



Merlin Class Rationale



Merlin Class is an UKS2 class of 10 learners from Years 4 to 6. Each pupil has a unique learning profile, and teaching is adapted to individual needs through flexible grouping (Road 1, 2 or 3 learners). Some pupils have Positive Behaviour Support Plans (PBSPs), reviewed regularly with the school behaviour lead.



Our curriculum follows a two-year rolling topic cycle — this year's topics are Superstars, How Things Work and Our World — built around Park Lane's value areas: Community, Challenge, Individuality, and Creativity. Each topic begins with a launch activity and ends with a landing task to consolidate and celebrate learning.



Learners access varied spaces including the library, light room, soft-play room, hall, and outdoor areas, with learning ranging from desk-based tasks to sensory and outdoor exploration. We use Attention Autism strategies alongside sessions such as TACPAC, Sing & Sign, and Look and Listen.



English is tailored using Park Lane's Reading Pathway, including Sensology, Intensive Interaction, Core Word sessions, or discrete Twinkl Phonics. Provision is text-based, linked to National Curriculum goals and Personal Learning Goals (PLGs), tracked via Evidence for Learning, with regular baselining of reading and phonics.



Maths for Life is adapted to suit visual and tactile learners, using Signalong, songs, physical objects, and activities like cooking, building, and crafting. Communication is supported through visual timetables, symbols, photos, and AAC devices.



PLG-focused sessions run weekly, with multi-professional input from SaLT, OT and ELSA. We use the Zones of Regulation to support emotional understanding, self-regulation, and choice around breaks and calming activities.



Merlin Class uses a Star Jar reward system: learners collect stars throughout the day for following classroom rules around effort, behaviour, and engagement. Stars act as an instant reward — the child with the most stars each day chooses a class activity or TV show. Stars also reflect weekly house points, contributing to each child's house team total over the half term. Each child belongs to a house team led by a class team member, so stars offer instant recognition while house points build towards a longer-term, collective goal — together motivating individual effort and fostering fairness, responsibility, and teamwork.



We communicate with families via ClassDojo. Safeguarding is a priority, with concerns recorded on CPOMS, IRIS, or body maps and shared with the safeguarding team.



Above all, Merlin Class is a warm, supportive, collaborative environment where children are celebrated as individuals. Our team works closely with each other, professionals, and families to nurture curiosity, independence, and resilience — preparing every learner for their next steps with confidence and joy.

