



# Green Ridge Primary Academy Prospectus 2017-18

## Introduction

At Green Ridge we aim to provide an exciting, broad and engaging curriculum, which encourages our children to become confident and resilient life-long learners. We want our children not just to achieve, but to exceed expectations and attain the very best results they can, academically, creatively and personally.

We will offer a safe, nurturing and creative learning environment, which enables us to ensure our children are supported, challenged, inspired and motivated through a breadth of learning experiences and opportunities. We will be an inclusive school where everyone is equally valued.

We aim to develop trusting, strong and sustaining partnerships with families and the wider local community. We want our families to be passionately supporting our school events such as productions, special curriculum days and teacher meetings.



## Vision and Educational Experience

Our vision is to ensure outstanding educational provision for pupils, together with enhanced community facilities for the benefit of pupils, parents and others within the local area.

Our children at Green Ridge will leave school with a set of developed core life values that will ensure they are active and supportive members of their local and wider community. They will understand and embrace the use of:

- Creativity & Enjoyment
- Collaboration & Cooperation
- Communication & Individuality
- Care & Respect
- Resilience & Perseverance
- Responsibility & Consideration

## Educational Aims

Green Ridge Primary Academy will be a nurturing school, firmly rooted in strong values that will enable them to flourish as confident young people within their local and wider community; we will develop a community in which every individual can flourish. An exciting and engaging curriculum will provide children with a wide range of unique experiences. A highly skilled and well-qualified workforce will engage all learners in reaching the highest standards. High aspirations and expectations will pervade the life of the school and support the development of children with high self-esteem, self-discipline and strong community spirit.

Education is an essential ingredient for future success. By taking the time to **build character** in every child through our ethos, code of conduct, core life skills, curriculum and assemblies, we can teach all children to be **successful**.

The community will have a new school to be proud of because we are not afraid to make our expectations clear and ensure they are followed. We do not compromise on a thorough grounding in English and mathematics; however, our curriculum will be exciting, motivational and strongly reflect an engagement with 21st Century technologies.

### Inclusion

Green Ridge Primary Academy is committed to providing an appropriate and high quality education to all. We believe that every child is unique and all pupils have a common entitlement to a broad and balanced curriculum integrated in to all aspects of Academy life. We ensure that pupils of all abilities have the opportunity to flourish.



# Admissions and Applications

Green Ridge Primary Academy will be managing its own admissions process outside of Buckinghamshire County Council's coordinated admissions process. Therefore, if you are a parent interested in applying for a place at Green Ridge Primary please see below our prospectus, admissions policy and application form.

Similar to Buckinghamshire County Council, the deadline for applications is 15th January 2017, please ensure you send your applications to REAch2 Academy Trust's central office at:

## Green Ridge Primary Admissions

C/O Minerva Academy  
157 Edgware Road  
London, W2 2HR

Our admissions policy is available on our website at: [www.greenridgeacademy.co.uk](http://www.greenridgeacademy.co.uk)

## Organisation

Our Academy is a Primary school, organised into three key stages:

- Early Years Foundation Stage (EYFS) children in our Reception classes and in the second year of opening, a Nursery.
- Key Stage 1 (KS1) — refers to children in Years 1 and 2.
- Key Stage 2 (KS2) — children in Years 3, 4, 5 and 6.

## Times of Sessions

*The official times of the school day at Green Ridge will be confirmed to all families having been offered places in early 2017. These times are given as guidelines only.*

### Morning

Reception: 8.45am – 11.45am

KS1 8.45am – 12.00pm

KS2 8.45am – 12.30pm

### Afternoon

Reception 12.45pm – 3.10 pm

KS1 1.00pm – 3.15 pm

KS2 1.15pm – 3.15pm

## Assemblies

Assemblies are an integral part of our Academy life. Each day the children come together, either as a whole school or class to sing, celebrate good work and reflect. Parents do have a legal right to ask for their child to be withdrawn from religious activities, including collective worship.

## Uniform

Our uniform, worn by all the children, is a distinctive feature of Green Ridge Primary Academy. We place an emphasis on maintaining high standards of dress and appearance because we believe it encourages the children to take pride in themselves and their Academy. We therefore ask parents to ensure that their children always wear the correct uniform and that it is clearly labelled. Children also need to wear the appropriate kit during PE lessons.

REACH2 are currently carrying a procurement exercise and are looking into local providers of school uniform in the Aylesbury area to ensure affordable costs for parents.



*REACH2 is currently developing further information on our agreed school timetable, school lunches, assemblies and uniform.*

*A full prospectus for Green Ridge Primary Academy will be available in early 2017.*

# Our Curriculum Structure

## Early Years Foundation Stage (EYFS)

At Green Ridge we follow the Early Years Foundation Stage framework. This is a curriculum deeply rooted in the foundations of play in order to support our children to develop their social skills working harmoniously together, whilst gaining a strong foundation in English, Mathematics and creative and physical skills. It is made up of four themes which are:

**A Unique Child:** Every child is a unique child who is constantly learning and can be resilient, capable, confident and self-assured.

**Positive Relationships:** Children learn to be strong and independent through positive relationships.

**Enabling environments:** Children learn and develop well in enabling environments, in which their experiences respond to their individual needs and there is a strong partnership between practitioners, parents and carers.

**Learning and Development:** Children develop and learn in different ways. The framework covers the education and care of all children in early years provision, including children with special educational needs and disabilities.

The themes of a *unique child*, *positive relationships* and *enabling environments* all feed into how we teach the *learning and development* theme.

### Learning and development theme

The Learning and development theme is split into 7 areas of learning:

1. **Communication and Language** development involves giving children opportunities to experience a rich language environment; to develop their confidence and skills in expressing themselves; and to speak and listen in a range of situations.
2. **Personal, Social and Emotional Development** involves helping children to develop a positive sense of themselves, and others; to form positive relationships and develop respect for others; to develop social skills and learn how to manage their feelings; to understand appropriate behaviour in groups; and to have confidence in their own abilities.
3. **Physical Development** involves providing opportunities for young children to be active and interactive; and to develop their co-ordination, control, and movement. Children must also be helped to understand the importance of physical activity, and to make healthy choices in relation to food.
4. **Literacy** development involves encouraging children to link sounds and letters and to begin to read and write. Children must be given access to a wide range of reading materials (books, poems, and other written materials) to ignite their interest.

5. **Mathematics** involves providing children with opportunities to develop and improve their skills in counting, understanding and using numbers, calculating simple addition and subtraction problems; and to describe shapes, spaces, and measures.
6. **Understanding of the world** involves guiding children to make sense of their physical world and their community through opportunities to explore, observe and find out about people, places, technology and the environment.
7. **Expressive arts and design** involves enabling children to explore and play with a wide range of media and materials, as well as providing opportunities and encouragement for sharing their thoughts, ideas and feelings through a variety of activities in art, music, movement, dance, role-play, and design and technology.

In Early Years we follow children's interests to offer them a stimulating and engaging curriculum. We use these interests to teach the 7 areas of learning described above. Children are continually assessed through observations and focus groups and the provision supplied is a result of this assessment.

We have **60 Reception** places available for **September 2017**.



## Key Stage 1 and 2

At Green Ridge, we have designed a curriculum that equips our children with the skills and personal qualities necessary to lead a fulfilling and rewarding life. We aim for our curriculum to enable our children to achieve the core life values we aspire to for them, and allow them to be active, responsible members of their community.

Our curriculum is very practical, engaging all ability levels and is easily accessed by children at different stages of English language acquisition. Children work in a variety of ways: as a class, in groups, pairs or individually. Our emphasis is always on active and meaningful involvement of children in their own learning. Through this, we aim to provide meaningful and exciting learning opportunities, which ensures raised levels of achievement.

Green Ridge's curriculum is organised in two parts – the first is a core offer in English and mathematics, and then the remaining subjects include both RE and ICT, which is all in-line with the National Curriculum.

Green Ridge will have its own policy and implementation documents for each of the subjects, which will become available on the school website. A yearly curriculum map will be designed to show how topics are organised to give continuity and ensure progression.

Children's learning will be carefully monitored as they progress through the Programs of Study in the National Curriculum. Recording of achievement will be through individual children's work, group work, whole class work, shared books, displays, teacher's records and the child's individual portfolio.

## Physical Education

Physical Development (PD) promotes children's knowledge, skills and understanding of how their body moves so that they can perform with increasing competence and confidence in a range of physical activities.

Physical Development is taught both as independent weekly lessons with a PE teacher and through appropriate links in the creative curriculum. This gives children a chance to continue using PD throughout all aspects of the curriculum, putting into action specific skills learnt with the PE teacher.

Over the course of a year children cover a wide range of activities to give an understanding of their bodies in action. These include dance, indoor and outdoor games, gymnastics, athletics and striking and fielding games.



Through taking part in regular exercise, we promote the importance of making healthy decisions and encourage children to continue to make these positive choices for the rest of their lives.



# The Green Ridge Community

## Pupil Voice

As our children are at the forefront of everything we do, seeking their opinions and views and empowering the development of their leadership is vital to the success of our academy. With this in mind we will develop the use of a School Council that meets regularly to discuss a range of issues. Through participating in School Council and other leadership roles, children will have a real influence in helping to develop 'The Green Ridge Way' – our ethos, our policies and our practices.

## Parental Partnership

We aim to involve our parents/carers in all aspects of school life; to keep them fully informed of school events, and of their child's progress. We do this through parent discussions, reading records, weekly newsletters, and our parent forums. We will also hold coffee meetings for parent & carers in which the headteacher and members of the leadership team meet with parents.

A parent/carer wishing to discuss any matter with a member of staff need not necessarily make an appointment. Staff members are generally available before/after school for a quick discussion. More formal contact is made during our termly parent/carer consultation evenings, when parents/carers are given the opportunity to discuss their child's progress with the class teacher. An annual written report is sent home during the final summer term.

There will be a parent/carer notice board in the school playground which provides useful information, including newsletters, minutes of governors meetings, school policies etc. Copies of all information can also be obtained from the school office or the website.

Parents/carers are also encouraged to contribute to the life of the school by becoming a parent helper. We are very grateful to parents who can offer help in school. Help is invaluable with a wide range of activities including reading and playing games, cooking, ICT, helping with art and craft activities, attending school trips and many more! If you can spare some time to help, please see the office staff to register your interest.

## Staff

All of our staff at Green Ridge play an essential role in ensuring our school is a safe, healthy and inspiring place for all our children to learn.

We work closely with outside agencies such as occupational therapists, educational psychologists and speech and language therapists to ensure a well-rounded provision and support for our children making sure they are receiving any additional high quality professional care for their developmental needs if required.

## Governors

The Local Governing Body will be committed to excellence; a team which make a real difference to the life of our school meeting regularly with staff, parents and pupils. If you are interested in becoming a Local Governor please do contact the school.

## Safety and Security

Children's safety at Green Ridge is our absolute priority. We work closely with other agencies, sharing information where necessary to ensure the safety of all pupils. All entrances and exits to the school are secured during school hours, and the only access to the school is through the main school entrance which has a constantly monitored entry system. All staff are required to undertake strict disclosure and barring service checks on a regular basis, and in addition to this teaching staff are monitored through the recently introduced national prohibition check service.

## Medicine in School

We always seek to support children and parents. There are times where we will administer medicine to a child, for example if a child has a long-term illness or if we have put a 'Health Care Plan' in place with parents.

If you feel your child will require medicine during the school day, please inform the Academy at the earliest opportunity and we will be more than happy to discuss how we might help you. We would kindly ask you not send your child to school with medicines, without agreement from the school. We are only able to administer medication that has been issued following a prescription, or that is accompanied by medical authorisation.

If your child is unwell and requires antibiotics they should have some time at home to recover and be certain that there will be no side effects to taking the medication. If your child has asthma please provide us with a labelled asthma pump and complete an information card from the school office. All children will be expected to become responsible for this, as soon as we feel they are ready to do so.

## Child Protection

As our children's safety is our highest priority, our duty of care for all pupils is taken very seriously at Green Ridge. We are a front-line agency for child protection, and therefore our policies and procedures reflect this in all we do. Any causes for concern are immediately passed on to the designated child protection officers, and staff monitor children's welfare on a daily basis. Our Academy has a legal duty to refer cases causing concern to the relevant authorities.

## Homework / 'Home Learning Tasks'

We have a policy of providing 'home learning tasks' - opportunities that are enjoyable, manageable, interesting and extend and enrich and support the learning that has taken place in school.

Home Learning:

- Reading: Every child is asked to read for at least 10 minutes a day with a book that they enjoy. It is also expected that parents write comments in their child's Reading Record when a child is heard reading.
- Mathematics homework is set weekly to rehearse and practice skills and build confidence.
- Depending upon the area of learning at school, some additional thematic learning will be given as appropriate to support interest and engagement and to share with parents/carers.
- Spellings/Key Words will be issued on a personalised basis, and always linked to our curriculum theme.





## Extra-Curricular Activities

We aim to provide our children with a breadth and depth of extra-curricular provision after school that allows them to experience activities they may not otherwise have access to. This provision is dependent upon the availability and specialism of our staff team, and activities will occur before and after school, and on some occasions during lunch times.



## Educational Visits

Educational visits enrich our curriculum topics and bring them to life for our children, therefore we encourage teachers, where appropriate, to organise trips for the children that will enhance their learning experiences and ensure they are learning beyond the classroom.

In addition to these visits there will also be residential opportunities for all children over time.

## Child Care

To support our working parents we will offer all round care through the provision of a breakfast club before school and an after-school club. Exact times will be confirmed in our full prospectus in early 2017.

## Behaviour

At Green Ridge we have the very highest expectations of behaviour. We work towards a House Team system, where children have a consistent set of core principles and rules across the school working towards achieving the highest standard each day both individually and as part of a team. We expect our children to show courtesy, respect and responsibility at all times.

## Attendance and Punctuality

We are committed to ensuring our children achieve to their absolute full potential at Green Ridge, and excellent attendance and punctuality are one vital aspect of ensuring this occurs. Parents/carers who ensure their children attend school regularly and on time demonstrate the importance of school to their children, ensuring that they then develop a healthy attitude towards their learning.

We therefore expect that children are ready for school, in the playground from 8:35am, ready to enter and begin learning at 8.45am.

If a child is unwell and unable to attend, a reason must be given in the form of a phone call or letter. Apart from very exceptional circumstances, parents should not take children out of school during term time. In such cases, permission must be obtained from the Academy.

***The official times of the school day at Green Ridge will be confirmed in our full prospectus which will be available in early 2017.***

## Other information

We will be looking to update our prospectus as the Academy develops over the coming year. Please continue to check our website for the latest information:

[www.greenridgeacademy.co.uk](http://www.greenridgeacademy.co.uk)

## Contact details

### Green Ridge Primary Academy

Website: [www.greenridgeacademy.co.uk](http://www.greenridgeacademy.co.uk)

Email: [info@greenridgeacademy.co.uk](mailto:info@greenridgeacademy.co.uk)

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Edgware Road  
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### REAch2:

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