



SATs  
27% Higher

Our children perform  
27% higher than the  
national average in  
reading, writing and  
maths (SATs 2024)



INSPIRE ● CREATE ● ACHIEVE

2025-2026 PROSPECTUS

## 2025 Open Days

Tues 28th Oct 9.30am | Wed 29th Oct 9.30am | Thurs 30th Oct 1.30pm

Stay and Play: Tues 4th Nov 3.30pm-4.10pm

Meet our teachers, explore our classrooms  
and discover what makes our school special.

[Book Now >](#)

Castle Donington, Leicestershire



We strive to nurture confident, enthusiastic learners  
who respect others, and recognise and appreciate  
both their own strengths and those of their peers.

NEW Forest School ★ Creative Curriculum ★ Character Education ★ Enrichment Opportunities ★ Wraparound Care



Supporting your Individual School  
[symphonylearningtrust.co.uk](https://symphonylearningtrust.co.uk)



Forest School



Wraparound Care 7:45am - 5:45pm

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# Welcome

Welcome to our happy, vibrant and inclusive school.

At Orchard, we have the highest of standards, and pride ourselves on the creation of a stimulating, caring and well-organised learning environment.

Our exciting and challenging curriculum, full of creative arts, sports and personal/social development, brings learning to life through a wide-range of inspiring experiences and enrichment opportunities, enabling pupils to reach their potential and achieve excellence in both their academic achievements and personal growth.

As well as their excellent behaviour and positive attitudes, Orchard pupils are also known for their kindness. We place a strong emphasis on developing character; fostering a community where everybody is made to feel valued and respected.

Going the 'extra-mile' to help children and their families, we are determined that our children move onto the next stage of their education with the skills, knowledge and understanding that will enable them to thrive.

We warmly invite all prospective parents to visit us and meet our dedicated team. Please contact the school office to arrange a tour.

**Fiona Shields, Headteacher**



At Orchard, we have the highest of standards, and pride ourselves on a stimulating, caring and well-organised learning environment.

*"The curriculum successfully combines academic rigour with fun and enjoyment. Pupils are motivated and positive about school life. They flourish from the awe and wonder they experience from interesting subjects that they are taught. Pupils achieve well."*

*Ofsted, January 2025*





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# The School

Orchard is a well-maintained, modern school nestled in the beautiful village of Castle Donington. Our school is home to around 330 wonderful pupils aged 4 to 11.

Our extensive grounds feature a spacious playing field, trim trail and a delightful wildlife area, all designed to support learning and provide a safe, enjoyable environment for our children. We also have an outdoor classroom that's perfect for lessons during warm weather and provides shelter during breaks.

The school is exceptionally well-resourced with multiple sets of Chromebooks, iPads and laptops, along with a fantastic range of fiction and non-fiction books to support our Accelerated Reader program.

We also offer a studio, music room and a kitchen for cookery lessons.

At Orchard School, we are deeply connected to our community and highly value the relationships we build with our pupils, parents and community members. We look forward to welcoming you to our school family.



"The quality of support for pupils' character development and well-being is central to the school's ambition that all pupils will flourish in confidence and wisdom. Pupils understand their own character strengths, such as perseverance to keep going."  
*Ofsted, January 2025*



## Outstanding SATs Results

Our outstanding SATs results are a reflection of the happy and nurturing environment we create, which brings out the best in our children.

SATs  
27% Higher

Our children perform 27% higher than the national average in reading, writing and maths (SATs 2024)

# Our Vision

At Orchard, we believe every child has limitless potential and it's our mission to unlock their talents and confidence in partnership with you. Our vision is to help every child achieve their true potential.

Our vision focuses on six key areas:

1. Orchard will be a welcoming, happy place where children feel safe, enjoy learning and develop resilience, empathy, aspiration and honesty.
2. We offer a challenging, broad and exciting curriculum that encourages and develops everyone's talents.
3. Orchard will be an inclusive school, valuing the learning, achievements, attitudes and well-being of all.
4. We aim for well-rounded personal development, ensuring our children become confident, lifelong learners and responsible citizens.
5. By celebrating diversity, we help pupils develop strong global awareness.
6. We work with the Symphony Trust, other schools, parents/carers, and the wider community to secure the best outcomes for our children.

Our pupils' happiness and success are at the heart of everything we do.





## EYFS

Children begin their Orchard journey in our well-equipped Foundation Stage classroom, with a purpose-built outdoor learning environment.

Our Foundation Stage offers:

- A highly skilled and dedicated Foundation Stage team.
- Carefully scaffolded and inclusive curriculum which is centered around each child's unique starting point and interests.
- A play-based curriculum with an emphasis on developing curiosity, fun, independence and a love of learning
- An excellent balance of child-lead and adult-lead learning.
- Direct access to their own large outdoor classroom all year-round where the emphasis is on messy, creative and large-scale play
- A large and modern open-plan learning environment.
- Strong parent relationships and access to digital 'Learning Journeys' on the Tapestry App

Character Education



Anti-Bullying Ambassadors



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# Our Curriculum

## Intent of Our Curriculum

The curriculum at Orchard Community Primary School is designed to equip pupils with the knowledge, skills and cultural capital needed for lifelong success. We aim to nurture personal traits and qualities, fostering positive behaviour and attitudes for a strong foundation. Our curriculum focuses on high standards in English and Mathematics, while also providing a broad, inspiring and ambitious education across all subjects to develop well-rounded, confident and independent learners.

## Personal Development and Inclusivity

We prioritise the holistic development of our pupils, integrating values-based education that addresses moral, spiritual, social and cultural growth alongside academic achievements. Our inclusive environment celebrates individuality, promotes respect and kindness and provides a rich array of creative, sporting and cultural opportunities. Through a varied curriculum and enrichment activities, we aim to build confident, lifelong learners who are prepared for future challenges and committed to their communities.

## Positive Behaviour and Lifelong Learning

Orchard Community Primary School fosters positive behaviours and attitudes, teaching pupils to respect themselves and others, and to behave with integrity and safety. Our curriculum encourages resilience, curiosity, critical thinking and effective communication. By integrating 'Character Education' and offering engaging learning experiences, we prepare our students to be ambitious, reflective and imaginative individuals, ready to succeed in modern society and beyond.





## Engaging Outdoor Spaces for Learning and Exploration

Our extensive grounds feature a spacious playing field, trim trail and a wonderful wildlife area, all designed to support learning and provide a safe, enjoyable environment for our children.

# Wellbeing and Pastoral Support

We are proud to have earned the 'Route to Resilience' accreditation, recognising our commitment to wellbeing.

We support the emotional health of our pupils and staff, acknowledging that everyone faces challenges and may need support. Positive mental health is a collective responsibility; we promote it by fostering a sense of belonging, celebrating achievements and providing appropriate support.

We offer a safe, inclusive and inspiring environment where every community member feels valued. Believing in every child's right to a comprehensive education, we hold high expectations for all pupils, encouraging their full participation and achievement. Our commitment to equal opportunities is central to our ethos, setting suitable learning challenges and overcoming potential barriers.

Successful inclusion means every pupil feels a sense of belong, confident, happy, and is supported to make the best possible progress. Our dedicated SENDCO team ensures that pupils with special educational needs receive the necessary support to progress. We have a number of rooms that can be used for small group work, interventions or nurture sessions, including 'The Rainbow Room' and 'The Bubble Room'.

We are lucky to have two very experienced SENDCOs – one full time SENDCO and a Deputy - who support pupils with SEND and additional needs to achieve their very best in their time at Orchard. This is achieved through extensive partnership working with their teachers, parents and wider services. We also have one member of staff who holds the 'Emotional Learning Support Assistant' qualification, who sees children for ELSA and counselling work during the academic day.





★ NEW FOR AUTUMN 2025 – FOREST SCHOOL ★

# What Makes Us Unique

Explore how we empower students to embrace their passions, cultivate critical thinking, and build a strong sense of self, all within a supportive and inspiring environment.

## Outdoor Learning

Outdoor learning nurtures holistic development, promotes health and well-being and fosters environmental awareness. By engaging with nature, children benefit from diverse sensory experiences that stimulate creativity and reduce stress. Our environment offers unique hands-on exploration and experiential learning. Through collaborative outdoor activities, children develop essential social skills and learn to assess and manage risks effectively.

## Character Education

We are hugely committed to teaching and developing character traits and behaviours that underpin achievement. We strive to ensure that character development goes hand in hand with high educational aspirations and success.

## Positive Relationships

Relationships between children and staff are an exceptionally strong feature of the school. Care, guidance and support for all children is outstanding and consistent across the school. The ethos and child-centred approach is modelled from the top and firmly embedded throughout the school.





## What Makes Us Unique

### Anti-Bullying Ambassadors

Bullying is not tolerated. We prioritise creating a safe, inclusive environment where all learners can thrive. Our Year 2 and Year 6 Anti-Bullying Ambassadors are trained to maintain a safe school environment, lead assemblies promoting friendship and tolerance and support students during break and lunchtimes.

### Inclusivity and high expectations for all

We pride ourselves on our inclusive nature and use our deep knowledge of each individual to motivate, encourage and care for them throughout their time at our school.

### Enrichment

As part of our commitment to the personal development of our pupils, we offer a huge range of extra-curricular and enrichment activities both during school hours and after school.

### Sport

Maintaining our Platinum School Games Mark underscores our dedication to fostering school sport and competition, with participation in various local sports events ranging from athletics to gymnastics. Plus our Sports Leaders from Years 3-6 actively promote healthy lifestyles, enriching our sports programs further.

### Music

We offer 1:1 or small group peripatetic music lessons for drums, guitar, violin and piano as well as extracurricular clubs including drumming and choir. Small-scale musical performances take place in the community. Music Kids Academy provide whole-class music tuition in the recorder and lead assemblies/workshops.





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# Our Wrap around Care

At Orchard we offer Breakfast and After School Club. We provide support for our families with a reliable option for childcare beyond school hours, offering peace of mind and flexibility.

### Breakfast Club

7.45am - 8.45am Monday to Friday

Children take part in a variety of activities including sports, crafts and IT, preparing them for the school day.

### After School Club

Operates from 3.15pm – 5.45pm Monday to Thursday, and until 4.15pm on a Friday.

It provides a perfect end to the busy school day and gives children an opportunity to let off steam or relax with friends.

### After School Activity Clubs

There are also a number of other clubs held between 3.15pm - 4.15pm which the children can voluntarily join.





Happiness fosters confidence  
and focus, enabling greater  
academic achievement

# Our Commitment to You

At Orchard Primary School, we prioritise building strong partnerships with our families. We strive to create a welcoming and friendly environment, fostering trust and clear communication.

Through meetings, timely updates and involvement opportunities, we will keep you informed and engaged in your child's social, emotional and academic development. By working together, we enhance pupil achievement and cultivate positive attitudes towards learning and school.

## We provide:

- Termly letters from your child's teacher about curriculum Learning Adventures
- Two parents' evenings in the Autumn and Spring terms for progress discussions, with optional appointments in the Summer
- Annual written reports on progress, with additional SATs information for Y6
- A monthly newsletter and up to date website information
- Classroom Workshops for parental involvement in curriculum areas
- 'How To Help' guides for Reading, Maths, Phonics and Spelling
- Celebration Events like assemblies, presentations, and sports day
- Information on learning experiences via Class Dojo or Tapestry
- Open House Sessions and Meet the Teacher events for informal visits and curriculum discussions
- Termly Progress Checks with reports on Reading, Writing, Maths, attitudes, behaviour, and attendance, including shared targets






# Why Choose a Symphony Learning Trust School

The Trust is dedicated to upholding elevated standards and sparking the imaginations of young individuals.

In an ever-evolving world, the Senior Leadership Team is resolute in delivering well-rounded, motivating, and captivating learning encounters for our students. Our core values of ambition, diligence, acceptance, and honesty serve as the foundation for this endeavour.

Symphony Learning Trust boasts a proven history of formulating and spearheading nationwide initiatives, along with highly effective inter-school support. We take pride in our student outcomes across our schools, and our unwavering commitment

to enhancing standards and augmenting the calibre of education accessible to all our students.

-  @Symphony\_LT
-  Symphony Learning Trust
-  symphony\_learning\_trust


[Learn more click here >>](#)






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Email: [school@orchard.leics.sch.uk](mailto:school@orchard.leics.sch.uk)

# 2025 Open Days

Come and see our wonderful school in action. Join us on one of our open days to explore our facilities, meet our staff and experience the warm and welcoming environment we offer.

Tuesday 28th October 9.30am (with refreshments in the Studio from 9.15am).

Wednesday 29th October 9.30am (with refreshments in the Studio from 9.15am)

Thursday 30th Oct 1.30pm (with refreshments in the Studio from 1.15pm).

**Stay and Play:** Tuesday 4th November 3.30pm-4.10pm

[Book an Open Day >>](#)

## How to Apply

For applications to our Reception class you must apply through Leicestershire County Council. **Applications for entry in Autumn 2026 should be made by 15th January 2026.** Applications are welcome from families who live in and out of our catchment area.

[Apply now >>](#)

We have a few places available in different year groups. Please contact the school to see if we can accommodate your child.

[Contact Orchard >>](#)

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The Symphony Learning Trust and Orchard Community Primary School are committed to safeguarding and safer recruitment. We are committed to promoting the welfare of children and expect all staff and volunteers to share this commitment.