



**Crackley Hall School &  
Little Crackers Nursery**

An independent school for 2-11 year olds

**Information booklet**  
2019/2020



# Crackley Hall School and Little Crackers Nursery

## The Princethorpe Foundation

The Princethorpe Foundation welcomes children of all denominations and provides co-educational, independent day schooling with a strong Christian ethos. We support and nurture children from age two to eighteen years, through Little Crackers Nursery, Crackley Hall School, Crescent School and Princethorpe College.

## Ethos

Our schools pride themselves on providing a caring, stimulating environment in which children's individual needs can be met and their talents, confidence and self-esteem developed. We aim to encourage a lifelong love of learning and an understanding of moral values and to put young people on the road to happy and fulfilled lives.

## Crackley Hall - Looking Forward

Crackley Hall continues to go from strength to strength following the merger with Abbotsford School in September 2010. Under the leadership of Headmaster, Robert Duigan, pupil numbers have risen considerably and we are well known for our high academic standards, sporting provision and excellence in the performing arts.

In the last five years significant improvements have been made to the school including more classrooms, specialist teaching rooms for Art and Music, greatly enhanced IT, Science and Technology suites, and improved sports changing rooms. A new multi-purpose hall with additional teaching space was also added in 2016.

## Governing Body

Chair of Trustees Mrs Elizabeth Griffin, BSc, PGCE, CTC

Trustees	Mrs Caroline Cook <sup>#</sup> Quintin Cornforth, BSc Michael Fletcher BSc* David Jackson, MInst AM, HNC Business Studies* Charlie Jenkinson, BA, CIPS, MILT Mrs Elizabeth Kenward BA, PGCE, CTS Mrs Pat Lines, Cert Ed Mrs Caroline McGrory MA (Oxon), LPC Ms Teresa McNamara, B Phil, Cert Ed Colin Russell, IEng, ACIBSE, MBA Kieron Shaw MBE, MSc, FCIS Commodore Bernard Warner
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\* Old Princethorpeian \*\* Past Pupil of St Joseph's Convent School

<sup>#</sup> Old Crescentian (Curriculum Subject Leader)



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# Staff

## Leadership Team

Headmaster	Robert Duigan, BCom (Ed), MEd
Deputy Head	Duncan Cottrill, BSc, PGCE (PSHCE)
Assistant Head - Early Years Foundation Stage and Key Stage 1	Mrs Susan Glen-Roots, BEd (English & Drama)
Assistant Head Academic and Key Stage 2	Mrs Tanya Hill, BA, PGCE
Assistant Head - Assistant Head - Co-curricular and Cross Phase Liaison	Charles Lamprecht, BEd

## Foundation Team

Foundation Assistant Head - Development	Alex Darkes, BEd*
Foundation Assistant Head - Marketing, Admissions and Communications	Mrs Melanie Butler, BA
Foundation Assistant Head - Director of Digital Strategy	Andy Compton, BA, PGCE, MA
Foundation Director of Sport	Neil McCollin, BA, QTS
Foundation Grounds Manager	Edward Robertson
Foundation Head of Estates	Michael Small
Foundation Bursar, Company Secretary and Clerk to the Trustees	Eddie Tolcher, BA, ACIB, MCMI, TechIOSH*#

## Classroom Staff

Mrs Mina Bhogal, BA Early Childhood Studies and Education, EYPS, Teaching Assistant
Mrs Sophie Blyth, Cache Diploma Level 3 in Childcare and Education Teaching Assistant
Mrs Verity Clark, BA, QTS, FSL3 Forest School Practitioner
Mrs Anne-Marie Convey, BA Early Childhood Studies, PGCE**
Mrs Wendy Duigan, BEd Teaching Assistant
Miss Jayne Ellis, BSc, PGCE Learning Support Co-ordinator
Ms Claire Ewen, BA (Sp & H TH), MA (Ed), Cert MRCSLT, MASLTIP, HCPC Registered Speech and Language Therapist
Mrs Giselle Fennelly, Diploma Level 3 in Specialist Support for Teaching and Learning Teaching Assistant Level 3
Mrs Ana Green, Teaching Assistant
Mrs Catriona Hardwick, BEd, CCRS (DT)
Mrs Helen Huang, PGCE (Mandarin)
Mrs Clare Hill, NVQ 3 Primary & Senior Years Higher Level Teaching Assistant
Ms Carrie Holmes, PGCE (History and Art)
Mrs Sorcha Horan, BA, PGCE (English)
Mrs Susanne Jackson-Mayne, BA, QTS, CCRS (RE)
Mrs Gurinder Kaur, BA Teaching Assistant Level 2
Antony Kefalas, Teaching Assistant
Mrs Sarah Lammas, BSc, QTS, CCRS (Geography)
Mrs Emma Malcolm, BSc, PGCE (Computing)

Mrs Susan Olden, LRAM, ARCM, LLM TD, Amus TCL, ALCM (Music)**
Mrs Rodothea Paphitis, Higher Level Teaching Assistant
Mrs Julia Roberts, BEd (Science)
Mrs Dolores Simmonds, Chaplaincy Assistant
Mrs Margaret Spillane, MA (Cantab), PGCE Learning Support Teacher
Richard Stedeford, BSc, MA, PGCE
Mrs Claire Tatton, PGCE (French)
Mrs Anna van Zyl, BA, PGCE (Mathematics)
Mrs Kat Vaughan, BSc, PGCE, ABPI (PE and Games)
Steve Vaughan, BA, PGCE, Teaching Assistant/Teacher
Mrs Kamal Verma, BSc, BQTS Teaching Assistant
Mrs Nicki Wildey, BA, PGCE, NASENCO (Drama)
Mrs Zoe Wild, BA Learning Support Assistant

## Nursery Staff

Mrs Clare Bird, NNEB, NVQ 4	Nursery Manager
Mrs Gail Buswell, NVQ3	Early Years Educator
Mrs Anupa Chauhan, NNEB	Early Years Educator
Ms Emma Fazakarley, NVQ3	Early Years Practitioner
Ms Ashley Gough, NVQ1	Early Years Practitioner
Mrs Jane Hall, NVQ3	Early Years Practitioner
Mrs Lisa O'Carroll-Bailey, BEd, Associate Diploma in Special Educational Needs	Early Years Foundation Stage Teacher
Mrs Katie Skidmore-Bird, Level 3 Diploma in Children and Young Persons Workforce	Senior Early Years Educator
Mrs Nicola Whitehurst, BEd**	Early Years Foundation Stage Teacher

## Support Staff

Miss Nicola Browne	Uniform Shop Manager
Ms Lorraine Dyer, NVQ Business and Administration	Headmaster's PA and Office Manager
Ms Harriet Edkins, BA	Receptionist
Mrs Charlotte Hancock, BSc, PDip	Marketing & Communications Co-ordinator
Mo Ostrowski	IT Technician
Mrs Victoria Osborn, BA, PGCE	Receptionist
Mrs Helen Stephenson, BA, DipM	Press and PR Officer
Mrs Ruth Townsend	Receptionist
Mrs Jenny Vaughan, BA	Admissions and Marketing Secretary*
Mrs Karen Wright	Receptionist

## Aftercare

Wasay Foladi	Acting Aftercare Supervisor
Mrs Jo Walter	Aftercare Assistant

## Estates

James Hardwick	Caretaker
Steve Rawson	Caretaker

## Catering staff

Mrs Donna Grove	Catering Assistant
Miss Wendy Glover	Catering Assistant
Ms Dawn Parry	Catering Assistant
Ian Sansum	Cook

## Staff Profiles



**Robert Duigan**  
**Headmaster**

I attended an all boys' Catholic School in South Africa, where I was actively involved in all areas of school life, from sport through to charitable work. While at university in Port Elizabeth, I assumed various leadership roles at the university itself and in the local community.

At the end of my tertiary education, I underwent 18 months' compulsory national service, attaining the rank of First Lieutenant – basic training and officers' course were great at the time and I enjoyed my stint in the army, but was pleased when it was finished!

After my first teaching post in a large state school, I accepted a post as Head of Sport at St Dominic's Priory Catholic School, an established co-educational independent school of 425 pupils. I taught all subjects across the curriculum and coached cricket and football.

I was appointed Principal of St Dominic's in January 1997 and held this position until my emigration to the United Kingdom in January 2002. During this time I was convener of selectors and coach of our provincial (county) football and cricket teams and served on the committees of both the Primary Schools' Football and Cricket Associations.

On emigrating, I accepted a post as a class teacher at St Columba's Preparatory School in St Albans and felt it a privilege to be appointed Headmaster at St Teresa's Catholic Independent School in Princes Risborough in 2003.

I see the benefits of personalised learning and am encouraged by the appropriate differentiation in our lessons. We all learn differently and are at different levels in our educational (and life) journey. This must be borne in mind at all times as we aim to help each child reach their goals. The self-esteem of every child is so important to their development and I place every emphasis on knowing the individual and ensuring that they feel a sense of worth as one of God's children.

'Right relationships' are essential in any walk of life, particularly so in a school – they form the basis of any achievement and well-being.

I see open and clear communication as crucial in this regard. We are here for the pupils. The support of school for home and vice versa is essential in their development.

I would argue that one of the most important tasks of any Head teacher is to appoint excellent members of staff – those capable of, and willing to, fulfil the mission – academic excellence, personal and spiritual growth and to nurture polite, confident and articulate children who are ready to become leaders in their own right and who will be able to contribute to the future of all. One cannot underestimate the value of a good teacher. I believe that Crackley Hall is blessed with very good members of staff.

I love the outdoors, nature and all forms of sport – especially cricket, rugby and football. I play golf and enjoy the gym (when time allows).

I am a keen reader, enjoy amateur photography and appreciate just about all forms of music – listening to it, that is, as I am not a very capable musician at all!

My family are very important to me and I like travelling, meeting people and learning about other cultures and ways of life. I have thoroughly enjoyed eight busy and happy years at Crackley Hall and continue to look forward to welcoming all visitors to our successful and high achieving school where all pupils are encouraged 'to be the best that they can be'. I am confident that you will be impressed by the warm and dynamic environment that is Crackley Hall.



**Duncan Cottrill**  
**Deputy Head**

I completed my PGCE (Primary) qualification at the University of Central England in 1999. After qualifying, I spent the next fourteen years teaching at two large primary schools in Nuneaton, the first for three years and the second for eleven. During this time, I taught

and then managed across all three Key Stages. I was on the Senior Management team for six years having responsibility for managing, on separate occasions, the Foundation Stage, Years 1 and 2 and then Years 3 and 4. I was also ICT co-ordinator for ten years where I was responsible for designing and launching the school website and co-ordinating the award of the ICT Mark, a nationally recognised accreditation scheme. I have been at Crackley Hall since January 2013 and have thoroughly enjoyed my time so far.

I am passionate about sport and played rugby for Nuneaton RFC, University of Liverpool, Nuneaton Old Edwardians RFC, Melbourne RFC as well as Warwickshire U18s and U21s. These days, I enjoy watching and reminiscing about the old days.

I thoroughly enjoy teaching. I take the responsibility of positively affecting the learning, self-confidence and growing esteem of all staff and pupils in my care very seriously. I believe it is important to motivate and influence by good example and enthusiasm, to incorporate realistic, high expectations and have effective classroom management skills whilst also offering a range of creative learning experiences and a productive use of time and resources. Children should be active participants in the learning process – developing skills, self-discipline and responsibilities. I strongly believe and promote the ethos that teaching is a two way process, with people working together in a stimulating and caring environment, sharing mutual respect, strengths and expertise.



**Mrs Susan Glen-Roots**  
**Assistant Head - Early Years**  
**Foundation Stage and KS1**

I qualified from Kingston University in 1993 with an education degree in English and drama. Having taught in primary schools in London, Warwickshire and Solihull, I have gained a wide range of experience working

in deprived areas, faith schools and large county schools, as well as an independent school in Solihull. I have lengthy senior leadership experience within the Foundation Stage and Key Stage 1, alongside a curriculum specialism in Literacy and phonics. More recently I have gained a diploma in 'Counselling Skills' and regularly use these skills to help support children and their families within a school setting.

I joined Crackley Hall School as Assistant Head in September 2017. My passion is to provide a high-quality education for all children, whilst allowing for their individual needs. Learning should be motivating, interesting and exciting and should also provide important life skills. Crackley Hall certainly has all of these elements in abundance!

Outside of school I am mum to three children, two teenage boys and a young daughter who attends Crackley Hall. We are a musical family, playing the acoustic and electric guitar, the violin, ukulele, piano and drums between us. As well as making music, we also spend time outdoors with our family dog, Mollie, and enjoy skiing and snowboarding in the winter. Life is never dull in the Glen-Roots household!



**Mrs Tanya Hill**  
**Assistant Head - Academic**

Your school days should be the best days of your life – mine certainly were and, as a result, I have never wanted to leave education. My educational philosophy, that learning should be fun and ignite a thirst for life-long learning, underpins all that I

believe a prep school education should be. This is certainly the case at Crackley Hall. Life for children these days can be complex and challenging; allowing each child to grow as an individual with individual needs, whilst adopting a positive mindset whereby they can achieve success inside and outside the classroom, has to be the heart of their school experiences. In short – I believe all children have a right to be the very best version of themselves that they can be, and my role is simply to guide and steer them to this success.

Having studied at undergraduate and postgraduate level within the shadows of the world heritage site of Durham Cathedral, Durham was always going to hold a special place in my heart. So it was in the North East that I embarked on my first teaching role as Head of Music in a large secondary school.

After several years I relocated to the Midlands with a three-week-old baby and, having worked in a range of secondary schools, decided to make the transition from secondary to prep school education; it was in prep school education that I found my niche. Undertaking a number of roles as Form Teacher, Director of Music, Head of Maths and progressing to Director of Studies I moved into Senior Management in 2006. More recently, I have served as Deputy Head at both Eversfield Preparatory School in Solihull and Warwick Preparatory School where I enjoyed a fulfilling and happy eight years. I love visiting other schools and through my role as an Independent Schools Inspector it is great to keep abreast of other schools' achievements, successes and initiatives.

Of course, the best thing about teaching is that being around children, you remain young at heart.

Outside school, I enjoy life outdoors and love my garden. During school holidays, I can regularly be found creating exciting dishes in my kitchen, or making special celebration cakes for family occasions. Music continues to be central to my life and I regularly attend concerts and theatre productions with my family. I am a newcomer to running, but now religiously participate in the weekly 5K Parkrun. Life is precious and so is family, so spending quality time together is always a great way to recharge and relax, especially if there is a BBQ involved!



**Charles Lamprecht**  
**Assistant Head - Co-curricular and**  
**Cross Phase Liaison**

I was very blessed to have enjoyed my childhood years surrounded by rolling green mountains and miles of golden sandy beaches in the picturesque Garden Route town of George in South Africa.

After obtaining a BEd degree at teacher training college, my career in education started at a large co-educational state primary school with 1500 pupils on roll in the northern suburbs of Cape Town. Here I fulfilled numerous roles which included Head of Year 8, Head of DT, games coaching, Master in charge of Prefects and our PSHE based Youth Preparedness Programme.

In 2009 my wife and I relocated to the UK and initially based ourselves in London. I bravely undertook a few months of supply teaching before I secured a full-time class teacher role at St John's Beaumont – a day and boarding Jesuit Catholic prep school for boys aged three to 13 near Windsor in Berkshire. During my eight years there I taught Common Entrance 13+ Science and coached Rugby and Cricket; I also served as Head of House, Chairman of the Common Room, Director of Sport and Examinations Officer.

Since 2015 I served on the Senior Management Team as Head of the Upper School (Years 6-8) which held a strong pastoral focus within the School.

My holistic view of education gives rise to a strong pastoral focus. Empowering pupils to understand themselves will foster a greater sense of acceptance from within, which leads to stable and confident young children entering the adult world, ready to make a positive difference in society.

Outside of teaching I still try to play Cricket and enjoy the odd round of golf and most outdoor sports and activities. Rugby, sadly, has become more of an armchair activity these days. In 2015 I completed a 12 mile 'Tough Mudder' assault course proving that 'big guys' can also do it! During the summer months I enjoy gardening and make use of any opportunity to have a BBQ. I enjoy reading biographies, as well as a wide range of material on personal and leadership development, especially within a Christian context.

My wife, Magda, and I have very much enjoyed the sense of community since we joined Crackley Hall in January 2018. Our children, David and Katherine attend the school and are very much at home; we look forward to the journey that lies ahead within the Princethorpe Foundation.



### **Mrs Verity Clark**

I love teaching! A wonderful, varied and exciting career that brings new challenges every day.

Since qualifying in 2004, I have taught in every year group from Reception to Year 6 in a variety of schools, both in Warwickshire and Northamptonshire. In my degree, I specialised in Art and I have a studio at home on the farm

where I design prints and paint and make glazed ceramics. My latest focus is animal realism using coloured pencils.

I am very interested in the philosophy of Forest Schools, I think it enables us as teachers to 'catch' and empower some of the children who may otherwise slip through the net in mainstream schools. I enjoy leading Forest School at Crackley Hall. Its ethos is of child led learning and we can glean much from this, not only by introducing more play into the curriculum, but also by quiet observing. If we can understand what drives each child to learn, then we can fuel their fire by planning for their interests. I believe that a creative curriculum makes for more meaningful learning and more motivated, independent learners.



### **Mrs Anne-Marie Convey**

My association with Crackley Hall School and the Princethorpe Foundation spans nearly 40 years. Alongside other family members, I was a pupil at St Joseph's Convent School (Crackley Hall's original name), and my husband attended Princethorpe College. After completing my A-levels, I considered a career in either teaching or nursing, eventually deciding to train as a nurse. After qualifying as a RGN, I thoroughly enjoyed the challenges of working on a ward which specialised in both cardio-thoracic and neuro surgery.

Although I loved my job, becoming a teacher was still very much on my mind! Several years later, after being a stay-at-home mum to my son Toby (who is now a pupil at Princethorpe) I had the opportunity to apply for a part-time Learning Support Assistant role at Crackley. I took the plunge, applied and was delighted to be given the job. I realised that I loved working with the children and soon embarked on studying to become a Higher Level Teaching Assistant, before graduating with a BA (Hons) degree in Early Childhood Studies a few years later. Over the last 12 years I have assisted and taught classes from Nursery to Year 6, and have enjoyed the diversity that every year group offers.

Having gained my PGCE with the University of Buckingham this year, I am thrilled to be teaching one of the Reception classes in September. I firmly believe that every child has the potential within them to shine in their own way, and that to achieve this learning should be immersive, engaging and most of all fun!

Away from the school environment, my interests include spending time with my family and friends and cooking. However, my greatest passion is travelling; I love experiencing different cultures, with Japan the next destination on my wish list!



### **Miss Jayne Ellis**

I graduated from the University of Hertfordshire in 1990 with a 2:1 BSc Hons degree in Psychology and Business Studies with German.

After a year working in the university library, I worked on a summer camp in the States which inspired me to go into teaching. I then did my PGCE in General Primary at UCE in Birmingham

and graduated in 1996. I did some supply teaching which gave me invaluable experience and saved and went travelling round New Zealand and Australia. Whilst travelling I was offered my first teaching post at one of the schools in Kings Heath where I had been a supply teacher. I then worked at Grendon Primary School for three years working in the Year 1 and Reception classes.

In 2000, an opportunity arose to teach in The British School of Lanzarote and so off I went! I taught Reception and Year 1 classes as well as teaching GCSE Business Studies to older pupils. In 2006 I returned to the UK to begin work at Abbotsford where I taught Year 3 and 4 classes as well as some work with the Reception classes. I also taught games to all the junior children and ran the netball and gym clubs. After returning from maternity leave in April 2009, I took over the role of SENCo. Since 2010 I have been working in Learning Support at Crackley Hall.



**Ms Claire Ewen**

I grew up in South Africa and studied Speech and Language Therapy at the University of the Witwatersrand in Johannesburg, graduating in 1993 with a first class degree. I practised as a Speech and Language Therapist (or SLT) in South Africa for three years, during which time I worked in a primary school and also for a private practice.

In 1997 I moved to London, with the aim (like many South Africans before me) of making some money, seeing Europe and going back 'home'. This plan altered dramatically when I met my future husband in 1999 - here I am more than 20 years after first arriving! I have worked as an SLT in the UK since 1997 (with regular trips to Africa to bask in the sun) and have supported children with speech, language and communication needs, as well as high-level autism/Asperger syndrome.

Over a period of 10 years I worked in a number of different primary schools. I then decided to further my career by becoming an academic - I was a full time senior lecturer on the Speech and Language Therapy degree course at Birmingham City University (BCU) for seven years and have an MA in Education, with distinction. Towards the end of this period I had my daughter and returned to working in schools.

In addition to working at Crackley Hall I currently run a small private speech and language therapy practice and am in the process of completing a PhD.

I joined Crackley Hall School in September 2010 and enjoy helping those children who need support to access the curriculum, fulfil their potential, maintain friendships and progress happily through their school careers.



**Mrs Catriona Hardwick**

Upon leaving school after completing my A-levels I attended the University of Bedford and gained a BEd degree specialising in Design & Technology and Science. I had placements with Reception, Years 1, 2, 3, 4 and 5. I then spent two years working as a supply teacher, teaching booster classes and

taking temporary posts covering maternity and sick leave in various schools in Warwickshire and Birmingham.

I joined Crackley Hall School in 2000 and have seen the merger of St. Joseph's with Princethorpe College, then later with Abbotsford. Throughout these changes I can still say that the ethos of the school is the same as when I first joined. I have taught Nursery, Junior 1, 2, 4 and 5, as a form teacher and covered English, Maths, Science, DT, Art, Computing, History, PSHE and Geography to these year groups as well as teaching Year 3 and 6 DT, Art and computing.

Crackley Hall is such a special place to work. I always feel privileged to be part of the team making a difference to the children's education and always look forward to the new challenges and adventures that happen each year. The other side of Crackley, which I feel is something that we do particularly well, is giving the children the confidence to stand up in front of others and speak. My own three children have either attended or are still attending Crackley and have grown enormously in confidence, which I know is because of the experiences they have had here along with the encouragement and opportunities that they have been given. I love working here and honestly couldn't imagine teaching anywhere else.



**Ms Carrie Holmes**

I have always been involved in the Arts and learning, and have studied Art, Art History and History in Merseyside. In 1979, I undertook a nursing course at Liverpool University and qualified in 1982.

I was Exhibitions Officer at a privately owned gallery in London and Suffolk from 1982-1986

organising large contemporary exhibitions, prior to their showing at the Royal Academy. In 1987, I moved to Lincoln, and worked as Exhibitions Officer at the municipal, Usher Gallery. This is where I first became involved in teaching children. I co-ordinated and taught workshops for children from mainstream and special schools, and undertook several large-scale community events based within the Arts for Lincolnshire County Council.

In 1996, I moved to Warwickshire with my family. I have two daughters, Bronte and Imogen. On returning to work in 2003, I became Art Curriculum Leader at Crackley Hall, and then History Co-ordinator. I have been class teacher to Junior 2, 3 and 4. I have a PGCE qualification from Buckingham University.



**Mrs Sorcha Horan**

I qualified as a teacher in 1997 and have spent the last 20 years working in a number of different primary schools in Coventry and Warwickshire. During this time, I have taught in every year group across the primary range and have held a variety of senior leadership and management positions including Subject Co-

ordinator roles, Key Stage Leader roles and Deputy Headships.

I am married to Liam and we have three children; Caitlin, Conor and Dillon, who all attend and love coming to school here at Crackley Hall. It is such a special place for us as a family; a place where our children are happy, secure, valued, respected, challenged, nurtured and loved; where our own Christian values are reflected and our own high academic expectations for our children are met. I am proud and privileged to be a member of staff and enjoy delivering the highest quality teaching and learning opportunities that enable every child to succeed to the best of their ability.



### **Mrs Helen Huang**

I was born and brought up in Shanghai, the most populous city in China. I studied Engineering at university in Shanghai and graduated with a first class honours degree.

After university I began a career in business management and international trade, first in China, then in New Zealand and finally in

Britain. It was when I was working in New Zealand that I met my future husband and we were married in 2004.

In 2008 I took an extended career break to have my daughter. I returned to work in 2013, embarking on a new career and joining the Crackley Hall family as Mandarin Teacher. Since arriving at Crackley Hall I have taught all years from Reception through to Junior 6 and I also run the lunchtime Mandarin Club.

I'm passionate about teaching children my mother tongue and helping them to learn about my homeland. I work hard to create learning that is engaging and fun and the children at Crackley Hall have responded positively. I find the children's enthusiasm rewarding and it is such a pleasure to teach them.

In 2018, I returned to university to study towards a Postgraduate Graduate Certificate in Education (PGCE). Now that I have successfully completed my studies, I look forward to returning to Crackley Hall in September 2019.



### **Mrs Susanne Jackson-Mayne**

I am currently the Co-ordinator for Religious Studies at Crackley Hall, which is an exciting and busy role that enables me to work with all the age groups across the school.

I graduated in 1989 with BA Hons (QTS) in English and Drama. I worked as a class teacher in Year 6 for two years in Twickenham,

before moving to Northumberland and covering a maternity leave in Reception, Year 1 and 2.

For the next ten years I worked in two middle schools teaching the whole curriculum to Year 5 and 6. During this time I became an English Co-ordinator and taught Literacy in Year 7 and 8.

In 2002 I moved to the Midlands and whilst my children were very young I worked part time in various primary schools in Warwickshire (Crackley Hall being one of them). I also became a marker for Key Stage 3 SATs in Literacy. In 2004 I took on a two year funded post as a part time Lead Literacy Teacher in Warwickshire. This involved working with Year 6 pupils in six schools in Warwick from the state and independent sector. My focus was to raise standards in writing.

In 2005/6 I job-shared at St Nicholas Primary School and rejoined Crackley Hall in September 2006. I have been a form tutor in Junior 1, 4, 5 and 6 and have held a number of positions during this time – English Co-ordinator, Acting Assistant Head and I now co-ordinate Religious Education.



### **Mrs Sarah Lammas**

I started my working life at a national window company in the accounts department. After rising through the ranks, I realised that I no longer aspired to complete my training to become a qualified accountant. So, after six and a half years, I left to pursue a career in teaching.

I attended Newman Catholic Teacher Training

College in Birmingham for four years and alongside my degree, I also studied for my Catholic Certificate in Religious Studies qualification - allowing me to teach RE in Catholic schools.

After I graduated, I accepted a job with the then St Joseph's for September 2002 as the Year 6 teacher and remained in this year group for eight years. During this time, I was a member of the Senior Leadership Team and, in 2009, took on the role of Assistant Head for my last year as Junior 6 teacher until I left to have my daughter, Millie.

I returned to work after nine months to a part-time role so that I could spend quality time with my daughter. Once Millie was out of Reception, I decided it was time to take up a full-time role again and returned to Junior 6 – which I thoroughly enjoyed for a further three years. Last year, I moved into Year 5, taking my extensive knowledge of the expectations of the Entrance Exams with me.



### **Mrs Emma Malcolm**

I studied at Loughborough University and graduated with a BSc (Hons) in Criminology and Social Policy. I relished all the fantastic sporting opportunities the University gave me, yet found my true passion was working with children in education, as I took on the role of Learning Support Assistant at a school in Coventry. From

my very first day, I knew that the school environment was the place I was meant to be and loved working with a wide range of children and supporting their learning.

I have always been a keen sportswoman and gained county representative colours for netball and hockey at school, along with being part of a range of sports clubs at university and in my social life, including playing lacrosse, squash and golf. Along with physical pursuits, I love to spend time with my family and friends travelling and laughing as much as possible! I gained my Primary PGCE at the University of Warwick where I developed my teaching across all subjects in Key Stage 1 and 2.

I strive to create learning that is engaging, fun and active, to ensure that all children can achieve their best academically and also feel valued and happy at school. For me, the greatest pleasure is to be a part of children's development as learners, but also as individuals.

I have the responsibility for leading the Student Council and enjoy overseeing the children as they make decisions about their school. I am also the Computing Co-ordinator.





### **Mrs Susan Olden**

I am the longest serving member of staff at Crackley having been originally Head of Music at the then St Joseph's. I seem unable to get away from the school as I was also a pupil here for five years.

Music has always been my main interest and passion from the age of five and after studying music for a number of years I went on to gain my LRAM, ARCM, LLCM (TD) and AMus TCL. At Crackley I am responsible for music throughout the school as well as supporting a number of peripatetic staff.

In addition to this, I am an examiner for the London College of Music. I examine for them three times a year and thoroughly enjoy doing this work in the school holidays.



### **Mrs Julia Roberts**

In 1992, I gained a Bachelor of Education Honours degree in English Literature from the University of the West of England. For the past 27 years I have been fortunate to have taught across the whole Primary age range, from Reception to Year 6. This was within two large and thriving Coventry Primary schools,

before joining Crackley Hall seven years ago. I have led English, PE, Computing and Science, over this time. I mainly taught in Years 5 and 6 whilst teaching in Coventry schools, where I predominantly prepared pupils for both their Year 6 SAT exams and for their crucial transition to secondary school.

Within Crackley Hall, I have been a class teacher in Junior 6, Reception and Junior 2, and for the last few years, in Junior 5. I have also had the responsibility of running the School Council, and thoroughly enjoyed coaching the U9's Netball and Rounder's teams, with Mrs Malcolm and Mrs Duigan. We have had great success over the past few years, having won the ISA U9's annual Netball tournament for two consecutive years, and have also been close runners up. In addition, I have taught both Gifted and Talented Maths and English groups at Crackley Hall, which I particularly enjoyed. I have been Science Co-ordinator for the last few years, which affords me the wonderful opportunity to lead this exciting subject, across both key stages.

I am married to Peter, a Quantity Surveyor, and we have been blessed with three children: Charlotte, aged 20, who is studying a BSc in Economics and Politics at Bristol University; Jack, aged 18, who is busily studying A-levels at Princethorpe College Sixth Form; and Harry, aged 11, who is in Year 7 at secondary school.

In my spare time, I am a keen Netball player, and I have played for various teams in the Coventry and Warwickshire Netball League. In addition, I like to jog, cycle and to socialise with close family and friends. As a busy family of five, we particularly appreciate our holidays together, both here and abroad. This usually involves holidaying in our caravan in the Peak District; walking, cycling, sightseeing, having fun and consuming lots of delicious food!

I firmly believe that teaching children is a privilege, and to be a facilitator of children's educational, moral, emotional, social and spiritual journey, is simply priceless. I very much look forward to furthering my teaching experiences within Crackley Hall School!



### **Mrs Margaret Spillane**

After graduating from Trinity College, Cambridge University with a degree in Geography, I worked in publishing, for a recruitment consultancy and for the Careers Service as a Specialist Careers Officer. I worked with young people who needed support in securing and maintaining employment.

In 1987, I took a career break to raise my three sons and then retrained to become a primary school teacher. My time with the Careers Service had opened my eyes to young people with additional needs who had not fulfilled their potential at school.

I completed my PGCE at Warwick University in 1998 and worked in a small Catholic School in Dorridge for three years as their Year 5 teacher, and Geography and RE Co-ordinator.

Working with the pupils who had additional needs was especially rewarding so I moved to a post as Learning Support Teacher and SENCo in another Catholic primary school in Solihull. I spent fourteen happy years there and gained a great deal of experience teaching pupils and supporting the staff throughout the school. I have worked with children with a range of special needs including dyslexia, dyspraxia, speech and language and autism. I enjoy my role as a part-time Learning Support Teacher and G&T Co-ordinator at Crackley Hall enormously and love being part of such a hardworking and dedicated team.

Outside school, I love to spend time with my husband and three grown-up sons. I swim regularly, follow sport and enjoy travelling, particularly to France and North Wales. My Catholic faith is incredibly important to me, and both my husband and I are actively involved in our local parish.



### Richard Stedeford

Born in Germany, I moved to England when I was five years old, enjoying a lovely childhood walking my beloved golden retriever in the delightful Dorset countryside. I went to school in sleepy Sherborne, where cobbled streets were surrounded by tiny teashops and everyone knew each other's names.

Being an avid sportsman from an early age, my teacher parents quickly learned the taxi driving trade, whisking me off to various fields across the south-west, to kick and throw leather. My passion for sport powered me through school and into university, acting as my motivation to achieve a successful education. At the University of Gloucestershire, I achieved a BSc (Hons) in Applied Sport and Exercise.

Moving back to Dorset, I started work at Sherborne Prep School where I enjoyed five years working in a wonderful boarding house and it was here that I realised my love for developing sporting opportunities within education.

This led me to undertake an MA in Sport Development, which I thoroughly enjoyed, as it provided me with an invaluable opportunity to improve my understanding of the role sport and physical activity plays, in education.

My MA was followed by a move to Cambridge, where I was employed as a National Sports Co-ordinator for the Independent Schools Association. I enjoyed three successful years, increasing sporting opportunities for over 400 independent schools. Importantly, it was here that I developed an ambition to enter the world of teaching.

Joining Crackley Hall in September 2018 and undertaking a PGCE from the University of Buckingham, I feel incredibly lucky to have been given the opportunity to learn from such brilliant educators and teach an abundance of kind and welcoming children. I believe in a fully inclusive education and will always strive to achieve an engaging classroom environment that encourages a love of learning.

Outside of school, my body still allows me to play competitive football and cricket. I am excited to be engaged to my wonderful fiancée, Laura and in our spare time, we enjoy mediocre ballroom dancing and have recently renovated a dilapidated four-bedroom house. I enjoy writing short stories and would love to be published, one day. I also love being an uncle to my sister's beautiful daughters, Matilda and Betty.



### Mrs Claire Tatton

I was born in France, on the border with Belgium. Within a year, my family relocated to the beautiful historic city of Lyon, in the South East of France, where I completed all my education. After 21 years in the same place, it was time to spread my wings and thanks to the Erasmus programme, I completed the final year

of my Law degree at the University of Leicester. After studying then working in both Leicester and Lyon for the next four years, I chose England – or maybe England chose me when I met a young man and became engaged! My teaching career took me around the country and in a range of educational establishments until I settled in Leicestershire where my husband's family is from.

I have a passion for languages and studied English, Latin and Russian whilst growing up and German and Spanish as an adult. Teaching children is undoubtedly my vocation and I have been a teacher for over 25 years. I have boundless energy and I am annoyingly enthusiastic and positive!

I love nature, wildlife and animals in general. In my spare time, I enjoy walking my dogs in Leicestershire and on the Norfolk coast. I am a keen gardener and have an interest in keeping and preserving garden produces, including pressing my own apple juice and making jams, cordials and alcohol drinks such as cider! I love chocolate and I am an improving amateur baker. I enjoy spending time outdoors, walking, picking fruits, chopping kindling and splitting logs too!

I also enjoy socialising and eating out with family and friends. My husband Richard and my son Joseph are lifelong supporters of Leicester City Football Club. Whilst sport is not my thing, I'm no good at doing nothing! When I eventually stop and sit down, it is usually by our wood burner with a box of chocolates and a Spaniel or two by my side.



**Mrs Anna van Zyl**

In 2000, I graduated from the University of Canterbury with a BA in Social Anthropology. Following on from this I was eager to work abroad and travelled to South Africa where I taught English in a Primary School in Pretoria. Encouraged by the teaching I had done, I then accepted a two year teaching post in Taiwan

where I worked in an English Language Immersion School and taught across the primary age-range from nursery to age ten. Both of these posts gave me a wealth of experience in supporting children with English as an additional or foreign language, using many different teaching styles and, most importantly, confirmed my desire to pursue teaching as a career.

In 2004, I moved back to England and completed my PGCE at Warwick University specialising in Early Years. Since then I have worked in both the state sector and in another local independent school across both KS1 and KS2. I particularly enjoy teaching English, Art and Science and have experience in managing primary teaching and learning in both Science and Art across the primary phase. I currently co-ordinate Art across the school and am passionate about providing every child the opportunity to feel like an artist and to enrich their learning through many creative experiences.

I have two children; Jacob, aged 11 and Leila, aged seven. It is safe to say that any spare time I have is taken care of with their boundless energy and many extra-curricular activities. As a family we enjoy spending time outdoors, walking, swimming, cooking and camping. I am a keen swimmer and scuba diver and love travelling, preferably to warmer climes.

As my husband is from South Africa, we spend much of our holiday time travelling between the two continents, visiting family and making the most of the South African sunshine.

A child-centred approach is fundamental to my teaching and I believe that motivating and empowering children to become confident, independent learners is crucial to their continued success. I have taught at Crackley Hall for the past four years and feel fortunate to work in such a nurturing, inspiring and caring school where everyone is valued for their talents and individualism.



**Mrs Kat Vaughan**

I graduated from Nottingham Trent University in 1993 with a BSc (Hons) in Sport Science. During my three years at University, I became qualified as a personal trainer, and set up my own business 'Bodyforce' in order to fund my way through university. After gaining my degree, I spent the next few years continuing my own

business specialising in sport specific fitness, sport psychology, and injury and illness rehabilitation. I also managed a new gym in the local area.

In the summer of 1993 I was fortunate enough to join Warwickshire College of Further Education as a lecturer on their newly formed BTEC National Sport Studies course. I became the lead tutor for the course, responsible for the personal development of the students as well as teaching various aspects of both theory and practical sport. Whilst at the college, I completed a City and Guilds Diploma in Delivering Learning, and following this gained RSA qualification as an approved assessor to GNVQ work placement students. After four years teaching at Warwickshire College, I took a change in career to work in the pharmaceutical industry. I spent 11 years with the same company, the final six years as a Regional Development Manager for the Midlands area.

A change in career enabled me to spend more time with my children, and re-kindle my love for participating in and coaching sport. Along with coaching juniors, at the hockey clubs that I have played at for the last 34 years, I also started to help with many of the sports at Crackley Hall and quickly realised that I had missed my vocation in life – I should have always moved into teaching!

It is such a pleasure to teach the children at Crackley Hall – they are so enthusiastic, fair, committed, and so eager to please. I have coaching qualifications in hockey, netball, volleyball, cricket, football, handball, rounders, basketball, athletics, tennis, rugby and weight training as well as a PGCE in Primary Education.

I tend to keep myself very busy in my spare time, playing hockey every weekend, netball during the week and singing with Mr Vaughan at various functions! Somewhere amongst this, I have two children who are growing up far too quickly and who have both been to Crackley Hall and Princethorpe. My eldest, Taylor is now 19 years old and Kyran is 13 and about to move into Year 9. I am exceptionally proud of both of them and enjoy sharing the stage with them as they are both great performers!



### Steve Vaughan

I joined Warwickshire Police straight after A-levels and went on to work in various specialist departments and represent the British Police at Rugby, Athletics, Boxing and Aikido. I studied for a BA (Hons) in Management at Coventry University and on graduating, left the police to take up a two- year lecturing post

(Management, Sport Psychology, Biomechanics), giving me time to train with the GB Olympic athletes preparing for the 1996 Olympics. Injuries forced a change of career and into the corporate world of Hi-Tech. This successful 20 years took me all over the world, including six years running my own software business, developing some of the first On-Demand business and mobile apps. I maintained my interest in sport during this time and gained selection for the Great Britain Aikido Team, and in 2010, competing at the European Championships in The Czech Republic, I won the Individual European Gold Medal. After selling the licensing rights to my business in 2017, I looked to embark on a new journey, volunteering to teach PE and Games at Warwick School. This led me to joining Crackley full-time for the 2017-2018 academic year and this year I completed my iPGCE.

As well as being heavily involved in PE and Games, I provide technical support for musical productions and PTA events; particularly utilising my background in singing, guitar, drums and general musicianship and stage work.

In my spare time I teach drum lessons and offer singing and vocal coaching, as well as working alongside some exceptionally talented people at Stagecoach Performing Arts, where I continue to develop and learn new things, both from colleagues and the children I teach!

My two children have both attended Crackley Hall and these last two years as a TA and Teacher have offered me a privileged insight into life at Crackley. Being intrinsically motivated to help the children has, and continues to, play a big part in my approach to teaching. I believe that I build genuine and trusting relationships with children, offering pastoral support and care to those I teach. I enjoy combining the traditional with new ideas, utilising my commercial, Sport, Music, Drama and Coaching expertise to stimulate each child's thinking, to engage and encourage questioning and foster an appetite for wanting to know more. In essence, I want the children in my care to enjoy learning, be that in the classroom, on the stage, or on the sports field.



### Mrs Nicki Wildey

In 24 years of teaching, both at my previous local school and at Crackley Hall, I have built up a wealth of experience and expertise.

I have had many opportunities to stretch my wings thus gaining class-teaching experience across all the Key Stages from Foundation Stage to Upper Key Stage 2. I have enjoyed

the responsibilities of co-ordinating History, Geography, RE, PSHE and Literacy across the school, culminating in being part of the Senior Leadership Team as Acting Deputy Head and SENCo. I love running the Crackley Hall Drama department as the Performing Arts are such an important part of the Crackley experience.

I have three children. As a family we all enjoy sports such as running, cycling, football and rugby although my rugby playing days are over and I participate in a mostly spectator capacity now! My husband coaches mini rugby at Camp Hill Rugby Club near Birmingham, where both my son and two daughters play. I regularly take part in cycling and running events and my children are starting to join in now, which is lovely.

Although I loved studying History at the University of Sussex before I went on to take my PGCE, drama has always been my passion and hobby. I was a shy child who blossomed and rapidly grew in confidence since taking part in school plays. Aged 11, I joined a youth drama group in Solihull, which continued to fuel my enjoyment of performing through plays and LAMDA examinations.

I continued to perform through the thriving drama and musical societies at university and there, I began to explore producing and directing shows, culminating in my show 'Daisy Pulls It Off' being picked to play at the Brighton Festival. When I moved back up to the Midlands I immediately joined a local group where I performed in annual shows over a period of ten years. I now have the privilege of my hobby feeding into my professional life and I use all my experience, plus new learning, to continue to improve children's experiences of drama across the school.

## Nursery Staff Profiles



**Mrs Clare Bird**  
**Nursery Manager**

I qualified with an NNEB in 1985 and from doing my training knew I wanted to work in a nursery environment. Initially I did some live in nanny work, to gain experience, which took me to London for a while.

On getting engaged I moved back to Warwickshire and got a job at the Child Development Centre at Warwick Hospital, working with professionals from the area of Health and Education, pre-school children with all types of developmental delay or illness and their parents. We assessed the children over a couple of weeks, during the mornings and on many occasions the parents would have a diagnosis for their child's condition for the first time. In the afternoons I ran short play sessions for small groups of these children.

From 1990 -1994 I had my own three children. In 1994 I became a deputy manager of Warwickshire College Nursery where I later became Nursery Manager.

In 2006 it was time for a change and a new challenge and I joined Little Crackers Nursery as the Nursery Manager.

In September 2007 I gained my NVQ4 in Early Years Care and Education (Management in the Early Years Setting).



**Mrs Lisa O'Carroll-Bailey**  
**Early Years Foundation Stage Teacher**

I started my teacher training at St Katherine's College in Liverpool, but watched it change and develop during my four years, until I graduated from what is now known as Liverpool Hope University.

I trained as an Early Years teacher, but applied for the 'wild card' job and went straight into a school for children with various Special Needs. I loved this and stayed in special needs teaching until I had our girls. After Abbie was born I went back to teaching part time, this time at a centre for children with Cerebral Palsy using Conductive Education techniques. This was fascinating and I remained at the centre until Chloe was born. At this point I decided to spend a bit more time with the girls and became a childminder, but luckily I still had a visit from OFSTED so felt quite at home!

I eventually went back to teaching part-time, but then my husband got a job at an independent IAPS school in Kenya, so in 2011 we all moved to Nairobi. This was an incredible three years. I was lucky enough to be able to spend the first year settling everyone in and then reminding myself how much I enjoyed drawing, photography and painting, with plenty of subjects in that beautiful country. I then stepped in and started teaching again, this time with a class of noisy and very capable Year 4 children! We had a lot of fun, and made the most of every safari opportunity, extreme camping, kissing giraffes and adopting baby elephants, but eventually had to come home.

I spent a year covering a maternity leave, teaching a Reception class at a school in Hatton, and then joined Little Crackers in September 2015. I have a wonderful time in the pre-school, cutting and sticking, getting covered in paint, racing snails and practising writing... and the children seem to enjoy it too!



**Mrs Nicola Whitehurst - Early Years Foundation Stage Teacher**

I studied at Christ's and Notre Dame College, graduating from Liverpool University in 1991 with a BEd Honours degree and a Catholic Teacher's Certificate.

My journey began far from city life, as an Infant teacher in rural Suffolk. I was then invited to join a team tasked with introducing French across Key Stage 2 in every primary school upon the Isle of Man. I absolutely loved living by the sea and enjoyed the wild terrain and the vagaries of the Manx weather. However, I missed my family and so eventually decided to return to mainland Britain, to lead literacy at an infant school in Solihull.

I then took a break from teaching whilst I brought up my own young children. During this time, I became involved in animal husbandry, supporting my parents in their livestock business. I also earned a qualification in Apiculture and worked for my local Beekeeping Association, mentoring new members and lecturing regularly at Stoneleigh Agricultural Centre.

However, I was inevitably drawn back to classroom teaching and decided to further my skills base with a post at a Special Needs School in Coventry, before returning to mainstream education, to a Catholic school in Leamington where I taught across Nursery, Reception and Year 1, and as a Key Stage 2 French Teacher.

I was then offered the opportunity to teach at Crackley Hall. I had attended the senior school at the original St Joseph's Convent, so it feels very special to teach where I was once a past pupil.

I am passionate about the acquisition of sound Literacy and Numeracy skills, underpinned by excellent Pastoral provision.



**Mrs Katie Skidmore-Bird - Senior Early Years Educator**

After leaving school I started a hairdressing apprenticeship and gained my Level 2 qualification. I also pursued a course in theatrical make-up which I loved. With these skills I have created many hairstyles for weddings and make-up for school performances.

In 2011, I started working part-time at Crackley Hall and Little Crackers Nursery. When the opportunity came up for a full-time position in nursery, I seized it and started my Level 3 Diploma in Children and Young Persons Workforce, which I successfully completed in 2013. I have worked across all age groups in Little Crackers and particularly enjoy working with the under 3s.



## Admissions Process

Most of our pupils enter at Nursery and progress through to Reception. More pupils also join us at Reception and Junior 3, though pupils are welcome at any age dependent on a place being available. Places in other years are limited and in years where there is no place available we operate waiting groups.

We encourage prospective parents and pupils to visit us both formally and informally to get a true flavour of the school. We hold various Open Events throughout the year, including a specific Nursery and Reception Open Evening in November, which prospective parents and pupils are most welcome to attend. A meeting with Mr Robert Duigan, the Headmaster, is also a key part of the admissions process.

Our Admissions and Marketing Secretary, Mrs Jenny Vaughan (pictured) will be pleased to talk you through the admissions process and current availability. Contact her on 01926 514410/514444 or email [admissions@crackleyhall.co.uk](mailto:admissions@crackleyhall.co.uk). See Key Admissions Dates and our website for further details, [www.crackleyhall.co.uk](http://www.crackleyhall.co.uk).

### Nursery

If you are interested in your child attending Little Crackers we would recommend that you contact Mrs Jenny Vaughan, our Admissions Secretary, who will make an appointment for you and your child to meet with Mrs Clare Bird, the Nursery Manager and discuss availability. Alternatively come to one of our regular Open Events or join us at our Stay 'n' Play toddler group, which takes place on Wednesdays in term-time from 10.00am to 11.30am, to get a feel for the Nursery and chat with the staff informally.

We take children from when they turn two-years old and advise parents to apply in good time. To secure a place, simply complete a Registration Form with your required sessions and preferred start date and return this with the accompanying fee of £50 to the Admissions Secretary. You will then receive confirmation in writing that we can offer a nursery place with an acceptance form for you to sign. If the sessions you require are not available your fee will be returned.

Prior to starting, you and your child can attend a number of short settling in sessions, typically two or three, where you will meet your child's key worker who will then be able to confirm a start date.

### Reception 2020

#### Little Crackers applicants and siblings

Those already attending Little Crackers in the pre-school year, and siblings, are given priority for places in Reception. The deadline for taking advantage of this priority arrangement for Little Crackers and sibling Reception applications is **Monday 25 November 2019**. Please return your completed Registration Form with the accompanying fee of £50 (non-returnable) by this date. Offer letters will be sent out first class on **Monday 16 December 2019** with a Confirmation of Acceptance Form, which we ask you to complete and return to us together with a deposit of £300 by the acceptance deadline of **Monday 6 January 2020**.

#### External applicants (those attending nursery elsewhere)

External applicants interested in a place in Reception need to register by the deadline of **Monday 3 February 2020**; you will be invited to bring your child in for a taster session in pre-school once we have received your completed Registration Form and accompanying fee of £50 (non-returnable). Subject to availability and a satisfactory taster session, offer letters to external candidates will be sent out first class on **Friday 6 March 2020** with a Confirmation of Acceptance Form, which we ask you to complete and return to us together with a deposit of £300 by the acceptance deadline of **Monday 27 April 2020**.

#### Current Reception to Junior 6

Applications for places in the current Reception to Junior 6 will be treated on an individual basis as places are limited. In years where there is no place available we operate waiting groups. Please contact Jenny Vaughan, our Admissions and Marketing Secretary to discuss these on an individual basis.

Should the possibility of a potential place be available you will be invited in to meet with Mr Duigan, the Headmaster, then if appropriate you should complete a Registration Form and return it with the accompanying fee of £50 (non-returnable), after which time your child will be invited in for a taster day.

During the taster day children in Reception and Junior 1 will be assessed informally. Children in Junior 2 to 6 will be given assessments in Mathematics and English.

Once a taster day is arranged, we will contact you to advise that we plan to seek a reference from your child's current school. Following the taster day, confirmation of a place being offered would be made in writing subject to a satisfactory reference being received.

To secure your place return your completed Confirmation of Acceptance Form with a deposit of £300 within 14 days of the date of the offer being made.

The final deadline for applications and completed registration forms for entry in September 2019 is **Friday 22 May 2020**. All incoming pupils need to have completed the admissions process by **Friday 12 June 2020** to enable your child to attend our Induction Morning. (Although a place at Crackley Hall may become available after this date, and applications will be processed, we cannot guarantee availability of places.)

Note: Deposits are refunded *after* the end of the final term which the pupil spends at the school.

#### Induction

New pupils are given the opportunity to familiarise themselves with the school, staff and fellow pupils when they are invited to our Induction Morning in the Summer Term.

#### Bursaries

Bursaries are available for pupils wishing to join Crackley Hall, these are normally awarded to children from Junior 3 and above subject to a place being available. Application forms are available from the Foundation Bursar's office and from our website. Completed applications should be forwarded to the Foundation Bursar with supporting documentary evidence.

Applications for bursaries are normally reviewed by external consultants.

# Fees and Conditions

**Registration fee** - £50.00 (non refundable)

A non-returnable deposit of £300 will be requested at the time of a place being offered, and this will be refunded *after* the end of the final term which the pupil spends at the school.

## Fees

Reception including lunch	£3,240 per term
Junior 1 & 2 including lunch	£3,416 per term
Junior 3, 4 and 5 including lunch	£3,607 per term
Junior 6	£3,458 per term
Swimming	£20 per term

## Reception class where claiming free entitlement

Children are entitled to 15 hours a week free-of-charge for the school year. The entitlement starts the term after the child turns three and ends the term after they turn five or at the end of Reception, whichever is earlier.

Employer's Child Care Vouchers are accepted. Please contact Mrs Gina Malin in the Bursary (01926 634273) for further details.

Where parents are in receipt of the free entitlement then the charge for additional services is:

Reception additional services including lunch	£2,577 per term
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## Payment of Fees

Fees are due on or before the first day of each term. Parents can view their accounts and bills for each term using the Parent Bills and On-line Payment site on the website. Advice is sent by email when bills become available for a new term.

Parents are requested to make payment to us in the following ways:

- using child-care vouchers (Little Crackers);
- direct debit;
- direct bank transfer; please state billing reference number and send to:

<b>Bank</b>	HSBC Bank plc
<b>Account Name</b>	The Princethorpe Foundation - Crackley Hall
<b>Sort Code</b>	40-26-04
<b>Account Number</b>	01318128

Parents are asked to be vigilant in respect of any communications purporting to be from the Foundation requesting money that do not match our normal procedures.

### Please note:

- **invoices are only available through the on-line parent fee portal;**
- **our bank account details will NOT change during the academic year 2019-20;**
- **if you receive an email purporting to amend our bank details, do not make any payment and please contact us by telephone immediately to clarify;**
- **we do not email details of unsolicited discounts for payment of funds.**

Please contact the Bursary if you have concerns about any communication you receive and in particular if you receive any request for payment of funds outside our normal routines.

*Please note we do not accept payment in cash for the fee bill.*

## School Fees Refund Scheme

The charge for this optional scheme is 1.37% of the tuition fee after any discounts have been applied.

*Please note that trustees are unable to refund fees in the event of illness or disruption to a school term.*

## Late payment of fees

Interest is charged for late settlement of fees at a rate of 6% per annum or part thereof.

Letters relating to late payment of fees are charged at £10.

## Sibling discount

Discounts on the main tuition fee are automatically applied to siblings (5% for second and third sibling, 10% for fourth and subsequent siblings) and apply whilst there are two or more children attending schools in the Foundation but excluding children attending the Nursery.

## Optional charges

**After-school care to 6.00pm** - (including a snack)  
£4.75 per hour or part thereof.

**Late collection 6.00pm** - £10.00 per half hour or part thereof.

**Lunch** - £3.10 per day where added to the bill in advance for **all days** throughout a term.

£3.25 where added to the bill in advance for less than all days throughout a term.

£3.40 other than the above.

**Learning Support** - £16.50 per half-hour for individual lessons.

## Lunches

Lunch is included in the fees for Reception and Junior 1-5.

Please note that it is the school's intention to increase the Years where the fees include lunch each year; so in September **2020** the fees for Junior 6 will also include the cost of lunches.

For other years discounts apply when lunches are booked in advance and added to the bill. The largest discount applies where lunches are taken through the term. The termly charge will vary according to the number of days in the term.

## Music and extra-curricular activities

Music lessons are available for various instruments. Music fees are negotiated with, and invoiced separately to, parents by tutors to whom enquiries and payments should be directed.

Similar arrangements apply to extra curricular activities provided by external agents.

### Autumn 2019 - Little Crackers Nursery

#### All year

Morning session – snack & lunch included	7.45am - 12.45pm	£34.30
Afternoon session – snack & tea included	1.00pm - 6.00pm	£34.30
Short day – 2 snacks & lunch included	7.45am - 4.00pm	£48.00
Full day – 2 snacks, lunch & tea included	7.45am - 6.00pm	£55.00

#### Weekly charges

Full time – short day – 2 snacks & lunch included	7.45am - 4.00pm	£231.00
Full time – all day – 2 snacks, lunch & tea included	7.45am - 6.00pm	£258.00

#### Term time only

Morning session – snack & lunch included	7.45am - 12.45pm	£35.70
Afternoon session – snack & tea included	1.00pm - 6.00pm	£35.70
Short day – 2 snacks & lunch included	7.45am - 4.00pm	£49.50
Full day – 2 snacks, lunch & tea included	7.45am - 6.00pm	£56.15

#### Weekly charges

Full time – short day – 2 snacks & lunch included	7.45am - 4.00pm	£239.00
Full time – all day – 2 snacks, lunch & tea included	7.45am - 6.00pm	£265.00

There is a minimum requirement of 4 sessions a week.







### Age 3 & over where claiming free entitlement

Children are entitled to 15 hours a week free-of-charge for a maximum of 38 weeks. The entitlement starts the term after the child turns three and ends the term after they turn five or at the end of Reception, whichever is earlier. How the entitlement is allocated will depend on whether parents opt for a term-time or all-year-round nursery place.

Parents who access the free entitlement are charged for the additional services they use as follows:

#### All year

All-year-round parents may access free entitlement for a maximum of 11.2 hours per week and for 51 weeks of the year subject to a minimum of 4 sessions a week and no more than 1 session a day.

<b>Morning session</b> – comprising	<b>7.45am - 12.45pm</b>	free entitlement, snack & lunch included	£25.45
<b>Afternoon session</b> – comprising	<b>1.00pm - 6.00pm</b>	free entitlement, snack & tea included	£25.45
<b>Short day</b> – comprising	<b>7.45am - 4.00pm</b>	free entitlement, 2 snacks & lunch included	£39.15
<b>Full day</b> – comprising	<b>7.45am - 6.00pm</b>	free entitlement, 2 snacks, lunch & tea included	£46.15
<b>Weekly charges</b>			
<b>Full time</b> – short day	<b>7.45am - 4.00pm</b>	free entitlement, 2 snacks & lunch included	£186.76
<b>Full time</b> – all day	<b>7.45am - 6.00pm</b>	free entitlement, 2 snacks, lunch & tea included	£213.76

#### Term time only

Term time parents may access free entitlement for a maximum of 15 hours per week and for 34 weeks of the year subject to a minimum of 4 sessions a week and no more than 1 session a day.

Parents who access the free entitlement are charged for the additional services they use as follows:

<b>Morning session</b> – comprising	<b>7.45am - 12.45pm</b>	free entitlement, snack & lunch included	£23.82
<b>Afternoon session</b> – comprising	<b>1.00pm - 6.00pm</b>	free entitlement, snack & tea included	£23.82
<b>Short day</b> – comprising	<b>7.45am - 4.00pm</b>	free entitlement, 2 snacks & lunch included	£37.62
<b>Full day</b> – comprising	<b>7.45am - 6.00pm</b>	free entitlement, 2 snacks, lunch & tea included	£44.27
<b>Weekly charges</b>			
<b>Full time</b> – short day	<b>7.45am - 4.00pm</b>	free entitlement, 2 snacks & lunch included	£179.60
<b>Full time</b> – all day	<b>7.45am - 6.00pm</b>	free entitlement, 2 snacks, lunch & tea included	£205.60

Parents may access just the free entitlement for a maximum of 15 hours per week and for 34 weeks of the year subject to a minimum of 4 sessions a week and no more than 1 session a day.

The sessions for parents wishing to take up their funded entitlement only are:

Free entitlement morning	<b>8.15am - 11.15am</b>
Free entitlement afternoon	<b>12.30pm - 3.30pm</b>

## Terms and conditions

Those who pay a deposit to secure a place, subsequently turning it down before admission, will forfeit the deposit in its entirety. The school requires a term's notice of a pupil's departure from school; this requirement also applies for pupils joining the school. Parents should ensure they are familiar with the school's terms and conditions.

We reserve the right to seek confirmation that all fee liabilities to a previous school have been fully discharged before the pupil enters Crackley Hall.

Interest is charged for late settlement of fees at a rate of 6% per annum or part thereof. Letters relating to late payment of fees are charged at £10. Bursaries are available for qualifying applicants. Please speak to the Headmaster for further details.

### Withdrawal

One full term's notice, in writing, is required in the event of a pupil being withdrawn from the school. A half of a term's notice is required for the termination of music lessons. The School reserves the right to charge the appropriate fees in lieu of notice.

The School reserves the right to resign the charge of any pupil:

1. who, in the opinion of the Head, is unlikely to profit from a further stay in the School;
2. who, by misconduct, has, in the opinion of the Head, prejudiced the right to belong to the School community;
3. whose fees have not been paid. In such an event, no consideration will be given to repayment or remission of any fees.

Full Terms and Conditions are available on request or from our website [www.crackleyhall.co.uk](http://www.crackleyhall.co.uk).

*\*Princethorpe College, Crackley Hall School and Crescent School.*

## Practicalities

### Term Dates - 2019/2020

#### Michaelmas Term

Monday 2 September to  
Wednesday 18 December 2019

#### Half Term

Saturday 19 October to Sunday 3 November 2019

#### Lent Term

Monday 6 January to Friday 27 March 2020

#### Half Term

Saturday 15 February to Sunday 23 February 2020

#### Trinity Term

Monday 20 April to Wednesday 1 July 2020

#### Half Term

Saturday 23 May to Sunday 31 May 2020

### Term Dates - 2020/2021

#### Michaelmas Term

Tuesday 1 September to  
Wednesday 15 December 2020

#### Half Term

Saturday 17 October to Sunday 1 November 2020

#### Lent Term

Tuesday 5 January to Friday 26 March 2021

#### Half Term

Saturday 13 February to Sunday 21 February 2021

#### Trinity Term

Monday 19 April to Tuesday 6 July 2021

#### Half Term

Saturday 29 May to Sunday 6 June 2021





## The School Day

The school day is divided into six teaching periods, beginning at 8.25am, but to help busy mums and dads we are open from 7.45am until 6.00pm. Many children stay on after school for homework, clubs or sporting activities.

<b>08.20 - 08.35</b>	<b>Registration</b>
08.35 - 08.50	PSHCE/Assembly/Guided Reading/Hymn Practice/Booster/Provision for More Able/Collective Worship
08.50 - 09.50	Lesson 1
09.50 - 10.20	Assembly
<b>10.20 - 10.40</b>	<b>Break</b>
10.40 - 11.40	Lesson 2
11.40 - 12.35	Lesson 3
<b>12.35 - 13.40</b>	<b>Lunch</b>
<b>13.40 - 13.45</b>	<b>Registration</b>
13.45 - 14.40	Lesson 4
14.40 - 15.35	Lesson 5
15.35 - 15.45	Tutor Period (Junior 3 - Junior 6)
<b>15.35</b>	<b>Home Time</b> (Reception - Junior 2)
<b>15.45</b>	<b>Home Time</b> (Junior 3 - Junior 6)
15.45 - 17.00	Co-curricular Activities
15.45 - 18.00	After School Care - Please contact the office for further details.

## Visiting Music and Extra-Curricular Providers

Mrs Patricia Bach, BA, PGCE	<i>Piano</i>
Alistair Banks	<i>Karate</i>
Todd Banks	<i>Karate</i>
Peter Cooke	<i>Acoustic Guitar/Electric Guitar</i>
Mrs Jane Ebbon, BA, PGCE	<i>Sax/Clarinet/Double Reeds</i>
Mrs Diane Fisher, BA, Dip Mus	<i>Brass</i>
Miss Jodie Fisher, ATCL	<i>Brass</i>
Mrs Katrin Gilbert, BFA, MM, PGCE	<i>Violin</i>
Mrs Tania Goode, ALCM	<i>Singing</i>
Russell James	<i>Chess</i>
Miss Holly Jones, BA	<i>Flute</i>
Mrs Claire Lomas,	<i>Cello</i>
Mrs Denise Moore, BTDA	<i>Ballet</i>
Ms Danielle Palmer	<i>Guitar</i>
Mrs Shoshana Pavett, B Mus, NBA, ADPA	<i>Singing</i>
Dan Tyler, BMus	<i>Guitar</i>
Simon Wagstaff	<i>Drums</i>
Miss Karen Wall, BA, ALCM, PGDip, DipABRSM	<i>Piano</i>

Fees for individual Music tuition and other extra-curricular activities provided by external agents, are negotiated with, and invoiced separately to parents by the external providers to whom enquiries and payments should be directed.

## Co-curricular Activities

Before school, at lunchtime and after school, the children can take part in a variety of clubs and activities to suit all tastes. Activities change each term with the exception of:

- Chess
- Ballet
- Karate

Some of these are run by external agents, who provide a very good service that the children enjoy. Most members of staff offer clubs, for example, ICT, Lego, Yoga, Mindfulness, Sewing, Sketchbook, Orchestra, Choir, Thinking to Think, French and Story Club, to name a few.

Activities after school generally run from 3.45pm to 4.45pm. Details of activities are available on our online system SOCS at the end of each term and parents can login to put their child's name down for a preferred activity. Please note that some activities are restricted in number.

### Example Co-curricular Activities Timetable for the Trinity Term

Day	Before school	Lunchtime	After school
<b>Mon</b>	Mini Brass* J2 Brass Club* J3-J6	Lego J2 Library Club J5-J6 Mindfulness Colouring Club by selection	Digital Art J5-J6 Doodles Art Club J1-J2 Mad Science* J1-J6 Gym Club J5-J6 Athletics J3-J4
<b>Tues</b>	Choral Group J3-J6	Sewing J2 Multisports all years Mandarin J4-J5 ICT J3-J6 Maths Challenge J4-J5 Lego J4	Bayleaf Cookery* J2-J4 Rock Band* J5-J6
<b>Wed</b>	Chamber Choir	Chess* all years Entrance Exam Prep J5 RE club J3-J6 Drama Festival Club J1-J6 French Club J2	Formula 1 J4 Rounders J5-J6 Cricket J5-J6 Percussion Group* J3-J4
<b>Thurs</b>	Flute Group* J3-J6	Ballet* all years Gifted & Talented Art by selection Mandarin Club J3 Story Club J3-J6 Ballet* J2-J6 Latin Club J4-J5	Cricket J3-J4 Rounders J3-J4 Athletics J5-J6
<b>Fri</b>	Recorder J3-J6	Orchestra J3-J6	ATMA Karate* all years Golf* J5-J6

\* Please note items marked with an asterisk are run by external providers and there is a charge for these.

During the Michaelmas and Lent Terms clubs include Netball, Football, Hockey and Cross-Country.

# Uniform



Full uniform must be worn to and from school at all times. Please contact Miss Nicola Browne in the School Shop at Princethorpe College on 01926 634272 or email [uniform@princethorpe.co.uk](mailto:uniform@princethorpe.co.uk) for an appointment.

## School shop opening hours during term time are as follows:

Monday to Friday 3.30pm – 4.30pm

During the school holidays the shop is open by appointment only. This is particularly useful for new parents who need to buy the complete range of uniform etc as they will be the sole customer at the time and waiting will be avoided.

## Girls

### General

- Maroon winter coat
- Maroon blazer with school badge
- Tartan skirt (J5 and J6)
- Tartan pinafore (R to J4)
- White short-sleeved blouse (R to J2)
- White long-sleeved blouse (J3 to J6)
- Teal jumper with maroon stripe
- School tie (clip-on for R to J2; standard J3 to J6)
- Flat black shoes (not patent)
- Black knee length socks or black cotton-soft tights
- Maroon science/art overall
- Book bag with logo (R to J2)
- Backpack with logo (J3 to J6)
- Maroon school hat with badge
- Hair accessories in school colours maroon/teal/black/maroon and white stripe (available from school office)
- Maroon scarf (optional)
- Maroon gloves (optional)
- Maroon warm hat (optional)

### Games Kit

- White polo shirt with school logo
- Black skort
- Games shirt (J3 to J6)
- Black and maroon tracksuit jacket with school logo
- Black and maroon tracksuit bottoms with school logo
- Maroon sports socks (J3 to J6)
- Fleece
- Plain white short socks for summer
- Hockey stick (J5 and J6) (optional)
- Tennis racquet (J5 and J6) (optional)
- Plastic or metal studded boots for football and tag rugby (J3 to J6) (no blades)
- White trainers (R to J2 velcro please!)
- Black swimming costume (J3 and J4)
- Silver swim hat with school logo (J3 and J4)
- Sports bag with logo (J3 to J6)
- Drawstring bag (R to J2)
- Drawstring bag for swimming (J3 and J4)
- Gum shields for hockey and rugby (J4, J5 and J6)
- Shin pads (J3 to J6)

### Summer Uniform

- Maroon and white striped dress
- Skirt (J6)
- White revere collar blouse (J6)
- White knee high or ankle socks

*Note for safety: Earrings are not to be worn in school at any time.*

Maroon text denotes items that must be purchased from School Shop.

Current parents wishing to place an order need to complete an order form, which is available from the school office. Orders will be made up and available for collection from Crackley Hall School each Thursday during term time. Alternatively, parents can collect the order from the school shop at Princethorpe College during the shop's opening hours, or by prior arrangement from Princethorpe College's main reception.

**All clothing, including underwear, socks and footwear, must be marked with the child's name.**

**Listed items are compulsory unless stated otherwise.**

## Boys

### General

- Maroon winter coat
- Maroon blazer with school badge
- Black trousers
- White short-sleeved shirt (R to J2)
- White long-sleeved shirt (J3 to J6)
- Teal jumper with maroon stripe
- School tie (clip-on for R to J2; standard J3 to J6)
- Sensible black shoes
- Black ankle socks
- Maroon science/art overall
- Maroon cap with school logo
- Book bag with logo (R to J2)
- Backpack with logo (J3 to J6)
- Maroon scarf (optional)
- Maroon gloves (optional)
- Maroon warm hat (optional)

### Games Kit

- White polo shirt with school logo
- Black shorts
- Games shirt (J3 to J6)
- Black and maroon tracksuit jacket with school logo
- Black and maroon tracksuit bottoms with school logo
- Maroon sports socks (J3 to J6)
- Fleece
- Plain white short socks for summer
- Hockey stick (J5 to J6) (optional)
- Tennis racquet (J5 and J6) (optional)
- Plastic or metal studded boots for football and tag rugby (J3 to J6) (no blades)
- White trainers (R to J2 Velcro please!)
- Black swimming trunks (J3 and J4)
- Silver swim hat with school logo (J3 and J4)
- Sports bag with logo (J3 to J6)
- Drawstring bag (R to J2)
- Drawstring bag for swimming (J3 and J4)
- Gum shields for hockey and rugby (J4, J5 and J6)
- Shin pads (J3 to J6)

### Summer Uniform

- White short-sleeved shirt
- Black trousers or shorts
- Black ankle socks

**Please note that Winter Uniform must be worn from October half term and Summer Uniform from after the Easter Holiday.**

## House System

Children are allocated into one of four houses and can earn points during the year for their house team. Points are awarded for good work and effort in the classroom and neat or improved work. We have a range of inter-house competitions during the year including Sports Day and other house events for sport, drama, art and music.

Our houses are named after the planets, Jupiter, Mars, Saturn and Venus and a keen sense of collegiality and competition is encouraged and engendered.



## Past Pupils' Association

Crackley Hall School has been in existence since 2001, but prior to that it was called St Joseph's School and before that St Joseph's Convent School. We have a fledgling Past Pupils' Association formed following the success of a reunion in 2015 when we celebrated 70 years of a school being on the site of Crackley Hall with many former staff and pupils present. A further reunion took place in the new Gables wing in September 2016 and we are planning more events to welcome both past pupils and former members of staff back to see how the school has developed and to share memories for our 75 Anniversary in 2020. Details of forthcoming events can be found at [www.crackleyhall.co.uk/past-pupils](http://www.crackleyhall.co.uk/past-pupils).

One area that the school would like to develop is the ability to access all the highly talented past pupils we have, to either build links or encourage them to come and speak to the children about their jobs. If you can help please contact the school.

If you are interested in playing a role in the Past Pupils' Association please email [pastpupils@crackleyhall.co.uk](mailto:pastpupils@crackleyhall.co.uk).



## Pastoral Care

Crackley Hall is an environment where pastoral care and academic progress are given equal weighting in importance. We pride ourselves on knowing the whole child and because staff know their pupils and many of their families so well, children are fully supported in times of need and on a day to day basis.

Our 'open door policy' allows any concerns to be aired and dealt with quickly and effectively. This means that staff are available to parents before and after school all week. At the core of our ethos is the Catholic faith, a faith that teaches love, honesty, forgiveness and friendship. All of these values pour into the day to day life of our school. Whilst the Catholic roots are at the heart of our school we also learn about world religions in RE lessons and through collective worship.

Our children are actively encouraged to be open and staff ensure that their voices are heard. We have a weekly session of 'circle time' (however children can also request a circle time if they feel they need to talk to their class at any time). This involves children airing any concerns they may have or it can be a time when we celebrate kindness and achievement. Any concerns are voiced in a 'no name' culture so that children do not feel embarrassed and this often results in a huge amount of honesty being portrayed.

We also run a Student Council that meets regularly. Children from Junior 1 to Junior 6 discuss the minutes of the last meeting with their classes and then feedback at the meetings on any new ideas their peers may have. This has led to a variety of initiatives being put into place and taught all the staff that the children really do see school from a different viewpoint and that their voice must be heard. The children elect their student councillors in class each year.

Every Friday morning our school community comes together for 'Celebration Assembly'. This is a time when we celebrate achievement, effort and success right across the curriculum and often includes rewards for behaviour, kindness and out of school achievements, once again ensuring that the efforts of the whole child are valued and respected. It has often been said that each child gets their moment to sparkle in this special assembly. Come along to one and see!

## An overview of the Curriculum

A broad and balanced curriculum is taught.

The curriculum is covered in three Key Stages: Foundation including Nursery and Reception; Key Stage 1, including Junior 1 and 2, and Key Stage 2, including Junior 3, 4, 5 and 6.

Initially there is a great emphasis on the importance of developing key skills in reading, writing, speaking, listening, numeracy and science. The curriculum is based on national guidelines and is supported by a wide range of co-curricular activities, outings and residential courses outside school. As a result, most children do exceptionally well in their tests and entrance examinations into local independent senior schools.

Art, Design Technology, French, Mandarin, Drama, Games, Music, RE and Science are mainly taught by subject specialists, particularly in Key Stage 2.





## Summary by Key Stage

### Foundation Stage Curriculum

The Early Years Foundation Stage, which is statutory in all schools, is the first part of the National Curriculum focussing on the distinct needs of children aged from birth to the end of the Reception year in primary school.

Our nursery, Little Crackers, is carefully structured for two-year olds, three-year olds and pre-school. We focus on the children's interests, enabling them to play and learn whilst having fun with adults who understand and care about them.

The Early Years Foundation Stage is organised into seven broad areas of learning

- Personal, social and emotional development
- Communication and language
- Physical development
- Literacy
- Mathematics
- Expressive arts and design
- Understanding the world

Our children also benefit from trying new activities at an early age including dance, music, PE and French lessons, all taught by specialist teachers.

During the Early Years, each individual child learns through high quality play that's tailored specifically to them, so they develop at their own pace, having fun, making friends and learning as they play. They become confident and secure children who, when the time comes, are better prepared for school and are able to reach their full potential.

### Key Stage 1

Building on the knowledge of the children through their development in the Foundation Stage, from Junior 1 the pupils begin a more formal curriculum. There is less emphasis on learning through play as they move through the Key Stage, and much more exploration of cross-curricular themes.

The curriculum is based on national guidelines, but pupils are encouraged to achieve well beyond these targets. The core subjects of Mathematics, English, Science, Computing and RE are taught, with pupils experiencing more structured lessons in History, Geography, Design and Technology, Physical Education and Games, French, Art, Drama, Music and Personal, Social, Health and Citizenship Education.

Emphasis is placed on the progression of numeracy, literacy and reading; learning of times tables and spellings is actively developed through simple homework tasks.

### Key Stage 2

The structured approach begun at Key Stage 1 is continued and enhanced with pupils learning to become more organised and self-reliant as they get older. They begin to be introduced to verbal and nonverbal reasoning techniques, as well as increased opportunities for critical and creative thinking, imaginative and intellectual development, problem solving and scientific research.

English and Mathematics are taught by form teachers throughout the school. As the children move up the school, they are prepared for the expectations of Independent Senior Schools as well as enabling them to experience fun and laughter in their learning.

In Junior 5 and 6, the curriculum increasingly prepares the children for entry in to senior schools.

The curriculum is supported by a wide variety of educational trips covering a broad spectrum of interests from musical and scientific to adventurous and historic.

The development of team building skills through sport, and confidence when performing to a range of audiences through music, is an extremely important part of school life at Crackley Hall.

Assessment across the Key Stage is on-going and structured towards formative and summative assessments.

In Key Stage 2, pupils are encouraged to develop their handwriting, joining their letters in a smooth cursive style. Once they have mastered this technique, they are presented with a 'pen licence' and their own fountain pen, which they use in their books from that point on.

### Key Stage 2 to Key Stage 3 Transition

The transition from Key Stage 2 to Key Stage 3 is a vital one. As part of the cross phase co-ordination of Teaching and Learning a number of key events take place throughout the academic year. These prepare children for their studies in secondary school.

Specialist subject staff from Princethorpe College devise and deliver exciting learning experiences to enrich Crackley pupils' skills base. A cross-curricular approach is adopted to ensure that teachers at Crackley can embed these skills firmly within the Key Stage 2 curriculum.

We want our children to be inspired by creative teaching and learning; examples of the types of activities we have offered include - a photography workshop, a forensics science day, an introduction to Psychology and a whole school 'play in a day'.



## Learning Differences and Development

We encourage all our pupils to reach their full potential, not least those to whom learning does not come so easily. We are quick to recognise children who may need extra support and we try to 'catch' them before they begin to struggle. This means that class teachers refer children to our Learning Support Co-ordinator as soon as they are concerned. In this way we try not to miss anyone and to keep all children's self-esteem high. We welcome input from parents and are very happy to discuss any concerns they may have.

When a child needs support that is additional to, or different from that provided for other children of their age, then we follow the Special Needs Code of Practice fully. This includes the process of applying for an Education, Health and Care Plan where required, so that parents are fully involved and children get the support they need.

Support for a child may entail 1:1 teaching for which there is a termly charge. Children who require this teaching will receive a structured, cumulative, multi-sensory learning programme tailored to their individual needs.

## Able, Gifted and Talented

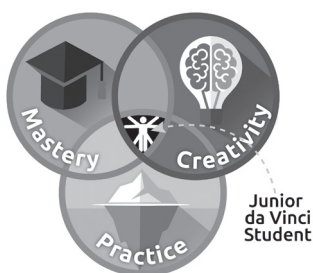
A rigorous and structured able, gifted and talented programme operates through the school, so we meet the needs of all children, whether that be in the classroom, on the sports field or on the stage.

Through a structured assessment and monitoring programme we are able to identify the specific needs of the individual child and implement strategies to extend them, support them or reinforce work that has been learnt.

### Junior da Vinci at Crackley Hall

With support from our Foundation senior school, Princethorpe College, Crackley Hall is adopting the Junior da Vinci Programme to stretch children excelling in subjects and to raise aspirations across the school. The Junior da Vinci Programme identifies and recognises excellence in school through an approach that engenders a sense of independence, hard work and personal responsibility in the student. Hence, any individual can be a gifted or talented student if they work hard at it and are committed to knowledge.

The programme is named after Leonardo da Vinci because of his iconic status as a Renaissance man. The Renaissance Ideal considers man to be boundless in his capacities for development. It champions the notion that people should try to embrace all knowledge and develop wide-ranging capabilities as fully as possible.



In this way, we can encourage the children to extend their potential beyond a 'notional' limit and help them to see that knowledge and learning is not just something that happens to them but is actually an activity in which they can and should take an active part. With this 'growth mindset', they can remove any limits on their learning and see where a thirst for knowledge, a creative mind and dedication to pursue new learning can take them!

All staff members at the school will look out for evidence of mastery, practice and creativity in the work that pupils produce. When the teachers see evidence, they will award the student a Junior da Vinci merit – at Crackley, this is in the form of a creativity, practice or mastery sticker. Pupils who consistently perform at Junior da Vinci level will be offered rewards and further opportunities, such as attending special workshops or trips and receive recognition at weekly assemblies.

## Assessment of Children's Progress

During their time at Crackley Hall, children are continually assessed both formally, through tests and assessments, and informally, through observations, questions, marking and other day-to-day methods. We know that children develop at different rates and look to see year-on-year progress based on their individual starting points. By regularly monitoring and tracking their progress, we can quickly spot children who might need extra help or accelerating to the next level.

Our belief is that by teaching the children in a lively, interactive style they will enjoy their learning and make sustained progress.

## Leavers' Destinations

Our aim is to work with parents to give your child the best chance of getting into their first choice secondary school. We are very successful at this. Over the past year, due to our excellent teaching and pastoral care, almost every one of our pupils achieved this aim. This is a very important indicator for parents who want the best secondary school for their child.

Many of the pupils had multiple offers to choose from and a high number of scholarships were awarded. The majority of our Junior 6 pupils do go on to Princethorpe College, but children have also been awarded places in recent years at King's High School, The Kingsley School, King Henry VIII, Warwick School, Bablake, Solihull and local grammar schools.





## Departmental Information

### Art

At Crackley Hall art forms an important and integral part of the curriculum. We believe art education stimulates creativity and imagination whilst giving the child unique opportunities to develop intellectually, emotionally, physically and socially. It provides all children with the opportunity to express themselves and to develop their understanding of, and respond to the world around them. Art is taught as an individual subject as well as incorporated in many other curriculum lessons to provide a purposeful context and further enrich pupils' learning. Below you will find an overview of what your child will be expected to learn in each of the Key Stages.

#### Key Stage 1

In Key Stage 1 the children learn to use a range of different materials creatively to design and create their works of art. They draw, paint and sculpt materials such as clay to develop techniques in using colour, pattern, texture, line, shape, form and space. They also learn about the work of a range of artists, craft makers and designers. By the end of Key Stage 1, children have become accustomed to using a sketchbook to record ideas and observations.

#### Key Stage 2

In Key Stage 2 the children are taught by subject specialist teachers and learn to improve their mastery of art and design by learning specific drawing, painting and sculpture techniques. They experience using a wider range of materials, including textiles, lino printing, mosaic tiling, glass painting and felting. Children regularly record their observations and ideas in their sketchbooks and use them to review and evaluate improvements. They continue to learn about great artists, both past and present, and to openly discuss how this influences their work.

Artist in residence days, workshops and trips to local art galleries further enrich the art curriculum at Crackley Hall, and we offer a wide range of extra-curricular art clubs throughout the year including; silk painting, fimo modelling, sewing, painting and summer crafts.

### Computing

Computing is a firm pupil favourite and flourishing at our school. We have state of the art facilities throughout the school, which provide our children with the best possible opportunities to facilitate their learning. Computing isn't just a subject, it is a skill for life!

Children at Little Crackers Nursery are given plenty of opportunity to get to grips with computing through all areas of the Foundation Stage Curriculum and have access to PCs, iPads and programmable toys. We have interactive whiteboards and PCs in all our classrooms and in addition to our Computing suite, iPads are available for use to support learning.

Internet safety is paramount at Crackley Hall and we have a very secure internet filtering system, which prevents little eyes seeing unsuitable sites!

Children throughout the school are introduced to coding and programming across a range of resources including iPads. Children in Key Stage 2 learn about QR codes and Aurasma systems are used to link photos and ideas, bringing work to life. The children are taught to use a range of regularly updated commercial packages, where they produce word processed documents, spreadsheets, presentations and posters - the list is endless. By the time they leave Crackley Hall they are well prepared with computing skills to start them off in their Senior Schools.

Our computing plans are in line with the 2015 National Curriculum and we strive to be innovative and creative.

## Design and Technology

Design and Technology as a discreet lesson, is taught at Crackley Hall from Junior 2 to Junior 6. Within the Foundation Stage the children start developing their skills through both the Creative area of learning and through their Knowledge and Understanding of the World. The aim of teaching Design and Technology is to give the pupils the skills to think imaginatively and creatively to prepare them to participate in tomorrow's rapidly changing technologies. They are given the opportunities to become autonomous and creative problem solvers, as individuals and members of a team. They look for needs, wants and opportunities and respond to them by developing a range of ideas and making suitable products. They combine practical skills with the understanding of aesthetics, social and environmental issues, function and industrial practices.

**Over the years the pupils develop their skills through appropriate topics which are broken down into;**

- Developing, planning and communicating ideas,
- Working with tools, equipment, materials and components to make quality products,
- Evaluating processes and products,
- Knowledge and understanding of materials and components.

**These are taught through;**

- Investigating and evaluating a range of familiar products,
- Focused practical tasks that develop a range of techniques, skills, processes and knowledge,
- Design and make assignments using a range of materials, including food, and textiles to produce a range of products.

Educational visits are also carried out where appropriate, such as visiting the MAD Museum in Stratford-upon-Avon with Junior 2 to look at how things work and the mechanisms used.

## Drama

The children are instructed in the art of choral speaking, improvisation skills, public speaking, and performance techniques. Each group, from Junior 1 to Junior 6, has an annual session of LAMDA Communication and Drama exams and we also enter pupils for termly local drama festivals.

We prepare for many events in the school calendar and the children are showcased in numerous performing arts opportunities such as assemblies, Christmas and Easter performances, community events and the end of year production at the Spa Centre in Leamington Spa.

The weekly drama lesson for each class enhances performance skills and builds confidence levels, allowing each child to blossom and master techniques and abilities that can be put to good use in later years.





## English

English is a vital way of communicating in school, public life and internationally. In studying English, pupils develop skills in Speaking and Listening, Reading and Writing. It enables them to express themselves creatively and imaginatively and to communicate with others effectively. Pupils learn to become enthusiastic and critical readers of stories, poetry and drama as well as non-fiction and media texts.

The study of English helps pupils understand how language works by looking at its patterns, structures and origins. Using this knowledge, pupils can choose and adapt what they say and write in different situations.

We aim to help children to develop a love for the English language; through the spoken and written word, by providing a literacy 'rich' environment. We recognise that English is a core subject within the National Curriculum and a prerequisite for educational and social progress.

At Crackley Hall, we strive for an integrated approach to literacy where we aim to instill a love of speaking and listening, reading and writing. Pupils develop their understanding that writing is both essential to thinking and learning and is enjoyable in its own right.

### Key Stage 1

Pupils learn to speak confidently and listen to what others have to say. They begin to read and write independently and with enthusiasm. They use language to explore their own experiences and imaginary worlds.

### Key Stage 2

Pupils learn how to speak in a range of contexts, adapting what they say and how they say it to the purpose and the audience.

They learn how to respond appropriately to others. They increase their ability to read challenging and lengthy texts, analysing and discussing them with others. Writing is developed as they learn the main rules and conventions of written English and understand the process of planning, drafting and editing.

## Forest School

### What are Forest Schools?

The philosophy of Forest Schools is to encourage and inspire individuals of any age through positive outdoor experiences.

By participating in engaging, motivating and achievable tasks and activities in a woodland environment each pupil has an opportunity to develop intrinsic motivation, as well as sound emotional and social skills. These, through self-awareness, can be developed to reach personal potential.

Forest Schools aim to develop:

- Self-awareness
- Self-regulation
- Intrinsic motivation
- Empathy
- Good social communication skills
- Independence
- A positive mental attitude, self-esteem and confidence

### Forest School at Crackley Hall

At Crackley Hall, Forest School sessions involve many things and we aim to have a period of at least an hour of uninterrupted Forest School for participating classes with our dedicated Forest School practitioner.

The children are free to choose amongst many activities; some will have been introduced by the leader, for example bug hunting, mud painting, collecting, counting. Many are child-initiated and these are as varied as the children and participants involved and often draw on recent learning experiences; some examples include building fairy houses, making stone age tools and pictures (J1s having recently learned about prehistoric man) and almost always some children choose shelter building.

Over time, children participating in Forest School sessions can experience an increase in their self-belief, ability to work cooperatively with others, confidence, learning capacity, enthusiasm, communication and problem-solving skills and emotional well-being.

Forest School at Crackley has been running since 2016 and class teachers are recognising the short term benefits. Children are more focused and ready to learn when they return to the classroom and more willing to collaborate on projects with others. Longer term benefits are being seen as higher self-esteem and willing to initiate something they would otherwise be reluctant to try.



## French

Our specialist French teacher, Mrs Williams, teaches the subject throughout the whole school. We introduce French to the youngest of our children in the Nursery where it is integrated into the Early Years Foundation Stage curriculum. The children learn to recognise the French names for colours, animals etc. and they learn to count. These sessions are fun and the children are very proud to be able to speak French.

### Key Stage 1

The children have 30 minutes of French a week where they play games and participate in role-play to develop and consolidate their knowledge of the vocabulary and their ability to speak and understand some basic French words. They learn to respond to a foreign language and to listen carefully in order to discriminate sounds and identify meaning. They begin to understand about a culture other than their own. During their lessons they learn about France including culture, history and modern life. At this stage the children begin to develop a vocabulary and understanding of the structure of language, which are the essential building blocks to enable our children to communicate effectively in another language.

### Key Stage 2

The children spend an hour a week developing their knowledge, skills and understanding of French. They learn to listen and respond verbally and, as they progress through the school, to hone their skills in both the written and spoken word.

A range of strategies is used to engage the children including the use of ICT, role-play, songs, dialogue and practical activities as well as direct teaching. The curriculum is differentiated across all the years in order to develop strengths and support children where appropriate.

By the end of Junior 6 children should be able to listen to and understand short passages or instructions in French, to take part in simple conversations and to write simple sentences. They should understand basic grammar and be able to use dictionaries and glossaries effectively. Most of all they should have gained in confidence and be excited about being able to communicate in another language, to have learned an important skill and gained knowledge that will stand them in good stead as they grow towards adulthood.

The most exciting aspect of the French experience is the French trip in the summer of Junior 6. The children have an opportunity to use the skills, understanding and knowledge that they have acquired over their time at Crackley Hall. They must use their French to find their way around, to communicate with people and, most importantly, to buy their food for lunch. No child from Crackley Hall has gone without lunch so far!

For our children to have the opportunity to learn French from so young an age is hugely advantageous. Young children absorb new skills, knowledge and understanding so easily that it is important for us to expose them to new ideas, including learning another language as soon as possible.

## Geography

Geography is taught weekly to each class from Junior 1 through to Junior 6. With the Foundation Stage, this area of learning is included in *Understanding of the World*.

Geography at Crackley Hall provokes and answers questions about the natural and human worlds, using different scales of enquiry to view them from different perspectives. It develops knowledge of places and environments throughout the world, an understanding of maps, and a range of investigative and problem-solving skills both inside and outside the classroom.

Geography is a focus within the curriculum for understanding and resolving issues about the environment and sustainable development. As our pupils study geography, they encounter different societies and cultures. It helps them realise how nations rely on each other. It can inspire them to think about their own place in the world, their values, and their rights and responsibilities to other people and the environment.

Cross-curricular links are made with as many subjects as possible through thorough planning meetings with other subject specialists. Educational visits and talks are organised where appropriate. For example: Junior 6 travel to Northern France in the summer term after investigating routes, journeys and physical and human features of the area; Junior 4 have an 'Indian Experience' during the summer term when some of our parents come in to share their knowledge of their culture, religions and customs.



## History

History is taught at Crackley Hall from Junior 1 to Junior 6.

### Foundation Stage

With the Foundation Stage, this area of learning is covered by children's Understanding of the World, People and Communities.

The aim of teaching this non-core subject is to provide children with the opportunity to experience a 'sense of History', by gaining an understanding of the past.

### Key Stage 1

For Junior 1, family life and homes (from cave dwellers to the first farmers) is taught in order to allow children to begin to understand the passage of time. Studying different times and cultures allows the children to develop a sense of self and where they belong in the world, whilst beginning to understand the importance of identity.

Junior 2 also study key events and famous people such as the Fire of London, the Plague, Florence Nightingale and William Shakespeare. Pupils visit Kenilworth Castle in their work on castles as fortresses and find out how the English language developed following invasions.

### Key Stage 2

Key Stage 2 pupils will study Ancient History from the Egyptians, to topics such as the Tudors, The Aztecs, The Titanic, WWI and WWII. All topics are well resourced with historical documents, visual resources and trips/visits where appropriate.

The curriculum is lively and includes role play, creativity and kinaesthetic teaching. History is linked to other subjects such as Art, English, Design Technology and Geography.

Other objectives are to understand why things happen and the outcome of events. To be able to recall, describe, select and organise historical information. To understand how we know about past events, and to evaluate evidence and artefacts.

Crackley Hall also organises visits to places of historical significance and hosts frequent visits by companies such as Off the Page! which brings fabulous all-day workshops to school to show the children how people would have lived at that particular time in history.

We believe that reinforcing learning through a very visual curriculum can only benefit the children. All classes are differentiated to suit the pupils' different needs.

## Mandarin

Why do we offer Mandarin at Crackley Hall?

It provides a unique opportunity for pupils to:

- Prepare for learning a foreign language that could help them in the future
- Learn more about the Chinese, their place in history and their contribution to the world today
- Pursue a course which is different and intellectually stimulating
- Undertake independent learning through the use of website activities and Chinese literature

Mandarin is taught in several of the year groups.

Our main emphasis is to give pupils an understanding of the value of learning Mandarin, making the subject an enjoyable and stimulating experience, thus moving them to study the subject further.



## Mathematics

Maths is taught by class teachers from the Foundation Stage through to Junior 6 and at Crackley Hall we teach for maths mastery. Children are placed in ability sets from Junior 4 to Junior 6. This provides them with work that is pitched at their level and ensures they achieve success.

Maths at Crackley Hall aims to equip pupils with a uniquely powerful set of tools to understand and change the world. These tools include logical reasoning, problem-solving skills, and the ability to think in abstract ways. The concrete – pictorial – abstract approach (CPA) has been adopted across school to enable the teaching and learning of mathematics as this is a highly successful way to facilitate a deep understanding of mathematics to all children and it leads to a real depth of understanding. Children who have mastered a concept will be able to show it with different concrete and pictorial representations and explain it using precise mathematical vocabulary. They will be able to teach it to someone else; they will be able to apply it across a range of contexts and in unfamiliar contexts and problems.

Maths is important in everyday life, many forms of employment: science and technology, medicine, the economy, the environment and development, and in public decision-making. Thus, we endeavour to relate our teaching to 'real-life' situations wherever we can and demonstrate bridges between topics enabling pupils to use previously learned skills, strategies and methods.

Maths is a creative discipline. It can stimulate moments of pleasure and wonder when a pupil solves a problem for the first time, discovers a more elegant solution to that problem, or suddenly sees hidden connections.

### Key Stage 1

Pupils develop their knowledge and understanding of maths through practical activity, exploration and discussion. They learn to count, read, write and order numbers to 100 and beyond. They develop a range of mental calculation skills and use these confidently in different settings. They learn about shape and space through practical activity which builds on their understanding of their immediate environment. They begin to grasp mathematical language, using it to talk about their methods and explain their reasoning when solving problems.

### Key Stage 2

Pupils use the number system more confidently. They move from counting reliably to calculating fluently with all four number operations. They usually try to tackle a problem with mental methods before using any other approach. Pupils explore features of shape and space and develop their measuring skills in a range of contexts. They discuss and present their methods and reasoning using a wider range of mathematical language, diagrams and charts.

## Music

Our specialist music teacher Mrs Olden teaches music throughout the whole school. Every class has one hour of music a week and the lessons are based on topics from 'Sounds Topical' for Key Stage 1 and 'Sounds Musical' for Key Stage 2. Composition is based on the 'Ten Pieces' Project.

As books in themselves are quite restrictive, many extra resources are added. There is always plenty of singing and in Key Stage 2 it is often in parts. We have a wide range of tuned and untuned percussion instruments and these are used as accompaniment to the songs and for composition work. There is a lot of listening in both key stages and the children are taught how to assess work and identify musical features. In Junior 1 every child learns to play the recorder. They also learn to read music and to play with others and this is developed in the years that follow. If successful, children are then encouraged to take private lessons in a wide variety of instruments given by a team of visiting peripatetic staff.

Music at Crackley is all inclusive and children are actively encouraged to be part of the many groups. There is a thriving choral group, rock group, chamber choir, and orchestra, as well as groups for recorder, flute and percussion with over 100 children receiving tuition in these instruments.

There are a number of concerts throughout the year where children are encouraged to perform in addition to celebration assemblies. Our drama/music productions at the end of the year are extremely enjoyable and the children get to perform at a local theatre with an orchestra.

Music should be a memorable experience and the children understand that through working as a team only the highest standards can be achieved. The children as a result should leave the school confident and ready to have a go at any musical experience that might arise in the future.



## Physical Education

Physical Education is taught throughout the school by a number of staff members who are subject specialists. PE contributes to the overall education of pupils by helping them to lead full and varied lives through engaging in purposeful physical activity, developing their skills and understanding the importance of team work. It develops physical competence and helps promote physical development in cooperative as well as competitive situations, building resilience and fair play; both essential qualities in a modern world to develop the all-round child.

Crackley Hall is fortunate to have a good range of both outside and indoor facilities which we are looking to enhance considerably in the coming years. These include a well-equipped gymnasium, two netball courts and a main field for rugby, football, hockey, rounders, cricket and athletics. From Nursery up to Junior 6 pupils have the opportunity to make the most of these facilities in formal lesson time and co-curricular clubs. In addition, our Junior 5 and 6 children have the opportunity to use external specialist facilities in order to develop their skills and game play in netball and hockey. Our curriculum is varied to enable all children to improve their coordination and play individual and team games with confidence and enjoyment.

### Key Stage 1

We develop and practise sending and receiving skills and introduce the principles of invasion games through small sided versions of rugby, football, netball and hockey. In the summer we introduce basic techniques of running and throwing in athletics, Kwik cricket and three-ball rounders. These activities are designed to develop co-ordination skills and working on the batting and fielding concepts.

In gymnastics they work on basic core strength and floorwork and develop these skills onto the apparatus. Working on themes such as travelling, shapes and balance, these ideas are then transferred into routines devised by the children, so encouraging team work, independent learning and creativity.



### Key Stage 2

We develop the pupils' basic skills in games, improving their principles of attack and defence in netball, contact rugby, football, tag rugby and hockey and start to look at advanced strategies of invasion games.

In the summer we further develop the batting and fielding concepts and add in bowling through the activities of Kwik cricket, hard-ball cricket and rounders. Athletics is also taught in the summer term, developing short and long distance running, throwing events such as shotput as well as jumping techniques to develop skills for long jump and high jump.

All children are given the opportunity to develop their competitive instinct through fixtures against other schools, plus Midlands and National level tournaments for selected individuals. Competition is encouraged at all levels, with a clear focus on fair play, team work and leadership development.

Swimming is taught at Abbey Fields for Junior 3 and Junior 4. Pupils are taught to improve their strokes, stamina and water skills and work towards swimming awards.

### Co-curricular Activities

Crackley Hall offers a comprehensive range of co-curricular sporting opportunities at lunchtime and after school. This is led by a team of dedicated staff who train and organise fixtures in netball, hockey, rugby, football, swimming, cross country, athletics, rounders, triathlon and cricket. As well as our own facilities we also use Moorfields and Warwick University.

External coaches further enhance this programme by offering opportunities in ballet, cricket, chess, Irish dancing, Karate and rugby. We have an extensive inter-school fixture list with matches against local state and independent schools, which usually take place after school. We also participate in ISA and IAPS tournaments in a variety of sports.

## Personal, Social, Health, Economic and Citizenship Education

PSHCE is taught using the Go-givers Programme (as part of the Citizenship Foundation) throughout the school, usually by the class teacher. The aim of teaching this non-core subject is to give pupils the knowledge, skills and understanding they need to lead confident, healthy, independent lives and to become informed, active, responsible citizens. The pupils are encouraged to take part in a wide range of activities and experiences across and beyond the curriculum, contributing fully to their life in school and their community. Through PSHCE, the pupils learn to recognise their own worth, work well with others and become increasingly responsible for their own learning.

**This programme of study is based on three core themes:**

- 1 Health and Wellbeing
- 2 Relationships
- 3 Living in the Wider World

PSHCE will also address topics or issues that arise within the school community, as appropriate for each class.

To supplement this, all teachers have been trained to deliver the Protective Behaviours Strategy called 'Taking Care' and the 'All About Me' program.

Taking care enables pupils and adults to recognise what feeling safe means to them and then to identify their own signs of feeling unsafe. It highlights the link between rights and responsibilities and the need to take responsibility for our own feelings and behaviour. This is taught through a series of specialised lessons.

The All About Me programme is designed by Warwickshire County Council's Public Health Respect Yourself Team. It is an evidence based programme of comprehensive Relationship & Sex Education.



All About Me is designed on a spiral curriculum and based on a values and human rights approach. It is built on the premise that it is much better to drip feed positive messages and have little conversations, to ensure that children will feel prepared for the changes of puberty and for the challenges of moving on to high school.

**The programme is split into five core categories; children having one lesson from each:**

- All About Me - personal identity
- My Relationships - families, friendships and personal relationships
- My Body - understanding anatomy, autonomy, and changes during puberty
- My Thoughts, Feelings & Behaviours - emotional literacy
- My Choices & Personal Boundaries - understanding consent







## Religious Education

Religious Education at Crackley Hall is an integral part of school life. The Catholic foundations of our school have been deeply embedded by the Sisters of Mercy and carefully nurtured by subsequent members of our school family. Each week, pupils take part in Collective Worship. Pupils have the opportunity to plan and participate in assemblies to explore the weekly mission. We gather together as a family regularly to celebrate the Eucharist in school and the children have a very active role in this through the readings, music and offertory. Prayer Corners in each classroom are interactive and provide a focal point for class prayer.

We prepare the Catholic children in Junior 3, and new Catholic pupils who join Crackley Hall after Junior 3, for the Sacraments of Reconciliation and First Holy Communion. This takes place during RE lessons so that their peers have a good understanding of these Sacraments and also through First Holy Communion sessions in the Spring and Summer Term.

We have built strong links with our local Parish Priest and the Diocese over the past few years. Pupils altar serve at Mass, both at school and in the parish. Work is also displayed at St Francis of Assisi Church, which helps to build a link between the school and the parish.

Crackley Hall is part of the Diocese Service Level Agreement. The Diocese provides a network of support through access to interactive materials on its website, meetings with other Catholic Schools in the local area, visits from the RE Adviser, CPD courses and curriculum development training.

### Key Stage 1

We follow the Diocese Scheme, *Learning and Growing as People of God*, covering a wide range of topics. From this we have developed a scheme of work as to which topics and attainment levels will be covered throughout the year. Teachers then plan in detail weekly lessons. These are carefully differentiated with a range of learning styles being catered for in each lesson.

Children are spiritually developed through open prayer, meditation and reflection.

### Key Stage 2

The curriculum for Key Stage 2 uses the same scheme and structure as Key Stage 1. The scheme revisits certain topics across the year groups, but deepens the pupils' knowledge and understanding of the topics as they mature.

In both Key Stages there are cross-curricular links with RE and English which enable pupils to combine literacy and Religious Education to develop thinking skills and the quality of their reflections.

The curriculum is also enhanced through various activities: 'Vocations Week', 'A Faith Walk' and also a residential retreat to Alton Castle for Junior 5 pupils each year. In addition, speakers are invited into the school to encourage the pupils to recognise their responsibility in the local and global community.

### Multicultural

Other world religions are covered through the Diocese Scheme, Assemblies, PSHE & Citizenship lessons and cross-curricular links and through other subject areas, ie. Art, Geography and History. A multicultural topic is covered in each year group to help pupils develop their understanding and respect for other faiths. Pupils visit different places of worship and explore a wide range of beliefs.

### Minnie Vinnies

A mini version of the St Vincent de Paul Society was set up in 2015 to help pupils develop their role and responsibility within the community. They organise events to raise funds, increase awareness of different projects and help the whole school become involved. In addition, they create links with the local community through the organisation of a variety of events.





## Science

Science is taught by specialist teachers across the school - led predominantly by the Science Co-ordinator. It is taught informally in the Foundation Stage as part of the children's Knowledge and Understanding strand of the Early Learning Goals, and by class teachers in Key Stage 1, following the new National Curriculum. It is timetabled for two hours a week in Key Stage 2 and is often taught as a cross-curricular topic in Key Stage 1.

Science at all levels is designed to stimulate and encourage curiosity about phenomena and scientific events in the world. Science at Crackley Hall tries to link direct practical experience with ideas. Knowledge is developed through hands-on activities wherever possible, since scientific method is about evaluating explanations through experimental evidence and modelling. Through Science lessons, pupils learn to understand how major scientific ideas contribute to the technological changes which impact on our way of life. Pupils learn to question and discuss science-based issues. They also learn about famous scientists and their amazing discoveries in lessons which are often taught in our state-of-the-art, purpose-built and well-resourced Science room.

The new National Curriculum programmes of study set out what pupils should be taught in Science in the Foundation years, Key Stage 1 and 2. The new National Curriculum provides the basis for planning the progressive schemes of work taught across the school. The knowledge, skills and understanding in each programme of study identify the four key areas of science that pupils need to study, these are:

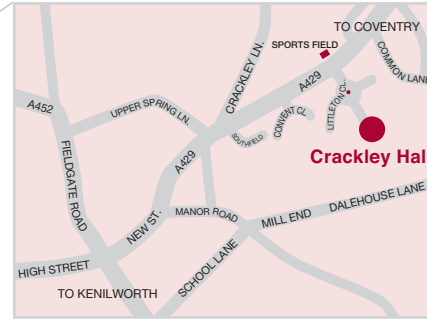
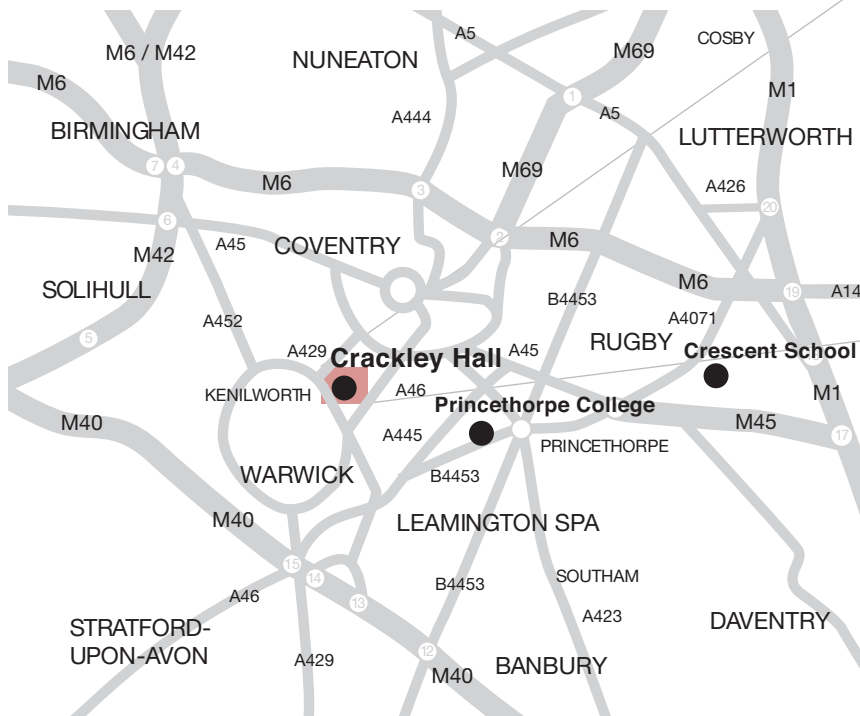
- Scientific enquiry (the basis for all the hands-on experimental work), where children are taught to think about making fair tests whenever a comparison is needed.
- Life processes and living things
- Materials and their properties
- Physical processes

Scientific enquiry is taught through all parts of the programmes of study as investigative techniques.

Understanding is tested through verbal questioning, online testing, end of unit assessments and teacher assessments continuously made during lessons.



## Directions to Crackley Hall



Crackley Hall School is located on a secure site with beautiful buildings and playing fields at St Joseph's Park on the outskirts of Kenilworth, just off the A429 to Coventry.

### Using Satellite Navigation

Experience has shown us that keying CV8 2FT into a SatNav device may well deliver you to Convent Close. We suggest that using CV8 2WA will take you to Littleton Close, from which you can see the School's entrance.

### From Birmingham via A45

Follow signs for Coventry A45, London M45 and M1. After going past turn offs for Earlsdon and Canley in Coventry, you will come to traffic lights with the A429 signposted for Kenilworth, take the right hand lane and turn right here. Follow the A429 for approximately 2 miles. Crackley Hall is signed on the left hand side of the road, just after Common Lane. Proceed up Littleton Close, straight over a mini roundabout into the school grounds.

### From Coventry via A45

From the A45, take the A429 to Kenilworth. Follow the A429 for approximately 2 miles. Crackley Hall is signed on the left hand side of the road, just after Common Lane. Proceed up Littleton Close, straight over a mini roundabout into the school grounds.

### From Leamington Spa via the A452

Take the A452 from Leamington towards Kenilworth, go straight ahead over the A46 roundabout, following the A452 through Kenilworth town centre, past Abbey Fields on your left. At the traffic lights with the A429 turn right signposted to Coventry, follow the A429 for approximately 1 mile, Crackley Hall is signed on the right just after Convent Close. Proceed up Littleton Close, straight over a mini roundabout into the school grounds.

### From Solihull via M42

From the A41 direction Warwick, join the M42 at junction 5 signposted The North. Leave the motorway at the next junction (6) and merge onto the A45 direction Coventry. At the Stonebridge roundabout take the 3rd exit onto the A452 direction Leamington. Follow the A452 Birmingham Road, on reaching the outskirts of Kenilworth, go past the left hand turn off for Burton Green and take the next left turn up Beehive Hill. Then after Hollis Lane, take the next left onto Upper Spring Lane. At T-junction turn left onto the A429, signposted Coventry, follow the A429 for half a mile. Crackley Hall is signed on the right just after Convent Close. Proceed up Littleton Close, straight over a mini roundabout into the school grounds.

### From Stratford via A46

Take the A46 direction Coventry, proceed over the M40 Longbridge roundabout and follow the A46 for approximately 11 miles. Leave the A46 at the Kenilworth turn off signposted A452, leave the roundabout at the first exit, follow the A452 through Kenilworth town centre, past Abbey Fields on your left. At the traffic lights with the A429 turn right signposted to Coventry, follow the A429 for approximately 1 mile, Crackley Hall is signed on the right just after Convent Close. Proceed up Littleton Close, straight over a mini roundabout into the school grounds. From Warwick via A46 Take the A46 direction Coventry, leave the A46 at the Kenilworth turn off, leaving the roundabout at the first exit, follow the A452 through Kenilworth town centre, past Abbey Fields on your left. At the traffic lights with the A429 turn right signposted to Coventry, follow the A429 for approximately 1 mile, Crackley Hall is signed on the right just after Convent Close. Proceed up Littleton Close, straight over a mini roundabout into the school grounds.



The  
Princethorpe  
Foundation

## Key Admissions Dates

### Open Days:

Tuesday 1 October 2019 - 10.00am to 3.00pm

Thursday 23 January 2020 - 10.00am to 3.00pm

### Nursery and Reception Open Evening:

Thursday 21 November 2019 - 7.00pm to 8.00pm

### Open Morning:

Saturday 7 March 2020 - 10.30am to 12.30pm

### Open Evening:

Tuesday 12 May 2020 - 5.00pm to 7.30pm

### Induction/Moving Up Morning

Wednesday 24 June 2020 - 9.00am to 1.00pm



**Crackley Hall School and  
Little Crackers Nursery**

St Joseph's Park  
Kenilworth  
CV8 2FT

**Little  
Crackers  
NURSERY**

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