



THAKEHAM PRIMARY SCHOOL
Rock Road
Storrington
West Sussex
RH20 3AA
Headteacher: Mr L. McDonald
Deputy Headteacher: Mrs E. Hopkins
SENCOs: Mr L. McDonald & Mrs R. Stender

Tel: 01903 740176
Email: office@thakehamps.co.uk
Web: <http://www.thakehamps.co.uk>

‘At Thakeham we CARE’

Courage. Ambition. Respect. Enjoyment.

October 2023

Dear Parents and Carers,

New Vision, Values, Mission Statement and Slogan

As you know, I joined Thakeham Primary School in April 2022. Since then we have been on a truly **vigorous, fast-paced** and **thoughtful** programme of **serious** and **meaningful improvement** whilst being careful to retain what makes Thakeham School special.

Here are some of the things we have introduced over the past year:

- *New EYFS environment*
- *New EYFS curriculum*
- *New Key Stage 1 outdoor environment*
- *New Key Stage 1 and 2 whole school curriculums*
- *New in-class and whole school assessment systems (by this I mean the way we assess pupils in lessons)*
- *New behaviour policy (we have seen a massive reduction in behaviour incidents since this was put in place)*
- *New SEND Team (including a new SENCO, introduction of the Deputy SENCO role and new systems to govern how we do SEND at Thakeham)*
- *New and more thorough way of teaching phonics*
- *New approach to the teaching of reading in school*
- *The rear play area of the school has been completely rebuilt at a cost of £80,000 to include a new outdoor classroom and stage for Key Stage 2 and a new playground for Wonder Class.*

We are currently in the process of introducing/creating:

- *A new inclusion unit in the middle of the school. This will be built between December and January. It will provide a modern, state-of-the-art base for the SENCO and her team alongside facilities such as a sensory room and classroom.*
- *A re-modelled school library. This should be in place by the end of Autumn 2.*
- *A re-modelled Excess Hall to include: a new second hall, a new admin block, a new classroom and a new suite of intervention rooms. This will be a huge boost to our school and a facility unlike what most other small schools have.*
- *We have been made a Thoughtful School. This means the NHS will be basing a team of Mental Health Professionals in our school to support with mental health needs.*



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So, you can see from the lists above that we mean business! The education and care of your children is vitally important and we have lots of plans in place to ensure your child receives nothing but absolute excellence.

With this in mind, the Governing Body, staff and pupils have spent the past 6 months putting together a new, more ambitious vision for the school. We have now finalised this and I am delighted to share it with you. It centres around the core concepts of:

- Being the best school in the area; known for excellence in all areas
- Building on our reputation as a caring and nurturing establishment
- Creating respectful, thoughtful pupils who stand out from the crowd and are clearly ready for life in a modern world
- Never settling for second best – under any circumstances at all! We will constantly and consistently strive to be the very best versions of ourselves

The core of the vision then focuses on the concept of, ‘even better’. The slogan reflects our new values of courage, ambition, respect and enjoyment through the line, ‘At Thakeham we CARE.’

Pupils have already begun unpicking CARE and what it looks like in our school as part of their assemblies.

We would be grateful if you could take a moment to read what is below and then share your thoughts! It is important your voices are included.

Here is the new vision, mission statement and values:

[Mission Statement](#)

Thakeham Primary School is committed to providing a high-quality education that prepares all of our pupils for the future. We believe that every child has the potential to succeed, and we are dedicated to providing them with the opportunities they need to reach their full potential. We create a safe and supportive learning environment where pupils feel valued and respected. We foster a culture of curiosity and inquiry, and we encourage our pupils to step forward and ask questions, think critically, and solve problems. We understand and respect our place in the world. We believe that education is a lifelong journey, and we prepare our pupils for success in education and beyond.



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Values

At Thakeham we CARE. In everything we do we can see:

- Courage
- Ambition
- Respect
- Enjoyment

Vision 2023 - 2028

Our vision for Thakeham Primary School 2023 - 2028 is to simply be ‘**Even Better**’. By focusing on our core values of Care, courage, ambition, respect and enjoyment we will create a school where all children can reach their full potential and enjoy success. We will be a school where children are excited to learn and understand the value of respect. We will be a school that is known for its culture of excellence, but also its focus on community. As our children continue their education journey and beyond, they will be proudly identified as someone that grew from Thakeham Primary School.

Please join and support us as we become ‘**Even Better**’.

To achieve our Thakeham Primary School 2023 - 2028 Vision, we will be focusing on the following goals:

- Continue to deliver an innovative high-quality curriculum that prepares all children for success



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- Become renowned for academic excellence in all areas, not only in the core subjects, but across the wider curriculum
- Foster a culture across the school community that understands the importance of being respectful to others and the world around us
- Enhance our reputation as a school that is committed to ensuring that all children, regardless of their background, attend school and feel welcome, respected and cared for

Thank you for your support as we continue on our journey to be, ‘Even Better’. If you have any thoughts, please feel free to email me at head@thakehamps.co.uk.

Thakeham Primary School is a very special place and I am excited for its future.

With very best wishes,

Will McDonald
Headteacher