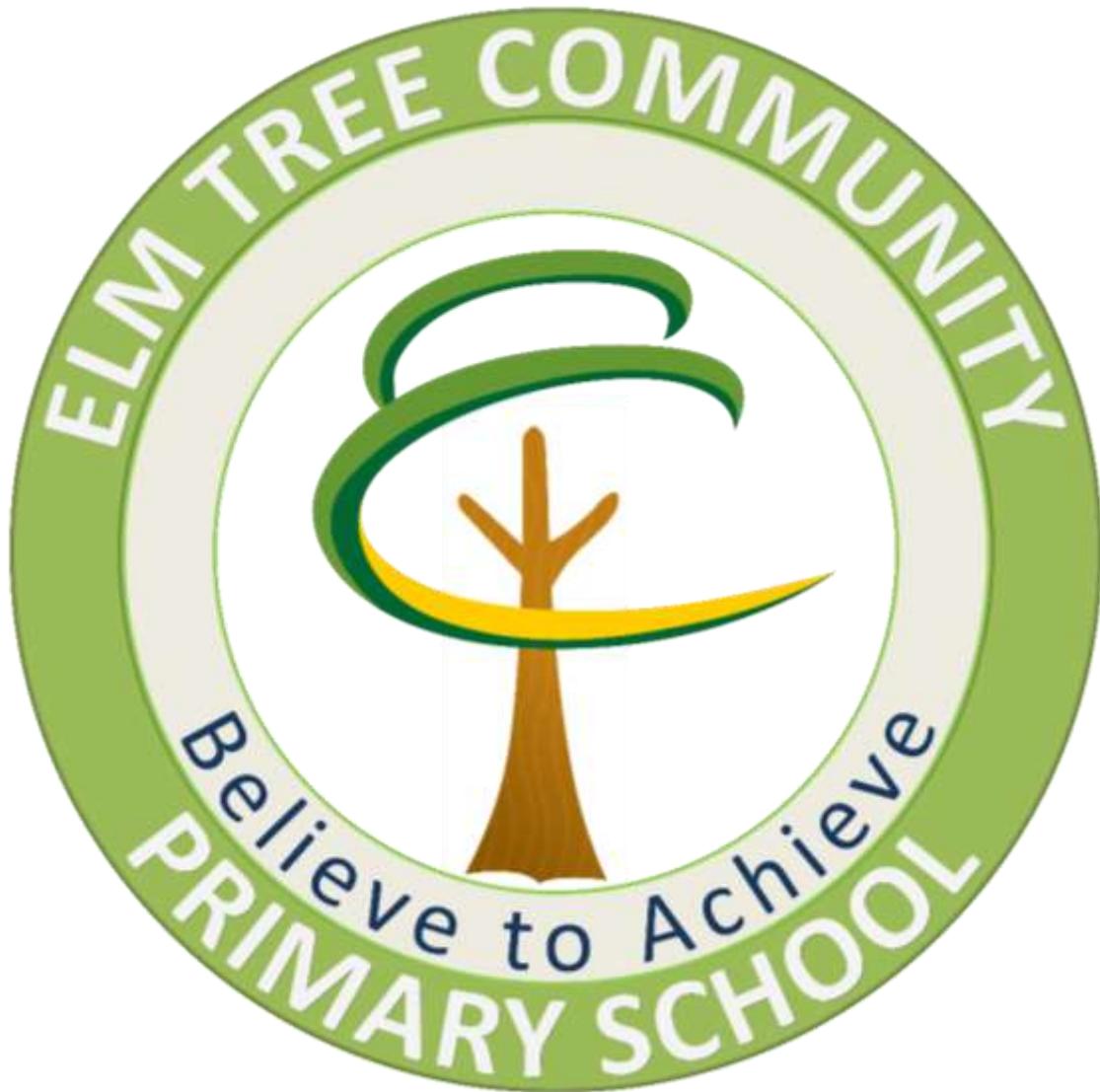




Welcome to



Endeavour



No endeavour is in vain;  
Its reward is in the doing.

HENRY WADSWORTH LONGFELLOW

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**Endeavour** is for pupils working within the EYFS and National Curriculum. These pupils are usually accessing the National Curriculum below their age-related expectations and need additional small steps within the curriculum to ensure progress. Their subject specific curriculum is supplemented by their Personalised Learning Plans which set short term targets against their Cognition and Learning, Communication and Interaction, Physical and Sensory Needs and Social, Emotional and Mental Health Needs as identified in their Education Health and Care Plan.

We have a diverse range of children within our classes who have been unable to succeed in mainstream education for a variety of reasons, in particular this has been due to a lack of development in social and emotional skills, leading to undesired behaviours and an inability to access both the formal and hidden curriculum within these settings. As we are aware that traditional mainstream education has not been a positive experience for our children, we strive to ensure that our provision does not replicate this at the expense of our children's various needs.

Our small size enables all our children to know each other and all our staff to know each and every child and their individual needs. This, in turn, creates a sense of belonging, pride in our school community and a compassion for each other.

Our aim is for all our children to be successful learners, so they are able to grow, develop and mature into successful adults. Whilst we strive for high academic achievement, we also believe that success is about happiness, making good choices and feeling proud of yourself. To be successful all children and adults have to overcome setbacks and show resilience. We believe that a successful lifelong learner is one who cares for others around them and is able to share resources, ideas and their knowledge with enthusiasm.

Our dedicated and friendly team care passionately about the children who we work with and are available to provide support for parents and carers in a variety of ways.

We look forward to meeting you and your children and welcoming them into our family.



Our department is currently made up of five classes. Each class has at least one teacher and two teaching assistants. We also have a strong intervention and therapy team who assess and deliver specific aspects of a child's education.

The classes are taught by Emma Watkins, Jasmine Lawrence, Jessica Stephens, Joanne Skelhorn and Emma Woods.



Emma



Jasmine



Jessica



Joanne



Emma

Our teaching assistants are an integral part of our team and each have specific key children as well as having strong relationships with all children. Some of the teaching assistants that you will meet are:



Michelle



Natalie



Robyn



Shannon



Tom



Laura



Stacey



Mel



In order to be successful learners, there are many tools that children need. Throughout a child's life there are many developmental skills which build upon one another and are interdependent. If children are struggling to learn there are many aspects which may not be fully developed and contributing to the learning challenge. We use a variety of interventions and therapies to identify any underdeveloped skills and address these within the curriculum and programmes for children.

Your child will work with a variety of specialists and their individual programmes will be monitored and overseen by class staff and intervention TAs.



Jane  
Thrive team  
leader



John  
Thrive  
practitioner



Keeley  
Speech and  
Language support



Sarah  
Occupational  
Therapist



Steve  
Therapy Dog  
handler



Maisie  
Therapy Dog



As a school we are committed to using the THRIVE approach, an approach which draws on neuroscientific research, attesting that the brain's ability to learn, make connections and cope with stress and anxiety is highly dependent on the neurological pathways that are formed in early life. The first three years of a child's life is a time when the brain develops rapidly. The relationships, life events and emotional experiences that an individual experiences determine the neural connections that form and are vital in shaping social and emotional development. As a result of gaps in these key areas of early development our children do not have the appropriate foundations to build on when accessing more formal learning and we therefore ensure that we design our curriculum in a way which allows children to access the significant tool of play.

The Thrive approach is informed by developments in neuroscientific research and underpinned by a theoretical base in child development theory, attachment theory, Transactional Analysis, creativity, play and the Arts. All teachers are trained as THRIVE practitioners and we have a dedicated THRIVE team, with one practitioner directly linked to our department. The Thrive approach is used to support social and emotional wellbeing and allows us to provide individual and group activities which have a huge impact on the development of emotional resilience within our children, leading onto a readiness for learning.

Each term we assess our children as a group and, where necessary, work 1-1 with selected children to try to fill developmental gaps using a specific Action Plan developed for the group/individual. Records of the assessments and activities can be found in each child's Personalised Learning Plan (PLP) folder.





We operate our own transport which allows children to be safely transported with a familiar member of staff each day to and from school. This allows us to continue to have a close home-school relationship and ensures that children's needs are met from the start by trained staff who have extensive experience and knowledge of all of the children in the school.



We have spacious classroom which allow us to provide room for children to access the curriculum in a variety of different ways. The spaces allow plenty of room for our growing children to develop their academic and social play skills.





We are lucky enough to have access to a wide range of other facilities within our school grounds which children are able to access for curriculum, intervention, regulation and therapeutic sessions.

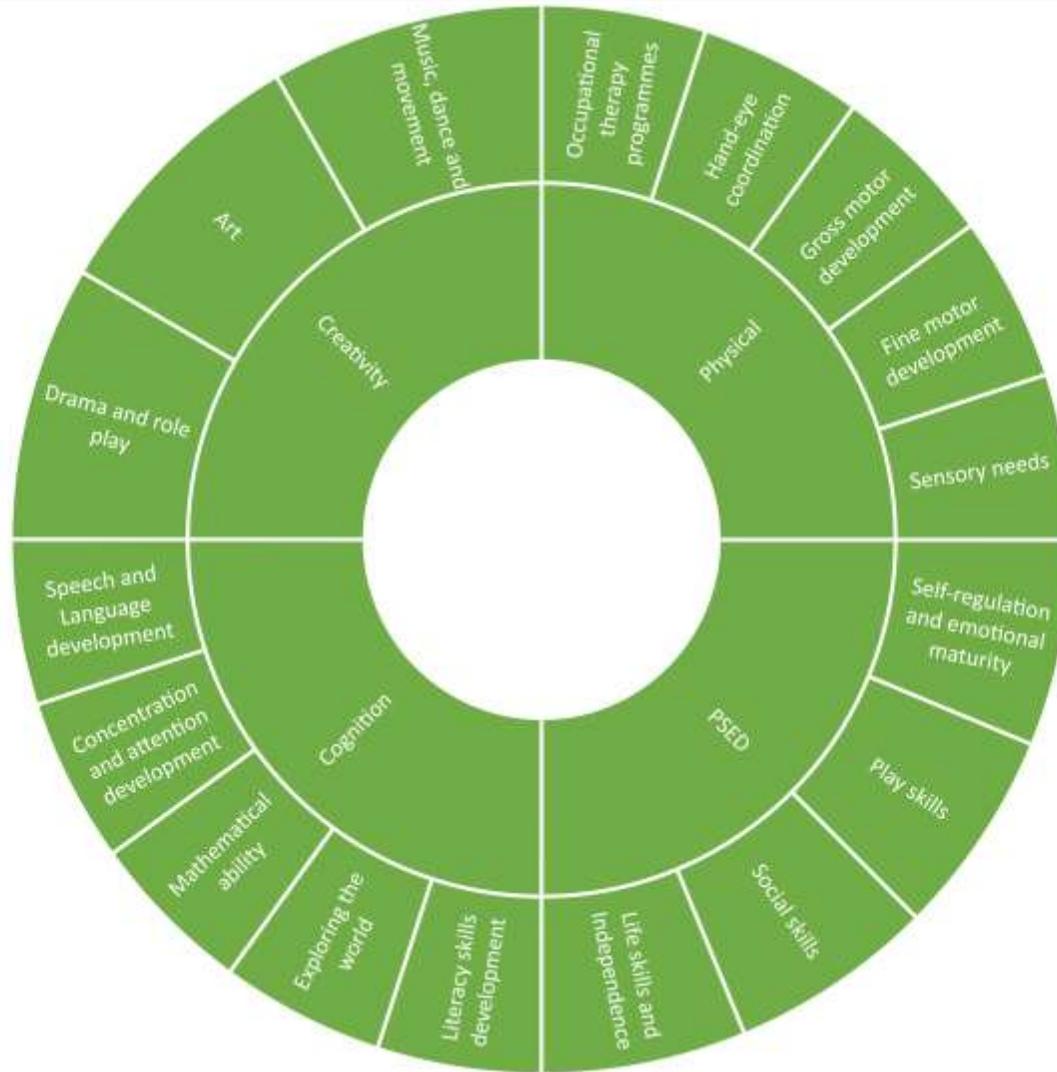


We enhance our curriculum with a diverse range of activities to enrich our children's school experience. These may include cooking, Forest School, trips to a variety of places and experience days or workshops within school. Parents will be informed of upcoming Enrichment activities via Class Dojo and the school text service.





## Our Curriculum





An example of what your child's day may look like is included below.

Breakfast/Registration 8.45 – 9.15
Reading/spellings/handwriting 9.15 – 9.35
Phonics 9.35 – 10.00
English 10.00 – 10.50
Play Time 10.50 – 11.05
Snack Time 11.05 – 11.15
Maths 11.15 – 12.00
Maths seed 12.00 – 12.25
Lunch 12.30 – 12.50
Science 12.50 – 2.30
Me time and enhanced provision 2.30 – 3.05

This is a broad outline of the structure of the day which will be used as basis to personalise activities and timetables to individual children and groups. If children are not working on a subject specific adult-led activity, then they will be accessing enhanced provision and working on their individual targets.



Our whole school ethos of placing the child at the centre of all that we do, valuing each child and supporting their social and emotional development, and our core responsibilities to our children of reducing learning barriers, strengthening knowledge and building self-esteem, confidence and resilience form the foundation for our broad and balanced curriculum.

Our department aims to develop the transition to **Endeavour**, building on the firm foundations built in **Establish**, providing continuity and progression in the provision for our children and continuing the practical approach to learning which is found in our KS1 department. Children enjoy busy and purposeful environments which use child-initiated activities to consolidate and extend learning, whilst building up children's independent learning skills and focusing on the personal and social developmental needs. We use play as a powerful vehicle to enhance learning across the curriculum and use a holistic approach to focus on child development and effective learning characteristics.

We aim to ensure that children's physical, communication and emotional needs are a priority in order to enable them to access the National Curriculum and structure our curriculum in such a way that we are able to be responsive to the needs of each individual. Children will learn all National Curriculum subjects at their own stage whilst they are part of Endeavour, using meaningful cross curricular topics which engage and enthuse children, promoting a love of learning within them.

We incorporate individualised curriculum targets, as well as SALT, OT and Thrive targets for children and use focused activities and provision-based challenges to meet these. We make it a priority to build up our children's resilience and stamina to help them to focus on activities for a longer period of time and become independent learners so that they can access future learning.



## School Admin

At Elm Tree we pride ourselves on looking smart. We feel that wearing a school uniform is very important in establishing a clear identity and sense of unity for the school. It also promotes equality amongst the children, ensuring no-one stands out as being different.

Our uniform consists of:

- Grey trousers/skirt
- White polo shirt
- Burgundy sweatshirt / cardigan with school logo
- Optional for girls in summer: checked cotton dress (yellow or red)
- Black shoes or plain black trainers

To order uniform please see the School Website:

<https://www.elmtree.lancs.sch.uk/parents/uniform>

We use a system called ClassDojo to share photos, videos, and announcements with parents. We ask that parents sign up for an account and check this on a regular basis once they are linked to their child's class.

<https://www.classdojo.com/>

Children can bring packed lunches in. We all eat in class so that children can feel safe in the environment that they are in and have familiar adults with them. School dinners are £2.20 per day and need to be paid in full each week using the School Money system. If your child is eligible for Free School Meals, then please contact the school office who will advise you how to apply for these.



If you have any questions about our department, please don't hesitate to get in touch with Team Leader, Emma Watkins by ringing school on 01695 50924 or emailing [watkinsemma@elmtree.lancs.sch.uk](mailto:watkinsemma@elmtree.lancs.sch.uk) .

Class teachers and teaching assistants are happy to discuss any individual matters and answer questions regarding your child.

Jasmine Lawrence – [lawrencej@elmtree.lancs.sch.uk](mailto:lawrencej@elmtree.lancs.sch.uk)

Jess Stephens – [stephensj@elmtree.lancs.sch.uk](mailto:stephensj@elmtree.lancs.sch.uk)

Jo Skelhorn – [skelhornj@elmtree.lancs.sch.uk](mailto:skelhornj@elmtree.lancs.sch.uk)

Emma Woods – [woodse@elmtree.lancs.sch.uk](mailto:woodse@elmtree.lancs.sch.uk)

For further information please see our website and explore the sections of our Endeavour page.