



SANDHILLS

COMMUNITY PRIMARY SCHOOL





ABOUT OUR SCHOOL

At Sandhills, we aim to create a happy and caring place to learn where kindness and respect are at the heart of the life of the school.

The welfare of the children and their progress are of the utmost importance to us and we want to ensure that all children have the opportunity to achieve their potential, both academically and in their own personal development as individuals and citizens of the future.

OUR VISION is that all children become confident, secure, caring individuals who achieve personal success and develop a love of learning.

We aim to:

- Provide a warm welcoming and secure environment for all.
- Encourage, value and extend every child's contribution.
- Recognise and celebrate success in everyone
- Provide a stimulating and challenging curriculum that inspires children to be kind, curious, curious and aspirational.

- Build collaborative relationships with our families and our local community
- Encourage and enable the continuing professional development of staff so that they can provide high quality teaching for our pupils.

OUR VALUES shape our expectations of behaviour and attitudes towards everyone in our school community. Our values are:

- Respect — inclusiveness, politeness, appreciation
- Relationships — understanding, thoughtfulness, kindness
- Responsibility — trust, honesty, reliability
- Resilience — positive mindset, personal power, perseverance

We believe that children's learning journey is lifelong and we feel privileged that Sandhills Community Primary School is where this very important journey begins.



RIVER LEARNING TRUST

Sandhills is part of River Learning Trust (RLT), a multi-academy trust made up of 28 primary and secondary schools in Oxfordshire and Swindon, as well as OTT, an outstanding-rated teacher training provider.

As part of RLT, Sandhills benefits from central support that allows the school leadership to deliver an excellent education that meets the needs of the local community.

RLT, which was formed in 2015, operates four secondary schools within the Oxford ring road – The Cherwell, The Swan, Cheney and The Oxford Academy, as well as Wheatley Park School.

Its primary schools in and around the city include Wolvercote, New Marston, Cutteslowe, Beckley, Garsington and Horspath.

RLT is a community of children, young people and adults with shared principles. These core principles are:

- Commitment to Excellence; striving for the best through continuous improvement.
- Everyone Learning; creating and taking opportunities that enhance lives through evidence-based practice supporting adult and pupil learning.
- Respectful Relationships; acting with care, integrity, and fairness in all we do.

RLT's collective vision is to be a trust where schools improve rapidly, continuously and sustainably: to be 'better faster together'.

At the heart of everything River Learning Trust does is a recognition that schools are all about people and relationships.

The support it provides its schools is aimed at ensuring that the people working in them are well-trained, skilful, knowledgeable and motivated professionals committed to providing the best possible education for children and young people.







LATEST OFSTED REPORT

The following passages are taken from our 'Good' Ofsted report, which followed an inspection in November 2022:

- "Pupils are proud of their school and enjoy being part of this welcoming community. They feel happy and safe in this nurturing school."
 - "Pupils adore their teachers and trust that staff will look after them. Staff and pupils get on really well and treat each other with courtesy and kindness."
 - "Teachers help pupils to understand how they are expected to behave and manage their feelings. This supports pupils to behave well, look after each other and make the right choices."
 - "There are a wide range of opportunities to foster and stretch pupils' talents and interests. Leaders are determined to broaden pupils' experiences and personal skills."
 - "Parents are overwhelmingly supportive of this inclusive and improving school."
- "Leaders act decisively and with integrity. They have designed an ambitious and broad curriculum to enable pupils to build their knowledge and skills over time."
 - "Leaders are ambitious for pupils, including those with special educational needs and/or disabilities (SEND)."
 - "Leaders believe tbeing a good reader allows pupils to access the whole curriculum. They quickly identify pupils who need some extra, targeted help with learning phonics. This also helps them develop the confidence and fluency they need."
 - "Overall, pupils behave well. They understand and follow well-established routines."
 - "In the early years, the calm and caring environment ensures children settle quickly. Children learn how to cooperate, develop their curiosity and learn alongside their friends."



SUSTAINABILITY AT SANDHILLS

At Sandhills, we are committed to teaching sustainability and environmental awareness, and we aim to develop opportunities for children to improve their understanding of the planet and to foster a culture of sustainability.

Our curriculum explores a range of areas including: energy use and clean energy, water use, waste, litter, biodiversity, the impact of climate change on land and sea, fair trade, global citizenship and the impact of transport on the environment.

We also take our learning outside of the classroom. Every year, pupils take part in a Bioblitz of our school grounds to explore different habitats on our school site and to record the flora and fauna including wildflowers, cowslips and bee orchids that we have on our doorstep.

Each year, 'Eco Leaders' are elected to actively participate in a range of projects from energy conservation around school, litter picking to keep our school tidy and fundraising for projects to improve our learning environment.



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