

RCPS Golden Threads and Subjects

In our whole school curriculum, we have five ambitions for our curriculum intent and these are at the core of what we do across the school. We call these our Golden Threads. It is important that these threads are embedded in our whole school curriculum, and are also a common dominator in all that we do.



The graphic features the words 'Golden Threads' in a cursive font, arched over a circular design. Inside the circle is a small version of the school logo (hands holding a globe) and the text 'Rodbourne Cheney'. A large, stylized orange thread line weaves through the design, ending in a large loop at the bottom right.

- Love of reading and books
 - Oracy-rich opportunities
- Sound understanding of key vocabulary and language
- Confident and enthusiastic learners
- Problem solving, learning hooks and themed days

By focusing on these Golden Threads, we can ensure that the children in our school are happy, healthy and prepared for the next stage of their education or career.

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School context:

Our FSM is higher than national and Swindon averages.
Our children are from predominantly white, working-class families.

Our demographic survey shows:

42% of our children from financially stretched or low-income families.
57% of our families live in the in the most 30% of deprived postcodes in the UK.

Our Acorn study shows that:

There is a higher proportion of single parents than the base.
Financial profile shows more families making ends meet/ struggling than the base.
Number 1 Dominant Acorn Group titled 'Limited Budgets'. 23% of our families fall into this category compared to 5% base.
20% of our demographic have an income less than 20K (the lowest grade measured).

We have to ensure our children leave our school having had a high-quality, ambitious and well-planned curriculum. This means that all of our children, no matter what their starting points are, will achieve their best not only at our school, but in their future education setting, and then in working and adult life.

Whole School			Music	
	Whole School Golden Thread	Why this is important?	Golden thread in my subject	Impact of this Golden thread in my subject
1.	Love of reading and books	We know that we need to develop the children's reading, language and oracy to ensure they have the best possible outcomes. Reading and language is a crucial aspect to learning. Studies have proven that reading and language acquisition are key to all elements of learning, and later life.	Along with authors during black history month we also study artists, for example Aretha Franklin and Stormzy. We have a well-stocked library and children are aware of where to find books that spark their interest in music. Through lyrics we explore language whenever we learn a new	Children are aware that they can further their own knowledge by accessing quality books about music and musicians in our library. Children are confident to ask if there is a lyric they do not understand as defining the meaning of words as lyrics is built into our practise.

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		It is essential that we encourage children to love books, teach them to be able readers and ensure they have a good understanding of vocabulary and language.	song. We also endeavour to use songs as a vehicle to learn new information and ease classroom transitions. Our nursery and preschool focus on learning nursery rhymes as we have identified these and the acquisition of traditional tales as an indicator of success later.	Children enter our reception year with a strong knowledge base of nursery rhymes.
2.	Oracy-rich opportunities	Research shows that oracy is key to high performers. Research also shows that children, especially boys, benefit from drama and oracy opportunities to plan and gain increased understanding. It is essential that oracy opportunities are across all subjects and all phases.	The music curriculum we follow has lots of opportunities for discussion which are encouraged in an environment where expressing opinion is nurtured. We also focus on a different musical genre each fortnight where we use songs as a jumping off point for discussion about instruments, rhythms, lyrics, and other musical elements. Performance is also an integral part of our lessons as well as class assemblies where a musical performance is included.	Children feel at ease when they discuss their own opinions and increase understanding. Children are encouraged to think and share why they think something.
3.	Sound understanding of key vocabulary and language	Research has proven that children from lower socio-economic backgrounds have a word gap, and also have less vocabulary than their peers. To ensure cultural capital of our children, we need to enable our children to have sound understanding of vocabulary.	Key vocabulary is built into planning and progression documents. Key vocabulary is also considered in short term planning. Teachers model key vocabulary in lessons.	Children increasingly become more confident in acquiring specific key vocabulary and more confident in using key vocabulary.
4.	Confident and enthusiastic learners	Being confident will help our children with their learning; not being afraid to	Performance is a large part of our music curriculum. We make sure we	The children understand that our school is a safe space to perform, and we need

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		<p>make mistakes or to give things a go. They will be confident with their friends and this will help them achieve in their next stage of life. This links to the children having good self-esteem, which will encourage RCPS children to try new things and find their passion, which will allow them to develop a sense of identity and build confidence in facing whatever comes their way. It's important that our children are enthusiastic learners, who want to know and remember more. If our children are excited and enthused about their learning, they will be actively engaged and in turn display excellent learning behaviours which also maximises learning.</p>	<p>have numerous opportunities for children to perform on their own, in small groups and with their class. These performances can have the rest of the class as their audience, their key stage or the rest of the school. We have class assemblies, musical performances and singing assemblies as well as performances as part of the teaching sequence within lessons.</p> <p>We follow an engaging music curriculum and through pupil voice we know are children are excited and enthusiastic learners. Our children are always excited to know what genre the focus for the fortnight will be and enjoy listening to a variety of different styles. Johnny Cash was particularly enjoyed by our preschool class.</p> <p>Through pupil voice we know the children are enthused about their learning.</p>	<p>to encourage each other. By varying the size of our audience, we can build confidence and self-esteem so all children feel they can try new things without worry.</p> <p>Children show excellent learning behaviours in music as well as other lessons. Music lessons and other learning opportunities are memorable.</p>
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5.	Problem solving, learning hooks and themed days.	<p>By solving problems, our children will be happy, confident and independent learners. They will be able to make sense of, and understand, the world around them. They can make connections and they can apply this to other areas of life through new experiences.</p> <p>Enrichment of learning is key! This gives our children cultural capital to their learning, and also means that they will enjoy their learning more. If children enjoy their learning, they will be more engaged and actively participate in lessons and experiences.</p>	<p>We have a lot of enrichment that goes alongside our music curriculum. We have a 'music of the fortnight' which exposes children to wide variety of genres thus increasing their cultural capital and further levelling the playing field for our more disadvantaged children.</p> <p>Our songs for singing assembly linked to genre, termly topic and values for that term.</p> <p>We have an Autumn music concert where children how practise an instrument outside of school or who have 1:1 lessons in school have a chance to perform and celebrate their talents.</p> <p>We have a whole school choir who work towards a competition standard, in 2023 we entered the National school choral competition. We enjoy music roadshows from the Swindon music service.</p>	Children really enjoy learning about and taking part in all aspects of the music offer here at Rodbourne Cheney.
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