

Our aims identify those individual qualities and capacities which Overdale Junior School seeks to foster and develop in every child. We believe that these will prepare children for the opportunities and challenges of life in the 21st Century. Underpinning these aims is our focus on a creative curriculum which enables children to learn how to learn and to achieve the highest standards

Aims:

## **Well-being (attending to a child's needs and hopes)**

We believe that happiness, a strong sense of self and a positive outlook on life are key to a child's engagement and learning. Well-being is about maximising a child's learning potential through good teaching and a strong understanding of how children develop and learn. Fostering children's well-being requires us to attend to their future fulfilment as well as to their present needs.

## **Engagement**

Securing a child's active, willing and enthusiastic engagement in their own learning.

## **Empowerment**

To excite and promote a child's actions, empowering them through knowledge, understanding, skills and personal qualities to lead a rewarding life.

## **Independence**

Encouraging independence of thought, enabling them to discriminate in their choice of activities and relationships.

## **Respect and reciprocity**

Promoting respect for self, friends and adults, for diversity and difference.

## **Sustainability**

Understanding the importance of equitable relationships between people and the natural world. Helping children to take positive action in order that they can make a difference.

## **Citizenship**

Encouraging children to be full participants in decision making within the classroom, school, locality and beyond.

## **Celebrating culture and community**

Establishing the school as a focal point of community life.

## **Exploring, knowing and understanding**

Enabling children to actively engage in making sense of the world through the development of skills in all areas of learning and to ally these to a sense of purpose. We want to excite the imagination so that each child can go beyond their present understanding and extend the boundaries of their world. We want them to know that learning is a collaborative activity where dialogue is key to success.