

Griffydam Primary School



Griffydam Primary School
Top Road
LE67 8HU

Telephone: 01530 222281

Email: office@griffydam.leics.sch.uk

Website: www.griffydam.leics.sch.uk

'This school is a happy place. Pupils and staff enjoy positive relationships. Leaders and staff have high expectations for what pupils can achieve.'

OFSTED 2023

Welcome to Griffydam Primary



It is with great pride that we welcome you to Griffydam Primary School, based in the heart of Griffydam village. We hope this prospectus provides you with a flavour of some of the fantastic things that we do here.

Our Motto

'Achieving together'

Our motto is about making every child feel special. This ethos of care runs throughout the school; from the youngest of us to the eldest.

Our Vision

We are a happy, caring community where children are encouraged to explore an exciting curriculum and become independent, resilient and confident learners, that are ready to take the next steps on their learning journey.

Our Values

We are kind and respectful
We are explorers
We are part of a community
We reach for the stars

Outdoor Learning

We are so lucky to sit right in the heart of the National Forest, where our children can benefit from our beautiful grounds and outdoor learning provision. We believe in focusing on the whole child, offering music, art and sports provision alongside academic achievement.

Dedicated Staff

I am also very proud of our exceptionally experienced and dedicated staff, who ensure that all of the children are well supported to achieve their true potential, whilst working hard with families to overcome any barriers to learning.

Parent Partnership

Another very important part of our school is you...the parents. We encourage the link between school and home, and work hard to involve you in every step of your child's time here to support and enhance your child's enjoyment of learning.

We welcome visits and love to show our school 'in action'. Please contact us for more information or book an appointment to meet me. Please call us on 01530 222281 or email office@griffydam.leics.sch.uk



Our School Day



School Hours

8.35 am – Our doors open and the children are welcomed in by a member of staff.

3:15 pm – School closes. Parents can collect their children from the playground.

Breakfast Club and After-School Provision

We provide a before and after school club on site.

Breakfast Club runs from 7:30am, and after-school care is available until 5:30pm. Please feel free to visit to discuss your needs with staff.



School Meals and Snacks

Children in Key Stage 1 are provided with a free hot lunch, or you can send your child with a packed lunch.

Parents can order their child's lunch at home, as you know what your child likes. This is done via the Arbor App. There are 4 healthy options every day including a sandwich option. School meals for children in Years 3-6 are chargeable per meal, or you can send your child with a packed lunch. School meals can be ordered by the child on the day or by the parent via the Arbor App.

Free School Meals

School meals are free for some families on low income. Please speak to the office for more information.

Milk

Children under five years old are entitled to free milk. Parents need to order it via www.coolmilk.com. Milk can be purchased for children over five.

Fruit and snacks

All children have access to free fruit and vegetable snacks at break-times. You are very welcome to send your child in with a fresh fruit or vegetable snack from home.

Pupils learn about growing their own food and they collect eggs from the school chickens. They learn about beekeeping. They collect, jar and sell honey. OFSTED

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Uniform



Uniform

We strongly believe that school uniform increases the children's pride and ownership of our school, therefore we insist on children at Griffydam wearing school uniform.

Our uniform consists of:

Navy trousers, shorts, pinafore dress or skirt.

White polo shirt, blouse or shirt.

White or black socks or tights.

Royal blue 'Griffydam' sweatshirt or cardigan.

Black shoes -leather look/leather not canvas (trainers must not be worn)

in the summer, a blue gingham summer dress may be worn as an alternative to the main uniform.

A pair of wellingtons (any colour)

All branded items are available from YourSchoolUniform.com

PE Kit

Children keep their PE kit in school as we like to encourage exercise as much as possible during the week.

Trainers

'Griffydam' PE T-shirt in the children's 'house' colour

Black or navy-blue shorts

Navy 'Griffydam' PE sweater (optional)

Black or navy blue jogging bottoms/leggings (for outdoor PE)

A spare pair of socks (essential)

Jewellery

For health and safety reasons, we do not allow children to wear jewellery in our school. The exceptions to this rule are one small plain earring studs in pierced ears, and small objects of religious significance, such as a crucifix on a chain. We ask that children either remove these objects or cover them with a plaster during PE lessons.

The school is inclusive. Pupils with special educational needs and/or disabilities (SEND) take part in all aspects of school life.

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Our Curriculum



Our Curriculum

We have developed an exciting and aspirational curriculum based on the statutory requirements of the National Curriculum, and the non-statutory guidance for PHSE and Citizenship, and the Locally Agreed Syllabus for RE. Curriculum topics have been carefully selected to fully engage and inspire our children.

Early Years

The Early Years Foundation Stage Curriculum is based on the Government's Early Learning Goals with seven areas of learning:

- Personal, Social and Emotional Development
- Communication and Language
- Physical Development
- Literacy
- Mathematics
- Understanding the World
- Expressive Arts and Design



Key Stages 1-2

Areas of the curriculum are:

- Mathematics
- English
- Science
- Design and Technology
- History
- Geography
- Art and Design
- Music
- Physical Education
- Religious Education
- Computing
- Personal and Social Education
- Modern Foreign Languages (KS2 only)
- Forest School



Leaders have planned curriculum s that are ambitious in all subjects.

Enriched Curriculum

We offer a wide range of sports activities beyond the statutory PE Curriculum. Children are able to join clubs and teams to develop their physical skills. In school, we have sport coaches who offer a wide range of clubs during lunch times and after school. Skills and techniques are developed to enable children to participate in a wide range of sports.

Visitors

We have valued links with our local community and regularly welcome visitors to the school. Visitors have a valuable role to play and contribute to many aspects of school life. They can deliver talks, workshops and full day activities across a wide range of subjects, giving children access to outside experiences and expertise. We are delighted to host visiting authors, artists, actors and musicians and members of the Griffydam History Society.

Educational Visits

To further enrich our curriculum, all children are offered a range of trips and activities. These include:

- Forest School
- Sporting events (for example, cricket, athletics)
- Trips in line with our curriculum
- Opportunities to widen our view of the world (Linking Schools)
- Open the Book assemblies (Christian based)
- Whole school theatre visit at Christmas
- Young Voices
- Science Fair



Other children have the opportunity to go on residential trips during the school year. We feel these experiences can help to develop qualities of self-reliance and respect for others. Children learn independence and develop confidence.

The outside area at the school is spacious and well designed. All pupils make use of the forest school on the site. They enjoy this opportunity.

Inclusion for all

At St. Mary's Primary, we pride ourselves with providing equal opportunities, ensuring that we are inclusive for all.

Inclusion

We promote equal opportunities for all. As a school, we strongly oppose racism and discrimination in any form. Our policies promote inclusivity, ensuring that we all work together to promote a deep understanding of the rich diversity of cultures in today's society. Please inform us if you, or your child, has a disability which may make access to any part of the school or curriculum difficult, so we can ensure all reasonable adjustments are made.

Special Educational Needs

As a school, we work hard to ensure that children with SEND have access to a fully inclusive curriculum and can take part in all activities. We pride ourselves in our communication with parents and will always consult, should we feel that a child needs further support. If you have any concerns of your own, please contact the SENDCo to discuss what support might help your child. Parents are encouraged to share their views and experiences to build a profile of need, alongside members of staff.

Children with SEND will receive specific support linked closely to their area of need. The class teacher, the SEND coordinator and teaching assistants will support with working towards targets. Parents will be kept informed regularly.

ELSA

Effective pastoral care is based on respect, confidence and understanding between home and school. ELSA (Emotional Literacy Support Assistance) can be accessed in school should your child have any emotional or social needs such as bereavement or self-esteem.

Monitor and Assess

We regularly monitor and assess all pupils to ensure that their individual needs are met and, when necessary, to seek the advice of external agencies including the Educational Psychology service, the Specialist Teaching Service, Autism Outreach and the Special Needs Assessment Service.

The SEND policy outlines how children with special needs are identified, assessed and supported according to their individual needs. We work closely with parents, discussing support and providing regular feedback. External agencies are consulted should any external agencies need to be contacted.

Behaviour and self development



Griffydam's behaviour policy encourages children to take ownership of their rights and responsibilities within the school environment, ensuring that behaviour is consistent and encouraging self-regulation. Our expectation is that all pupils treat everyone with respect and kindness, and this is evident for all visitors to see. Pupils are encouraged to show a sense of responsibility for their own and other people's possessions and for the health and safety of everyone.

There is a consistent approach across the school so that everyone is aware of our acceptable standard of behaviour. This is underpinned by the positive and fair attitudes of the staff. Initial issues are dealt with by the class teacher. Further issues will incur reflection time, following this, the Headteacher becomes involved. At this point, clear expectations are discussed with the child and parents. It is important to us that parents are kept informed if their child is struggling with behaviour at school.



We work closely with families to ensure all children are successful in line with our behaviour policy. This is important because home is where children's behavioural expectations are established; where adults expect their child to follow simple rules for safety and to carry out simple instructions. Consistency between home and school ensures that children accept the boundaries within school. We ask parents and children to sign a Home-School Agreement, to ensure that we all have a clear understanding of expectations in school, with full support from home.



Pupils know that they can use worry boxes to report anything that concerns them. They say that they can talk to their teachers about problems they may have. OFSTED 2023

Communicating with parent

Engagement is of the upmost importance to us and we strongly encourage parents and carers to be involved in our school in a variety of ways.

There are regular opportunities for parents to be informed and participate in school activities:

- Two parents' evenings each year, held in the Autumn and Spring terms.
- Christmas performances from all year groups.
- A whole school Harvest Festival assembly.
- Celebration Assemblies on the last day of each half term.
- Five Inspire workshops a year where parents come and work with their child, either participating in a craft activity or learning about a subject area.
- Parents are updated with school news via the school website and fortnightly newsletters.
- By becoming a School Governor.
- By being a member of the Parent Teacher Association.
- By becoming a reading volunteer.



Admissions

We are very proud of our wonderful school and all that it has to offer. We strongly recommended that you contact us directly to arrange a visit, as we would love to show you around.

Applications

At Griffydam, we follow Leicestershire Authority's Common Admissions Policy. Griffydam School admits children to the Foundation Stage at the beginning of the Autumn Term, once they reach the age of four.

After this initial visit, parents need to apply to the Local Authority (LA) for a place at the school. You do not need to live in the catchment area to get a place at Griffydam School.

Once a place has been allocated through the LA, the school will make arrangements for some introductory visits for the child, during the summer term preceding their entry.

Contact the Leicester City Council School Admission Team

<https://www.leicester.gov.uk/schools-and-learning/school-and-colleges/school?admissions/>

Phone 0116 454 1009 (option 1)

Email admissions.online@leicester.gov.uk



Getting Involved

Voluntary helpers

Parents and grandparents are most welcome to volunteer in school. If you feel you are able to offer your support in some way, or have a skill or expertise that you would be willing to share in school, please do not hesitate to contact us.

Griffydam Parents, Teachers Association.

The P.T.A. is all about fun, friendship and fundraising! It is a very active group of parents and staff that raise funds for the school and holds social events for children and adults. Funds raised have already supported the restocking of the school library and supplemented the cost of school trips. Everyone is welcome to join this group. Please contact the school office if you are interested and you will be made very welcome.

The staff and Governors are grateful for the PTA's enthusiasm and continued interest in helping to enhance the children's learning and experience at Griffydam.



Governors

Our Governors volunteer their time to support and develop Griffydam Primary School by providing strategic leadership, making decisions and planning ahead. During Governor meetings, the School Improvement Plan is regularly shared and progress is reported during these meetings. Policy approval and reviews are a priority of the Governing Board. As part of their role, Governors often visit the school during the school day with a clear focus for their visit.

Would you be interested in becoming a Governor?

Our parent Governors provide parents with a voice in decision making and are elected by other parents through a ballot system. If you are interested in becoming a school governor, please contact the school office.



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