



Withycombe Raleigh C of E Primary School

PROSPECTUS



www.wrpschool.org



Growing

Happy

Caring

Hearts

and

Minds



The Christian faith is centred around the love of God and at this school we have also developed a set of values based on the GRACE of God.



The values are Generosity, Respect, Agape, Courage and Empathy



This prospectus is not intended as a contractual relationship and will be varied to reflect changing circumstances in education. The information here is correct at the time of publication.

Welcome

Our school is dedicated to creating a happy, stimulating learning environment supported by the Christian values of love, respect and trust.

We strive to ensure that everyone within our school feels safe and valued and are encouraged to develop emotionally, socially and academically.

We are a Church of England school with a strong Christian ethos and this foundation is evident throughout our school. Withycombe Raleigh Church of England Primary was founded in 1886, when it was established on the site of the old St Michael's Church providing a Christian foundation for the education of children. We aim to continue this tradition by ensuring Christian principles of love and care are at the center of all we do. The School was last inspected by the Inspection Service for Anglican schools (SIAMS) in 2015 and achieved an 'Outstanding' grade.

We are a highly inclusive school with a talented and committed team of staff who deliver quality lessons, provide excellent care and support and offer a remarkable range of extra-curricular activities.

“The school learning environment is stunning and constantly being improved.” Ofsted 2010

“You have successfully steered the school through the extension of the school premises as well as the changes in organisation that this has involved.” Ofsted 2017

I am very proud of our school. I have a personal commitment to the quality of education received by every pupil in our school. We have an excellent reputation in our community for achievement and for our extra-curricular opportunities.

“You are ambitious for the school and, together with your strong leadership team, are driving forward the school's continuous improvement.” Ofsted 2017

We all work very hard to ensure every child in our care is given every opportunity to reach their full potential so that they leave us well-equipped to enter into their next stage of education and on into the challenges of adult life.

“You have sensitively maintained the ethos of a school which promotes the well-being of pupils and staff and strives for high academic standards.” Ofsted 2017

Our relationship with our families is a vital part of the success of our school and we hope that all children who attend Withycombe Raleigh will look back on the experience with great pleasure and fond memories.



I hope this prospectus will help to give a flavour of what we do in our school. Please also visit our website and Facebook page for news and information.

Mrs E Jones, Headteacher



Our Aims, Values and Beliefs

This school vision, along with our school values of Generosity, Respect, Agape, Courage and Empathy are interwoven throughout all that we do at Withercombe Raleigh C of E Primary School.

We continually aim to make all the opportunities offered to children engaging and motivating and we seek to develop, in all of our pupils, a lifelong love of learning.

As a school, we endeavour to promote happiness and mental wellbeing in all individuals, developing all children physically, mentally and spiritually. We have an emphasis and reputation for successes in academic attainment and on the sports field and we aim for every child to reach their full potential whatever their starting point. Our curriculum is designed in a way that creates opportunities to develop not only academic skills and knowledge but also the physical and emotional health of our pupils, preparing them for life beyond primary school.

We have designed a broad and balanced school curriculum, using a theme-based approach to deliver subjects which inspire and engage.

Teachers plan lessons that are skillfully matched and differentiated to the children's different stages of development and which build on their previous knowledge and skills.

We utilise our wider local environment as much as possible as a vehicle to deliver our learning experiences. We make use of Exmouth Beach and Woodbury Common in particular. All children have regular access to our nature school which is used to enhance learning across a variety of curriculum areas.

Our excellent relationship with our families and our wider school community is a vital part of the success of our school and we hope that all children who attend Withercombe Raleigh will look back on the experience of attending here with great pleasure and with many happy memories.

We have a recognition scheme to celebrate our vision and values both in school and in the wider community. Children can nominate family and friends who may be awarded a badge and certificate for their efforts in demonstrating our school values, which could be something they do regularly, or a significant one-off event.

We want our children to be caring, self-motivated, confident life-long thinkers, who are independent learners, enthused by a fun, enriched and inspired curriculum. Our aspirations are for all children to be healthy, active, and valued, as well as taking responsibility and respecting others embedding the importance of our whole school Christian ethos and British values.



Collective Worship

This is a Church of England School and children are expected to attend Acts of Worship, both at Church and each day in our school. We have strong links with our local church, St John the Evangelist and Father Robert Sellers is a regular visitor to the school. As a Church school the Acts of Worship are in the main Christian in content and reflect the broad traditions of the Church of England. Other faiths are explored as part of the programme of study for RE. It is open to parents to request that their child be wholly or partly excused from the Act of Worship. Any such request should be made in writing to the Headteacher.

The Curriculum

The school is organised into three distinct 'key stages' which are all part of Primary Education. When the children first arrive at school they begin in the Early Years Foundation Stage (4 and 5 year olds at this school). This is continued as the children progress into Key Stage One and then Key Stage Two. We have a highly dedicated teaching team of Teachers, Teaching Assistants and Higher Level Teaching Assistants, who form the key stage teams.

The Early Years Foundation Stage

The 'Early Years Foundation Stage' sets the standards for learning, development and care for children from birth to five. There are seven areas of learning and development that are important and inter-connected. Three areas are particularly crucial for igniting children's curiosity and enthusiasm for learning, and for building their capacity to learn, form relationships and thrive.

These three areas, the prime areas, are:

- communication and language
- physical development
- personal, social and emotional development.

Providers must also support children in four specific areas, through which the three prime areas are strengthened and applied.

The specific areas are:

- literacy
- mathematics
- understanding the world
- expressive arts and design

EYFS Curriculum Delivery: Each area of learning and development is implemented through planned, purposeful play.

The statutory early learning goals establish expectations for most children to reach by the end of the EYFS (The Early Learning Goals). The assessment scheme for children in the Foundation year at school is called the Early Years Foundation Stage Profile and its aim is to reflect the learning and progress of children throughout their first year in school. The profile comprises information built up over the year through observations of your child.

Key Stage One and Key Stage Two

From Years 1 to 6, we follow the National Curriculum, offering a broad diet of knowledge, skills and concepts which capture the children's interest and propel them forward in their learning. Subjects are often woven together into imaginative topics and themes, developing an enriched, creative curriculum based on learning experiences and higher level thinking skills.

The core subjects are English, Mathematics and Science. The Foundation Subjects are Art, Design and Technology, History, Geography, Music, Physical Education and Computing. In KS2 children also study a Foreign Language (FL). Religious Education is a statutory subject and is taught throughout the school from Foundation to Year 6.

There will be regular assessments will inform teaching and learning. This will show where children are experiencing greatest success and where extra help and support is needed.

For our topic statements and progression maps for each subject, please visit the school website: <https://www.wrpschool.org/main-curriculum>

How our school is performing

Our school achieves excellent outcomes.

Updated information on our school national assessments can be found on the government data dashboard:

<https://reports.ofsted.gov.uk/provider/21/113355>



Safeguarding

“Pupils feel safe in school. They value the ‘classroom door’ information about who to go to with a problem and wholeheartedly believe that teachers deal with any problems between pupils swiftly and effectively.” Ofsted 2017

“This school is committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children and young people and expects all staff and volunteers to share this commitment.” All staff have child protection training.

There are designated Child Protection Officers (The Deputy and Assistant Headteachers and a Governor as shown on posters around the school).

All staff employed at the school have to go through DBS checks and we have a school policy for volunteers that requires them to also comply with DBS checks and a short induction by the school.

Our aim is that children will enjoy their time as pupils at this school and we consider the welfare and safety of the child as paramount.



Extra Curricular Activities

“Pupils and parents value how you maintain the wide breadth of the curriculum and provide many opportunities for pupils to take part in musical and sporting activities.” Ofsted 2017

Clubs

Our curriculum is further enhanced by an after school and lunch time club timetable. Examples of clubs available at different times throughout the year include; choir, tag rugby, tennis, football, dance, netball, maypole dancing, cross country running and more!

Clubs timetables are updated each term on our school website and can be booked via Parent Pay.

Music

We greatly value music at this school and every child is encouraged to participate in a variety of activities, such as singing in the choir, learning to play an instrument, or joining in with a range of productions at our school.

Peripatetic music teachers visit and provide tuition on many instruments. Popular instruments include the violin, cello, trumpet, flute, clarinet, guitar and even drums.

Breakfast and After School Club

The school operates a Breakfast Club each day from 7.30am until 8.40am. Children participate in a variety of fun and engaging activities. They are provided with a healthy breakfast if required.

An after School and Holiday Club is run by an outside Provider “FISH”. Please see details on the School Website. We also have on-site holiday sports clubs run by L&F Multi Sports, details for which are available on our school website.

All about us

The school also aims to provide high standards of teaching and learning by promoting an agreed range of practice to ensure consistency and progression for all its pupils.

The aims are achieved through:

- Developing open and secure relationships which promote good communications and a shared understanding.
- Engaging and challenging the whole child by developing a range of skills and abilities through a curriculum that offers a wide variety of experience.
- Insisting on high standards of behaviour and polite conduct respecting the needs of others.
- Promoting and motivating individuals to take responsibility for their actions and to be aware of their environment.
- Providing a well-resourced and orderly learning environment, where high standards of work and presentation are seen as models of excellence.
- Developing a committed school community that uses its full potential to work as a team for the common good in a supportive and positive manner.

School Ethos Council

Children across the school are involved in discussing and planning improvements within the school, through both our School Ethos Council and as Mental Health Ambassadors.

.These children are elected representatives of each class and meet regularly. Their input is invaluable and recent initiatives instigated by the children include introducing animals to our school and choosing the new cycle stores.



Reports and Parent/Teacher Interviews

A detailed written report for all children is sent to parents at the end of each school year in July. In addition to this, we have open evenings during the year, where pupils' work is shared and progress is discussed with teachers. Key targets for the next steps in learning and how we can support your child to make maximum progress are central to our work together.

Parents are encouraged, however, to discuss their child's progress with class teachers by appointment at any time throughout the year.

Sex Education

The Education (No. 2) Act 1986 lays a duty on this school's Governing Body to determine the Sex Education Policy to be included within the framework of the School's Curriculum.

The Governors feel unanimously that Sex Education should be offered to the children of this school and this is delivered in Years 5 - 6.

Discipline

Our last Ofsted inspection (2017) reported that...

“The leadership team has maintained the good quality of education in the school since the last inspection. You are ambitious for the school and, together with your strong leadership team, are driving forward the school's continuous improvement.”

We promote positive behaviour and reward achievement. Parents are asked to agree to follow this too and sign our 'Home-School Partnership Agreement'.



Enrichment

During the school year, children participate in a wide variety of experiences, all of which make up our substantial enrichment programme. We pride ourselves on the opportunities offered to pupils, which include:

- The Withycombe 60 – (60 things to do whilst at Withycombe Raleigh)
- Theatre groups
- Working with artists
- Music workshops
- History/Science theme days
- Offsite visits
- Special guests and visitors
- Sports activities

Special guests and visitors

These learning experiences positively impact on learning across the curriculum. We organise many educational visits throughout the academic year, both day and residential, with contributions from parents and carers. These trips enhance our children's learning, enabling them to gain greater understanding and allowing them to enjoy new experiences.

Equality

We are committed to ensuring equality of opportunity in line with the school's Equality Policy available on the school website. We seek to show this through all aspects of school life and in particular through our commitment to support every child fulfilling their potential.

Additional Educational Needs

At Withycombe Raleigh we are proud to be an inclusive school meeting the diverse range of needs of children in our school community. For those with Special Educational Needs, additional support strategies are in place and the curriculum is delivered and differentiated by experienced and dedicated staff.

Outside agencies regularly visit the school and provide specialist support and guidance, eg the Hearing Impaired Team. We also believe in monitoring Gifted and Talented children, and extending the most able pupils in areas of excellence.

If your child has specific needs, and you want to discuss how these might be met at our school, please contact us.

Support for parents

We hold free sessions for parents, teachers, teaching assistants, carers and childminders. These offer a fantastic opportunity to meet other parents and carers to discuss relevant topics in an informal environment. These cover such topics as Language Development and Dyslexia, Dealing with Difficult Behaviour, Sleeplessness and other issues which may affect families.



Allocation of places in school

Allocation of places are handled by the Local Education Authority. See the LEA website for further details:

www.devon.gov.uk/admissionsonline

The school has a policy of admitting rising fives in line with Devon's regulations.

Children begin their induction into school in September. Priority is given to children living in the school's designated catchment area and those with a sibling who will be attending the school at the time of admission.

Starting school is one of the most important times of a child's life and we aim to make this time as happy and as secure as possible. We therefore ease and support the transition from pre-school to school through a planned programme of entry. In addition to this, a "New Parents" meeting is held, during which the teachers explain the content and scope of the Early Years Foundation Stage curriculum.

“As the school grows, you are working closely with teachers to ensure that teaching is equally strong across classes within each year group.” Ofsted 2017

Transitions

Our children begin their time at this school in the Reception (Foundation) Classes. Although we do not have a Pre-School of our own we have very strong links with many local Pre-School Providers.

Most children normally transfer to our local secondary school, Exmouth Community College (ECC) at the beginning of the Autumn Term, having reached their eleventh birthday by 31st August. We work closely with ECC and time and care is spent on transition and transfer to this new school environment.

Times of Opening

School hours: 8.40 am - 3.10 pm

Children are supervised on the school premises from 8.40 am. The school bell rings so children can be in their classroom for registration to commence at 8.50am, at which time school gates will be locked. We encourage children to be punctual ensuring lessons can begin promptly.

Absence

We actively promote good attendance and discourage children taking time away from their learning. Attendance is closely monitored by the Head Teacher and by Devon Educational Welfare Officers.

If your child is unwell or not able to get to school then please inform the school office by 9.20 a.m. on the first day of absence with a courtesy note to the Class Teacher on your child's return. Where your child has been unwell during the night, please keep them at home for at least 24 hours afterwards.

In the event of vomiting or diarrhoea a 48-hour period of absence is required to prevent contagious infections spreading across the whole school community.



School Uniform

We expect that all children will come to school dressed smartly and presented well.

Our uniform suppliers are:

PROSERVE

Unit 3 Dinan Way Trading Estate, Exmouth

Tel: 01395 222975

and

ShipShape Uniforms & Workwear Ltd

18 Albion Street

Exmouth, Devon, EX8 1JL

Tel: 01395 262216

Uniform Essentials

- Bottle green sweatshirt, smart fleece or cardigan with our school logo embroidered.
- Our school tie is green and brown striped.
- Black school shoes with heels and toes covered all year – please no sandals, canvas shoes or trainers.

Winter Uniform

- White shirt or blouse worn with a school tie.
- Long light grey trousers worn with grey socks.
- Light grey culottes, skirt or pinafore dress worn with grey tights.

Summer Uniform

- White short-sleeved polo shirt or blouse with no school tie needed.
- Light grey shorts worn with grey socks.
- Green and white gingham dress (not striped) worn with white socks.

Uniform for PE

- Green polo shirt with school logo and black shorts, white or grey socks, trainers.
- PE Kit should be available in school every day and carried in a suitable, named bag.
- A tracksuit can be used for KS2 children in colder weather.

Book Bags

All pupils should have a separate book bag for their books. These are available from PROSERVE with the school logo.

Hair and Jewellery

In the interests of Health and Safety, it would be preferred that no jewellery of any kind is worn and long hair is tied back. However, for those children with pierced ears, a stud will be accepted, but this must be removed or taped for PE activities and removed for Swimming.

Changes to our uniform from September 2023

We recently carried out a consultation with the whole school community regarding our uniform. As a result of this we will make one change to the school uniform starting in September 2023, which will be to replace the white shirt/blouse and school tie, with a plain white polo shirt and no tie. Our jumper/cardigan with logo, and other uniform items, will stay the same.

Photos show summer and winter uniform and PE kit.



Our healthy and safe school

Healthy Schools

We do all that we can to promote pupils' health and wellbeing. Healthy food choices are actively encouraged and drinking water is freely available. Within the curriculum we teach children about making safe and healthy choices, as we seek to make them increasingly responsible for decisions that affect their own wellbeing. All children access opportunities to develop physically through both curriculum, play and extra-curricular activities.

We have cycle and scooter shelters and encourage as many children as possible to walk, scoot or cycle to school. We recommend that cycles and scooters are labelled with the children's name and are left at their own risk. Note the site is secure during the school day.

Mental Health

Withycombe Raleigh is a mentally healthy school. We have two specialist TAs working in the school and as part of our curriculum we regularly support children with their social and emotional development through a programme of activities.

We have a mental health ambassador programme involving a select number of year 5 and 6 pupils to promote good mental health in our school. For our whole school community, we regularly offer parent support courses and workshops.

School Lunches

Our school kitchen provides a wonderful range of healthy food for all of our children. Our Foundation and KS1 pupils are eligible to receive free school meals.

Our School meals are freshly cooked to order on the premises using locally sourced ingredients wherever possible.

Our KS2 children can choose a school meal, which is excellent value for money, or can bring a healthy packed lunch. Mealtime assistants supervise all the children at lunchtime. Our delicious menus are available to view on Parent Pay, where you can select your child's meals.

Welfare Arrangements

We have trained First Aiders including Paediatric First Aiders working across the school. If children suffer an accident or feel unwell at school we will contact parents so that you are able to determine and arrange treatment. We consider this essential if your child has had a knock on the head.

If necessary, emergency services will be called and First Aid or emergency treatment will be given before parents arrive. Please do not send children to school if they are not properly fit as the demands of school life rarely help them to recover.

Although staff are not required to administer medicines, if a medicine needs to be administered during the school day, please come to the school office to deliver the medicine and complete the consent form. The medical consent form is available from the reception area outside the school office or can be downloaded from the school website.



Parental Involvement

We want to work in partnership with you to help your child to achieve their full potential and make a positive contribution. We feel that, at primary age, much of the children's time out of school should be their own time in which to pursue their own interests, hobbies and play. However we feel that by setting regular homework we are helping to develop an effective partnership between school and parents/carers.

We actively encourage parents to support their children's education and provide information about the areas of study for each half term. We also have 'Parent Workshops' for parents new to the school explaining how we deliver some aspects of the curriculum, eg Phonics, Reading and Maths.

Parent Teacher and Friends Association (PTFA)

The School has a thriving and enthusiastic PTFA which meets regularly to organise fund-raising events for the school, social functions and educational discussions. These are great fun for both children and adults!

Every parent is considered a member of the PTFA and is welcomed warmly into the life of the school community. Information about meetings and events will be circulated regularly from school to every parent and details are available on the school website. Each class has committee members appointed by Half Term of the Autumn Term.

Access to Documents and Policies

School Policies and Schemes of Work, as well as Governors' minutes and the latest Ofsted reports are available on the school website or can be seen on request from the school office.

Volunteers

Adults play a vital role in the life of the school, which is highly valued by the teachers. Assistance is given in classrooms in various ways, such as reading with children, cooking, assisting with craft activities and attending educational visits. Volunteers are given a Handbook and will also be required to complete a Volunteer Application Form and Enhanced DBS Check; they can assist in school when this has cleared. Please enquire at the school office.

School Governors

The School has a Governing Body that includes the Headteacher, parents, staff, Foundation Governors appointed by the Church and representatives of Devon County Council. There are also co-opted Governors representing The Business Community. The Governors meet regularly and minutes of Meetings are kept in school and are available to parents on request. The Chair of the Governors is Mrs Humphries. Further information is available on the school website.

Complaints

A copy of the Complaints Procedures Policy may be requested from the school office or downloaded from the school website.



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