### WELCOME TO THE CROFT PRESCHOOL AND RECEPTION AT TRANBY

2024 - 2025

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NURTURING POTENTIAL | INSPIRING SUBJECT PASSION | CELEBRATING TALENT

# MEET THE TEAM

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Mrs K Hannah Head of The Croft



Mrs S Douthwaite <u>Deput</u>y Nursery Manager



Mrs C Hardy Class Teacher



Mrs S Wealsby Class Teacher



Mrs A Haworth Nursery Nurse



Ms C Long Nursery Nurse



Mrs K Rogers Nursery Nurse



Mrs T Parker Nursery Nurse



Mrs N Sultan Nursery Nurse



Mrs S Dearnley Nursery Nurse



Miss E Atkinson Nursery Nurse



Mrs A Lind Nursery Nurse



Mrs T Harvey Nursery Nurse



Miss Y Inglis Apprentice



Miss MA Simpson Apprentice

#### WORKING TOGETHER WITH KINDNESS | INTEGRITY | DETERMINATION

### Cath Sweeting Prep Headteacher



The Croft Preschool and Reception at Tranby is an inspiring, engaging, and nurturing environment for your child to start their educational journey. Our early education develops our pupils and nurtures their potential, celebrates their successes and supports them wholly.

Our teachers and practitioners are experts in Early Years. They are passionate and dedicated, putting the children at the centre of everything we do. The balance we create between child-led and adult-supported activities encourages our children to become scientists, historians, mathematicians, authors, illustrators, communicators and more.

The unique environment at The Croft is calm and inviting, catering to every individual child's needs and interests. Embracing natural, real, open-ended resources and purposeful materials, supporting children's long-term memory development and application.





At The Croft, we give each pupil the best possible start in their educational journey, propelling them academically and socially, and providing a significant advantage when starting reception. We foster an ethos of community and mutual respect, treating each child as an individual and celebrating their success.

With considerable importance placed on child-initiated play and child-led learning, pupils creatively develop their own ideas and have an early advantage in acquiring the vital characteristics of effective learning.

From as young as 2 years old, children receive a head start in phonics and mathematics, laying a strong foundation for their future education.

We strongly believe that a preschool setting should provide more than just excellent childcare.

It should be a place where children embark upon their educational journey and their love of learning begins.



'At The Croft, we develop happy, curious, motivated, bold and adventurous children who are unafraid to embrace life and seek new adventures.' K. Hannah - Head of The Croft





Our high adult-to-child ratio ensures that children progress rapidly and thrive academically and socially. By receiving individualised attention, children move at a pace that suits their learning style, leading to significant achievements in their mathematics, reading and writing abilities.

The success of our integrated approach to learning is evidenced by the exceptional progress of our Little Crofters, not only academically but personally.

They are excellent communicators

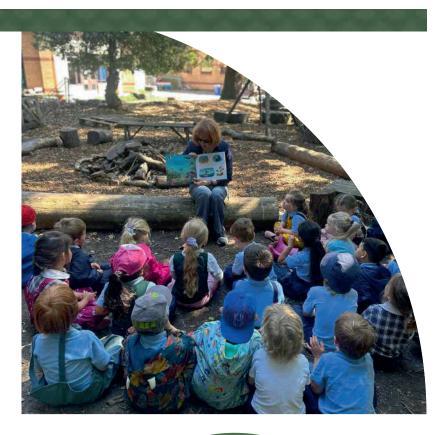
They are emotionally advanced

They form strong bonds

They are adept at self-regulation

They have the confidence to push themselves and are unafraid to take on challenges, whether physical or academic.

We brilliantly prepare our little learners for an easy transition into Tranby Prep where they embrace new challenges with confidence and enthusiasm.



We provide an educational experience that goes beyond the academic. Every child finds their strengths and passions guided by our high expectations and a 'no limits' approach to teaching and learning.



## **EARLY READING** Get Ahead, Stay Ahead

#### **Phonics Excellence**

A solid foundation in phonics is crucial for early literacy and future academic success.

Our program is designed to equip children with the essential skills they need to embark on their educational journey with excitement and readiness, beginning when children join us from as young as 2 years old.

We combine both short, adult-led lessons and carefully planned child-initiated learning, delivered through engaging, structured sessions, tailored to each child's developmental stage. We use evidence-based methods to ensure every child develops a deep understanding of phonics, enabling them to confidently read and write from an early age.

### **Exceptional Progress**

We take pride in the exceptional progress our children make during their time at The Croft. Through continuous observation and assessment, we adapt our teaching strategies to support and challenge each child, ensuring they reach their full potential.

#### Experience tells us that:

Education thrives on personalisation

We recognise that:

#### One size doesn't fit all.

With small groups and class sizes, we tailor our approach to each child's unique needs so they receive the support and attention they deserve.

'100% of children made above expected progress in phonics and maths.' July 2024 'Early reading is the ignition to imagination, sparking ideas, allowing discovery, communication, curiosity and compassion.'





# LEARNING BEYOND THE CLASSROOM

'Let nature be your teacher' - William Wordsworth

At Tranby, the world beyond the classroom offers endless opportunities for discovery, growth, and inspiration. Our curriculum is designed to harness the full potential of our stunning grounds, where nature becomes an integral part of the learning journey.

> 'Here at The Croft, we understand that the best classrooms often have no walls.'

Our outdoor learning experiences are woven throughout the year, seamlessly incorporating activities across all areas of the curriculum.

From weekly Welly Walks that spark curiosity and exploration to immersive Forest School sessions that foster resilience, creativity, and teamwork, our children thrive in the fresh air and open spaces.

With unlimited access to our unique and bespoke outdoor area, every child is encouraged to connect with nature, develop their physical skills, and nurture a lifelong love for learning.

# FOREST SCHOOLS

Curiosity and creativity are qualities we encourage, along with managing risks. Forest Schools allows our children to work collaboratively to complete a range of physical, scientific and creative challenges as well as develop their communication and language skills.

To complement the learning taking place in our outstanding outdoor area, our pupils also experience weekly visits to our very own woodland area, situated in our magnificent grounds, to focus on Forest School skills development sessions.

These skills are progressive and focus on the changing seasons, exploring different environments, working with tools and fire safety.

In addition, our Reception children visit Meaux Abbey Farm, a fabulous ancient woodland off-site to put their developing skills into practice. These visits provide a full day of immersive learning in a beautiful, natural setting. Here, children will:

- Develop teamwork and collaboration skills.
- Deepen friendships through shared experiences.
- Learn a range of practical and survival skills.
- Apply classroom-based learning in a real-world context.

During these visits, children are taught by our Forest School specialists alongside their class teacher, ensuring a seamless integration of indoor and outdoor learning.

We love to encourage bravery and safe risk-taking! Whether through climbing trees, balancing on obstacle courses or using tools at Forest Schools. Risky play enables our children to be bold, and adventurous and seek new challenges.

# DEVELOPING OUR CHILDREN AS LEARNERS

Our 'Achieveosaurs' celebrate the Characteristics of Effective Learning attributes and are closely linked to our 'Tranby Traits'. Our approach encourages, motivates, and inspires children to develop and apply these fundamental skills in all aspects of their learning. Focusing not only on what they are learning but also on how they are learning.

#### Meet the Achieveosaurses

Stickasauruses have bags of perseverance and never give up, even when the going gets tough.

Solveosaurus Rex can reflect and improve. They work really hard to solve problems and find new ways of doing things.

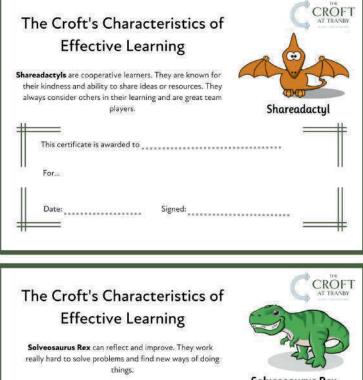
Thinkadocuses are able to concentrate on a task for long periods of time. They think carefully about what they have learnt and can explain their ideas to others.

Shareadactyls are cooperative learners. They are known for their kindness and ability to share ideas or resources. They always consider others in their learning and are great team players.

The Croft's Characteristics of 🛛 🔊 🔤 🗛 🗛
Effective Learning
Thinkadocuses are able to concentrate on a task for long periods of time. They think carefully about what they have learnt and can explain their ideas to others. Thinkadocus
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Stickosauruses have bags of perseverance and never give up, even when the going gets tough.

Signed:

Date:



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# PARENT PARTNERSHIP

Working with parents is very important to us. We have an open-door policy and work together to ensure all children feel safe and happy and flourish in school.

We encourage parents to share their child's experiences and accomplishments out of school and we proudly promote these within school assemblies and on our social media platforms if you are happy for us to do so.

We welcome you to events throughout the year to collaborate and celebrate your child's journey at The Croft.

Further ways we strengthen and maintain our parent partnership include:

- Weekly snippets on Tapestry to inform parents of our learning
- Weekly class newsletter
- Sharing 'wow' moments on Tapestry app (from Pre-School and home)
- Parent consultation evenings and reports
- Parent information evenings/videos (linked to areas of the curriculum)
- Photos, updates on The Croft Instagram and Twitter pages
- Open door policy
- Stay and play sessions
- Coffee mornings
- Teddy Bears picnic

And more.

"The most magical learning and nurturing experience that I could wish for. The setting and staff are just the perfect blend. My little boy thrives in The Croft"

## EXTENDED DAY

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We understand that working parents have commitments that might not fit around standard school hours. To support busy Tranby families, our Extended Day is here for you from 07:30 to 18:00 each school day for pupils from Reception to Year 6.

The service is free until 16:45, after which there is a  $\pounds$ 5 charge without a tea time snack or a  $\pounds$ 7.50 charge with a tea time snack.

We consider our Extended Day to be the 7th lesson of the day. With learning at the heart of everything we do here at Tranby, the provision gives Tranby children further opportunities to develop their skills and knowledge beyond the curriculum.

Our after-school activities encompass 3 areas of enriched learning:

ACTIVE

CREATIVE

ACADEMIC

Pupils are offered a variety of teacher-led, After School Care themed and sometimes, external activities each evening. Sessions are developed incorporating 'The Tranby Way', ensuring high expectations through learning both indoors and outdoors to develop the 'whole child.'

Teachers use their subject passions and specialisms to teach pupils new skills and knowledge beyond the curriculum.

You may opt to utilise our Extended Day provision out of need, but equally, given the advanced learning opportunity it provides our pupils, you may wish to utilise the Extended Day to further their knowledge and skills. We offer a variety of clubs, each with the goal of sparking interest and excitement in every pupil.

Alongside our Extended Day, we offer after-school clubs provided by Fit4Fun, led by Tom Farrow and his team whose enthusiasm and commitment to regular participation in sport and focus on health and active living has enabled them to establish a brilliant reputation since 2008.

# THE IMPACT OF OUR EYFS APPROACH

Every child achieves their full potential and thrives in the learning environment and all aspects of society. Children become independent thinkers and confident and compassionate learners who are resilient and willing to take risks.

Tranby children are positive about their learning and have high expectations of themselves and others.

### Growing a community of happy learners

One of the most important things here at Tranby is that children enjoy their education. When we welcome families and their children each morning, we love to see them enter school with a spring in their step and a smile on their faces and leave happy, enthused and bursting with new knowledge.

'We know that children who feel seen, heard, valued and respected excel in their education and throughout life.'

### Preschool to Sixth Form in one inspiring location

Tranby children benefit from our vast setting which incorporates the nurturing environment of preschool through to the advanced learning of Sixth Form, providing a seamless and enriching journey from age 2 to 18. This unique advantage sets us apart from other schools and creates an inspiring and supportive atmosphere that fosters growth and success at every stage.

Every stage of schooling is completed in one awe-inspiring location: Tranby Croft Children are not faced with the daunting prospect of a large new school they have to learn to navigate They are part of the Tranby Family, seeing the same familiar faces throughout their education from fellow pupils to teachers.

Older children from Pre-Prep (Reception), Prep and Senior School are incorporated into the learning journey of our Preschoolers, often sharing their musical, sporting or academic talents such as a love of reading and writing through telling their own stories.

The transition throughout The Croft and into Pre-Prep is seamless because collaborative learning and play occur throughout the year, alongside regular familiarisation visits and carefully planned activities that prepare your child to progress from The Croft and into Tranby.

With 100% of parents agreeing that they would recommend The Croft, our community is something our children, parents and staff feel is very special, and we are sure you will agree too.

# Get Ahead, Stay Ahead Specialist Learning Areas and Teachers

### The STEM Loft

#### Science | Technology | Engineering | Mathematics

Our state-of-the-art STEM facility nurtures a foundational understanding of these crucial disciplines, fostering curiosity and problem-solving skills early on. This propels pupils towards their education beyond the Early Years Foundation Stage. Scan the QR code to read more about the importance of STEM learning in early education.





## **Specialist Teachers**

Access to Senior School subject specialists is an invaluable asset and something we are very proud to be able to offer to children from an early age. Our outstanding teachers possess in-depth knowledge and expertise in their respective fields, providing an enriched learning experience and introducing advanced concepts and real-world applications that inspire curiosity and creativity. Through exposure to passionate and knowledgeable educators from the outset, Tranby pupils develop a genuine enthusiasm for learning and pursue academic interests with confidence as they progress through their education.





# GET IN TOUCH

#### When will your adventure begin?

We understand that choosing a school is a big decision and we want you to be sure that The Croft at Tranby is the right school for your child.

We hold Open Days and School in Action Days throughout the year but you are welcome to visit The Croft for a private tour to fit in with you and your family any time.

Please contact our Registrar Sharon McEwan to book your own private tour: sharon.mcewan@tranby.org.uk.

#### Telephone: 01482 657016 Email: enquiries@tranby.org.uk









# THE CROFT AT TRANBY

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