A woman in a purple dress is walking away from the camera on a paved path. The sun is low in the sky, creating a bright lens flare and silhouetting the woman. In the background, there are residential houses and a fence. To the right, another person in a blue uniform is partially visible.

The Shared Learning Trust

THE VALE
ACADEMY

PROSPECTUS 2021

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Welcome to The Vale Academy

Do you consider yourself a scientist? A mathematician? An Artist? A sportsperson?

This is the place for you! There is something for everyone here at The Vale Academy and we are ready to unlock your potential!

The Vale Academy is a primary school like no other! We encourage all children to dig deep in their learning. We help to encourage creativity in all subjects and we instil leadership in all.

'I am honoured to be the Head of School here. The Vale Academy has something very special about it and I find it hard to think of a child who wouldn't love it here!'

Tanya Knight, Head Teacher



Our Vision

STRIVE, ACHIEVE, BELIEVE!

At The Vale Academy, we **strive** to develop inspired minds, hearts and hands. We have high expectations of all of our pupils and champion them to **achieve** to the highest standard that they set for themselves. We instil a sense of leadership in our pupils that helps them to **believe** in themselves and ignite their true potential.



THE VALE
ACADEMY

PART OF



THE
SHARED
LEARNING
TRUST

The Curriculum

At The Vale Academy, our curriculum engages and inspires the pupils through a series of learning journeys that we have titled 'missions'.

All of the curriculum areas are delivered through our missions on a half-termly basis. The beginning of each mission is designed to hook all pupils in and acts as the 'launch' to the pupils' learning. Pupils are made aware of what the 'landing' for each mission will be so that they can always put their learning into context throughout the mission.



Through each mission, all curriculum areas weave throughout the theme. The idea behind our curriculum is that pupils are engaged in their mission through a common theme, but they understand the skills behind being a geographer, a historian or an artist, for example.

Coverage of curriculum areas is evident in the academy's curriculum overview, which can be found on our website.



Partnerships with parents

We believe that it is of vital importance that we work closely with our children's families. We offer a wide range of opportunities for our families to involve themselves with their child's learning and academy life.

Events for families include

- Family breakfasts
- Macmillan tea and cakes
- Teddy bears' picnic
- Meet the teacher events
- Parent and carer support sessions
- Parent Forum and Parent Consultation evenings
- 1:1 meetings with specialist staff such as SENDCo and family worker.

Many of these events provide additional opportunities for our pupils to develop and learn.

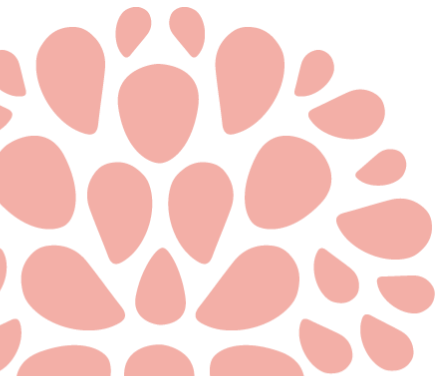
Our Team

We have a fantastic skillset within our academy. Our teachers are ambitious and regularly train to find out more about teaching & learning, constantly improving their practice.

We have specialist teachers for PE and Art as well as highly-skilled Learning Support Assistants to support the learning that happens in the classroom.

We have a dedicated team of staff who oversee Inclusion including our SENDCo, our Designated Safeguarding Lead/Inclusion Manager and our Pastoral and Wellbeing Support Worker.

We understand that a healthy mind is best for effective learning and ensuring that all pupils benefit from this support means that they are well-equipped for the challenges that education can bring.





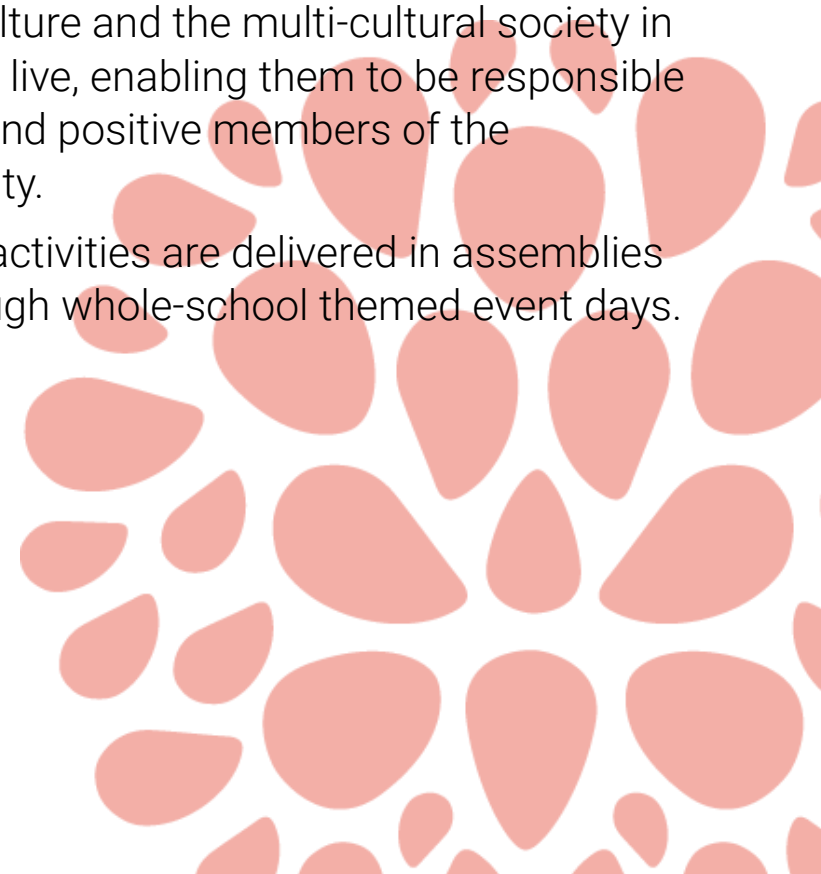
The Vale Academy offers a wide range of extra-curricular activities, both at lunchtime and after school, which are open to all our pupils.

Our innovative and forward-thinking curriculum is enhanced by supporting trips and workshops in each year group. Details of these will be supplied in advance to parents and carers.

In addition, we have a calendar of events that specifically link to the spiritual, moral, social and cultural strands in our PHSE (Personal, Social, Health Education) programme.

This provides pupils with an awareness of British culture and the multi-cultural society in which we live, enabling them to be responsible citizens and positive members of the community.

Planned activities are delivered in assemblies and through whole-school themed event days.



Our Facilities

We pride ourselves on the great emphasis we place on Outdoor Learning. We have a Forest School which is used regularly by all children. Forest School is a programme which aims to enhance, nurture and support children's learning and development. For Reception children this is an extension to the outdoor learning activities already in place. Children from all years have the opportunity to take part in different experiences in our woodland environment supporting their social, emotional and physical development.

Our Sensory Room offers children a calming, safe space to explore. This room is equipped with wonderful resources to support the emotional wellbeing of our children.



Our Art Room, Hall and Stage offer a spacious environment for children to be expressive in The Arts. Our children take part in many activities to enrich their knowledge and skills in The Arts and we often showcase our talents to large audiences.

We promote healthy school meals with all pupils enjoying food cooked daily on the premises which is both well balanced and nutritional.

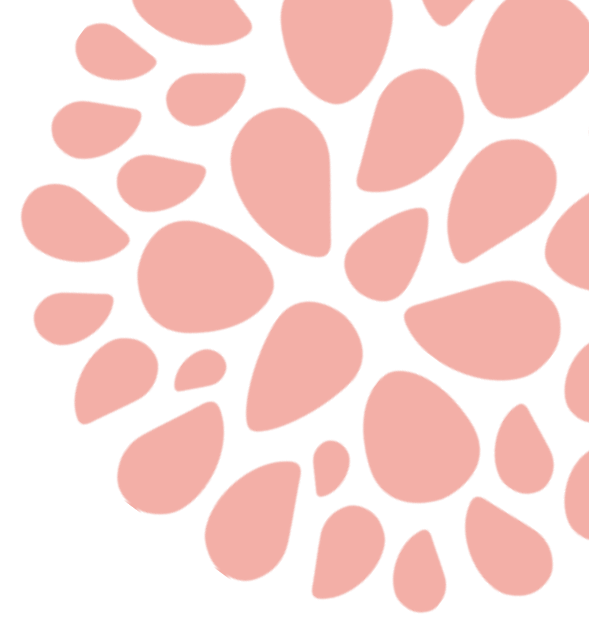
Our Sports Hall is an excellent space for our children to develop their skills in the sporting field. We have extremely high standards for sport in our academy and we encourage children to be active for at least 60 minutes a day.

We are keen to be involved in sporting competitions across the county and we are proud to have brought many trophies home! We presently hold the Gold Award for Sports and our sports teams have been highly successful in competing in and around the county.



Student Leadership Team

At The Vale Academy, the pastoral system is designed to provide a caring and disciplined environment to ensure all pupils reach their full potential. We encourage pupils to be responsible citizens who care about both their peers and the wider community. At the academy, we establish a sense of belonging through our house system, which allows pupils to support and mentor each other appropriately.



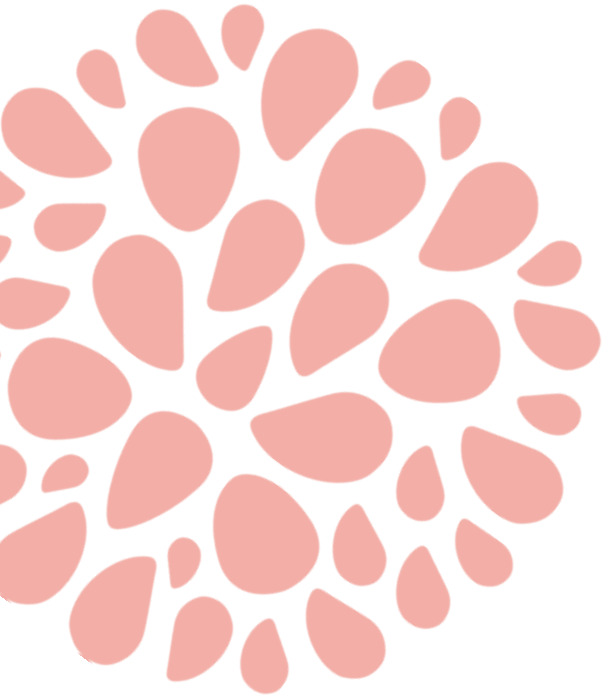
As part of our House System, we elect a Student Leadership Team every year. This team consists of ambassadors who are role models within their field. For example, there are Student Ambassadors for each subject area, Sports Ambassadors and House Captains, Prefects, Student Council representatives, Eco-warriors, Anti-Bullying representatives, Safeguarding representatives and many more. These roles are a key part to ensuring our pupils have a voice and a sense of ownership over their own education.

Admissions

If you wish to make an enquiry about the possibility of your child attending The Vale Academy then please get in touch with our Admissions Manager using the contact details below:

Tel: 01582 811515

Email: Academyadmissions@thesharedlearningtrust.org.uk





Cathy Barr,
Chief Executive Officer

Welcome to The Shared Learning Trust

We are currently a unique family of 5 schools, sharing our practice and beliefs to enable young people to achieve more than they ever thought possible. As Chief Executive Officer, I am incredibly proud to lead a team of passionate, dedicated and talented staff. The structure of our trust means that we can be with a child at each stage of their educational journey, from the age of 2 to 18.

At The Shared Learning Trust, we provide exceptional opportunities for all to be aspirational and develop a passion and excitement for learning. We ensure our children, young people and adults cultivate a strong self-belief so that they can flourish and develop into successful, well-rounded, self-respecting people. It is important to us that our young people meet the high standards set, and that our academy is a safe place in which to learn. We have high expectations of all. Respect, both for ourselves and for others, is an important value to us.

The Trust and each academy are at the heart of their communities, where pupils are given the opportunity to benefit from, and contribute to, the work of local business, sporting and community organisations.

Each of our academies is different, but at the core of each one is a strength brought about by working together and sharing resources, knowledge, experience and success.

Strive, achieve, believe!

Our vision is very much at the heart of everything we do

