

ACADEMIC



TERRA NOVA SCHOOL

PROSPECTUS

CREATIVE

PERFORMING

SPORT



W E L C O M E

From the Headmaster

It was on my first visit to Terra Nova that I witnessed the 'X factor' within our school. A community built around the development and happiness of young people aged between 2.5 and 13 years. The Terra Nova educational journey starts in the wonderful setting of our nursery and completes with a group of well rounded young adults prepared for the next step in their educational career.

Terra Nova, meaning new earth, was the Antarctic expedition name of Robert Falcon Scott and his ship. Many of his qualities, as an explorer, leader and scientist, are reflected in the people, both young and old, within our Terra Nova community.

At Terra Nova children come first; always. Our single goal is to help our children achieve success in all areas of life. Our rural location, in the heart of East Cheshire, ensures that the mental welfare of our whole community is well served through a beautiful 35 acre setting.

At Terra Nova, the outdoors is important to us. Our grounds are well used at all times and in all weathers. Children of all ages get to explore, innovate, learn and play. Our enviable sports programme caters for all ability levels and ensures all children feel a sense of belonging and pride.

Terra Nova is a school where you will feel part of a big family. Your child will be nurtured and supported to achieve their very best. Importantly they will do so with a wide smile on their face.

I sincerely hope that my team and I get to meet your family in person, in order to share our wonderful school.



Mr. Philip Stewart
Headmaster



A Prep School with a difference



A B O U T

T E R R A N O V A S C H O O L

Terra Nova School, founded in 1887, located at its current site since 1939 is a leading preparatory school in the UK. Educating girls and boys aged 2.5 to 13 years of age, the school's curriculum is both rich in breadth and rigorous in its demands of its pupils. Opportunities in academics, on the sports field and in the performing & creative arts abound.

Whether it is the opportunity to attend high level learning scholarship classes, the opportunity to represent the school on the sports field or the opportunity to develop creatively, the culture of the school is such that our pupils are proud to give of their very best and try the myriad of opportunities available to them.

Key to the school's buoyant community is the pastoral welfare of our pupils. Our children undoubtedly flourish, confident in the knowledge that they are learning in a happy and supportive environment.

Preparing our pupils to pass entrance exams to their senior schools, whether that be day or boarding, ready to leave Terra Nova at 11+ or 13+, is the school's objective. Knowing and understanding our pupils and what will be the right senior school for them is the teaching team's ultimate driver. The school is steeped in history but forward looking; preparing its pupils not just for their senior schools but life in the global world they will inhabit.

It is only by visiting our school that you will really understand why we are so proud of it.

We look forward to welcoming you to Terra Nova School!





OPEN-MINDED

DISCIPLINED

P A S T O R A L C A R E

Terra Nova is a happy school, and our commitment to pastoral care ensures that we provide a safe, familiar, tolerant and nurturing environment which allows our pupils to reach their full potential in every area of life. We know happy children learn best and we see the pastoral care and needs of our pupils as vital to their success and personal development.

The excellent pastoral care provided at Terra Nova supports our pupils as they grow into well-rounded, confident and hard working individuals, ready to take on the challenges of higher education and beyond.

Terra Nova pupils demonstrate our school values; Resilience, Open Mindedness, Confidence, Kindness and Discipline on a daily basis. The expectations of behaviour and the way in which pupils are treated by staff and one another is also supported by these school values.

Our staff place great emphasis on promoting and safeguarding the health, welfare and safety of all children in our care. Whether a pupil be day or boarding, all our staff work collaboratively to ensure that the individual needs of each child are met.



"So many of our family and friends have noticed the increase in our daughters confidence since she started at Terra Nova!"



"We are delighted with how quickly our son has settled into nursery. Thank you to all the staff for their constant support."



EARLY YEARS

Our Early Years provision is the start of the Terra Nova educational journey and is a hive of activity from the moment we open our doors.


We know that all children love to learn and our Nursery and Reception classes offer endless opportunities for our youngest children to aim high and achieve their full potential. Child-led learning and play-based exploration underpin the teaching approach in Early Years and learning is supported through questioning, observation and reflection.

We value the importance of outdoor learning, giving our children direct contact with their natural environment and encouraging a healthy and active lifestyle. Our provision is equally equipped both indoors and outdoors providing superb continuous provision and allowing our children to flourish in this highly important developmental stage of their learning.

Our Early Years team are highly experienced and recognise that young minds are eager, inquisitive and ready to learn. We harness and hold in high regard, excellent relationships between children, families and teachers, helping children grow and develop into happy, healthy and confident individuals with positive outlooks on life and learning.





A young boy with brown hair is shown from the chest up, wearing a green jacket with a dark green collar and a metal snap button. He is looking down and to the left. The background is a blurred outdoor scene with green foliage and a body of water. A quote is written in white cursive script over the right side of the image.

*"I love Terra Nova School because everyone is
so kind and I enjoy all my lessons."*





JUNIOR PREP

The move from Early Years into Junior Prep is quite significant. Learning becomes more structured and formalised, maths and Literacy lessons take place daily, usually in the morning with Topic work in the afternoons. The creative curriculum is thoroughly embraced by our children, the topics, which change termly allow the children to learn with a more cross curricular approach and in a way that brings what they are learning to life. Topics range from 'Under the Sea' to 'Groovy Greeks' and 'WWII'.

From as young as the Early Years, our children benefit from subject specialist teachers. By the time the children are in Year 1, they are taught French, Music and Sport by subject specialists. At the start of Year 3 Art, Design Technology and Computer Science are added to the list.

As the children progress through Yrs 1-4, they are encouraged to embrace independence, take increased responsibility for their learning and develop leadership and resilience by utilising the wide range of opportunities made available to them.



FOREST SCHOOL



SENIOR PREP

In terms of character development, the same emphasis and encouragement on independence, motivation, leadership and resilience is applied but geared now to children who are growing towards adolescence.

Our pupils begin and end the day with their form tutor, during which time, children are nurtured pastorally. From Year 5-8, all lessons are taught by subject specialists. Academically, our pupils have a developed sense of their strengths and indeed where they will benefit from support. Key to Terra Nova's offering is the guidance given by the school to pupils and their families in determining which is the right senior school be that at 11+ or 13+ entry. The breadth of curriculum means the school day finishes at 5pm as in addition to the core academic subjects, our students enjoy curriculum lessons in creative and performing arts as well as sport, Computer Science and STEAM projects.

LABOR ET LU







*"Terra Nova provides you with the support
you need for Senior School and beyond. I will
be so sad to leave."*



Y E A R 7 & 8

What is known as Key Stage 3 - Years 7&8 can be somewhat 'lost' years in senior schools as the focus is inevitably on GCSE and 'A'-level year groups. Whereas at Terra Nova, students in years 7&8 are the very best of the school. They are upheld as an example to the rest of the school as to the type of young women and men that the younger children should aspire to become. This responsibility is worn well and each year, a group of mature, outgoing, confident and 'comfortable in their own skin' students graduate from Terra Nova School destined for some of the leading day and boarding schools in the country.

Leadership at Terra Nova is a core part of pupil development and there are a wide range of opportunities offered, including Heads of School, House Captains, School Council and Sports Captains. Leadership is a vital life skill and assists our pupils in becoming articulate, confident and compassionate; all the attributes of a successful leader.







B O A R D I N G

There is a very special, homely feel to boarding at Terra Nova School.

Boarding at Terra Nova encourages pupils to live their lives to the full in as many areas as possible, allowing individuality to flourish whilst creating a great sense of belonging in our boarding community.

Our boarding staff know each child well and are committed to providing a happy, safe and settled family environment for all, allowing confidence and independence to develop. Boarders are kind, considerate of each other and always extremely welcoming to new members of their 'boarding family'.

Our boarders have access to the great range of facilities and resources at Terra Nova and are supported by our experienced staff body in all aspects of school life. Terra Nova boarders tend to excel in their academic studies whilst enjoying a wide range of activities which helps to develop their skills and characters and lay foundations for their successes in the future.

Terra Nova's boarding community is greatly enhanced by the blend of different countries and cultures from which our pupils originate. Diversity is respected and celebrated in the setting of a traditional British boarding school and we are proud that many life-long cross-continent friendships start within our Terra Nova dorms.





CURRICULUM & ACADEMICS

That a child should be both stretched and supported to achieve their full potential is what drives the school's academics. The small class sizes and the high ratio of teachers to pupils facilitate the focus on success in academics by enabling teachers to have an in depth knowledge of each child's abilities; their strengths and their weaknesses, where and when they are capable of more and where and when they need support. During a child's education at Terra Nova, the school is committed to:

- Igniting a deep rooted love of learning, at first, by laying down the foundations
 - Instilling a deep rooted appreciation of the school's values.
 - Equipping the child with a belief in their own self, an understanding of their ability and the responsibilities and knowledge of their role in a community that are in essence; skills for life.
 - Preparing the child for their secondary school whether that is a day or boarding school.
 - Celebrating success: The celebratory culture of the school is also very much in evidence. Pupils' successes in all areas: academic disciplines, sporting achievements, the creative arts, are encouraged and similarly to a child's demonstration of the school values, celebrated.
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S P O R T

We aim for each pupil to achieve on a personal level and to develop their physical skills, as well as others such as confidence, self-esteem, respect, and teamwork.

Sport is an inclusive subject with all pupils being given the opportunity to represent the School, at a level appropriate to their ability, usually weekly. Fixtures are arranged with other Schools primarily on Wednesdays for Year 5 – Year 8 and Tuesdays for Year 3 and Year 4. It is an expectation that pupils will represent the School in fixtures/tournaments when they occur.









CREATIVE ARTS

Pupils in Year 3 upwards enjoy specialist subject teaching in their Art lessons. Children experience working in both 2D and 3D using a variety of different mediums including clay, mosaic, textiles as well as paint and pencil. Art projects involve research of different artists, cultures, movements or events. Curriculum Art lessons take place each week, additionally children can access a number of after school Art clubs, as well as specialist scholarship sessions.

The Art department provides structured learning, balanced with space for personal exploration.

The accumulation of technical skills and contextual knowledge, balanced with growing self-awareness of what it is to be a creative being.

Our aim is to enable individual pupils to make appropriate choices regarding materials and processes and to be empowered towards making a personal, creative response.

T LUDUS





MUSIC & PERFORMING ARTS

Participation in Music is a fun and enjoyable experience for pupils at Terra Nova School. We aim for each pupil to achieve on a personal level whilst developing their music and performance skills, building confidence and self-esteem through collaboration with their peers.



Music and Performing Arts are fully inclusive with all pupils being given the opportunity to showcase their talent, in front of an audience on a number of occasions; in class concerts, termly concerts, house singing competitions and opportunities to sing in the community, particularly around Christmas and on other occasions throughout the academic year.

There are 3 school choirs, the Junior Choir for pupils in Years 1-4, the Senior Choir for pupils in Years 5-8 and the Chamber Choir for pupils in Years 7-8, membership is by invitation only.



There are a wide variety of instruments to learn as part of curriculum lessons, and individually with our visiting music teachers (VMTs). We also offer superb teaching in LAMDA Speech and Drama lessons.

STEAM

STEAM (Science, Technology, Engineering, Arts and Mathematics)

STEAM plays an increasingly important role in the lives of pupils. Our aim is to provide pupils with the tools needed to prepare them for an ever-changing world. The STEAM curriculum in Senior Prep covers the following areas:

- Digital Literacy - develops a student's ability to find, evaluate and compose information on a variety of platforms and software.
 - Digital Safety - aims to equip students with the skills to stay safe online and be responsible digital citizens.
 - Coding and Robotics - utilises different coding software to allow students to program virtual models and robotic devices.
 - Use of the latest technology to enhance learning experiences is embedded throughout the curriculum.
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An aerial photograph of a school campus. The image shows a large green football pitch at the top, a tennis court to its left, and several large brick buildings in the center. A long glass-enclosed sports hall is visible on the right side of the central buildings. There are also smaller green fields, a swimming pool area in the bottom right, and extensive tree cover on the left. The text 'OUR Facilities' is overlaid in the top left corner.

OUR *Facilities*



The school building, a private home until 1939 comprises of a grand main house, a chapel and what were once farm buildings including stables, a tack room, a piggery and a dovecote. These beautiful old buildings have been adapted to accommodate the school as it is today.

We are proud to offer the children the following facilities:

- **The Performing Arts Centre** - as well as being a theatre, this building doubles up as an indoor sports hall enabling after school clubs such as Judo and Gymnastics

- **The private woodland** in which is a cross country course, a stream and 3 outdoor classrooms

- **The swimming pool** which although small, enables children to learn to swim. Swimming is a popular boarding activity, after school, in the summer months

- **Two Hubs** otherwise known as libraries, one for children in Years 1-8 is located in the heart of the school and all children spend one of their 5 English lessons in the Hub. The second one is located in the Reception classroom and is for the children in Nursery & Reception.

- **The Makerspace** - this room is the location for coding and robotics, available to children in Year 1 upwards. Also home to our 3D scanner and printer.

- **Art and Design Technology studios.** Our laser cutter is just one of many exciting resources found within our creative department.

- The children in the Early Years enjoy plenty of time outside, nurturing the animals in their farm including Apple the Shetland pony and the black hens in Nursery and brown ones belonging to Reception. When not looking after the farm animals and enjoying woodland walks, the children in the Early Years enjoy the largest sand pit in Cheshire!





LOCATION

Terra Nova's 35-acre campus is located in the Cheshire countryside yet only 20 miles from the vibrant city of Manchester- providing our pupils and their families with the best of both worlds. London is easily accessible by train, 90 minute journey, from nearby Crewe Station and the nearby M6 motorway junction provides good links to the UK by road.

Our neighbouring village of Holmes Chapel is friendly and welcoming and we are proud of the established links Terra Nova has within the community.

Our outdoor spaces are attractive, green and spacious, whilst our mix of both historical and modern buildings provide a wealth of learning areas, facilities and social spaces for our pupils.

We are fortunate to consider the world famous Jodrell Bank Observatory, a UNESCO World Heritage Site, as one of our closest neighbours and our pupils enjoy the sight of this internationally renowned landmark in their daily view.

DESTINATION SCHOOLS

All pupils are encouraged to become inquisitive, independent learners who leave Terra Nova as happy and confident young people, able to achieve their potential and ready to take on the challenges of Senior School and beyond.

Terra Nova School feeds to a wide variety of senior schools, both day and boarding and at 11+ and 13+. Resultantly the preparation for senior schools is relatively individualised. This is exemplified specifically by the high number of scholarships Terra Nova pupils achieve to senior schools in varying disciplines. Additionally, the challenge of the Common Entrance curriculum (concluded with examinations in English, Maths, Biology, Physics Chemistry and French in the June of Year 8) provides an excellent and testing precursor to the GCSE curriculum.

In terms of day schools, we feed to all of the excellent day schools in the area, these include :

- The King's School, Macclesfield
- The Manchester Grammar School
- Withington Girls' School
- The Grange School
- Cheadle Hulme School
- Stockport Grammar School
- Sandbach Boys & Girls Schools

Our pupils are prepared for both 11+ and 13+ entrance examinations. In recent years we have sent a number of children to The Manchester Grammar School, The King's School, Macclesfield and The Grange School at 13+.

In terms of boarding schools, we feed to some of the leading schools in the country with the majority of children moving on to: Sedbergh, Shrewsbury & Repton. However, we have sent our children to the schools listed below in recent years:

- Eton College
- Millfield School
- Wycombe Abbey School
- Stowe School
- Marlborough College
- Uppingham School
- Denstone College



"Our daughter loves school! Since she started we have seen such a change in her - she can't wait to go to school each morning!"





A L U M N I

We are incredibly proud of our former pupils who have achieved outstanding success in a range of diverse fields including Medicine, Law, Sport, Business and beyond. We teach our pupils that there is no limit to their ambitions and aspirations and our alumni are shining examples of this.

Terra Nova alumni not only act as strong role models for our pupils, but they also have strong relationships with our school which continue throughout their lives. We are always keen to hear from past pupils and welcome them back into school.



Jenifer Leech (later Haselgrove) was a British physicist and computer scientist. She is most noted for her formulation of ray tracing equations in a cold magneto-plasma, now widely known in the radio science community as Haselgrove's Equations. (Pictured left)





Hamish Watson



Bernie Airs



Will Carling

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