



Race Leys
Junior School

High Achievement – Proud Traditions – Wide Horizons





“Pupils thoroughly enjoy academy life. They show care and respect to each other and adults.”

OFSTED 2014

Welcome

to Race Leys Junior School

We hope that our prospectus will provide you with a clear understanding of our values as a school, the unique characteristics of our community and give you a sense of the many and varied learning opportunities we provide for our pupils.

All schools have their own distinctive “feel” which makes each one unique. We believe that the “special” feel at Race Leys Junior School is due to our caring, friendly atmosphere and the positive relationships between pupils and staff. With many of our pupils joining us directly from Race Leys Infant School, just across the field, we are truly a community school and have worked with many families over generations! I am proud to lead a team of dedicated professionals who are committed in their support for pupils and determined to provide the very best opportunities for all children.

It is our collective aim to ensure that every child who attends our school is part of the wider Race Leys family and is supported on their education journey to achieve their full potential, with many golden memories made along the way!

Supported by The Griffin Schools’ Trust, our staff work hard to deliver a curriculum that is rich, engaging and challenging as well as effective in preparing children for their next steps in learning. We want our children to be excited by their school work, tackling new challenges and opportunities with resilience, confidence and determination. We also want them to acquire a life-long love of learning and to develop their skills for success in later life. Through our carefully designed curriculum, enriched by a wealth of additional learning opportunities, we aim to open children’s eyes and minds, and give them those wide horizons that are a part of our core values.

Our school was last inspected by Ofsted in June 2014 when its overall effectiveness was judged to be “good”. Strengths in teaching and assessment were noted and the report additionally commented that “the breadth of learning fosters a love of learning and contributes well to pupils’ spiritual, moral, social and cultural development.” There have been many changes and improvements since 2014, but this principle remains at the core of our commitment to your child.

However, please do not just take my word for it! Do come and visit us and see Race Leys at work for yourself. We look forward to welcoming you to our school and to a happy and successful partnership in the future.



Suzanne Edwards
Executive Head

Our Vision

High Achievement. Proud Traditions. Wide Horizons.



Our vision at Race Leys Junior School reflects a passionate commitment to life-long learning which is driven by our desire to offer the best possible education for our pupils in partnership with their families and the local community. We encourage all our children to be PALs – Positive About Learning, recognising positive approaches to learning through our class of the week system and individual merit awards. We place a strong emphasis on this vision for learning through our partnership with families and encourage all parents and carers to help develop their child's learning through our home school learning activities. It is this focus on learning that helps all our children make good progress and achieve their best.



OUR VALUES

At the heart of all we do lie the Race Leys values. These values are fundamental expressions of what we think and believe. As a school we encourage our children to think about and embody positive personal and social values; to become aware of and involved in the life and cares of the community, and so develop their capacity to become active and effective future citizens of the world.

Our school is firmly committed to Values Based education and are constantly working towards a set of values that have been an established part of what it means to be a member of the Race Leys family for some time now.

In addition to these personal values, as part of our work in developing Philosophy for

Children, we encourage our children to work towards 4 core learning values: our 4Cs. These are:

- Critical: to reflect critically on what and how they are learning
- Caring: learning with consideration and care for themselves and others
- Creative: thinking independently, imaginatively, being resilient
- Collaborative: able to work effectively with others, to lead and also to contribute

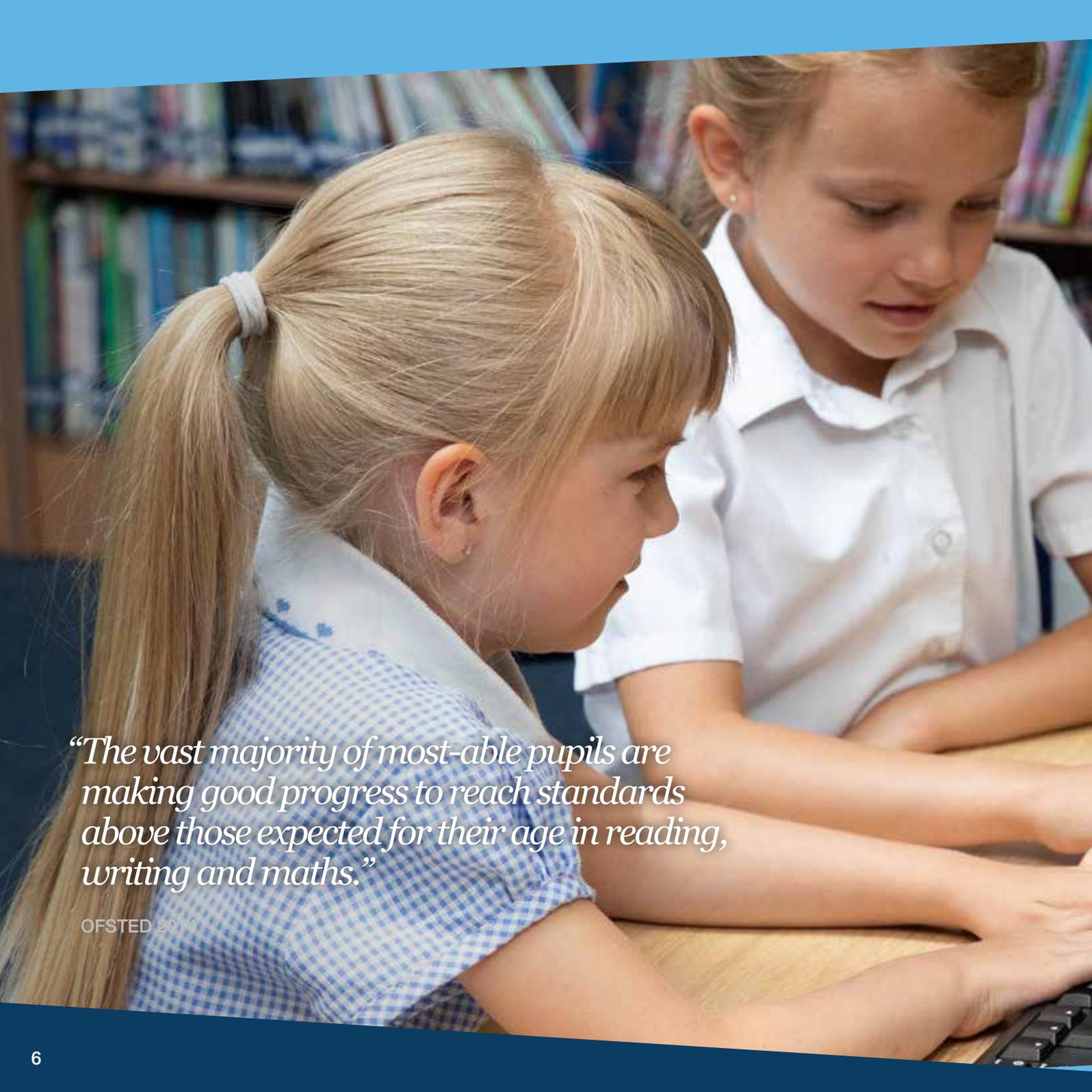
Race Leys Junior School was the first school in Warwickshire to be awarded the School's Quality Mark by the International

Values-Based Education Trust.



“Teachers motivate and set challenging tasks which the pupils are eager to complete successfully.”

OFSTED 2014

A photograph of two young girls in school uniforms sitting at a desk in a library. The girl in the foreground has long blonde hair in a ponytail and is wearing a blue and white checkered shirt. The girl behind her is wearing a white shirt. They are both looking intently at a laptop screen. The background shows bookshelves filled with books.

“The vast majority of most-able pupils are making good progress to reach standards above those expected for their age in reading, writing and maths.”

OFSTED 2014

Proud traditions and wide horizons

The school curriculum comprises all learning and other experiences that we plan for our pupils.

It is a proud tradition at Race Leys that we deliver a curriculum that is broad, balanced but that also offers a wealth of enrichment opportunities that makes learning memorable and being a member of our community special.

Pupils' learning is planned around half termly topics, which align with our annual themes and ongoing values. In recent years, Protest and a celebration of England's "Green and Pleasant Land" have helped bring a whole school lens to each year group's area of study and is further supported by partnership work with other GST schools, who also focus on these themes. We are also working on a Target Tokyo project, in preparation for the 2020 Olympic Games. Trust wide activities such as the Griffin Science Symposium, Arts Festival and other events give our learners an opportunity to learn from others and also to showcase their own learning. In addition we organise a range of trips and visits to deepen pupils' understanding of a topic. These have included visits to the Space Centre in Leicester, Chedworth Roman Villa, London museums, Stratford on Avon and many more!

We are also proud of our traditions in the creative arts, with an annual Christmas performance, end of Year 6 performance which never fails to thrill as well as choral activities and art exhibitions. Visits to the theatre and visiting productions are also a key part of our offer to children.

Finally our sporting successes are something we are hugely proud of. All children are encouraged to join clubs, many through not all have a sporting focus. For those who show potential, this can lead to academy style coaching to competition level. We have seen over the years some real talent emerging in our pupils in football, boxing, fencing, athletics including running, dance and gymnastics to name but a few!

We encourage our children to lead healthy lifestyles and have recently introduced the Daily Mile into our wider curriculum offer.

So, do come and visit us. There is a lot to be proud of at Race Leys Junior School which we would love to share with you!



“Pupils are always keen to rise to any challenge that they are given.”

OFSTED 2014

About Our School

The school buildings are modern, spacious and on a single level, allowing excellent access to all pupils and adults. We benefit from a large hall and changing rooms, a well-equipped multi-media resource library, eight classrooms, a computer suite and a music room. We have extensive grounds with hard surface areas, a spacious playing field, adventure play equipment, a multi-use games arena and a wildlife area.

ORGANISATION

SCHOOL SESSIONS:

Morning: 8.40 – 12.30

with break at 10.50 – 11.10

Afternoon: 1.15 – 3.20 with Daily Mile activity and break in the afternoon (staggered by phase)

- School gates are opened from 8.40 & 15:10.
- Children are allowed into school from 08:40.
- Morning registration takes place at 08:55, when all children should be in their classroom.

NB: The school cannot accept responsibility for pupils who arrive before 08:40 or who stay later than 15:20 - unless attending an after-school club or by prior arrangement with a member of staff.

CLASSES

Race Leys Junior School is two-form entry; there are two classes in each year group.

- Year 3** 7 - 8 years
- Year 4** 8 - 9 years
- Year 5** 9 - 10 years
- Year 6** 10 - 11 years

LEAVE OF ABSENCE

Government Regulations, September 2013, state

- Head Teachers shall not grant any leave of absence during term time unless they consider there are exceptional circumstances relating to the application.
- Parents do not have any entitlement to take their children on holiday during term time. Any application for leave must establish that there are exceptional circumstances and the Head Teacher must be satisfied that the circumstances warrant the granting of leave.
- Head Teachers will determine how many school days a child may be absent from school if the leave is granted.
- The school can only consider applications for Leave of Absence which are made by the resident parent.
- Applications for Leave of Absence must be made in advance and failure to do so will result in the absence being unauthorised which may result in legal action against the parent, by Fixed Penalty Notice.

- Applications for Leave of Absence which are made in advance and refused will result in the absence being unauthorised which may result in legal action against the parent, by Fixed Penalty Notice, if the child is absent from school during that period.
- If a Fixed Penalty Notice is issued and is not paid within the timeframe set out in that Notice, the matter will be referred to Warwickshire County Council's Legal Services to consider instigating criminal prosecution proceedings under S444 of Education Act 1996.

ABSENCE FROM SCHOOL

- If your child is absent or has a medical appointment, please notify the school by telephone, e-mail or in writing.
- Attendance and lateness for all pupils is closely monitored.
- If attendance falls below 90% we are required to make a referral to the ACE (Attendance, Compliance & Enforcement) team so we can support the family in ensuring that attendance improves.

Joining the School

ADMISSION ARRANGEMENTS

Parents and carers of children seeking to join the school should contact the Admissions Team of Warwickshire County Council. Race Leys Junior School follows Local Authority guidelines on admissions.

Our school welcomes all children regardless of special needs or disability. Pupils with additional needs may have extra visits before starting school and there will be close liaison with parents to ensure that the correct arrangements are in place.

At Race Leys Junior School we value home-school links and make every effort to involve parents in the learning and development of their child. At the start of each new school year, class teachers hold informal meetings to outline the curriculum and suggest how parents can help their child at home.

RLJS ADMISSIONS POLICY

RLJS adheres strictly to the LA criteria for admissions. The admission criteria for Community and controlled Junior & Primary Schools, in order of priority is:

1. Children living in the priority area who have a brother or sister at the school at the time of admission
2. Children living in the priority area who have a brother or sister at the partner infant school at the time of admission
3. Other children living in the priority area
4. Children from outside the priority area who have a brother or sister at the school at the time of admission
5. Children from outside the priority area who attended the partner Infant school immediately prior to transfer
6. Other children from outside the priority area

Within each criterion first priority is given to children in the care of, or provided with accommodation, by a Local Authority (under the terms of the Children Act 1989 Section 22).

General School Information

SAFEGUARDING

Race Leys Junior School is committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children and expects all staff and volunteers to share in this commitment. Staff work hard to maintain an environment where children feel safe and secure. The curriculum is designed to ensure opportunities for children to develop the skills they need to recognise and stay safe from abuse. Children know that they can approach any of the adults in school if they are worried and that they will receive a consistent supportive response.

'Under the Education Act 2002 (Section 175), schools must make arrangements to safeguard and promote the welfare of children. Parent/carers should know that the law (Children Act 1989) requires all school staff to pass on information which gives rise to a concern about a child's welfare, including risk from neglect, physical, emotional or sexual abuse.

The staff will seek, in general, to discuss any concerns with the parent/carer, and where possible, seek their consent to a referral to Social Care.

This will only be done where such discussion will not place the child at increased risk of significant harm.

Schools will seek advice from Social Care when they have reasonable cause to suspect a child may be suffering or likely to suffer significant harm.

Occasionally, concerns are passed on which are later shown to be unfounded. Parents/carers will appreciate that the designated person for child protection was carrying out their responsibilities in accordance with the law and acting in the best interests of all children.'

If you would like to know more about our policy or procedures for Safeguarding, please speak to Amanda Griffin, Head of School who is the Designated Safeguarding Lead.

CATERING FOR THE NEEDS OF ALL CHILDREN

At Race Leys Junior School we believe that every child is unique and special. We aim to provide a broad and balanced curriculum that meets the needs of each and every child.

We are committed to developing cultures, policies and practices that are inclusive. We have robust systems to identify individual need and specific interventions to address barriers to learning. This practice of personalising

learning applies to all pupils across the learning spectrum; for academically more able pupils this means provision of weekly challenges and the opportunity to attend events that develop their particular talents.

Children succeed highly at our school in many aspects; excellence is encouraged and celebrated. The school enjoys a strong academic reputation. Children leave our school highly literate and numerate; our end of Key Stage 2 results are consistently in line with or above national averages. Work is well planned, challenging and differentiated appropriately and the whole-school curriculum is planned to provide exciting and creative learning opportunities. Expectations are consistently high across the school and children are encouraged to be independent thinkers and learners and to have enquiring minds.

Where children are identified as needing additional learning or behavioural support, the school adheres to the Special Educational Needs Code of Practice. We ensure that each child's needs are individually and appropriately catered for and that any relevant outside agencies are involved in providing guidance and support.

Through assessments and observations a teacher may feel a child needs to be placed on the Special Needs Register. For many, this involves a short burst of targeted intervention which may lead to them being removed again, while for others the support process is a longer one. In all cases our aim is to provide the very best education for pupils, allowing all children to fully achieve their potential. With support from the Special Educational Needs (SEND) Co-ordinator, an Individual Education Plan (IEP) is written for the child identifying key targets. These targets are shared with parents and the child and are reviewed regularly to ensure systems are effective and impact positively on progress.

SCHOOL UNIFORM

What a child wears to school reflects his or her learning and portrays the school's ethos and values.

We have a smart but simple uniform that we encourage all pupils to wear:

- Navy sweatshirt
 - White polo shirt
 - Black/grey trousers or black/grey/navy skirt
 - Sensible navy or black shoes - not trainers please
- During warm weather plain black or navy tailored shorts and blue checked or striped dresses are alternatives. Jewellery, other than watches and small studs for pierced ears, is not permitted. All items of uniform should be clearly named.

Uniform, including sweatshirts, fleeces, polo shirts and PE t-shirts, are sold at cost and can be purchased from the school office.

PE & GAMES KIT

It is important that pupils wear correct clothing for physical activities and that long hair is tied back and earrings removed.

- PE: white or house coloured t-shirt and black/navy shorts
- Games activities outside: white or house coloured t-shirt, black/navy shorts and trainers.

Navy track suits or fleeces may be worn for games during winter months. All items of kit should be clearly named.

SCHOOL DINNERS

School dinners, provided by Warwickshire County Caterers, offer children a choice of menu with the emphasis on healthy eating and nutritionally balanced meals.

RLJS runs a daily cash payment system where pupils pay the lunchtime cashier in the dining room. This system enables pupils to choose between school meals and packed lunches on a daily basis. Menu cards are sent home and a wrist band system allows your child to order their preferred meal during morning registration; the coloured wrist band indicating their choice to serving staff.

All meals must be ordered by 9.45 am; this can be done by a phone call to the office should your child not be in first thing.

Packed lunches should be in a clearly marked, rigid box.

SNACK TIME

You may like your child to have a mid-morning snack. We encourage healthy snacks such as fruit and vegetables and would ask you not to send your child with chocolate, crisps or sweets of any kind.

COMPLAINTS

Any complaints about school matters should first be discussed with class teachers or brought to the attention of the Head of School. If the complaint is not resolved, a formal complaint may be made firstly to the Governing Body and secondly to the Griffin Schools Trust. The procedure to register a complaint is available from the school office.

HOMEWORK

Homework can make an important contribution to children's progress at school. As well as reinforcing learning in the classroom, homework helps children to develop the skills and attitudes they will need for successful independent lifelong learning. Parents, pupils, staff and governors agree that homework:

- Develops an effective partnership between the school and parents.
- Gives parents insight into their child's learning and achievement.
- Reinforces, consolidates and extends classroom learning.
- Develops the confidence and self-discipline of independent learning.
- Prepares children for secondary school.

Throughout their time at Race Leys Junior School, pupils will be encouraged to spend some time at home each week following up work or completing tasks set by the teacher. Pupils will often be able to complete the work on their own, but there will be times when they need parents' help. Tasks set will include reading, learning spellings and times tables and research projects, investigating and reinforcing work covered in class.

FRIENDS OF RACE LEYS

The Friends group exists to support the life and work of the school and is open to all members of the school community.

The association provides invaluable support to the school through organising many social and fundraising events involving parents and the wider local community. Money raised provides extra facilities and equipment for the pupils. The group holds regular meetings in school; dates and details are published in the school's newsletter.

The Friends group needs the support of parents to ensure it is able to continue. As a new member of our school community, we hope you will be able to add your support to the work of the group.

School Details:

Race Leys Junior School joined the Griffin Schools Trust in September 2012.

It is one of three schools in the Nuneaton area within the Trust. It was last inspected by Ofsted in 2014 when it was judged to be a good school.



Age Range:

7 to 11 years

Headteacher

Mrs Suzanne Edwards

Griffin Schools Trust Chief Executive Officers

CEO Anne Powell

c/o Race Leys Junior School
02476 490644

Chair of North Warwickshire Improvement Board

Liz Lewis

Governors

Carrie Clare

Phill Clark

Justin Creasey

Suzanne Edwards

Kevin Lamb

Anne Powell

Louise Newman



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