



AN ENHANCED CURRICULUM FOR PREP YEARS 3 TO 6

An *Island* School with a GLOBAL Outlook



RYDE SCHOOL
WITH UPPER CHINE



“We are preparing students for a modern world; one that involves collaboration, flexibility, problem solving, creativity and leadership. In a world full of technology we need a curriculum that encourages independent and critical thinking and develops skills that will last them a lifetime.”



Ed Marsden
Head of Prep

THE NEED FOR AN ENHANCED CURRICULUM

The most recent evidence from research indicates that curricula need to be firmly rooted in educational aims and guided by clear principles that go beyond content to include competencies that help every learner develop as a whole person. Such attributes help to fulfil our pupil's potential and shape a shared future built on the well-being of individuals, communities and the planet.

The development of online teaching and the changing needs of our children, combined with our stated aims at Ryde, means now is the time for enhancement of the curriculum for our pupils in Years 3-6.

AT RYDE OUR VALUES ARE:



In achieving these aims, we want our pupils to develop the attributes of the Ryde School Learner Profile

LEARNER PROFILE

AMBITION

- I embrace challenge
- I set high standards
- I exceed expectations
- I am curious

RESPONSIBILITY

- I am prepared
- I solve problems
- I use resources appropriately
- I take ownership

COURAGE

- I think independently
- I reflect on my strengths
- I learn from my mistakes
- I try new things

RESPECT

- I communicate positively
- I collaborate openly
- I listen considerately
- I value diverse perspectives



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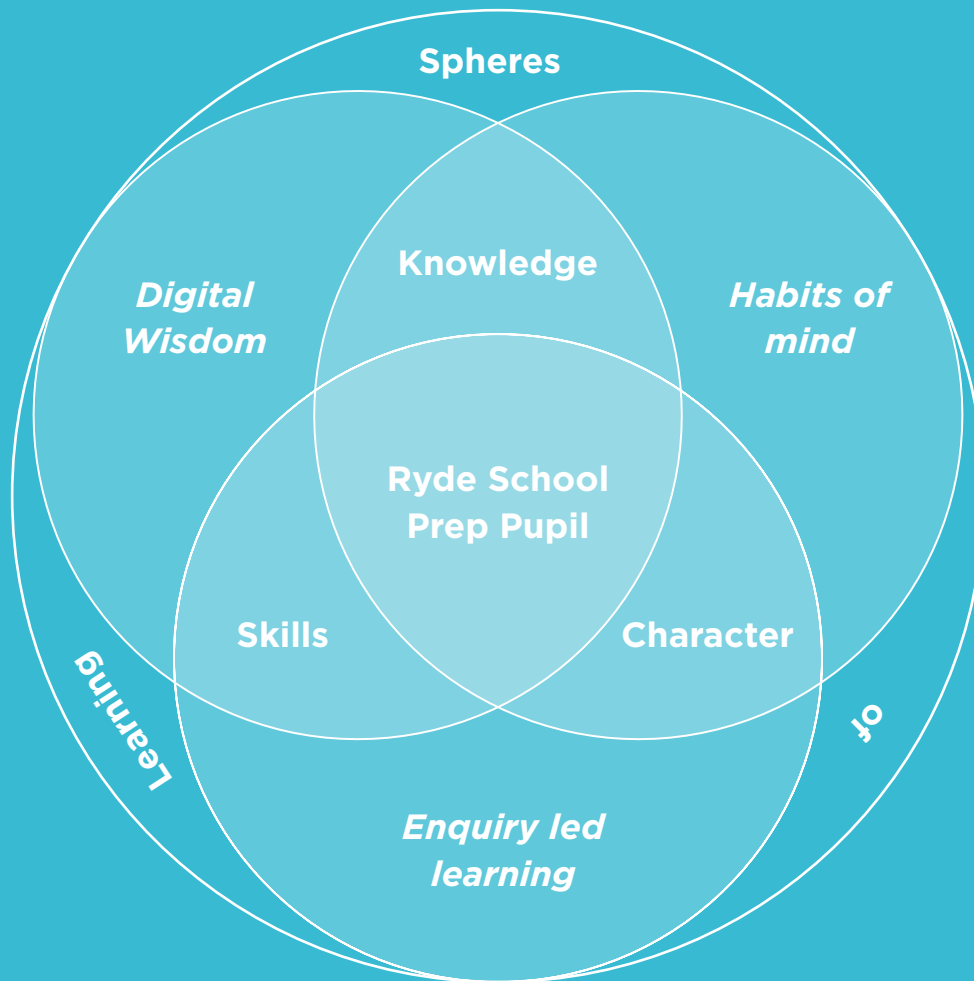
The enhanced prep curriculum has assimilated these aims and attributes into its core purpose with the aim of nurturing and developing ambitious, aware and compassionate pupils by focusing on knowledge, skills and character.

HOW DOES THE ENHANCED CURRICULUM WORK?

We want our children to have the depth of knowledge, relevant skills and character strengths to lead a purposeful and virtuous life in their modern world. Our enhanced curriculum has been designed with research-informed pedagogic tools at its core: Enquiry-led learning, Habits of Mind and Digital Wisdom. These pedagogic tools are applied across the curriculum to ensure that academic achievement is underpinned by a commitment to values and emotional well-being. The introduction of an overarching 'Big Idea' each term provides the focus and inspiration for children's learning, enabling different themes to be explored in imaginative and creative ways, allowing children to deepen their understanding in ways that best suit them. The organisation of knowledge into five spheres of learning provides coherence between academic subjects that ensures rigour and the development of interdisciplinary habits of mind. Throughout the year, 'curriculum spotlights' will focus on subjects to provide even greater academic rigour and depth of knowledge.



CURRICULUM MODEL



Olivia Newnham
(Curriculum Lead)

‘At Ryde we have high expectations of all our pupils. Students are encouraged to strive for their personal best and try new things. Learning is not seen as a competition, rather a collaborative process through which everyone can achieve.’

Gilly Gallerwood
(Habits of Mind)

‘Cultivating positive Habits of Mind such as personal emotional and social understanding, mindfulness, resilience, flexibility and a joy in problem solving, ensures focus and the most engaging learning experience possible.’

James Mathrick
(Digital Wisdom)

‘We aim for not just technologically-fluent pupils, but also effective and responsible creators of digital content. Students will work with a wide range of digital tools, and learn how to select and use these tools safely, effectively, and productively.’

Toni Simons
(Enquiry Led Learning)

‘When students are curious they are more receptive to learning. Our new programme is meant to inspire and encourage their curiosity.’

THE BIG IDEAS

EACH BIG IDEA WORKS THROUGH A CLEAR PROCESS:



Entry Point: 'Hooks' the learner. The **Knowledge Harvest** empowers learners to realise what they already know and provides a base for connections throughout the theme.

Explaining the Theme: the learning journey is shared with the children, allowing them to generate key questions to help guide their research throughout the theme.

Learning & Activities:

Driven by 'Habits of Mind', 'Enquiry Led Learning' and 'Digital Wisdom'.

Recording & Reflection:

Using both traditional and digital tools.

Exit Point: pupils bring all their learning together and showcase it to other students and parents.

THE FIVE SPHERES



STEM (Engineering, Maths, Computing): Maths will continue to be delivered as a standalone using a range of practical activities and online programmes. Maths will also be at the heart of STEM lessons where Engineering will involve the application of maths through problem solving and creative design. Children will use the new HIVE space which will allow large groups across different year groups to integrate. STEM weeks will be built into the timetable to allow whole year groups to collaborate together on a major project.



Arts & Culture (Art, DT, Music): Music is incorporated consistently into daily routines and is used to enhance teaching of the core curriculum in addition to being taught as a stand-alone subject. Every child in Year 4 is offered free music lessons with our peripatetic teachers, with a choice of two instruments. The exploration of Art and Culture is central to our new 'Big Idea' and pupils are given the opportunities to explore their ideas by experimenting, inventing and creating their own varied works of art using a wide range of materials.



Language, Literacy & Drama (Reading, Writing, Spelling, Grammar, MFL): The teaching of English will be linked to the 'Big Idea' and based around appropriate texts to deepen understanding of the central concept. Opportunities to develop grammar, punctuation, comprehension and extended writing pieces will be linked to the text and explicitly taught. Connections to literature, drama, role play, freeze framing and productions are included within the curriculum. Mandarin and Spanish are taught throughout the Prep Years and focus on culture exploration, role play and conversational language.



Discovery (History, Geography, Science, Computing, RS): Discovery encompasses the understandings of humanities and science. This ensures we can cover the 'Big Idea' in greater depth and academic rigour. Within the year there will be specific times when subjects will become the focus of learning under a 'Curriculum Spotlight', further ensuring academic rigour.



Well-Being (PE, Games, Personal Development, Outdoor Learning, Venturers): We believe in providing a wholesome education to develop our children holistically. Everyday starts with time dedicated to ensure our children are 'ready to learn' through enabling dialogue that explores emotional well-being. Physical and mental well-being is enhanced through sports and PD. Outdoor Learning and Discovery develop confidence and team building skills. Venturers for service, both in school and the local community: 'Ut Prosim' (to be of service) is at the heart of Ryde School and will form an important part of the Prep Years curriculum.

THE BIG IDEA – CURRICULUM THEME EXAMPLE



YEAR 6 AUTUMN TERM **WAR & PEACE**

THE BIG IDEA:
IS WAR EVERYONE'S RESPONSIBILITY?

Knowledge:

History, Geography, Art, Drama

Character:

Caring, Courageous, Principled

Skill:

Communicators



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Overview

In this unit, alongside rigorous historical knowledge about a key wartime period (WWI), children will develop empathic understanding and appreciation for the impact of war and explore the notion of war as a global event affecting everyone's lives. Children will consider the implications and consequences of significant events by analysing the text of *War Horse* and *Archie's War*. Alongside the study of war poetry and propaganda we will explore the use of metaphor and symbolism. Children will be working towards creating a multimodal scrapbook: through newspaper cuttings, adverts, diary entries and emotive letters.

Engagement

We will use the grounds to launch the topic, challenge the children to empathise with different groups and individuals and perform poetry to an audience. Our Senior School CCF members and outside specialists, including parents, will provide contextual enrichment.

Habits of Mind

Developing reciprocal skills of listening, cooperative learning, feelings of others.

Digital Wisdom

The changing roles of communication, technology and diplomacy.

Enquiry-Led Learning

Classroom based enquiry looking into life in the trenches, use of propaganda, symbolism of the poppy, what makes an effective leader.

Literature

War Horse by Michael Morpurgo; *Archie's War* by Marcia Williams.

Trips

Tank Museum, Dorset, Carisbrooke Castle and Remembrance Service.

SUPPORT TO ELEVATE THE PROGRAMME



The HIVE is our new STEM/LEGO space which will be available for all day access for classroom, discovery and reflection activities. Sixth Form pupils will be on site at certain times to help mentor and coach our Prep pupils.

Curriculum tools

Our 1:1 ChromeBook Scheme, a parent funded programme, is integral to the enhanced curriculum, providing students with the tools to elevate learning and ensure progress, as well as developing digital knowledge, skills and character.

Students' learning will be visible to parents via digital portfolios and class blogs, with progress monitored through online platforms, helping to differentiate learning, making it accessible to all. The ChromeBooks will be used for research, reflection and project development and 'Fascination Folders' will provide appropriate academic challenges for pupils. The ChromeBooks will be used with a specific learning platform chosen to support spelling, grammar, reading and maths online.

Academic support

Our principled curriculum design allows for flexibility and vertical integration, enabling students to access learning that is appropriate for their individual needs and stage of development. Learning support assistants will be planned into daily lessons with specialist SEN support from our Learning Support Department. Our 'stretch and challenge' program utilises a high learning potential framework that augments the academic merits of the curriculum and allows staff to recognise children's individual extra needs as well as deliver learning experiences that offer the necessary stretch and support. Senior school pupils will act as academic mentors in all spheres of learning but notably in STEM and languages with Sixth Form language ambassadors.

Preparation for entry to Senior Schools

We offer the opportunity for all children to be prepared through PSB for 11+ and 13+ entry to Senior Schools including Ryde, Winchester, Eton, Radley, St Swithuns, Millfield and St Catherines.

AN ENHANCED CURRICULUM FOR PREP YEARS 3 TO 6



From the Nursery to Year 6 we aim to ensure all children grow to become independent, confident, happy and resilient learners. Small classes, taught by a team of dedicated and highly qualified teaching staff, enable us to know each child individually and plan appropriately.

Our curriculum is enhanced with a range of activities and lessons to promote high self-esteem, self-confidence and independence. From early introduction of languages, outside learning opportunities, drama and music competitions to public speaking, math challenges and art and design competitions; these all provide an inspirational environment for children to develop lifelong skills. We actively encourage our pupils to participate in team sports – both competitively and for recreation and many of our older children play for Island clubs. As an IB World School we want our pupils to embrace the attributes of our Ryde School Learner Profile, locally nurtured and globally focused.



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