



Part of the **Hurst** Family of Schools

PENNTHORPE
NURSERY PRE-PREP PREP

ISI INSPECTION REPORT

November 2025



Read our full ISI inspection here



We are delighted to share with you a collection of highlights from Pennthorpe's recent Independent Schools Inspectorate (ISI) inspection, carried out in November 2025. This report represents a proud moment for our entire community, and we are thrilled to celebrate the findings with you.

Under the current ISI framework, schools are no longer graded; instead, they are assessed on whether they meet a series of rigorous Independent School Standards across key areas of school life. We are pleased to announce that Pennthorpe met every single standard—a powerful affirmation of the strength, care and ambition that define our school.

Inspectors praised the nurturing culture that underpins daily life at Pennthorpe, recognising both the breadth and quality of our curriculum and the aspirational approach that supports pupils to flourish academically and personally. They highlighted the strong sense of purpose evident in our learning environments, the respectful and kind behaviour of our pupils, and the exceptional pastoral care that sits at the heart of our provision. Our robust safeguarding approach was also commended as a clear strength.

This report reflects the dedication of our staff, the character of our pupils and the invaluable support of our families. As you explore the key findings in this booklet, we hope you feel as proud as we do of what this inspection says about who we are as a community.

Pennthorpe belongs to all of us, and this achievement is one we celebrate together.

Jon Marler
Head of School



"Children enjoy a well-planned introduction to school life that balances nurture and challenge in a stimulating learning environment."





"A diverse and inclusive extra-curricular programme allows pupils to develop their interests, talents and leadership skills."

A young girl with blonde hair tied back with a blue headband is the central figure. She is wearing a green and blue plaid shirt. She is holding a large, bright yellow letter 'D' in her right hand and is clapping her hands together with her left hand. She is looking towards the left of the frame. The background is a plain, light-colored wall.

"Supportive teachers help children communicate and collaborate effectively, fostering their confidence and promoting good progress in all areas of their learning."

A classroom of students in school uniforms are looking up and to the right, likely at a teacher or presentation. The students are wearing dark blue blazers and white shirts. The background shows wooden classroom furniture and other students.

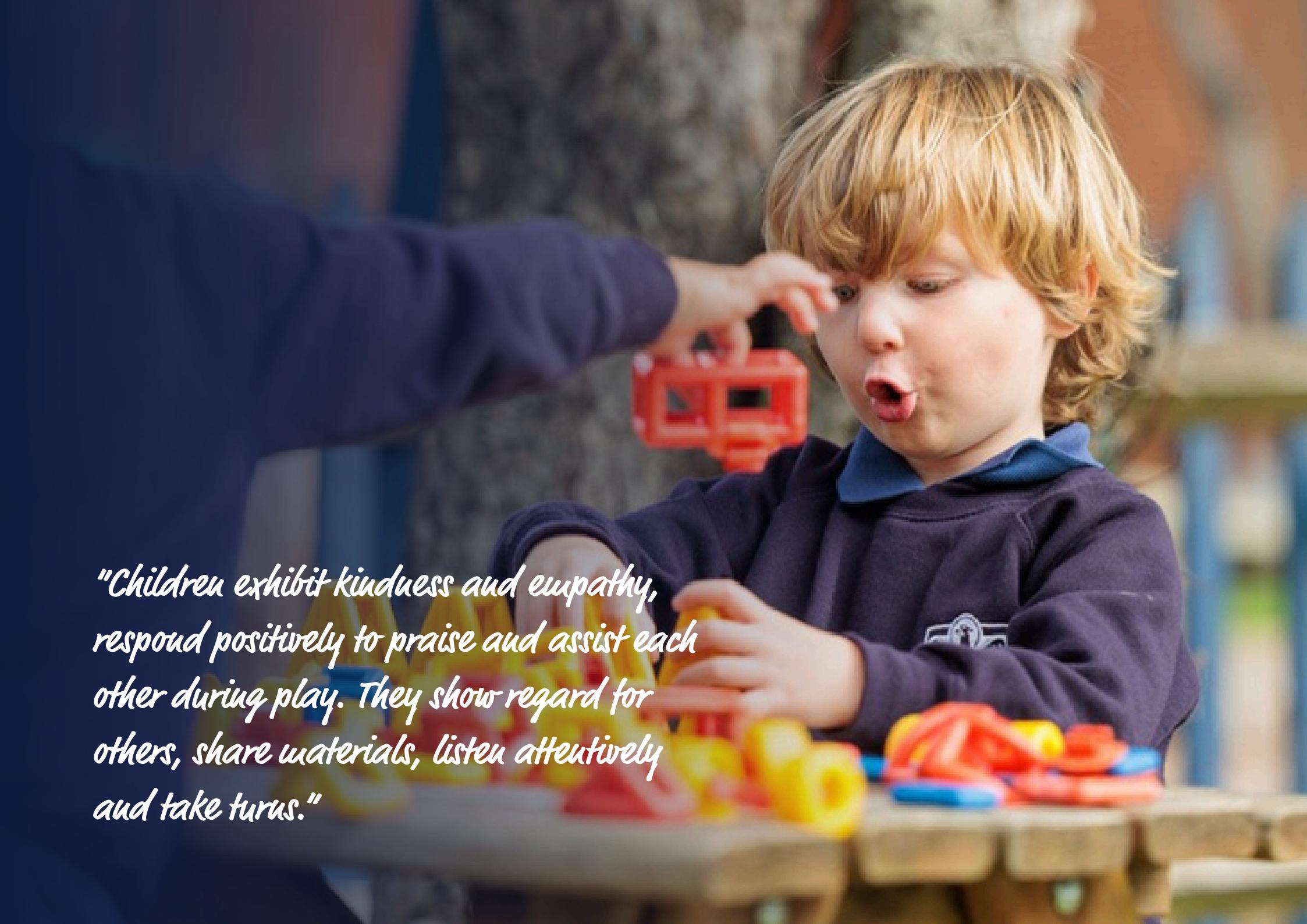
"Teachers supplement the core curriculum with additional opportunities to promote collaboration, resilience, and communication."

"The curriculum builds on prior learning and enables pupils to benefit from rich, creative experiences."





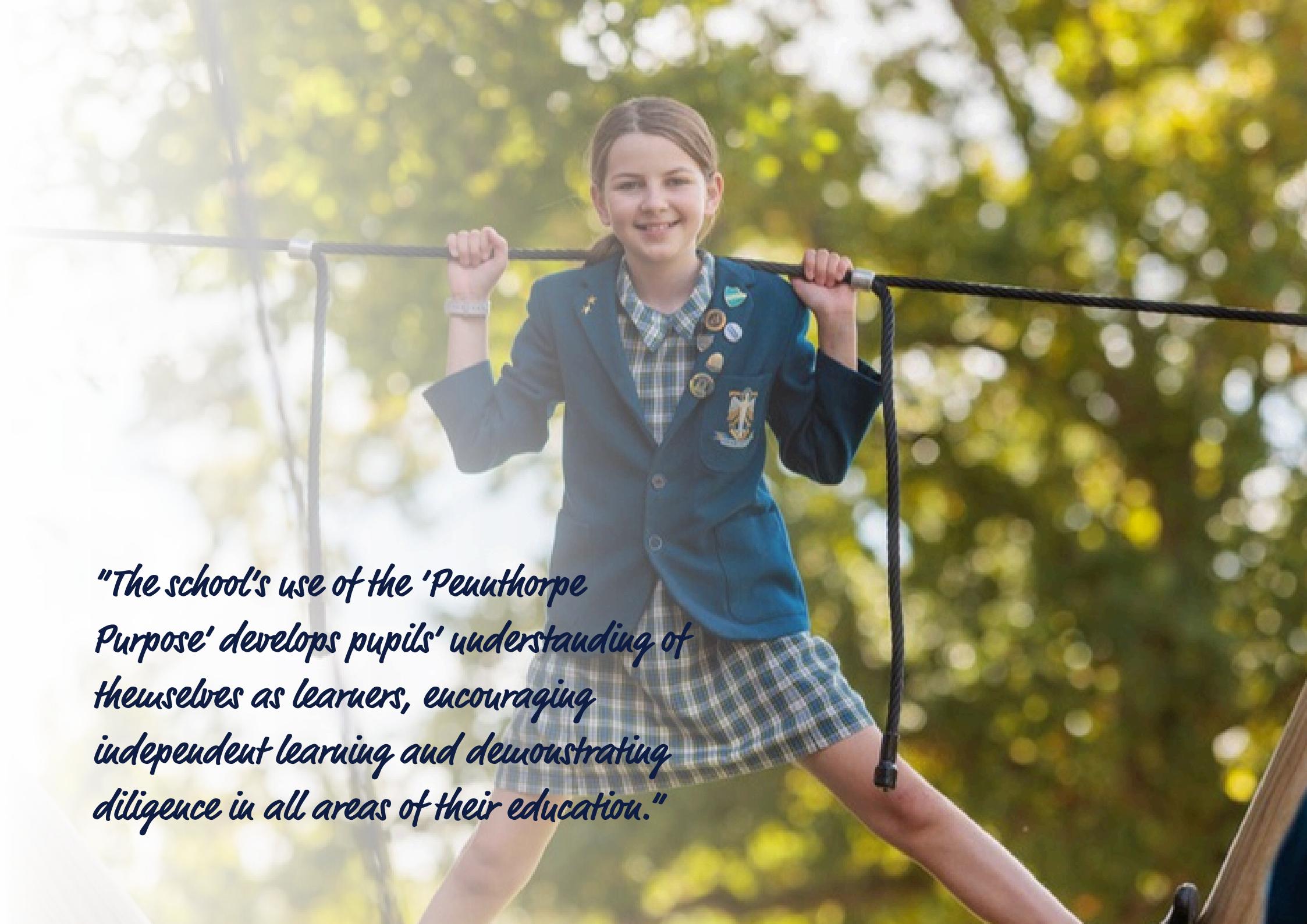
"Experiences foster independence and help pupils to understand how their actions positively influence and support other people."



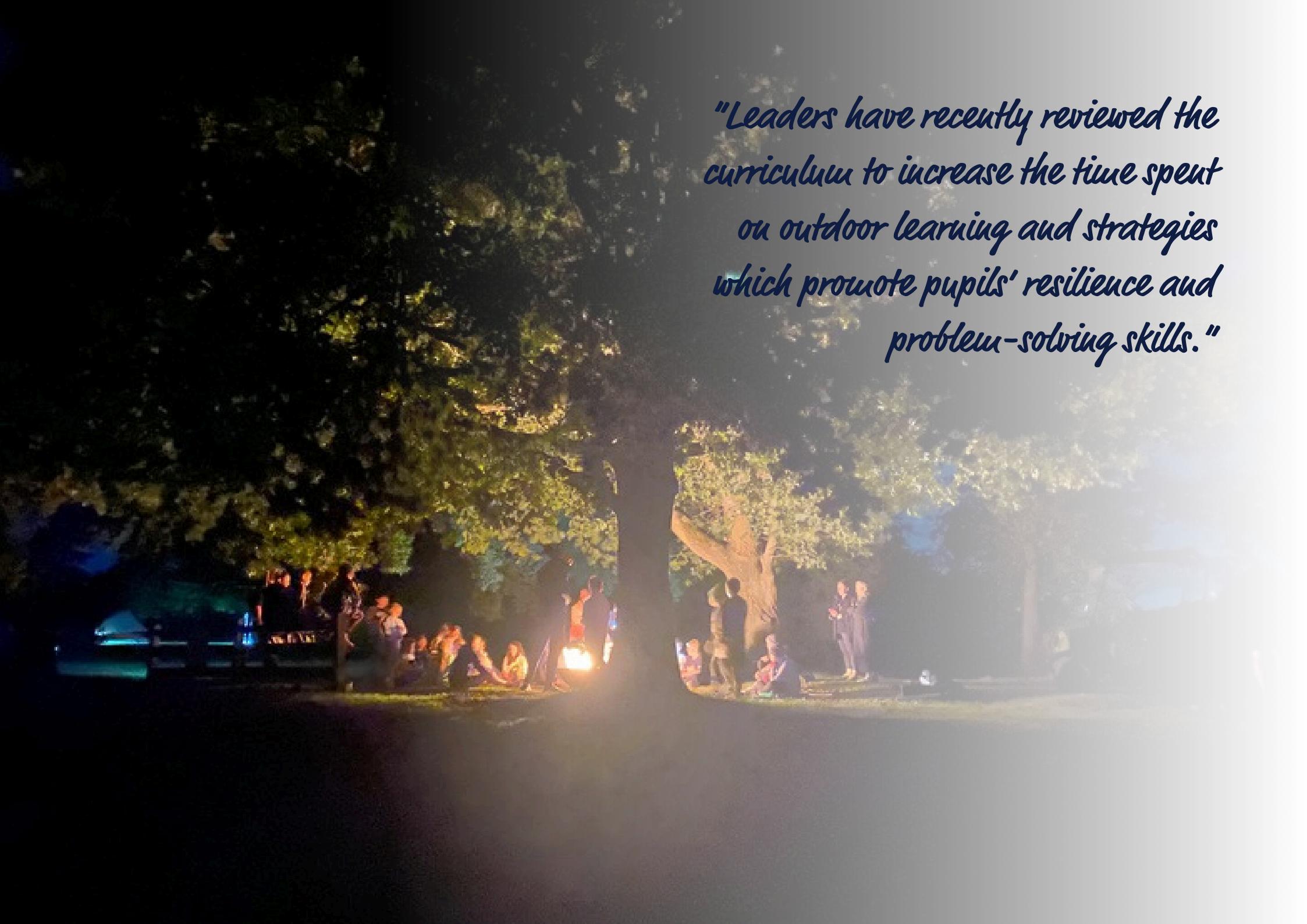
"Children exhibit kindness and empathy, respond positively to praise and assist each other during play. They show regard for others, share materials, listen attentively and take turns."



"Staff guide and support children effectively so that they appreciate, understand, and value each other. They act as positive role models and help children to form inclusive and successful friendships."



"The school's use of the 'Penuthorpe Purpose' develops pupils' understanding of themselves as learners, encouraging independent learning and demonstrating diligence in all areas of their education."



"Leaders have recently reviewed the curriculum to increase the time spent on outdoor learning and strategies which promote pupils' resilience and problem-solving skills."

A close-up photograph of a young child with light blonde hair. The child is wearing a blue jacket with a high collar and a yellow flower crown. They are looking directly at the camera with a slight smile. The background is blurred, showing outdoor foliage.

"Staff know the children well and provide well-planned opportunities for them to engage enthusiastically in creative activities."

A photograph of a science laboratory. A teacher, wearing a white lab coat and safety glasses, is on the left, smiling and holding a small container that is engulfed in a large, bright orange and yellow flame. Several students in white lab coats are watching from behind a counter. One student in the foreground is gesturing with their hands. In the background, there are shelves with various supplies and a skeleton model. The text is overlaid on the upper right portion of the image.

"Teachers implement a thorough assessment and performance framework to evaluate pupils' progress. Robust systems enable leaders to monitor and track pupils' progress effectively. ... A supportive atmosphere fosters reflection and encourages pupils to strive for improvement. "

"Teachers plan the curriculum methodically, designing programmes of study that broaden pupils' learning. This approach ensures that pupils are well prepared for the next stage of their education."

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