



## Newdale Primary School

***'Doers, Believers, Achievers'***

Everybody who works in our school, in any capacity, considers themselves to have all of its 520 children in their care. This team ethos means that each employee comes to work every single day intent on making a difference to every single child.

### **REPORT CARD**

NEWDALÉ PRIMÁRY SCHOOL

- » Head teacher: Rachel Cook
- » Location: Telford, Shropshire
- » 414 pupils, 106 Nursery children,
- » 19 Teachers, 25 Teaching Assistants
- » % Disadvantaged children 26%
- » % SEND 18%
- » Ofsted rating: Outstanding



*A community with caring at its heart.*

### ***We are all in this together...***

Building such a team starts with recruitment. We only recruit people who share our core values of determination, drive, passion, energy and inclusion. This is the same for all teams: governors, lunch-time supervisors, office staff and the teaching team. Everyone who works in Newdale knows our core vision: in our school, no-one is left behind and everyone is taught to believe that they *will* succeed. Staff who are themselves doers, believers and achievers naturally inspire children to be the same.

### ***Always going above and beyond what is expected***

In all areas, the Newdale community starts with best current practice as its baseline – and then seeks to exceed it. One example of this is communication in school – between governors, staff, pupils and parents and carers. Our Pastoral Team plays a key role in developing strong relationships based on trust and mutual respect with parents and carers. It is our children who reap the resultant benefits, both in and out of school. Equally, children have direct access to governors by regularly attending governors' committee meetings. For example, Pupil Safeguarding Champions attended the governors' Health and Safety Committee Meeting to discuss issues they had noticed concerning friendship problems in school. Together they made an action plan and they then led a whole school assembly on the topic.

*"Everyone is taught to believe that they will succeed."*

### ***Consistency of approach***

All classes enjoy excellent teaching and learning thanks to regular monitoring coupled with on-going support and continuing professional development. All classes are similarly equipped and key components (such as reading corners and displays) are of a consistently high standard. Teachers visit each other's classrooms to learn from colleagues and travel regularly to outstanding schools in other parts of the country to inspire their own teaching.

## ***More than just a school***

The Newdale community includes provision for children from two years old; these younger children share our values and identity. For example, our belief that there are no ceilings on learning for pupils (or staff) is seen in our approach to phonics teaching in our Nursery. Children are encouraged to progress to the full extent of their capability including Phase Three and beyond.

*Developing mutual understanding and respect between the generations.*



## ***Community Involvement***

The school benefits from a supportive community but Newdale goes further by finding additional opportunities to support the community around it. Children's learning can begin at Breakfast Club where they are offered a wide range of indoor and outdoor activities. After-School Club runs regular trips which enrich the children's experience and help to raise their aspirations. Regular Family Learning courses provide opportunities to develop job skills which some parents have used directly to gain employment. We encourage family participation in school through half-termly Family Lunches and we run separate Grandparent Tea Parties where children are given the opportunity to

both teach and learn from an older generation. Senior Citizens' Lunches also promote reciprocal understanding: local people are invited to a meal in school which is served by our children.

## ***Our curriculum offer and attainment in Newdale***

EYFS and KS1 Performance Data	Newdale Primary School and Nursery	National
Children achieving a Good level of Development (GLD) at the end of EYFS (Reception year)	75%	69%
Phonics Year 1	97%	85%
Key Stage 1 Reading at Expected standard.	84%	74%
Key Stage 1 Writing at Expected standard.	74%	66%
Key Stage 1 Maths at Expected standard.	85%	73%
2016 Key Stage 2 performance information	Newdale Primary School and Nursery	National
% achieving the expected standard of attainment in reading.	90%	66%
% achieving the expected standard of attainment in writing teacher assessment.	85%	74%
% achieving the expected standard of attainment in maths.	83%	70%

Pupil attainment is high and improving year on year. We concentrate on how the children learn and progress, benefitting from the staff around them. Academic attainment is, however, only one focus of our curriculum. Our determination to equip our pupils with the skills and aspirations they deserve means we extend our curriculum well beyond the school gate. In the past year, Newdale pupils have worked with local businesses and won a place in a national competition to design a robotic car; they have enjoyed a wide range of trips including a visit to the Houses of Parliament and a week at an outdoor adventure centre; they have worked alongside professional artists to produce artwork for our school; they have camped overnight on the school field and the whole school walked to the top of an iconic Shropshire hill where

they made a human poppy to mark Remembrance Day. We are passionate about preparing our children for life in modern Britain. We do not avoid difficult or contentious issues but address these directly and honestly. For example, we offer teaching on current social issues (such as domestic violence or gender equality) from Reception all the way through to year 6.

*Children appeared in local press when they made a human poppy at the top of the Wrekin.*





*Ready to read in The Den.*

### ***Solution-focussed***

As a school, we believe in being both pro-active and reactive. Early identification of need is followed by the earliest possible intervention. For example, staff recognised a delay in speech and language attainment in several of our Nursery children. Within weeks, a tailored Speech and Language programme was being run in Early Years. This programme is currently being developed into a unique speaking project for use in our school. Similarly, staff raised concerns that some children with complex needs were unable to access the Literacy and Numeracy curriculum successfully. Within a month, 'The Den' had been identified and equipped to provide specialist provision for these children every morning.

### ***Whole child care and nurture***

Our young people are not immune to the 21<sup>st</sup> century diseases of stress and social isolation. Alongside academic achievement, Newdale prioritises mental health and well-being. We work hard to ensure that every pupil leaves our school with confidence and resilience; we want children to know what they have to offer and to be able to contribute fully to society. For this reason, we make explicit links between the spiritual, moral, social and cultural aspects of learning and all other areas of the curriculum. Each month we celebrate a key value, for example independence, which can promote emotional health and we encourage parents and carers to join in by suggesting home-based activities.

*Year 4 children designed the giant to symbolise resilience, strength, self-belief and never giving up.*



### ***The Future***

Education never stands still. We will maintain our willingness and ability to change so that we can continue to address fully the ever-changing needs of our pupils. Currently, we are embracing cutting-edge digital learning in our quest to make academic learning ever more accessible, enjoyable and relevant to every child in our care.