

Christ Church Academy Prospectus

“Barriers to learning are removed and what is possible becomes reality”

(SIAMS 2020)



“The curriculum and extra-curricular offer is exceptionally rich and gives pupils extensive opportunities to develop individual talents and interests”.

(SIAMS 2020)

Welcome

We are delighted that you have decided to consider Christ Church Academy for your child. The Academy is part of The Key Educational Trust, Stone’s successful multi-academy group.

Christ Church Academy is a very special place in which excellence in education for all is our priority. As a Christian community, we are committed to the flourishing of every child and Christian values such as trust, friendship and thankfulness help our children learn and grow in an atmosphere of support and acceptance. The ethos of our Academy gives children a lively understanding and experience of the Christian faith and an awareness and tolerance of the religion and world-view of others.

At Christ Church, children excel, achieve and enjoy learning. All pupils have the opportunity to grow personally, emotionally, intellectually and spiritually within a caring, nurturing and happy environment.

We encourage independent thought and learning throughout the four years pupils spend with us, so at the end of Year 8 they leave as happy and confident young adults.

Our committed, specialist staff are dedicated to removing barriers to learning and challenging all pupils to achieve the very highest standards of academic and personal development.

This prospectus will only give you the briefest of introductions to our Academy. We would be proud to show you around at any time so that you can see for yourself the very special community we have here.



Mrs T Thorn,
Head of School



Mr C Wright,
CEO

“Parents and staff are overwhelmingly supportive.”

(Ofsted 2017)

Academic

“There is a sense of purpose and creativity in the classrooms.”

(Ofsted 2017)



Curriculum

We have a balanced and varied curriculum that aims to prepare our pupils for a constantly evolving world. Through a combination of supportive teaching and independent learning, pupils are given the opportunity to develop skills for lifelong learning: self-motivation, creativity and the ability to work as part of a team.

We set aspirational targets and monitor pupils' progress to ensure that they flourish. We support and extend our pupils' passion for learning, fostered by the expertise and enthusiasm of our staff.

Home Learning

Parental involvement is essential for children's progress and is encouraged at both Key Stages. Home learning is set regularly to consolidate and extend learning beyond the classroom. We keep parents informed through regular reports and opportunities to talk face-to-face about progress and development.

Enrichment and Wider Curriculum

We believe in a broad and balanced curriculum. Academic work is supplemented with further educational and social opportunities both inside and outside the classroom. Each pupil is provided with a broad spectrum of activities to develop their skills, intellect and character through a wide range of extra-curricular clubs, day trips and residential visits.

Our children benefit enormously from these experiences which include theatre trips, guest speakers, visits from authors and artists in residence, day workshops, annual trips to France, ski trips and outdoor residential centres. We further enhance the curriculum through themed events such as Remembrance Week and Sports and Fitness Week.

We offer a wide variety of clubs and activities including Coding, Keyboard Club, Art Club, Science Club, Orchestra, Fashion & Textiles,

French Film Club, Gardening and Lego Club to mention just a few.

We value the importance of sport in our pupils' lives. As well as gaining an understanding of a healthy lifestyle, pupils develop determination, motivation and team spirit. These attributes help maximise success throughout the rest of the curriculum.

We enjoy an excellent reputation for sporting achievement both locally and regionally, with many teams being very successful.

Pupils have previously competed in the Under 12's County Cricket Championships, representing Staffordshire in the national competition, the Under 12's County Football and County Cricket as runners up and were finalists in the Key Stage Two County Sportshall Athletics Competition.

The Academy is proud to offer high-quality wrap-around care to pupils. This provision enables children to access a range of

opportunities such as support with home learning and independent study within our permanently staffed library. Pupils also enjoy a wide and varied programme of sporting activities and artistic endeavours. The Academy's achievements in sport are outstanding.

The musical life of the Academy is an area of particular success. Pupils are able to participate in community events such as Stone Rocks; an annual local music festival created by the Academy. Pupils have played at prestigious venues such as The Victoria Hall where they performed with the Hallé Orchestra. All pupils benefit from music lessons taught by a specialist teacher within a fully-equipped music room. Having access to the latest technology, pupils are able to compose and perform their own pieces and supplement their learning in the classroom with peripatetic and extra-curricular opportunities.

The expertise of our specialist teachers means we are able to offer innovative experiences

to pupils in areas such as Computing and Technology. To support the Computing curriculum we have an extra-curricular Code Club for Years 5 & 6 run by Fujitsu UK and the Head of Computing. The club uses National Code Club tasks, the Scratch website and Python to create a variety of progressively difficult programs.

The Computing department has strong links with Newcastle-under-Lyme and Stafford College. Pupils regularly visit their Lego Innovation Centres to build and program robots and have competed in the National First Lego League competition.

“Pupils were challenged to think and reflect on their learning.”

(Ofsted 2017)



Developing the Whole Child



Additional Needs

At Christ Church Academy, we have a committed and caring team who are proud of the progress and achievement of our pupils. We acknowledge that children have different starting points and some may need special provision to reach their full potential.

The active involvement of parents in the spirit of partnership is seen as a vital component in the encouragement of every child's journey.

Individual needs are met in four ways:

- Supporting children in the classroom environment by specialist staff working alongside them.
- Providing small group activities to ensure they are well-grounded in essential skills.
- Providing individual support via one-to-one tuition/assessment.
- Having a robust tracking system that allows us to pinpoint pupils who need support and extra encouragement.

We believe that all children have the right to an excellent education, regardless of what is happening at home.

When a young person looks after someone in their family, they may need a little extra assistance to help them get the most out of school. Our award-winning team provide personalised advice and support to any child who is a Young Carer.

Excellence Programme

Understanding the needs of every child as a unique individual is of vital importance if they are to receive the very highest quality education. To this end, teachers support our most able pupils in a number of ways in order to ensure they reach their full potential. Personalised feedback and activities, extra-curricular opportunities and partnership work with Higher Education establishments all contribute to a broad programme of support for these children.

The Academy is supportive of pupils who have a particular gift, for example in sport or music, and works closely with parents to ensure that this talent is nurtured. Our Excellence Programme provides challenging and academically rigorous opportunities for pupils working at the highest level to really excel.

“What sets Christ Church apart from other strong Church schools is the way each person is encouraged to aspire to be the best version of themselves”.

(SIAMS 2020)



“Relationships between your pupils and staff are excellent.”

(Ofsted 2017)



“Pupils express great pride in themselves and their school. They delight in thinking beyond themselves”.

(SIAMS 2020)

Behaviour & Discipline

Children are encouraged to develop an increasing awareness of self-discipline and understand the need for self-control. Clear Academy rules for behaviour are in place and enforced to ensure the safety and wellbeing of all children. We always value the support that parents provide in reinforcing our expectations.

Rewards

We believe that pupils should be encouraged and rewarded in the work they do. We reward positive behaviour, achievement, attendance, effort and community spirit in a variety of ways. We have regular achievement and celebration assemblies where pupils' efforts and achievements are recognised. There are a range of rewards that a pupil may receive including house points, certificates, academic and sporting awards and trips.

Christian Distinctiveness

In 2020, we were judged to be an 'Excellent' school by SIAMS.

Our Christian values ensure that all members of our community are valued and respected equally as children of God, irrespective of gender, race, belief and ability, in all they do.

The whole Academy takes part in daily Christian collective worship, and we enjoy a close relationship with the local Parish Church who support worship and major Christian festivals.

Pupils have the opportunity to act as courageous advocates by supporting local and national charities. We encourage all children to live out the Gospel values that they study.

We want every child to know they are amazing, loved, valued, wonderful and unique, because God made them that way.

Image



Opportunities for Leadership

Each year, a group of pupils are selected as outstanding role models for the Academy. These children form our Student Leadership Team as Head Boys and Head Girls. It is an honour that many pupils aspire to, and a tradition of which we are very proud.

The Academy has an innovative school council model that involves all pupils in the decision-making process and empowers children to take responsibility for their Academy and its

environment. A range of opportunities are given for pupils to be active citizens and to support local, national and international charities. Older pupils participate in an enterprise project that teaches them personal accountability and business acumen, so that by the time children leave us in Year 8 they will have acquired a range of leadership skills.

As part of the curriculum, all pupils receive high-quality careers education and guidance that enables them to make informed choices about their futures.

Personal Appearance

Pupils wear the Academy uniform with pride and we insist upon high standards of personal appearance. We believe that a smart outward appearance contributes to a conscientious attitude towards their learning. Details of our Uniform Policy can be found on the Academy website.

“As their own lives are enriched and transformed, so they seek ways to transform the lives of others”.

(SIAMS 2020)

The School Prayer

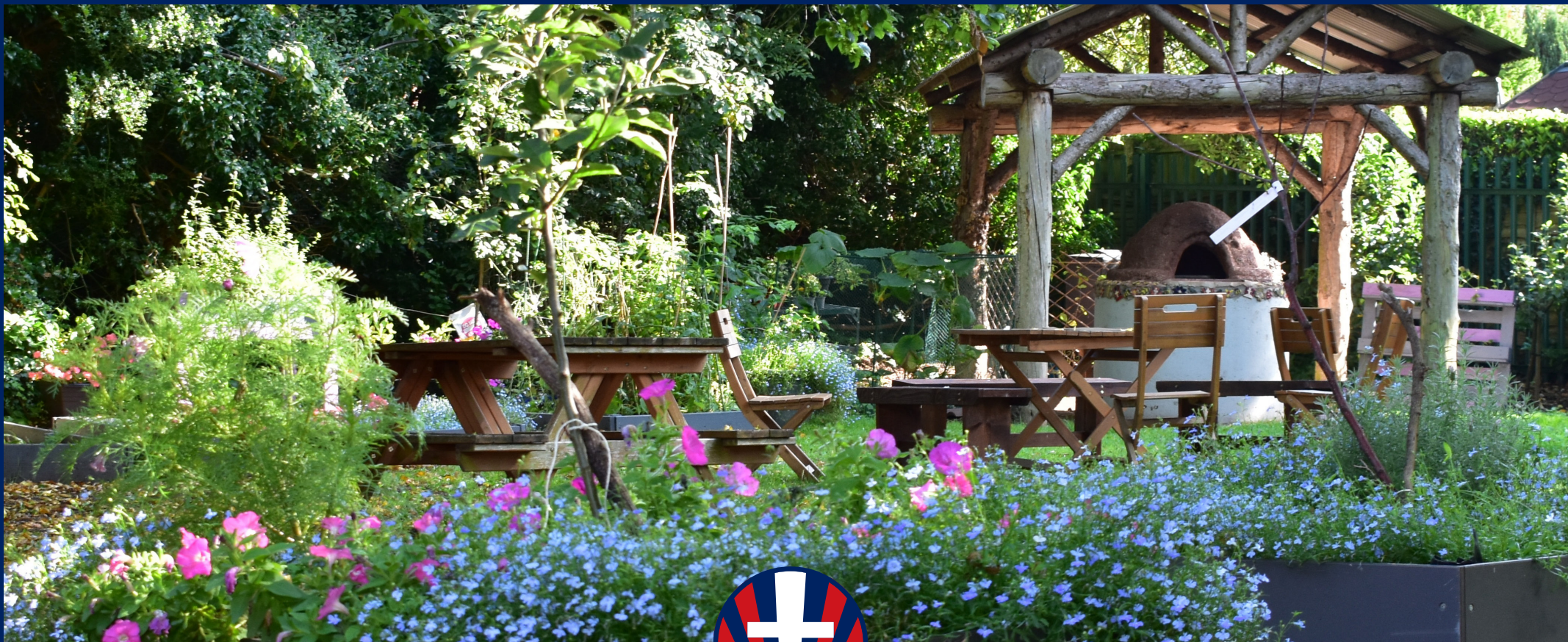
*Do all the good you can,
By all the means you can,
In all the ways you can,
In all the places you can,
At all the times you can,
To all the people you can,
As long as ever you can!*

John Wesley



Minnie, our school dog, is an important part of life at the Academy and provides wellbeing support and lots of cuddles!





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