Carden Primary and Nursery School

Our School Development Priorities 2026–27

At Carden, we are committed to ensuring that every child feels safe, included, valued and able to achieve their very best. Following our self-evaluation, feedback from pupils, families and staff, and our recent Ofsted inspection, we have identified a number of key priorities for this academic year.

📚 Achievement and Learning

We want every child to make strong progress from their individual starting point. Our key priorities are to:

- Raise attainment in phonics, particularly for disadvantaged and EAL pupils.
- Improve mathematics outcomes, particularly at the end of Key Stage 2.
- Continue to strengthen outcomes in Early Years, including the proportion of children achieving a Good Level of Development.
- Ensure that pupils who need additional support receive timely and effective intervention.

➗ High-Quality Mathematics Teaching

We are placing a particular focus on mathematics this year. We will:

- Develop greater consistency in the teaching of mathematics across the school.
- Ensure teaching is adapted effectively to meet the needs of all learners.
- Increase pupils' confidence, fluency and understanding in mathematics.
- Use assessment carefully to identify gaps and plan appropriate support and challenge.

🎯 Teaching and Inclusion

We want all pupils to access an ambitious curriculum and learn as well as they can. Staff will continue to develop how they:

- Adapt teaching to meet individual needs.
- Use questioning, modelling, scaffolding and appropriate challenge effectively.
- Identify and address misconceptions and gaps in learning.
- Ensure pupils with SEND and other identified needs can access the same ambitious curriculum and make progress.

🍎 Attendance, Behaviour and Attitudes

Regular attendance is essential for children to succeed. We aim to improve attendance across the school and reduce persistent absence through:

- Early identification of attendance concerns.
- Working closely with families to remove barriers to attendance.
- Celebrating good attendance and improving its profile across the school.
- Continuing to develop positive, restorative and reflective approaches to behaviour.

- Embedding our Empowerment Approach so that pupils develop positive attitudes towards learning.

💚 Personal Development and Wellbeing

We want our children to become confident, respectful and responsible young people who make a positive contribution to their school and community. We will continue to:

- Provide a wide range of enrichment, sporting and cultural experiences.
- Increase opportunities for disadvantaged pupils to take part in clubs, trips and activities.
- Develop our PSHE curriculum.
- Support the wellbeing of both pupils and staff.

🌱 Early Years

We will continue to strengthen our Early Years provision, with a particular focus on supporting disadvantaged and EAL children to achieve well. This includes targeted interventions, family support sessions, early reading and phonics, and carefully planned learning opportunities both indoors and outdoors.

🛡 Safeguarding, Leadership and Inclusion

Safeguarding remains everyone's responsibility. We will continue to ensure that children and staff know how to recognise and report concerns and that our safeguarding practice remains effective.

Our leadership team and governors will continue to monitor the quality of education, inclusion, safeguarding and pupil outcomes closely, ensuring that our school continues to improve.

Our commitment

Every child. Every opportunity. Every day.

We will continue to work in partnership with our children, families, staff and governors to make Carden Primary and Nursery School a place where every child can learn, belong, grow and achieve.