



DOWNSEND
SCHOOL
PRE-PREP EPSOM

CURRICULUM STATEMENT

We follow the Early Years Foundation Stage framework for children in First Steps, Rising Reception and Reception. Children in Year One follow Key Stage 1 in relation to the National Curriculum. The Early Years Foundation Stage framework and the National Curriculum are designed to set clear educational targets, and provide a national framework, in which a child's performance can be measured and assessed.

Continuous assessment and careful monitoring ensure that the children are progressing in all areas of the curriculum and working to the best of their abilities. Every child has an individual 'profile' in which we chart and assess their development and progress in all areas of the curriculum.

It is not at all unusual for children to experience difficulties or delay in their development and learning. Sometimes a special need, whether temporary or longer term, is identified easily; sometimes, especially in the early years, it can take a little time to understand what is causing a difficulty.

We aim to monitor all children's progress closely and to share information fully with parents, so that we can all serve the best interests of the children in our care and help them to reach their full potential. School has a Special Educational Needs teacher and wider support is available through Surrey's Early Years and Childcare Service, and by referral to local NHS services, for example paediatricians and speech and language therapists. We also benefit from close association with private therapists and consultants and can call on the services of individual support teachers who can help children in specialised one-to-one sessions if required.

We believe that all children are entitled to an education that will enable them to develop their full potential, be that intellectual, physical, aesthetic, creative, emotional, spiritual or social, finding appropriate challenge in our learning environment.

We are committed to providing an enjoyable and sufficiently challenging curriculum for all our children. In addition, we will provide opportunities to identify and in turn nurture those who are more able. Downsend School has a nominated Gifted and Talented Coordinator with whom the class teachers work closely, using their expertise, as appropriate.

We welcome children from different cultures and denominations and those with English as an additional language. Children are fully integrated with the appropriate support.

We pride ourselves in presenting each child with opportunities to achieve their potential in all areas of the curriculum, preparing them for a happy and successful progression towards the next stage of their education in our Lower School. Pupils transferring from the Pre-Preps are not required to take an entrance test.

August 2016