserve and foster the Weetwood identity.

Uniform items are:

<b>Tops</b>	red cardigan/jumper/sweatshirt white polo shirt
<b>Trousers/Shorts</b>	Grey trousers or shorts
<b>Dresses</b>	red check/stripe dress, red check playsuit (summer)
<b>Skirts/Pinafore</b>	grey skirt or pinafore
<b>Shoes/Trainers</b>	Sensible black full shoes or trainers

The following PE kit is essential and the children will come to school on their PE day wearing it:

Trainers

Black shorts/joggers/leggings

Red T-shirt

Red Fleece

It is important that all children's clothes and footwear are clearly **named**, as a large number of lost property items are accumulated each week which cannot be returned to their owners. Good quality second hand uniform is available via our Uniform Exchange on Facebook and parents/carers are encouraged to consider this provision as a sustainable alternative to new clothing whenever possible. The School can also supply new sweatshirts, fleece jackets and polo shirts in the school colours, with or without the school logo, as well as other items such as skirts, shorts and trousers. Children are allowed to wear watches but the school cannot, however, be responsible for them. Children are discouraged from wearing jewellery apart from simple studs worn by those whose ears have been pierced.

### **Please claim your child's LOST PROPERTY**

We put out lost property in the storage unit next to the School Office. You are welcome to check through the boxes, before or after school, to collect your child's lost clothes. We will sell, give to Oxfam or throw away ALL lost property remaining at the end of each half term. To help prevent your child losing their clothes, please mark their name on all clothing, shoes, etc. We aim to return clearly named clothes to the children.



### **Travel to school**

As part of its commitment to health and sustainability, Weetwood encourages its staff, children, parents and carers to travel to school in a healthy, safe and sustainable way. To support this, the Road Safety Promotion Unit undertakes Pedestrian and cycle safety training throughout school, and liaison with road traffic police and the local authority regarding safety measures to local roads is on-going. The following are also available:

#### **Park and Stride**

Carers who drive from outside the area or who need their car for an onward journey are strongly encouraged to 'park and stride'. Please respect a 'five-minute walk zone' around school, to avoid congestion and ensure that pedestrians, cyclists and those using scooters, particularly children, enjoy the increased safety afforded by good visibility.

Alternatively, car-travelling children sometimes park further away to join the walking bus or more local friends for the last leg of their journey, so that they, too, may enjoy the health and social benefits of walking.

#### **Disabled parking**

Parking for disabled carers or children is available in the staff car park.

#### **Cycling**

Children and carers are welcome to travel to school by bike, and covered sheds are available for bikes and scooters. Bikes and scooters should be secured with a lock for security purposes.

#### **Buses**

Weetwood School is well served by buses. The no.28 bus runs every 20 minutes along Weetwood Lane and several buses may be caught on the Otley Road, just a short walk from school.

### **Weetwood Out of School Club**

Weetwood Out of School Club is open each weekday 7.30 a.m. to 9.00 a.m. and 3.15 p.m. until 6.00 p.m. during term time apart from Fridays when it closes at 5.00 p.m. The club also runs playschemes during the school holidays from 8.00 a.m. until 6.00 p.m. Playscheme is open to children who are not pupils of Weetwood Primary School. All children have access to the halls, Art Room, Library and a secure enclosed outdoor play area. The club caters for children up to the age of 11. Children attend for a variety of sessions including "ad hoc" sessions. The club meets the needs of children with a variety of Special Needs.

#### **How much does using the Weetwood Out of School Club cost? (Current prices subject to change)**

Breakfast Club	7.30 a.m. – 9.00 a.m.	£6 + £10 annual registration (Adhoc sessions are £6.75)
After School Club	3.15 p.m. – 6.00 p.m. (5.00pm on a Friday)	£12.00 Monday to Thursday and £10.00 Friday + £10 annual registration (Adhoc sessions are £13.00 or £11.00)
Holiday Club	All Half Terms, Easter, Summer except for last two weeks in August. No club during Christmas holiday.	£37.50 per day for Reception to Year 6 and £42.50 for Nursery children. Additional charge for visits to cover costs.

### **Special Educational Needs**

Class teachers monitor children's progress continuously using formal and informal assessments. The school also uses some standardised tests. Where there is any concern about a child's progress or development it will be discussed with parents / carers at the earliest opportunity. The Special Educational Needs Co-ordinator will be involved and, when appropriate, the child's name will be entered on the Special Needs Register. Parents / carers will be informed and consulted at every stage of this process. In some cases, it may be necessary to seek help from outside agencies – e.g. the Learning Support Service or an Educational Psychologist. Our aim is always to meet the needs of each individual pupil within the resources available to us. Weetwood is well resourced for the needs of pupils with physical disabilities. Further details regarding accessibility and facilities are available on request.

### **Medicines**

From time to time children need to receive prescribed medication in school. Parents/carers may come in to administer this. If the medication is to be administered by the school, parents/carers must complete an authorisation form available from the school office. (School will only administer medicine required 4 times a day.) To avoid any problems, medicines need to be clearly labelled with the name of the medication, the child's name, the dosage and the timing of dosage. Medicines brought into school must be deposited in the school office.

Many children in school are asthmatic and need inhalers. Children who use them need **a named inhaler** in school at all times (Doctors will prescribe these). Again, inhalers can only be kept in school when parents/carers have filled in the appropriate form from the school office.

First Aid will be given to any child who needs it. In the event of any serious incident parents/carers will be informed immediately. Please inform us (by telephone or in person) if your child is to attend a doctor/dentist/hospital appointment.

### **School Council**

School Council comprises staff and pupils and provides opportunities for children to voice their ideas and opinions, and to contribute to school development. Two representatives from each class from Year 1 upwards are elected to the School Council each half term and they attend governor meetings termly to share their views.

### **Promoting Health and Sustainability**

Weetwood believes that a healthy physical and social environment is most conducive to learning and that healthier children will be happier and get more out of school. We also believe that education plays an important role in promoting better health and emotional well-being, both now and in later life.

In July 2008, Weetwood was awarded National Advanced Healthy School status. This reflects the many procedures which are now well embedded in our everyday practice with regards to the promotion of good health for both pupils and staff.

Since we adopted our Sustainable School Policy in 2009, all children and staff have worked together to make Weetwood more sustainable. We have worked on annual Action Plans for all these aspects: Food and Drink; Purchase and Waste; Energy and Water; Buildings and Grounds; Global Dimension; Local Wellbeing; Travel and Traffic; and Inclusion and Participation. We were the Lead Partner in 2011, mentoring other schools in North West Leeds to become more sustainable. Our self-evaluation of the level of our sustainability has risen from "Satisfactory" to "Good" in most areas.

At Weetwood Primary School we believe Fairtrade is important. The school takes part in regular events to promote this and Fairtrade is implemented into lessons where possible. The school is committed to using Fairtrade products when they are available.

### **School Grounds**

We are very proud of our school grounds, which have been transformed through the hard work of children, staff and parents.

We have:

- ❖ A large playing field
- ❖ Astro turfed climbing frame area and role play section
- ❖ Well-being garden
- ❖ Seating and plenty of shade
- ❖ Picnic benches
- ❖ A water fountain
- ❖ Flower and shrub borders and fruit trees
- ❖ Outside classroom
- ❖ A large pond and environmental area- due to be refurbished.
- ❖ A greenhouse

### **Organisation of the School and Curriculum**

Weetwood is a non-denominational community primary school with spacious modern facilities within the architecturally interesting Hollin Hall. It has an admission limit of 30 pupils, with one class in each year group. There is a pre-school offering 15/30 hours of free early year's education on a partially flexible basis. There is also the option to pay for further sessions.

School term and half-term dates are published separately for the start of each academic year. INSET days for teacher training are agreed by the Governing Body and advised to parents on an annual basis.

The National Curriculum is used as a framework for teaching, but we take great care to ensure breadth and balance, with every opportunity taken to enrich the curriculum through first-hand experience. For more information on our curriculum please visit the school website.

## Foundation Stage

In Weetwood Primary School's Foundation Stage, we aim to provide a happy, stimulating and exciting environment, rich in wonder and memorable experiences. We strive to develop and support children's wellbeing throughout all aspects of their school and home life, as we believe this underpins their educational journey.

The Preschool and Reception classes operate as the Foundation Stage unit. Leaders and practitioners create an environment that supports the intent of an ambitious and coherently planned and sequenced curriculum, following a play-based approach, which supports children in working towards their 'Early Learning Goals'. These goals are set out in the Early Years Foundation Stage Statutory Framework.

The curriculum is split up into seven sections, which we cover throughout the year:

- **Personal, Social and Emotional Development** which encourages children's understanding of and respect for themselves and others, their confidence in building relationships and managing their own feelings and behaviour.
- **Physical Development** which encourages children to develop gross and fine motor skills as well as developing their independence and confidence with managing their health and self-care needs.
- **Communication and Language** which develops their speaking, listening and understanding
- **Literacy** which develops their reading and comprehension skills.
- **Mathematics** which introduces them to numbers, counting, calculating, shape and pattern.
- **Understanding of the World** which introduces them to scientific, historical and geographical ideas.
- **Expressive Arts and Design** which focuses on their artistic, dramatic and musical skills.

The school follows the phonics scheme FFT Phonics and more information about this can be found on the school website <https://www.weetwoodschool.co.uk/phonics>

## Key Stage One and Key Stage Two

Key Stage One covers Year 1 and Year 2 and Key Stage Two covers Years 3, 4, 5 and 6. The children are taught the full breadth of the National Curriculum following a progression of skills. French is introduced when the children reach Year 3.

We have completely revised our curriculum to make it more personal to the Weetwood Community. This followed consultation with the children, staff, parents/carers, governors and other members of the community. The focus on cross-curricular links and making learning fun and relevant has been strengthened. The children will experience a range of whole class, group and individual teaching, primarily from their class teacher, although in some cases a support teacher will help deliver a particular section of the lesson. Further information about the curriculum can be found on the school website. <https://www.weetwoodschool.co.uk/our-curriculum>

The teaching of reading continues to be prioritised with children continuing their phonics journey on the FFT Phonics scheme.

### **Sports, Art and Music in School**

We are proud of the wide range of opportunities we provide for the children, both within the timetable and as extra-curricular activities. Children can further their interests at a variety of lunchtime and after-school clubs. Examples include Choir, Chromebook Club, Timetables Club, Drawing Club, Running Club, Football Training, Cooking Club and Multi-Sports Club.

The school is actively committed to developing the physical fitness and sporting skills of the children. During PE lessons children take part in gymnastics, dance, athletics and games activities. Games taught include hockey, netball, baseball and rugby. The children in Year 5 have swimming lessons. We are involved in the Activate scheme, which provides taster sessions for a variety of sports, led by experienced coaches. We also have close links with Leeds Beckett University, welcoming their PE teacher training students and tutors into school to provide additional support.

We are fortunate in having a large playing field within the grounds. An extensive programme of football coaching takes place throughout the year, both inside and outside of the school day.

We value and promote art through the curriculum and through extra-curricular activities e.g. the art clubs. The outdoor mural was produced by the children in partnership with a potter.

Music is a particular strength of the school. We have a number of very talented musicians at Weetwood and our End-of-Year Performance given by Year 6 pupils is always a musical production of a very high standard. Equally the concerts put on by children in Foundation Stage and Key Stage 1 at Christmas are evidence of the high-quality drama and music experiences provided by the school.

Children in Reception through to Year 6 can access Keyboard Lessons, Children in Years 1 to Year 6 can access Recorder lessons and children in Years 2 to Year 6 can access flute and clarinet lessons.

### **Information and Communication Technology**

ICT plays an important part in our children's education and pupils are actively encouraged to become confident in using computers to support and enhance their learning from an early age. We have Chromebooks which are available to all year groups and a networked PC in each classroom, the library and the staff workroom. Nursery, Reception, Y1 to Y6 have an iBoard in their classrooms. All teaching staff have their own laptops and are involved in continuous ICT professional development.

We have laptops for pupils to use in class. These are used particularly to support the needs of pupils with special needs and disabilities.

### **Religious Education**

Weetwood does not have any affiliation with a particular religion. The Religious Education that we provide is in line with the requirements of the Leeds Agreed Syllabus for RE and enables the children to learn about a variety of different faiths. As part of our scheme of work, our pupils have the opportunity to visit different places of worship in Leeds. Occasionally ministers of Religion are invited to lead an assembly in school.

### **Sex and Relationship Education**

Sex Education forms part of the Science and Personal Health and Social Education curriculum. Pupils are given factual information, approached sensitively, to enable them to understand and cope positively with the physical, emotional and social changes associated with growing up. Parents/carers are given the opportunity to watch the video used and to learn about our approach to the topic at an evening meeting. For more information on SRE please see our SRE policy on the school's website or speak to a member of staff.

### **Homework**

The amount of homework set is appropriate to age and your child will be sent home with a clear indication of what the homework is and when it is to be returned. Helping your child to learn to read is a big part of the homework in the Early Years and Key Stage One. From Year 1 upwards we offer a homework Menu with different activities you can complete at home.

