

Join us ...for a little bit or a lot

Subject specific, part-time sessions now available to Home Educators

In response to growing enquiries, we have devised a programme of sessions that help support Home Educators by offering specific learning and social opportunities in our small, friendly school. For the last 30 years, we at Dame Catherine's have developed a unique learning environment combining Steiner, Montessori and Forest School principles into a holistic, child-led approach. Our ethos has always been to make this fun, creative and engaging educational experience accessible to all and for the first time pupils can join us on a part-time basis - from as little as one session a week.

We teach across all years from reception to year 6, working collectively, individually and in smaller groups depending on the subject area and tasks. Children attending our part-time sessions would work within the existing school format where we currently have 16 children aged 5-11, plus our popular nursery of 3 & 4 year olds. Our small size ensures that all pupils are supported and encouraged to progress at their own pace; we don't test our children and instead focus on them developing as rounded individuals who are confident and engaged, with a life-long love of learning. As well as offering specialist subject teaching we can also provide a gentle introduction to a more traditional school setting - which can be beneficial for those children looking to enter mainstream education at senior school level.

Sessions offered include:

- PE/music/drama
- maths/numeracy
- science
- history & creative skills (arts & crafts)
- geography & French
- book club

We can also offer 1:1 support teaching in Maths and English; please contact us to discuss your child's requirements so that we can develop a tailored proposal to meet their needs.

If you would like to find out more, why not join us for a **free taster session on Tuesday 19th July** 9.30am - 11am or contact us for more details!

- t. 01332 862792 (school, contact: Margaret Whyte, during term times only)
07791 575497 (contact, Amanda Harmer, parent-governor/recruitment and communications director)
- e. pta@damecatherines.org

2016-17 ...Part-time sessions for Home Educators

The details of next year's timetable is still being finalised but we are currently proposing the following sessions:

PE, Music & Drama

Taking place either in the neighbouring village hall or, weather permitting, on The Grange playing fields, as well as within the school. A sports session develops ball skills and coordination, as well as various opportunities for physical education, including yoga, dance, football, badminton and group games. As part of our group music session, we study rhythm and pitch as well as work with tuned and un-tuned instruments. The components of music and dance and then often brought together in our drama sessions which also include games, improvisation and creative story-telling.

Session available: Monday afternoon, 1pm - 4pm

(Sessions booked per half term: 4 - 6 weeks (varies - see calendar))

Please note: we also run a dance group on Monday evenings from 4-5pm and a multi-sport session (football, rugby, cricket, ball skills) with David Hunt on Wednesdays 4-5pm - all welcome.

Sessions need to be booked per half term and cost £6

Maths/numeracy

Topics would be targeted to individual children's needs based on the 21 steps assessment and progress criteria. Taught in Key Stage 01 and 02 settings, pupils work collectively, in small groups and individually to allow topics to be taught, understood and developed at their own level. We engage with numeracy in a creative and active manner, ensuring topics are explored with depth and breadth, through play, role-play and 'real-life' scenarios.

Session available: Tuesday mornings 9am -12pm

(Sessions booked per half-term: 4 - 6 weeks (varies - see calendar))

Science

A more 'technical' session covering topics such as friction/forces, properties of materials, solids/liquids, rocks/soils/earth, the planets and habitats. Again, our approach is broad and varied, engaging pupils through a range of projects and activities including practical experiments and, where possible, making use of the wider learning environment - including the school garden and grounds, the neighbouring Calke Estate and optional trips. This session also applies and develops numeracy and literacy skills within the relevant topic areas.

Session available: Tuesday afternoons, 1pm - 4pm

(Sessions booked per half term: 4 - 6 weeks (varies - see calendar))

History & Creative skills: art and crafts

Over the course of a year, our history sessions will cover the Vikings, Tudors, Egyptians, Anglo Saxons, British History stories and Famous People. Topic areas are explored creatively through a range of in depth project work which combines group and individual working with a variety of 'making and doing' tasks. For this reason, history is combined with a creative skills session which allows the curriculum areas to over-lap and develop a wider level of engagement. Creative skills may include traditional crafts such as knitting, weaving and crochet as well as art techniques, exploring topics in both two- and three-dimensions.

Session available: Wednesday afternoon, 1pm - 4pm

(Sessions booked per half term: 4 - 6 weeks (varies - see calendar))

Book club

You're invited to join us to expand grammar, spelling and writing skills in the context of the shared reading of a chosen novel (different book each term). This 'read and respond' approach best suits those aged 8+ and challenges pupils to creatively explore and engage with the themes and topics raised by the book.

Session available: Thursday morning, 9am - 12pm

(Sessions booked per term: 10-11 weeks (varies - see calendar))

Geography & French

Combining 'environments', world geography, rivers, transport and European geography with relevant aspects of work and industry, this session follows a similar path to that of History, with topic areas explored creatively through a range of in depth project work which combines group and individual working and a variety of 'making and doing' tasks. In addition, we bring in an external tutor to teach French, focusing on conversation and age-appropriate grammar, along with games and play.

Session available: Thursday afternoon, 1pm - 4pm

(Sessions booked per half term: 4 - 6 weeks (varies - see calendar))

'Golden time'

A fantastic way to finish off the week! The children choose how they'd like to spend their time, with a varying range of activities to choose from - these could include junk modelling, baking, crafts, computer gaming, k-nex construction, etc. The afternoon is rounded off with 'circle-time' which includes social games and elements of citizenship as we talk about our week.

Session available: Friday afternoon, 1pm - 4pm

(Sessions booked per half term: 4 - 6 weeks (varies - see calendar))

Staff are available to talk to after every session but a short written report outlining your child's progress will be provided every half term.

Your commitment

To secure your place on any of the sessions you will need to commit to a half term (4-6 weeks, depending on the term, see calendar below) or, in the case of Book Group, a term of sessions. Payment for each group of sessions needs to be made in advance of the start date, and no refunds or transfers are possible due to non-attendance through illness or other eventualities. Each session costs £25 with a 10% discount available for bookings of 5 or more sessions per week, and a 20% discount for sibling groups.

If you would like to book a place for your child/children then please download a booking form and return it via email to pta@damecatherines.org

Once you have received confirmation of your booking an invoice and copy of our terms and conditions will be issued, with all payments due prior to the commencement of each half term.

If you have any questions please do not hesitate to contact us on the above email address or by phone:

Dame Catherine Harpur's School (until Friday 22nd July)

01332 862792

or

During the summer holidays: 07791 575 497 (contact: Amanda Harmer)

Term dates for part-time attendance

Autumn term (10 weeks)

12th September 2016 - 7th October 2016 (4 weeks)

31st October 2016 - 9th December 2016 (6 weeks)

Spring term (11 weeks)

9th January 2017 - 10th February 2017 (5 weeks)

27th February 2017 - 7th April 2017 (6 weeks)

Summer term (10 weeks)

3rd May 2017 - 26th May 2017 (4 weeks)

5th June 2017 - 14th July 2017 (6 weeks)

Booking Form

Subject specific, part-time sessions for Home Educators
Please return via email to pta@damecatherines.org

Dear Dame Catherine's

We would like to book the following sessions (*please complete a separate form for each child*):

Child's Name	
Age	
Address	
Parent /guardian	
Tel. no	
Email	
AUTUMN TERM SESSION 01 (12th September – 7th October): 4 WEEKS	
<i>Please indicate which sessions you would like to book by ticking the box:</i>	
MONDAY PM (1pm – 4pm) PE, MUSIC & DRAMA	
TUESDAY AM (9am – 12pm) MATHS/NUMERACY	
TUESDAY PM (1pm – 4pm) SCIENCE	
WEDNESDAY PM (1pm – 4pm) HISTORY & CREATIVE SKILLS	
THURSDAY AM (9am – 12pm) BOOK CLUB <i>(note: book club runs as a term session and so cannot be booked on it's own in autumn term session 02)</i>	
THURSDAY PM (1pm – 4pm) GEOGRAPHY & FRENCH	
FRIDAY PM (1pm – 4pm) GOLDEN TIME	
TOTAL NUMBER OF SESSIONS	

Once your booking is confirmed an invoice will be issued and payment is due in full by Friday 9th September to secure your place.