

# Gayton

## Junior School





## Our Curriculum

At Gayton we provide an engaging and creative curriculum that allows our children to develop the skills, vocabulary and knowledge required to succeed and to give them a secure foundation for their future years in education.

We have designed a 'Thematic' curriculum that is literature rich - linking the topic lessons with literacy units, helping to improve understanding and embed knowledge.

Our curriculum not only meets the National Curriculum requirements but also supports and nurtures the pupils and provides experiences that will help them to grow into confident, articulate, responsible citizens, giving them every opportunity to become the best that they can be.

### What OFSTED said

"Pupils have many opportunities to develop their knowledge and understanding of other subjects."

OFSTED 2017

"Every child is special, together learning is fun."

Year 5 pupil

"There are lots of great things at Gayton, like some of the best teachers in Derby."

Year 5 pupil

# Welcome

At Gayton, we work hard to maintain a family ethos where everyone is welcome, encouraged and supported to be the very best they can be. We believe that we offer all our children a safe and secure environment in which they can learn and reach their potential. Our staff are very well-trained to deliver an exciting curriculum to spark a love of learning that will last a lifetime. We pride ourselves in the care and support that we offer both our children and their families while they are with us. By working together to achieve academic, social and personal goals, our children receive an education that supports the development of the whole child and not just their academic achievement. We value parents, families and the community as vital partners in helping us to provide the best education possible.

In September 2020, we federated with Ridgeway Infant School, as the Blagreaves Federation. This partnership will enable both schools to ensure that early skills taught at Ridgeway are built on at Gayton, allowing children to make the best possible progress across the curriculum.

Please read through our brochure to find out more about us. Then, if you have any questions or would like to visit us to see us in action, please contact us.

We look forward to welcoming you to our school.

**Mrs Jane Hill - Headteacher**

## Learning 2 Learn

Our Learning2Learn lessons enable our children to learn more independently and encourages them to be reflective about how they learn best or could learn better next time, by focusing on skills such as ordering, remembering, presenting, thinking, evaluating and decision making. This type of learning is a key feature of our foundation curriculum and helps the children to learn how to co-operate well with their classmates. Learning2Learn sits well alongside our Talk4Learning work, encouraging our children to develop their communication skills and become more articulate within the classroom; both activities help our children to learn and remember more as they progress through school.



### What OFSTED said

"The Gayton Passport offers pupils a wide range of interesting and exciting learning opportunities during their time at the school. They learn to swim, go to a castle, fly a kite and build a den - among many other things."

OFSTED 2017

## Our Super Students

We believe every single child can be a 'Super Student'. The rewards system reflects this view and reaffirms our desire to reinforce, praise and encourage positive behaviour and attitudes.

The different awards recognise children who strive for high standards in their day-to-day work in school and in the community. They encourage pupils to be the best that they can be and give their all in whatever they do and also reward them for their effort and attitude.

By working hard together to achieve these academic, social and personal goals, we aspire to provide the children of Gayton with a broad education that supports the development of the whole child and not just their academic achievement. We value parents, families and the community as VITAL partners in helping us provide pupils with the best education possible.

### What OFSTED said

"Pupils behave well in lessons and when moving around the school. They respond very well to the high expectations that all who work at the school have of them. Pupils know they can rely on staff to care for them, to support them when they need it, and to make them work hard."

OFSTED 2017

## Our Passport of Experiences

We believe that a child's time in school should be exciting and memorable; the best years of their lives! We offer not just an outstanding academic education, but also a broad range of fun activities and life experiences.

Our passport is a list of 50 things we believe every child between the age of 7 and 11 should experience. We provide as many of these enrichment opportunities as we can. As children complete them, they date the relevant stamps on their passport. This passport then becomes a record of all the amazing activities that our children experience during their time with us.

The list includes: make a snow angel; bake a cake; camp outside overnight; roll down a big hill; row a boat; climb a tree; hold a baby chick; visit a zoo and feel the sand between your toes!

## Our Enrichment Programme

We encourage our children to 'have a go' at learning new skills and developing personal interests by offering a wide range of extra-curricular activities. Our School Council often ask for specific clubs and we do our best to put these on using external providers where we can. Most recently we have had weekly dance, LEGO®, Dodgeball, Choir, Cookery and Tennis Clubs running after school. There are also opportunities to learn to play the violin and ukulele!





**"What a beautiful loving gesture for so many people to see and enjoy. A great lesson for the students but also the community on how these gestures are so important to lift spirits."**

**A LOCAL RESIDENT**

## Our Community

There are many opportunities for our children to develop a sense of belonging within the local community. We have strong links with our transition schools, getting to know the children before they arrive from their Key Stage 1 schools.

We recognise the diverse nature of our community and hold regular faith days, where we absorb ourselves in the culture and traditions of the six main faiths - Buddhism, Christianity, Hinduism, Islam, Judaism and Sikhism.

Our choir enjoys performing in the local area and our ECO Council have taken on different projects locally whilst working towards a national award. You may have even come across a bunch of daffodils left by children working with our Learning Mentor during the lockdowns as part of her work towards promoting mental health!



## Pupil Premium

We are given additional funding for children who qualify for free school meals. This funding is used to support these children in lessons. We also use some of this funding to provide school uniform and other resources to help these children boost their reading, writing and maths skills. Please visit our website for more information about how we spend this funding or contact the school office to find out if your child is eligible for free school meals.





#### What OFSTED said

"Pupils explained how feedback from teachers and from their classmates helps them. They know what they have done well and what they need to do to improve their work. The impact of this can be seen in pupils' consistently high attainment in writing."

OFSTED 2017



## Our Achievements

We believe in celebrating our achievements and successes, whether it be individual achievements, team successes or whole school awards, which we share in our Achievement assemblies each Friday afternoon. We have children who take part in local and regional sporting and musical events; our football and other sporting teams regularly come back from tournaments with great results and our staff team recently achieved a National Online Safety accreditation following some recent safeguarding training.

## Inclusion

All children have their own educational needs. As individuals, their needs vary and most will be catered for in our classroom environment. We differentiate our curriculum and set work that meets individual needs as far as possible.

Occasionally we have children who are not reaching their potential within the normal curriculum and may have a special educational need.

At Gayton Junior School we believe that all children with special educational needs (short and long term) have the right to a broad, well-balanced and where possible, inclusive curriculum. The early identification and assessment and continual monitoring of children's needs is essential. Our Special Education Needs and Disability Coordinator (SENDCO) and the support team will work with the child and their family and liaise with educational or health specialists where appropriate.

#### What OFSTED said

"The curriculum, teaching and whole-school experience make very strong contributions to pupils' spiritual, moral, social and cultural development."

OFSTED 2017



#### What OFSTED said

"Parents are very positive about the work of the school. They appreciate the care and support offered to their children."

OFSTED 2017





**"If your child is struggling with anything at all, one of our TAs is guaranteed to help your child."**

**Year 6 pupil**

## **Our Care and Support**

### **We aim to:**

- build self-confidence and provide a wide range of experiences designed to encourage children to make safe and healthy choices;
- to develop happy, inquisitive, enthusiastic learners who are not afraid to make mistakes and learn from them;
- develop socially adept and articulate children with an awareness of the world and a respect and tolerance for others;
- prepare children for the next stage in their lives by developing a wide range of high quality literacy, numeracy, computing and life skills.







# Be the best you can be

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