

Speenhamland School

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Seenhamland School is located near the town centre of Newbury, joining the Newbury Academy Trust in February 2017. Speenhamland is a 1 ½ form entry school with 276 pupils on roll. We serve a diverse catchment, with 23.9% children who are Pupil Premium and 33.7% EAL. We are proud to host the Local Authority Physically Disabled Resource - the Keevill Unit, which is a 10 place unit for children with physical disabilities, who spend most of their day fully integrated into the main school. Facilities for physiotherapy, occupational therapy and speech therapy are also available in the Unit. We are currently working with West Berkshire Council on a refurbishment of the unit to expand its space and provide space for modern facilities and technologies to support the children.

The school site is open with an extensive field, adventure play equipment and a detached sports field. There is a library, large IT suite and EYFS area, with their own outdoor play space. The school hall provides an excellent indoor facility for PE, assemblies and performances. There are eleven classrooms; two Foundation, three Key Stage 1, three Lower Key Stage 2 and three Upper Key Stage 2, all furnished with interactive whiteboards.

Dragon Club is our after-school wrap-around care facility based in the original school building on the site. It operates all year round (apart from short holiday breaks).

The school provides a safe and nurturing environment, where children feel secure and have respect for the belief, values and cultures of others. We launched our new vision in January: We Aspire, We Challenge, We Support and we have 5 school values which are embedded in school life: resilience, risk-taking, responsibility, respect, resourceful.

Over the last year, we have worked hard to develop our curriculum and ensure the knowledge and skills for every subject is progressive. There is a big focus on vocabulary as well as providing rich learning experiences which all our pupils can access. Reading is an important focus throughout the school and our children begin their journey using Rocket Phonics, which is an interactive and fully resourced phonics programme before moving onto the Accelerated Reader programme. We strive to promote a love of reading with all our pupils.

All children at Speenhamland are special and are equally valued, and have equal opportunities to be involved in our broad and balanced curriculum, which is differentiated to meet every learner's needs, ensuring access and success. We have a dedicated SENCO as well as a Teacher in Charge of the Keevill Unit. The children and staff are supported by a committed team of Teaching Assistants who support individual children on a one-to-one basis as well as delivering targeted interventions.

Speenhamland has 14 full-time Teachers, 3 part-time Teachers and a full time Sports Coach. The school has a Parent School Association, who regularly hold events throughout the year, raising a significant amount of money, which is used to enrich the curriculum and our learning environment.









The House System is integral to the school's reward programme. There are four Houses: Azul, Laal, Verde or Zolty. Each House has a House Head, and two House Captains from Year 6. Along with every pupil, every member of staff is also allocated a House. The House system drives the school's reward system, which every pupil contributes to by achieving Dragon's Eggs. Whole School House Competitions run throughout the year across all areas of the curriculum as well as termly House Charity events. We believe the House System develops a strong sense of belonging and pride.

Outdoor learning is an important part of school life and every child takes part in Forest School. Our two specially-trained Forest School leads provide enriching activities in our school woodland which promote our school values. In addition, Speenhamland has developed a rich programme of extra-curricular activities, which appeal to a wide cross-section of children. We have everything from sports clubs, performing arts, cookery, wildlife and arts and craft clubs. The school has a School Council with representatives from each class. We also have positions for pupil leadership including Ambassadors, PM Pals, Sports Captains and Pupil Librarians.

The school enjoys close links with the schools within the family of the Newbury Academy Trust. Many pupils visit Trinity on a regular basis to take part in enrichment activities, as well as interventions. The staff at Speenhamland are committed to the working partnership within the Trust and the further growth of Speenhamland to become outstanding. Speenhamland is a school with much to offer; we are all incredibly proud of its achievements so far but want more. Speenhamland will continue to work as part of the Newbury Academy Trust to ensure its children receive the best possible experiences on offer, which means academic success, personal development and enrichment for all.

Mrs Julie Lewry Headteacher

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