



REDDAM
— House —

EARLY LEARNING SCHOOL
P r o s p e c t u s

Welcome

Welcome to Reddam House Berkshire School - an exciting and inspiring place to grow and learn.

Stepping into the Early Learning School one has a sense of the calm, but purposeful environment, designed specifically, by Early Years specialists, around the needs of the younger child.

We believe that children are confident and capable learners from birth so we uncover, nurture and celebrate the potential of every child, in all aspects of school life.

The importance of the individual is central to the Reddam House approach, and our focus on strong, nurturing relationships between teacher and child, children and their peers and, school and home, ensures your child is happy allowing them to uncover hidden passions and talents, exploring and creating in a safe, supportive community.

Located in an inspirational setting amid 125 acres of rolling parkland, with its magnificent Victorian mansion and spectacular lake, the beautifully converted Early Learning School shares facilities with the Senior School, including an impressive 350-seat theatre, 25-metre indoor swimming pool and first-class sporting facilities.

Catering for children from just three months old to 18 years, we offer a unique, seamless education with smooth transitions between each stage of your child's journey.

We pride ourselves on offering a fresh and contemporary approach to education - but you need to come and see for yourself the warmth of our environment, the sense of excitement in our classrooms and the curiosity sparked in our children.

We look forward to welcoming you soon to our happy and creative community.

Georgina Tait
Head of Early Learning School





*“The vision ,
drive and
dynamism of the
school’s new
senior leadership
team have
provided strong
impetus to
the school’s
development since
it became
Reddam House.”*

ISI JANUARY 2016

Why Reddam House?

Choosing the right school for your children is never easy.

It’s one of the most important decisions you will ever have to make.

Naturally, you want to ensure your children maximise their many and varied talents – but you also want them to be happy.

Reddam House believes in harnessing the potential in every single child and nurturing the individuality of all. Our children from the very first moment that they enter the school are encouraged to express their individuality and grow in self-confidence.

Seizing every opportunity for enrichment, we are passionate about the performing arts, which foster confidence and self-assurance, as well as developing sporting talent and academic excellence.

Strong nurturing relationships with staff are central to our philosophy which is designed around the individual. This child-centric ethos sets us apart from any other type of school.

As our children move through the Schools they become articulate, confident and self-assured, leaving school with outstanding academic results, a love of learning and a strong set of values which equips them to embrace life’s challenges.

Why would you NOT choose Reddam House?



WE SHALL
EMBRACE
OUR
INDIVIDUALITY



The Reddam House Approach

The Reddam House approach is built upon the understanding that every child is a unique individual with a set of talents and interests that can be supported and built upon.

Every child has an insatiable thirst for knowledge and unlimited potential.

It is our job to tap into that potential and teach children HOW to think – not WHAT to think.

The Early Learning School curriculum is inspired by the Reggio Emilia approach, which speaks to the importance of The Hundred Languages of The Child.

Our children are encouraged to express themselves through sound, rhythm and rhyme, as well as music, drama and art – and in a hundred other ways!

In the Early Learning School, projects are not planned rigidly in advance but evolve and take shape as children explore their interests, develop their skills and wonder about the world around them.

Children are encouraged to try hard and do their best within a nurturing environment where close relationships with staff are key. This produces confident, resilient learners, who are critical and creative problem solvers, capable of independent thought from the start.

“Staff are excellent role models and support the children effectively so that they feel very safe and secure and develop positive relationships.” ISI JANUARY 2016



Learning and Teaching

The Early Learning School offers an enriched curriculum with core staff supported by Atelieristas teaching music, dance, drama, sport, visual arts and modern foreign languages.

Our Stage Teachers and Assistant Teachers are all highly qualified specialists in their field, with a clear passion for education and demonstrated expertise in child development.

We have a rhythm for the day, rather than a strict timetable, which allows flexibility to follow those moments when a child is filled with wonder and curiosity, or is deeply focussed and engrossed in their learning. The ability of a child to be a co-constructor of their own learning is treasured and encouraged, your child is given time and space to explore.

The classroom is ever changing, meeting the needs and interests of the class, each day is a new chance for exploration; who knows where the children will lead the learning or develop the project?

We believe, reflecting the Reggio Emilia philosophy, that the environment is the third teacher so we make full use of the School's magnificent parkland and forest. Children learn a great deal from spending time in the outdoors, and the well documented benefits are numerous.

"The quality of teaching, learning and assessment is outstanding." ISI JANUARY 2016



Nurturing The Early Years

Your child's formative years are, by definition, the most important years in their life. The knowledge and behaviours they develop at this key stage form the basis for all future learning and development.

In our stunning purpose-built environment, where learning is self-directed by our children, we engage the little ones' interests and develop what they already know. Close collaboration allows us to support parents, who are, after all, the most important teachers in a child's life.

Our children love to learn and they thrive in our warm, nurturing environment. Dedicated staff observe and stimulate the children's development of thinking and learning, carefully planning opportunities to develop language, problem solving skills and resilience.

Your child is naturally inquisitive and our rooms provide limitless opportunities for exploration and discovery. Each room offers a flexible space that can be configured to provide opportunities for different types of play with a light box area and space for creative development.

In each area of the classroom little pockets of interest are placed to invite children into play. These provocations, resources deliberately chosen to spark curiosity, engage the interest and develop thinking.

Alongside our warm and inviting classrooms, a soft play room, art and discovery area, library and performance hall further enrich the experiences of our youngest children and provide opportunities for physical development, singing and dancing.

"Children meet and often exceed, the levels of development expected for their age" ISI JANUARY 2016



*“As a result of
the outstanding
learning and
care provided,
all children make
rapid progress,
relative to their
starting points, so
that they are well
prepared for the
next stage in their
education.”*

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The Transition Year

Building upon the important work of our earlier Stages, our eldest pupils in the Early Learning School, our Reception Class (Stage 5), begin the important work of ‘formal schooling’ set within this nurturing environment, giving them room to grow and confidence to spread their wings.

It is an exciting time for both children and parents to begin their journey of compulsory school and although many children will have had some sort of pre-school experience, this is still a magical time and at Reddam House we aim to make this stage as special as possible.

As our eldest pupils, the Stage 5 pupils are able to take on responsibility and demonstrate good role modelling for the younger pupils and this allows them to develop confidence and thrive academically in a small and nurturing environment.

Your child will follow a carefully thought out, high quality curriculum incorporating a challenging and well-paced phonics and mathematics programme. Individual reading takes place for every child, to ensure good progression in reading skills throughout the year. Opportunities to use budding reading and writing skills in the classroom in purposeful ways allows children to develop literacy skills rapidly.

With the children at the heart of the curriculum, the themes that emerge are inspiring and relevant, building on the interests of the children and following a path of their choosing. This provokes a high level of engagement and deeper learning as a result.

Our Reception age pupils regularly exceed national standards in all areas and show focus and enthusiasm in their learning.



The Hundred Languages of a Child

An important part of the work of our school is the development of the Hundred Languages of a Child. This is a poetic description of the importance of developing all aspects of your child, and his or her multiple intelligences (Howard Gardener).

These 'hundred languages' refers to the virtually infinite ways that a child can express and explore their thoughts, feelings and imaginings. These expanded ideas of intelligence empower children whose strengths too often go unrecognised.

Our specialist lessons are a core part of our daily curriculum. In Stages 1 to 3 these opportunities for creativity and self-expression are led by the Stage Teachers seamlessly integrating into the themes and interests of the classes. In Stages 4 and 5 this work is guided and taught by our Atelieristas who work with smaller groups of children to hone skills and explore creativity and imagination. The richness this brings to the work of the children is evident in all areas and integrates into our classroom themes.

The specialist areas provided for this work include Ateliers (art and discovery areas) in each stage, our small performance hall, our light and dark atelier and the fields and sports facilities offer even our youngest children an opportunity to work in exceptionally beautiful and purpose built environments.



"The overall effectiveness of the Early Years provision is outstanding"

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House

Reddam House Berkshire ■ Wokingham ■ Berkshire ■ RG41 5BG
Tel: 0118 974 8300 ■ www.reddamhouse.org.uk

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