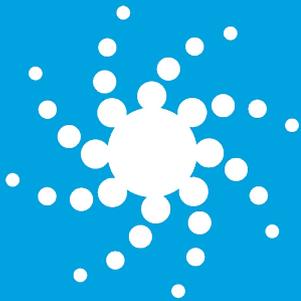
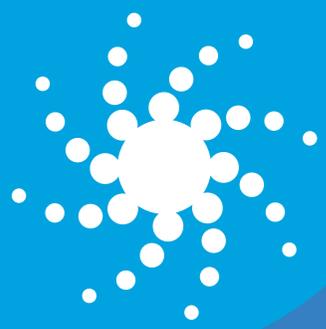


Making Learning Irresistible



New Horizons
Children's Academy



Welcome to New Horizons Children's Academy

New Horizons takes a child first approach to learning, encouraging our students to aspire, challenge and achieve.

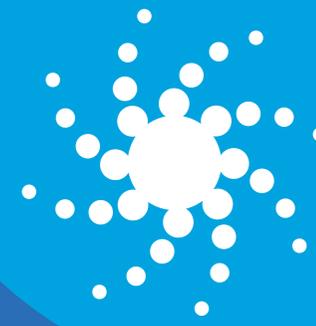
We are a vibrant and inclusive three form entry Primary and Nursery School where there is a relentless ambition for all to succeed within a nurturing environment. We offer an aspirational learning experience as an Advanced Accredited Thinking Skills School enabling children to become articulate, critical, creative and reflective thinkers. We have high expectations for all children to excel achieving their best academically but also ensure they grow in personal qualities, self-confidence and motivation.

We have a highly dedicated staff team who work in close partnership with parents/carers to enable children to be their best self and help shape their success preparing them for their future.

We look forward to welcoming you to our happy, hardworking and ambitious school where we are committed to transforming the life chances of every individual.



Mrs Kirstie Jones
Executive Headteacher



Values and Habits

Making Learning Irresistible

We aim to make learning irresistible so that your child comes to school every day happy and eager to learn. We know that children are naturally inquisitive, and we aim to feed this curiosity by providing a curriculum that engages, excites and challenges our children. As a Thinking School, we teach our children to become creative, analytical, adaptable and resilient thinkers, equipping them with the transferable skills they need to thrive in later life. Above all, we want to encourage and inspire even the youngest children, teaching them the tools they need to become successful lifelong learners.

High Aspiration for All Children

We have an ethos of high expectations, encouraging every child to flourish intellectually, personally and morally. We teach our children to be successful, independent learners who concentrate, persevere, take risks and have a willingness to make mistakes. We want all our children to make accelerated progress and achieve well, regardless of their background or circumstances.



Thinking

The Thinking Schools Academy Trust is a family of schools that work together to ‘transform the life chances’ of all our children and young people.

We share a common mission to nurture successful young people who are confident and can think and act independently.

As part of the Thinking Schools Academy Trust, New Horizons Children’s Academy takes pride in the unique approach we take to education: we provide our children with the skills and tools they need to think in a variety of ways and become lifelong learners. We believe that the best way to transform the life chances of our young people and help them achieve their aspirations is by shaping their minds, attitudes and habits through a framework of cognitive education that enables them to become the masters of their own destiny.

Our pupils are equipped with a bank of Thinking Tools designed to prepare them for a range of scenarios, dilemmas and circumstances that they may face in life as part of modern society. The use of these Tools in our curriculum is supported by scientific and metacognitive research, and pupils are encouraged to apply their tools independently and use them to unlock new ideas. Our Thinking Tools include: Thinking Maps, De Bono’s Thinking Hats and Art Costa’s Habits of Mind. These tools are used consistently across all areas of our curriculum and support our children tremendously in their learning and personal growth.

The concept of ‘Being your Best Self’ is also at the heart of our approach to learning at New Horizons, as part of our Thinking School ethos. Children are

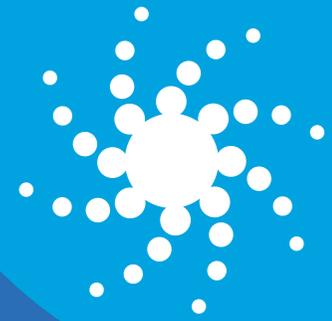
encouraged to strive to be and achieve their best, and are given multiple opportunities to reflect on their learning and work on their personal development.

In June 2025, New Horizons Children’s Academy was accredited as an Advanced Thinking School by the University of Exeter’s School of Education, which leads the way on Metacognition, Thinking Skills and Creativity and provides a framework for schools to follow to become recognised Thinking Schools. In a glowing report on our school, the University commented that:

“The school seeks to make learning irresistible by developing children as creative, adaptable and resilient thinkers so that they become committed lifelong learners.”

“New Horizons Children’s Academy has developed a unique culture of personalisation that goes beyond a ‘broad-brush’ approach to learning and teaching.”

“Student Voice is a strong part of the school and means that teachers can identify what works best, for whom, under what circumstances, how and why.”



Our Curriculum

We believe that children learn best when their learning is engaging and meaningful. Our curriculum is designed to develop our children as thinkers, excite their imaginations and provide plenty of first-hand experiences to help them make sense of the world.

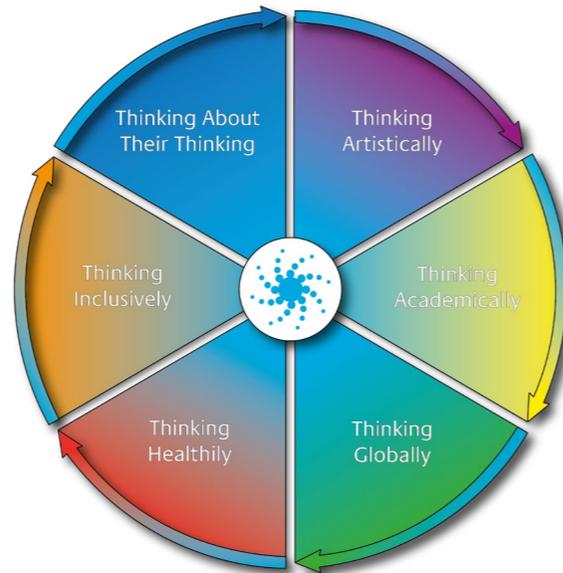
Early Years Foundation

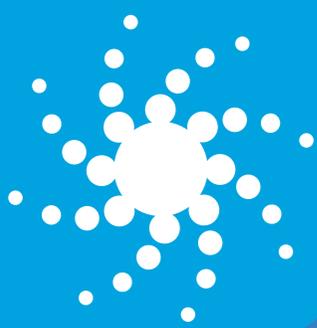
Nursery and Reception children follow the Early Years Foundation Stage Curriculum, consisting of three key areas: communication and language, physical development and personal, social and emotional development, and 4 subject areas: literacy, numeracy, understanding the world and expressive art and design. The environment in the foundation stage is set up to allow children to develop their knowledge and skills through play. There are opportunities for children to learn, thrive and explore both inside and outside the classroom.



National Curriculum

Years 1-6 follow the National Curriculum, equipping children with a range of knowledge and skills in English, Maths, Science, Computing, History, Geography, Art and Design, Design Technology, Music, Physical Education and Personal, Social and Emotional Education. We make meaningful links between the different subjects and the learning is carefully mapped out across the school years so that the children's learning builds on what they learned in previous years.





Enrichment Opportunities

Enrichment

New Horizons Children's Academy provides before and after-school clubs to provide extra-curricular opportunities for our children and extra childcare. Clubs start after the first full week following the Summer, Christmas and Easter holidays and finish a full week prior to these breaks.

A range of clubs are also on offer, including football, cooking and art and crafts. You can find an up-to-date list of clubs on our website. We also offer a wide range of opportunities for our children including a residential adventure trip, workshops, cooking sessions and other valuable experiences to help bring their learning to life.

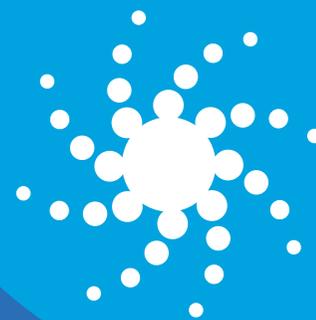
#WeAreOne events

As part of the Thinking Schools Academy Trust, our children have the opportunity to participate in our Trust's 'We Are One' events, where schools across our Trust unite in celebration of a key event or national day.

Our children love getting involved and representing our school in a range of Trust-wide competitions, fundraising events and creative activities. Previous 'We Are One' events have included World Book Day, Black History Month and TSArTs Week.

Being part of the Thinking Schools Academy Trust family opens our school and our children up to a world of opportunities to network, collaborate and compete as part of a wider community.





Artsmark

As part of New Horizons Children’s Academy’s mission to ‘transform life chances’, we believe we have a responsibility to build our young people’s cultural capital as much as possible: this means offering opportunities for our children to explore culture in its various forms, immerse themselves in the Arts and learn about the world beyond their personal location and circumstances.

We believe that in expanding our pupils’ cultural knowledge and encouraging them to engage in new experiences, we can support their personal growth and extend their knowledge beyond the taught curriculum.

Every student at New Horizons has a Cultural Passport which encourages them to record and reflect on their cultural experiences. The Passport offers a range of activities and ideas for broadening students’ horizons and developing their skills, from managing a budget and learning a survival skill to visiting an art gallery and trying foods from different countries. Our school offers as many opportunities as possible to equip our young people with a diverse set of experiences, skills and knowledge.

In order to offer a full and enriching experience which builds cultural capital, New Horizons has committed to our Artsmark journey, ensuring the cultural and creative education we provide is broad, diverse and engaging.

“Arts and culture are highly valued at New Horizons Children’s Academy. You have invested time and money to ensure the Arts have a high profile in the school, the Trust and the community. The Arts are used to enrich and link learning across the curriculum as well as teaching art, dance, music and design and technology discretely.”

Gold Artsmark report June 2022



Parental Involvement

At New Horizons Children's Academy, parents are encouraged to become involved in their child's learning and to have high expectations of the school from the beginning.

We value you as your child's first educator, and ask that you work with us to ensure that your child is achieving and progressing as much as possible. We encourage you to help your child complete the homework set by the class teacher.

other events. There are also regular opportunities throughout the year to meet with staff to review your child's progress, and a written report will be provided at the end of the year.

There are regular workshops for parents explaining the approaches the school uses for key areas such as phonics, maths, reading and thinking skills, and parents are regularly invited into school for Curriculum Days, Class Assemblies and various

We pride ourselves on being very approachable and have an open-door policy, so if you are ever concerned about your child's education, please make an appointment at any time to meet with their class teacher.



Making Learning Irresistible



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THINKING
SCHOOLS
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