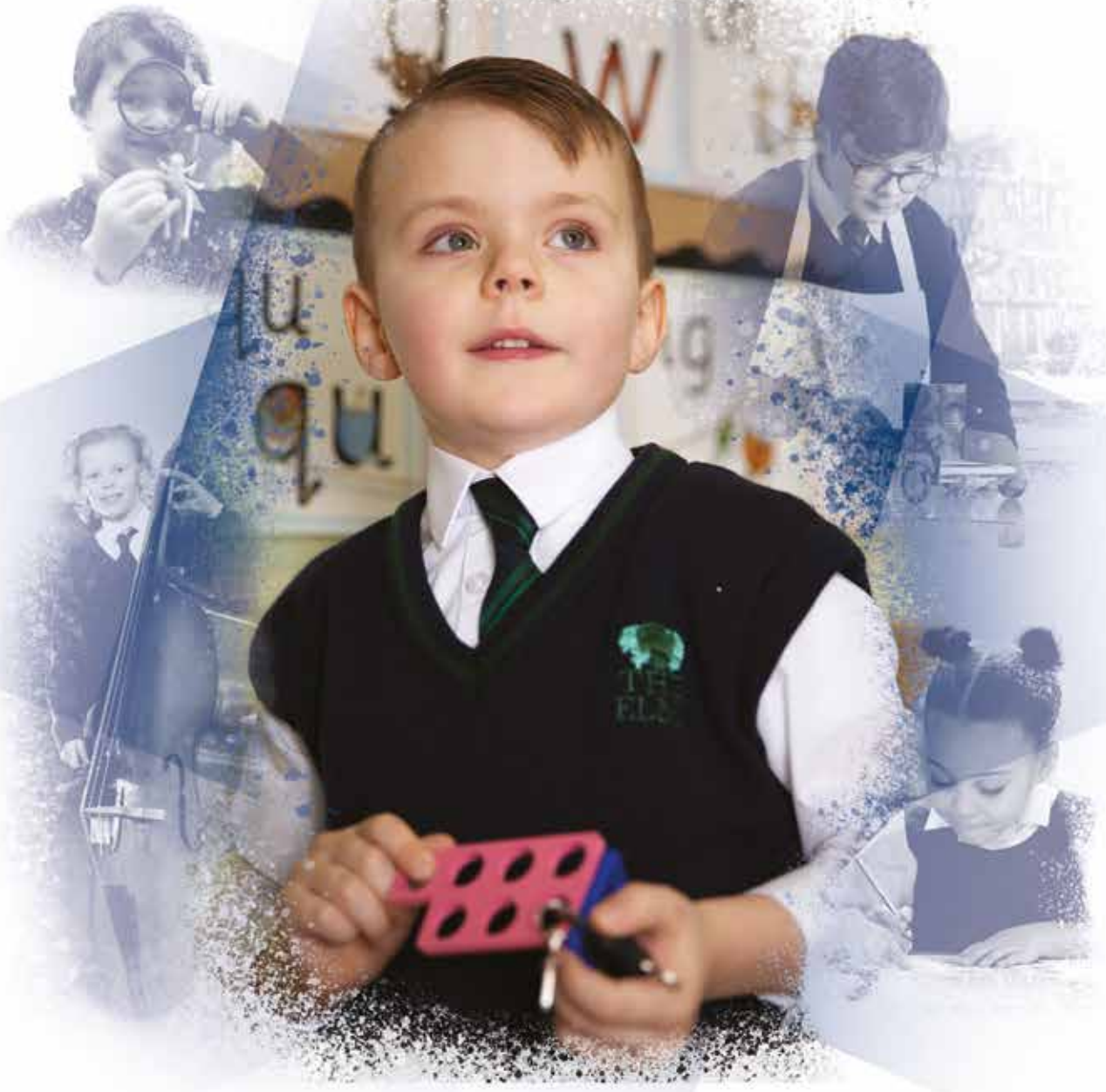




THE  
ELMS

Junior School  
**CURRICULUM**



We'll help you **go further**



THE  
ELMS



## Junior School **A Balanced Curriculum**

Every pupil can develop a love for learning when they are taught an exciting curriculum. A diverse range of subjects keeps pupils engaged in their education and encourages them to develop a varied skill-set.

## **Active, Engaged Learners**

At The Elms learning takes many forms, both inside and outside the classroom.

Children develop strong English and maths key skills, and become engaged, active learners throughout their seamless educational journey across the subject areas.



## Specialist Teaching

Elms pupils benefit greatly from the expertise of a strong team of specialist subject teachers. Unlike many junior schools, these teachers are experts in their fields and are passionate about teaching primary age children. Elms children are taught on-site by specialists in the fields of Art, Computing, Design Technology, Drama & Dance, Modern Foreign Languages, Music, Science and Sport.

## Bespoke Teaching Areas

State-of-the-art facilities elevate the first-class education we provide. Modern, fully-equipped spaces, such as a Food & Nutrition Suite and swimming pool, are located within our 45-acre campus and allow all pupils to benefit from wide ranging hands-on opportunities – both within the academic curriculum and through enrichment activities and clubs.

## Well-Rounded

For our pupils we try to ensure a healthy balance across many areas of school life, and particularly through our curriculum. The increasing breadth of specialist subjects develops curiosity and a passion for new challenges. Pursuits that enhance a child's learning and development are balanced with the time they spend learning in a classroom environment.

## Trips

Trips bring learning to life by transporting education to new locations. Day trips can add fun and excitement to a classroom topic, whilst residential trips are valuable opportunities for Junior School pupils in the year groups 3-6 to gain independence and challenge themselves.







## Beyond The Curriculum

Teaching at The Elms goes beyond the limits of the national curriculum. Our teachers have the freedom to enhance their lessons with added creativity and adapt topics to make them more relevant or suitable to the needs of their pupils. Workshops and guest speakers are also frequently incorporated to bring learning to life.

**FOUNDATION**

**KEY STAGE 1**

**KEY STAGE 2**



## FOUNDATION

The Reception year groups quickly settle into school life with help from a caring team of teaching staff.

### The First Step Of The Journey

Children begin their Foundation year in the September of the academic year in which they have their fifth birthday. This stage is part of the Early Years Foundation Stage (EYFS) curriculum, which is a statutory play based curriculum as followed in Nursery, but this year is also the start of an introduction to more formal aspects of schooling.

#### Play Based Learning

Opportunities for play start to become more structured and the small classes, led by a well-qualified early years' teacher and a full-time teaching assistant for each class, enable children to make an excellent start in numeracy and literacy.

#### Nurturing A Love For Learning

We teach a phonics programme to enable children to learn to read with growing confidence. Individual work and small group work enables children to learn at their own pace and make significant strides forward. Children in the Reception classes attend whole school assemblies, including 'good work' assemblies on Mondays and Chapel Services on Fridays.

#### So Much More

In addition to an emphasis on numeracy and literacy, the children in the Reception Classes also receive specialist teaching in French, Dance and Drama, Music and all aspects of Games and PE. Reception children visit the library weekly, use the ICT suite and have music lessons with the Director of Music in our music school.





## KEY STAGE ONE

Learning is brought to life in Key Stage One as new subjects are introduced.

### Developing The Individual

In Key Stage One (5-7 year olds), the emphasis continues on helping each child to become proficient in literacy and numeracy.

#### Topic Based Learning

Children learn new skills, and have the opportunities to put them into practice, through a 'topic based' curriculum that brings in elements from Geography, History and Science, Art and Design. The study of topics bring the curriculum to life and give children a context to apply the skills and knowledge that they have been learning.



#### Excellent Teachers

Our Year 1 and Year 2 classes are taught by well-qualified teachers and supported by experienced teaching assistants. High adult to child ratios and small class sizes enable children at The Elms to make excellent progress. Specialists teach Music, Dance and Drama, French, PE and Games.



#### New Opportunities

In addition to studying a new range of topics, children in Years 2-4 also learn to swim, with swimming lessons each week on-site in the Trent College swimming pool. The recorder is taught to Year 2 as an introduction to reading musical notation. Throughout Key Stage One, children make visits to places of interest to support their topic of study. We also welcome many visiting speakers and theatre groups into the school to work with the children and enrich the curriculum.





## KEY STAGE TWO

Children develop skills and knowledge that prepare them for a successful transfer into Year 7.

### Working At The Next Level

The pace and breadth of the curriculum in Key Stage Two steps up a gear to give the children a first rate preparation for their senior school by the time children leave The Elms in Year 6.



### | A Busier School Day

The teaching day is longer in Key Stage Two, running from 8.30am until 3.40pm. Most of the children then either take part in one of a huge range of after school clubs available to Key Stage Two children or stay for after-school prep (supervised by a teacher and teaching assistant) until 4.30pm.



### | Enhanced Specialist Subjects

The curriculum is still delivered through history and geography topics, but English, Maths and Science are increasingly taught as discrete subjects. As children move into Years 5 and 6 (9-11 year olds), Music, Games/PE, Drama, Modern Foreign Languages, Art, Design Technology and ICT are taught by specialist teachers. The form teacher focuses on teaching each class for English, Maths and the Humanities.

## ! Musical Opportunities

All children in Year 3 are sponsored to learn to play a musical instrument with free one-to-one instrumental tuition. As well as learning an orchestral instrument, children also participate in a music ensemble at lunch-times with children learning the same instrument. We have found this to be a very successful way of encouraging children to learn their instrument and to be immediately part of a successful group making music together.



## ! Personalised Sports Lessons

Another development for children in Year 3 is the separating of boys and girls for the teaching of games. Children are taught the sport of the term, for Boys this includes Rugby and Hockey. Whilst the Girls are taught Hockey and Netball. In the Summer term, all of the pupils are taught Cricket in joint lessons.





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