



Danetree  
Primary School

Inspire, Challenge and Achieve Together

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# A New Beginning



## Welcome

I am very honoured to welcome you to Danetree Primary School. This prospectus has been constructed to give you a flavour of what our school has to offer your child. It is my pleasure to be able to lead my team of amazing staff and wonderful children to be an exceptional primary school where children are happy, versatile, show a strong desire to succeed and are prepared for the future.

Danetree is a four-form entry school set in fantastic grounds in West Ewell, Epsom. Our forward thinking approach and dedicated staff aim to provide the best education for our children, bringing learning to life through our innovative thematic curriculum. When combined with our varied menu of clubs and activities, Danetree is an exciting place for your child and I am personally looking forward to improving the school further over the coming years.

We are privileged to be an Academy within GLF Schools, which sees us benefit from sharing outstanding resources, facilities and support from local primary and secondary schools. We want to unlock the potential of every child to help them to achieve both in their learning and as they grow into young people. Lessons are planned to be interactive and engaging to promote children's independent learning skills as well as working cohesively and collaboratively.

We pride ourselves on being a friendly, welcoming school. If you have not already visited, please do come and see the children immersed in their learning. Our classrooms are filled with books, resources and creative displays to promote high quality learning to support children in each and every lesson.

I look forward to welcoming you to Danetree Primary School in the near future.

Bethan Smith  
**Headteacher**

# Early Years

The Early Years Foundation Stage is an important and statutory phase in education, which begins at birth and continues to the end of the Reception year. Danetree Primary School boasts the benefits of our newly built Infant and Early Years provision with its impressive use of space and inspiring facilities- yet it still retains an intimate and friendly feel. Whilst enjoying the access to the outstanding facilities of the main school, there are dedicated outside play areas for the Infants and well equipped and stimulating outdoor learning spaces for the Early Years children.

The curriculum is also important in its own right. It is the beginning of all future learning and it supports and fosters children's well-being and helps develop positive attitudes and dispositions towards learning. Children will learn through first hand experiences, speaking and listening, well planned purposeful play, exploration and experimentation.

We recognise that every child is unique and special. Our practitioners delivering the Early Years curriculum

will monitor progress and attainment, observe children participating in exciting learning activities and use modelling to promote the personal, social, moral and emotional development of our children.

We encourage children and carers to play an active part in their child's education by supporting their home learning and keeping in regular contact with our dedicated team at school.





Our delightful library is the ideal setting to inspire children to develop a love of reading.

# Extensive facilities



Our impressive facilities include vast external playing fields, two tennis courts and a gymnasium. We also have a dedicated Music Room, Creative Studio, Modern Foreign Languages Room and a Science 'Phiz Lab', where children have the opportunity to take part in a range of Scientific experiments. Our hall, with stage and sound system, plays host to regular performances by the children which parents are always welcome to attend.

these learning tools appropriately, whilst also learning about E-safety and staying safe online.





"The facilities my children have access to at Danetree are amazing. From the gymnasium, to the staging in the hall, the multi use games area and the extensive sports field - Danetree has it all"

Key Stage 1 Parent

# Expectations

## Inspire, Challenge and Achieve together

Our mission at Danetree Primary School is to be an exceptional primary school where children are happy, versatile, show a strong desire to succeed and are prepared for their future.

We are committed to an ethos of high expectations and endeavour to treat our children as individuals, inspired with confidence to reach their full potential as twenty-first century citizens. In a stimulating environment, children are expected to be respectful, polite, honest and to contribute to our school community.

As parents you will expect us to care for your children; we achieve this through determined academic focus, extra-curricular opportunities and nurturing our children's social development. Our 'Behaviour for Learning' strategies and reward

system reflect our excellent pastoral care whilst celebrating children's achievements. We recognise that we are a large school and we have established a system that supports the children throughout their time at school on an individual basis.

Our values have been created by children, parents, staff and governors. At Danetree Primary School, children understand each of our collective values in detail. These values support children to achieve both at school and also in the next stage of their education.







“The supportive teachers at Danetree are lead by a strong and supportive leadership team. A vast range of options for internal and external clubs are available and regular class trips ensure our children are very happy at this school”

Key Stage 2 Parent





# An inspiring curriculum

At Danetree Primary School, we believe that learning should be enjoyable, motivational and must provide a variety of opportunities for all. We are proud of our 'Creative Curriculum' which is adapted from the Cornerstones Curriculum to capture our children's interest and imagination. This curriculum has been nominated for national awards and is built on years of experience and a four stage teaching and learning philosophy: Engage, Develop, Innovate, Express. Our curriculum allows the children to develop and apply the skills that they need to make an effective transition to secondary school and to contribute positively to society.

To help children succeed, teaching maths for mastery is embedded across the school and is a transformational approach to maths teaching

which stems from high performing Asian nations such as Singapore. This ensures that children are taught at a pace that is appropriate to them and conducive to effective learning. The children in every year group benefit from specialist teaching in French and Music within their classes and also singing practice once a week with their Year Group.



# Achievement

At Danetree we are proud of how well our children achieve at the end of each milestone of their academic journey. We ensure that all children achieve by adapting learning to match their individual needs. A range of interventions are put in place to ensure all children leave Danetree with the knowledge and skills to be successful at their next school. We have our 'Harbour' which is run by learning mentors to provide social and emotional support where necessary. We use a range of online resources such as 'Mathletics' which support children in their learning at home, along with home learning tasks that have been adapted to support the understanding of key concepts.

“All the teachers do a wonderful job each and every day. Both our children are very happy here. This is thanks to every member of staff who contributes to the successful and happy time the children have at Danetree” EYFS Parent



## English

**Phonics:** At Danetree we follow the Read Write Inc. Phonics scheme which teaches children to read accurately and fluently with good comprehension. Firstly the children learn to say each sound moving onto reading more complex graphemes and then learn to blend these sounds into words. During their daily phonics lesson children read a group text each day. Along with a thought-provoking introduction from the teachers, prompts for thinking out loud and discussion, children are helped to read with a storyteller's voice.

**Reading:** Children at Danetree experience success with reading from the very beginning. In Nursery and Reception children enjoy shared stories and learn to read books closely matched to their increasing knowledge of phonics and 'tricky' words. As children continue through the reading scheme we love to watch their confidence and love for books grow as their fluency increases. Every class in the school has dedicated time each week in our exceptional Narnia themed Library - the perfect place to sit and enjoy a good book.

**Writing:** Writing is empowering, and not just because it's fun to be creative. Writing, in all its varied forms and purposes, is a complex process. Through learning about a variety of genres, practicing daily writing and having the opportunity to edit and extend their writing, children are really passionate about the subject each and every lesson. At the end of each unit of learning, children produce a final piece of writing they can truly be proud of, after building upon the writing skills over a series of lessons.

## Maths

Teaching maths for mastery is a transformational approach to maths teaching which stems from high performing Asian nations such as Singapore. In school, children are taught in their classes and focus together on gaining a deeper understanding of concepts, rather than moving immediately onto the next unit of learning. When taught to master maths, children develop their mathematical fluency without resorting to rote learning and are able to solve non-routine maths problems without having to memorise procedures.

## Science

At Danetree, all children have access to our 'Phiz Lab' which caters from the youngest of learners all the way up to Year 6. Science activities and experiments have a way of bringing out the inner scientist in even the youngest of learners. Danetree children learn principles of chemistry through simple homemade science activities and experiments, such as separating salt out of salt water to create freshwater in Year 2 and move onto more challenging scientific investigations as they move through the school.

# A collaborative app

We place emphasis on the vital role that parents play in the education of their children and welcome parental involvement in all aspects of school life. We encourage parents, carers and other volunteers from the local community to come into school to support learning wherever possible.

Over the years, we have forged strong links with a number of local groups and services that allow us to offer our children a unique blend of varied activities, ranging from church-led activities, to sporting, music and craft clubs. In addition we provide our parents with the flexibility of having an extended day with our dining facilities hosting a breakfast club and after school care delivered by Club Vale. In addition to this, we offer Koosa Kids Holiday camps for children age 4-13 on site to provide wrap around care.

We have an informed and supportive SSB (School Strategy Board) who work closely with our passionate and committed staff. Our enthusiastic

and active Parent Teacher Association (PTA) provide social and fund raising activities and we would welcome your contribution at our events throughout the year.

Children benefit from being able to continue their learning at home with Home Learning tasks each week that are linked to our topic curriculum, as well as Maths, Phonics and Literacy tasks. Spellodrome and Mathletics are two excellent online portals we invest in each year to engage the children both at school and at home, which the children really love!

We value our relationship with our other local schools, to ensure that transition at both key stages is seamless and effective with parents being kept informed every step of the way.

# Approach to learning





# Danetree

## Primary School

Headteacher: Bethan Smith

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