



## Report for Ringshall Parish Council May 9th 2023

This report will give an overview of the learning provision in place at Ringshall Primary School during the 2022/23 academic year. It will also give an overview of the school's current plans and its plans for the future.

### What is the school focusing on currently?

The 2022/23 academic year has been a busy and positive one so far. It has been a year full of diverse learning opportunities for the children with lots of visitors, trips and outside learning taking place. Our core curriculum is now well established and teachers are becoming ever more adept at modifying it to best suit the needs of our pupils.

### School Development Plan

In September 2022 the school launched its new 'School Development Plan' setting out the school's priorities for the year. Looking through the lens of our development plan is perhaps the best way to review our year so far and explain what our plan will be going forward. Our development plan priorities are;

- A Trauma Informed Approach
- Improve pupil outcomes in Mathematics
- Subject leaders drive excellence across the school
- Inclusion of all vulnerable groups
- Every child a fluent reader with an expansive vocabulary

### A Trauma Informed Approach

A major change this year is the adoption of a Trauma Informed Approach. We have modified our behaviour, wellbeing and nurture procedures and policies in order to ensure they are consistent with a 'Trauma Informed' approach. All staff have had training in supporting children's mental health and wellbeing using a Trauma Informed approach, with the headteacher completing a Diploma in 'Trauma Informed' practice. Mr Gough is now a registered 'Trauma Informed Practitioner.'

A trauma informed school is one that is able to support all children with their trauma or mental health needs and aims to support those children whose troubled behaviour acts as a barrier to learning. The approach centres around having a positive and empathic response to children that heal minds, brains and bodies. Key conversational skills in addressing and making sense of what has happened are central to this work, as is a shift in the whole school's culture.

Please follow this link for more information on Trauma Informed Schools -  
<https://www.traumainformedschools.co.uk/>

### Improve pupil outcomes in Mathematics

Mathematics has been a focus this year. Whilst our maths results are not low they have lagged behind our reading and writing results. So this year we have had a major focus on developing our maths teaching and learning. A new Maths leader has been appointed and, after much research, a new maths policy document has been produced that changes the way we deliver maths.



This change in approach has been accompanied by staff training and the purchase of additional resources. As with any change, the focus has been on staff learning and development to ensure confidence with the new approach. Maths CPD sessions are run at least once a half term in staff meetings as well as on PD days and within ad-hoc staff training sessions.

### **Subject leaders drive excellence across the school**

Strong subject leaders ensure high standards of teaching and learning across the school. With that in mind ensuring excellent subject leadership has been a priority. Subject leadership CPD sessions have been run this year in staff meetings, on PD days and as ad-hoc staff training sessions with experts from the trust. Our teachers have also played a full role in Trust wide subject leadership termly meetings. These meetings develop teachers' subject specific knowledge, subject leadership skills and help them make useful contacts across the Trust. These sessions have taken place on numerous occasions since the start of the school year to support each and every curriculum subject.

The leadership of the school continues to develop teaching practice using the 'Walk Thrus' book as a focus for pedagogy improvement. The areas selected apply to teaching in all subjects. Subject leaders are also expected to use these when assessing and monitoring lessons in their subject. Subject leaders need to monitor teachers termly and provide CPD in staff meetings.

All subject leaders have also created, and continue to update, a subject policy document called the 'Ringshall Way.' The idea of having a document like this for each subject is that it supports consistency and high quality teaching in each and every subject. This is because subject leaders have written down and explained to all teachers their expectations for their subjects. These documents can be reviewed at any time and are available on the website.

All teachers have a subject leadership responsibility, with the exception of our one 'Early Career Teacher' in EYFS. This leadership requirement, combined with an emphasis on a distributive leadership approach across the school, ensures that we consistently deliver a high quality, broad and balanced curriculum with no subjects being considered a poor relation.

### **Inclusion of all vulnerable groups**

We continue to be committed to supporting all our pupils, especially the most vulnerable. We work hard and commit a great deal of resources to ensure our SEN support, SEN resources and SEN staff training are excellent and meet the needs of our pupils to the highest possible standard.

We want to support all our children's wellbeing and mental health. This has been a key priority at Ringshall School for some time and will continue to be a focus in the future. Again this year, our nurture sessions have been expanded.

The school has also focused on providing numerous fun and enriching activities to develop the children's general wellbeing, mental health and cultural capital. This year has been packed with many exciting enrichment activities. For example, just in the last few weeks the school has had visits from professional musicians, an expansion of our club offering such as yoga club and ukulele club, numerous virtual author visits in every key stage, further outdoor learning, themed days, such as Alice



in Wonderland day and Number day, and other experiences such as Mental Health week and the launch of Mindful Monday.

Please see our Twitter feed for more information - [@RingshallPS](https://twitter.com/RingshallPS)

Linked to our enrichment activities we continue to run our 'Mindful Monday,' (formally Wellbeing Wednesday). This is our weekly mental health focus day. This is a day, once a week, devoted to developing a healthy body and mind. We have a Lyfta Empathy assembly, the mindful minute meditation, zones of regulation work and the daily mile.

### **Every Child a Fluent reader with an expansive vocabulary**

This year we have continued to work hard to develop a culture of reading and vocabulary development. All subjects review core vocabulary at the start of a lesson. There has been an expansion in cross curricular reading and reading comprehension. The library has continued to be developed and upgraded as we invest in more new books and reading materials. The timetable now allows for greater time to read and has more reading class time than previously. Reading and vocabulary have been prioritised in all curriculum subjects, not just English. We continue to focus on whole class reading as our central strategy to teach the skills of reading, but also use a variety of interventions of other teaching techniques to further develop reading skills.

### **On a final note**

This has been a very positive year for Ringshall School, full of many exciting experiences and learning activities for the children. This has been the first full year of 'Parent Cafe's,' our termly open afternoon for parents to come in and work with their children in class on a particular subject. It has also been the first year without COVID restrictions, which has led to an huge increase in the number and diversity of activities the children have been able to partake in.

In fact, it's been such a busy year that the only way to fully appreciate it is by looking at our Twitter feed or the news section of our website. See below for links;

Twitter - [@RingshallPS](https://twitter.com/RingshallPS)

News sections - <https://www.ringshallprimary.co.uk/our-school/latest-news>

As always, Ringshall Primary School intends to position itself fully within the communities it serves. Developing links and partnerships within the community is a central ambition for the school as it moves forward. If you have any questions. Please don't hesitate to contact me.