

James Peacock Infant & Nursery School

Proud Children, Proud Staff, Proud Parents



Our school

Here at James Peacock Infant and Nursery school we aim to inspire children to strive to achieve their best at everything they do. We encourage children to be unique and celebrate each individual and empower them with the skills and knowledge to prepare them for their next stage of school and beyond. We aim to build the whole child and not just focus on the academic achievements. Being 'Proud' is central to all we do, whether it be an achievement in a core curriculum area, scoring a goal on the football field or even mastering a new dance move at a lunchtime club.



We foster excellent relationships with parents through communication, honesty and a shared vision for putting children at the heart of all we do. We aim to give children as much real life experience as we can through exploration, discussion and memorable moments. We equip children with the skills they need to regulate their behaviour and manage their emotions. Through our whole school initiative of displaying colour monster emotions children are able to use the colours to articulate how are feeling and respond to challenging situations. We use PSHCE as a vehicle for discussions on how to keep and ultimately prepare children for life beyond our school.



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At James Peacock Infant and Nursery School our vision and values are at the core of everything we do. They underpin our teaching and learning and we aim to provide a safe, caring and friendly environment for learning for all our pupils, to help them maximise their potential and enable them to become confident, happy children.

We have just overhauled our curriculum to ensure there are opportunities for children to engage in conversations about more challenging topics and sparked conversations around global issues such as poverty. We have an incredible charity which was born here; the Mustard seed project.

We use Dimensions 'Learning Means the World' Curriculum with a view to changing our pupils' hearts, as well as their minds.

Here at James Peacock we believe in building a love of learning which lasts a lifetime. We build aim to foster and build the intrinsic motivation of children to want to achieve more each day, in doing this we build reflective learners who challenge themselves.



Our curriculum is knowledge-rich and skills-based, providing the perfect blend of learning for pupils in a fast-changing and inter-dependent world.

'Learning Means the World' reflects the real world. It is a brave, forward thinking, buzzing, relevant curriculum that promotes independence, creativity and curiosity to help pupils become collaborators, innovators and leaders.

'Learning Means the World' takes an inter-disciplinary approach to learning and puts great emphasis on curriculum depth. It is 'hands-on', 'minds-on' and 'hearts-on' and makes pupil agency a key feature of the curriculum. The thematic approach to teaching and learning is designed to support children's natural curiosity, stimulate their creativity and promote an appetite for, and love of, learning. It offers children the chance to engage in deep learning giving them the time they need to reflect, consolidate and transfer their learning.

In Early Years Foundation Stage, the Dimensions themes running throughout the school are followed, however the children's interests are also interwoven. The 'Birth to 5 Matters' document and Early Years Profile has been used to map progressive objectives across both the Foundation 1 and Foundation 2 years, linking these to themes and general school year activities. This ensures that a progressive curriculum is received by all. These objectives are differentiated for those pupils with SEND and further enhanced by specific and personalised nurture curriculums for those children who require a more bespoke take on the curriculum expectations. Independence is promoted throughout the Early Years Foundation Stage curriculum and the developmental stages of children's learning in different areas and skills are taken into consideration in all planning and practitioner interactions.



Teachers plan in teams to prepare specific programmes of work following Dimensions, White Rose, RWI and Talk for Writing. We have recently adopted a new curriculum and the school's subject leaders are involved in monitoring their areas effectively. In addition, all staff are committed to the ongoing development and improvement of teaching and learning across the school and they play a part in planning the school's improvement strategies.

James Peacock Infant and Nursery School has a number of groups that work hard to enhance the school and experiences for our children. Our School Council involves children from across the school who represent their classmates' feelings and opinions in discussing school issues. We have a pro-active Friends of School committee which consists of current parents, staff and friends of the school who raise funds for the benefit of our school and pupils. In the last few years they have raised over £30,000 which provided the play equipment that our pupils thoroughly enjoy playing on during the school day.



We have a valuable link with a school on Tisai Island in Uganda, which through The Mustard Seed, a charity that started life at our school, raises valuable funds for the island and celebrates our links with this country. We are also incredibly proud of the work our Eco-Committee are doing on our journey to becoming an official Green Flag owning Eco-School.

The Interim Senior Leadership Team





Mrs Hannah Cutts
Headteacher, DSL and SENCo



Miss Rachel Hawthorne
Deputy Headteacher, DSL and Early Years Lead

There are 10 class teachers and a team of teaching assistants. In main school each class has access to a teaching assistant who supports the children in a variety of ways, and within Nursery the teacher is supported by a team of assistants. The school is ably supported by a school business manager, a clerical assistant, a team of Midday Supervisors and two part time caretakers, one of which lives on site, the other nearby, they work alongside the school cleaners.

The school has an effective and hard working Governing Body who fulfil their statutory duties in a purposeful and professional way. Who are working collaboratively with SLT and parents.

Relationships with parents and the local community are very good. We welcome parents to help in and out of school with a wide range of activities and the school is keen to be involved with new initiatives and projects.

The school building is single storey and has had a number of extensions over the years. It now consists of a nursery area, ten classrooms, a central hall space and a dedicated area for Peacock Club, which is our schools wraparound care facility.

Nursery can accommodate up to 60 children. Children have the option of staying for lunch club and into the afternoon sessions using the 30 hours funding (if eligible) or paying for the sessions. The nursery provides a high-quality learning experience with two large and spacious teaching rooms and an extensive outdoor play area.

Main school is organised into three Year Two classes, three year One classes and three Reception classes. Most teaching areas have access to a 'shared area' where interventions and small group work can take place. The school has a central hall area where assemblies are held and a kitchen which provides daily hot meals for children in main school. We are really lucky to have an intervention unit known as the Woodlands. In here we provide specific interventions children might need for social and emotional, communication and language or even just a space to have some time to chat, regulate and calm.

The school has a wonderful outdoor space consisting of a spacious playground and large playing field. There is a trim trail and a play equipment area which offers the children a variety of climbing opportunities along with sensory experiences. There is also an outdoor classroom and a garden of memories which offers children the opportunity for a quiet space.

We have a Peacock club which provides wrap around care for parents who need a later pick up or earlier drop off. Peacock Club is located next to Nursery and provides the opportunity for children to have something to eat and drink and join in with a range of activities. We also run a number of after school activity clubs for the children to access including sports, lego and clay.

The majority of pupils move to St Peter's Junior School, which is also in Ruddington, at the end of Year Two and the school has a well organised transfer system.

James Peacock is a friendly, inviting and caring school that provides a secure, happy and stimulating environment in which children achieve success. Staff are highly motivated, enthusiastic and work incredibly well as a team.

The local area and the history of our school

James Peacock Infant & Nursery School is situated to the south of Nottingham, five miles from the city centre and is for pupils aged three to seven years. The school opened in 1967, when the village Boy's School was closed and is named after a man called James Peacock who was born in Ruddington and became a very successful tradesman in leather. When he died in 1641 he left part of his fortune to go towards the education of children in Ruddington. Some of his money remains in trust today and continues to support the education of children within the school and the wider village.

Ruddington is a large village with a vibrant community feel. The catchment area is mixed with a significant proportion of professional middle class parents and children from traditional village families. Many of the children have parents who work and this is an important factor in the school's organisation and provision. There is also a number of new large housing estate within the village with a range of executive homes, affordable housing and housing association properties. There are an increasing number of children in the school who come from one-parent families or families who may be experiencing distress and problems and this has changed the nature of the catchment area over the last few years. There have been several new housing developments built within the village over the last few years which has contributed to an increase in pupil numbers for our school. The village has a wide range of shops and other facilities; an excellent library, a large and much visited Country Park, three well supported churches, and thriving Brownie, Rainbows and Cubs groups. On the first Saturday of the month there is the extremely successful Village Market which attracts over 70 stalls offering an excellent range of award-winning food, drink and homewares. Alongside the school, these create a wonderful community and there is huge potential for the development of the school's role in it.

We look forward to welcoming you to our happy school soon.

