

A young boy with short brown hair and blue eyes, wearing glasses, is sitting at a wooden table. He is wearing a grey hoodie over a black shirt. He is holding a blue plastic fork with a piece of orange food on it. In front of him is a yellow plastic bowl filled with more orange food. The background is slightly blurred, showing a wooden chair and a blue bag with colorful straps. On the right side of the image, there are several white, curved, overlapping lines that create a decorative graphic element.

*“Welcome to The Redway School,
'an extra special' special school
within Milton Keynes. We hope
you will find this prospectus a
helpful introduction.”*



A Personal Message from the Headteacher

May I warmly welcome you to The Redway School. Our prospectus has been designed to give you a flavour of our school, its aims and values, but to appreciate our school entirely a visit is highly recommended. We are a caring school and work hard to provide a safe and happy place where everyone feels valued.

The Redway School focuses on meeting the needs of all pupils, both collectively and individually. We are committed to providing an enjoyable, quality education for all our pupils within a friendly atmosphere where they can fulfil their potential, grow in confidence and most importantly be happy. I believe that the school is successful in encouraging every child to feel valued in an environment where all achievements, however small are recognised and celebrated.

We believe strongly in working closely with parents and carers and welcome your contributions to your child's education. We appreciate all the extra demands and stresses



a child with special needs can place upon a family. Therefore, do feel that you can approach me or the relevant teacher to discuss any questions or issues you may have regarding your child's education and beyond. We are here to help and wish to work with you to achieve the best possible education for your child.

We provide a high quality education, and believe in developing our pupil's basic skills with a particular emphasis on literacy, communication and numeracy as well as developing skills for independent life.

I do hope that you find our prospectus helpful. If there is any further information you would like about the school, do get in contact as I will be only too pleased to help.

Ruth Sylvester
Headteacher





Our Aims

To provide a stimulating and challenging education of the highest quality within which all pupils learn, experience success and know that their achievements are valued.

To deliver a broad and balanced curriculum through well planned, highly structured and motivating individual teaching programmes which include differentiated group activities.

To acknowledge and respect all pupils as individuals, who have the potential to learn and who make a unique contribution to the life of the school, their family and the community.

To promote pupils' spiritual, moral, social and cultural development and prepare all pupils for the opportunities and experiences of life.

To enable pupils to interact and communicate as appropriate to their needs.

To promote self advocacy or the use of a range of systems of supported advocacy.

To prepare pupils for adult life, to increase their awareness and understanding of their environment and of their world.

To provide a wide variety of age appropriate learning experiences for all pupils.

To optimise the use of community resources and encourage community members to share our resources and facilities.



Admissions

Admissions to The Redway School are through the Local Authority (LA). Children admitted to The Redway School usually have a statement of special educational needs where the school is the named provision. The school has a clear admissions policy that involves full discussion with all concerned professionals and parents.

Open Days are organised during the Autumn and Summer Terms to enable interested parents and professionals to visit and view the school at work. Students from the Post 16 Department conduct tours of the school and there is an opportunity to meet the Headteacher, teachers and other staff who work within the school.



Our School and its Facilities

The Redway School is maintained by Milton Keynes LA. catering for children between the ages of 2 – 19 with a wide range of learning difficulties.

The school is located in Netherfield, near to both the city centre and Milton Keynes General Hospital. Specialist facilities include a dark room, a light stimulation room, soft play room, music room, design and technology / art room, a secondary and primary food technology room, a hall, a gym, a conservatory, a flat within the Post 16 department for the teaching of independent life skills, plus a magnificent hydrotherapy pool.



We also have a family room, a large meeting room, a library with a Connexions Point, and a suite of therapy rooms used by the medical professionals who work alongside school staff.

Outside the school has a specially designed playground for pupils in the Foundation Stage, a reflection area, a large play area for the primary pupils and various other smaller play areas for older pupils. The school also has its own fleet of buses – two minibuses and two larger buses.





Our Curriculum Aims

- To provide a learning environment that encourages and enables pupils to achieve their full potential.
- To ensure that all pupils have access to the Foundation Stage / National Curriculum at a level appropriate to their individual needs.
- To provide a differentiated curriculum, meeting the needs, interests and capabilities of each pupil.
- To provide continuity and progression, ensuring that the pupils learning experiences form a continuous and coherent process.
- To involve parents in their children's learning.
- To provide appropriate accreditation which is recognised nationally.
- To provide opportunities for pupils to make choices and to develop independence skills.

These aims are important in order to ensure that we enable our pupils to:

- Increase their awareness and understanding of the world.
- Have increasing control and influence over their own lives.
- Be motivated by learning at school and beyond.
- Become valued citizens within their local community.

We believe that there are two essential strands which are for all our pupils and these are an integral part of all our curricular work: that of Communication and Independence.

Communication:

- Is fundamental to all learning.
- At The Redway School is valued in all its forms.
- Is essential for all pupils to access the curriculum.

Independence:

- Enables pupils to work towards increased levels of self advocacy.
- Enables pupils to plan for their future.
- Prepares pupils for the choices and challenges of life beyond school.



Curriculum Organisation

The Redway School is organised into two department areas. The Lower School caters for pupils in the Foundation Stage and Key Stages 1 and 2. The Upper School caters for pupils in Key Stages 3 and 4, and those within the Post 16 provision. Each Department is led by an Assistant Headteacher who ensures that their pupils receive an appropriate and differentiated curriculum.

The pupils are taught in year groups and they follow The National Curriculum at an appropriate level and pace, but we always recognise and value the individual special nature of the children we teach. This individualised approach considers each pupil's needs, their age and the nature and degree of their learning difficulty. Through experience and constant evaluation the curriculum continues to be developed and enhanced so that it continues to meet the needs and educational challenges that the children present within an ever changing society.

A range of therapies including speech and language, physiotherapy, occupational therapy, music therapy, support the provision.



Inclusion



One of the aims central to The Redway School is
'To optimise the use of community resources and encourage community members to share our resources and facilities.'

As such we are keen to promote and develop the role of the school as part of the total educational provision for children in Milton Keynes and the surrounding areas. We share our skills and expertise with colleagues in mainstream and other special schools to help them meet the individual educational needs of a wide range of pupils.

We are constantly developing opportunities for our pupils to work and join in with their peers in other local schools. In addition, we view inclusion as a two way process and as such individuals and groups of pupils from local schools also participate in activities with some of our pupils at The Redway School.





Partnership with parents

At The Redway School we are totally committed to working in partnership with parents and carers. Together we work to ensure that the pupils receive the best possible education. Therefore we support and encourage informal meetings between teachers and parents / carers to enable them to talk and to discuss any problems. It is helpful, however, if this is done by prior mutual arrangement.



We encourage the active involvement of parents in a number of other ways, some of which include:

- The Annual Review Meetings which includes the development and review of Individual Education Plans.
- Daily home / school contact through the home school books. This is a way of communication between home and school detailing what has been happening and how home and school may support each other.
- Through telephone calls and home visits.
- The Parent Consultation Evenings held in the Autumn and Summer Terms, which give parents and carers the opportunity to meet with staff to discuss their child's progress.
- Meeting at our Open Mornings held during the Autumn and Summer Terms.
- Through our home / school agreements.
- At our Coffee Mornings for parents and carers.
- By providing courses for parents.
- Through the weekly Friday Letter which gives information of events occurring in the school and supplies details of forthcoming events.
- By helping in school for certain class based activities and accompanying off site activities.
- Joining us for our special occasions during the school year.





Educational Visits

Educational visits are an integral part of the curriculum at The Redway School and as such they provide further learning experiences for our pupils.

On weekly basis pupils have the opportunity to attend the local Riding for the Disabled (RDA) centres, swim at a local pool, and have sessions using the exercise equipment at a nearby gym in addition to participating in golf lessons at the golf course.



As part of developing independence and life skills students within the Secondary and Post 16 departments attend:

- Courses at the local colleges
- SNAP which provides supported learning in the workforce
- Thrift Farm where the students are again supported working with the animals or in the horticulture department.

We offer a range of residential visits each year where all pupils are able to participate in a range of outdoor pursuits including climbing, abseiling, sailing, canoeing, kayaking, archery, and swimming. These have been extremely successful and both pupils and staff look forward to them each year.



The Redway School

We hope that you have enjoyed reading our prospectus. We are extremely proud of our school and the wide range of opportunities we are able to offer all our pupils and staff.

In order for you to appreciate the ethos of the school visits are highly recommended and can be arranged via the school office.

