

Delph Side Community Primary School

Eskdale, Tanhouse, Skelmersdale, Lancashire, WN8 6ED

Overview date Autumn 2024

Overall effectiveness **"Boss!"**

Quality of education Cracking!

Behaviour and attitudes Bang on!

Personal development Next level!

Leadership and management Mega!

Early years education Cute!

Safeguarding Strong!

An insight into our very special school

This is an 'exceptionally good' school

- Delph Side goes above and beyond to serve its whole community
- Relationships with children and families is at the heart of all the work within our school – parents and children are valued
- The team at Delph Side are here for the children, we **love** our work, feel incredibly supported, and are passionate about going above and beyond for the wider school
- Delph Side is very much like a family
- Children love attending school, they feel respected and loved, and are proud to be 'Delph Siders' with a real sense of belonging
- Attainment, despite challenging circumstances, is consistently above national figures
- There are strong leaders at all levels across all subjects, constantly working hard to ensure the best learning opportunities for children
- The Governing Body is committed, active and do their best support to our school team
- Our school really 'makes a difference', with core values deeply embedded #enjoy #embrace #evolve
- Safeguarding is always of highest priority and leaders are rigorous in ensuring external agencies do all they can to support families

Full report

What does the school need to do to keep being brilliant?

- Keep working that DS magic!
- Continue to be relentless in excellence, being dynamic, passionate about education and committed to 'making the difference'
- Continue to support certain families who still require substantial school support for their children to attend each day – school couldn't be doing any more for them

Self-Inspection judgements

Quality of education **cracking!**

Delph Side exemplifies excellence in the quality of education provided for all our Delph Siders. The subject knowledge of staff is not only secure but also underpinned by thoughtfully designed activities across all subjects. Curriculum sequencing and mapping is exemplary, with assessments thoughtfully embedded to foster recall and retrieval of essential knowledge. The Phonics programme is particularly commendable, well-planned and tailored to meet the diverse needs of children.

Delph Side maintains robust expectations, particularly in Mathematics, driving pupils to achieve their fullest potential. The school takes pride in its local history, seamlessly incorporating it into a rich history curriculum that instils a sense of belonging and identity.

The school boasts high-quality learning environments, meticulously planned and resourced to enhance student engagement and comfort. An ambitious curriculum specifically designed for disadvantaged learners demonstrates the school's commitment to inclusivity; subtle adaptations are effectively integrated for those with additional needs, resulting in remarkable outcomes across the school.

Art and Design are notably enhanced by a purpose-built 'Studio', which is not only well planned but also extends its influence into the wider community. Furthermore, the Science curriculum is both investigative and progressive, presenting challenges that stimulate curiosity and develop critical thinking skills. In summary, Delph Side School demonstrates a holistic approach to education, cultivating a **thriving learning atmosphere**.

Behaviour and attitudes **bang on!**

Delph Side embodies a commendable ethos, marked by high expectations for behaviour across the entire school community. Children consistently display positive attitudes and are well-mannered, demonstrating a respect for one another and a commitment to their learning. This

positive environment is underpinned by **strong relationships between staff and pupils**, which fosters an atmosphere of trust and mutual respect.

High levels of pastoral support are provided for both pupils and their families. This commitment to well-being promotes a **sense of belonging** among every individual at Delph Side. Children understand that they are valued members of the community, which encourages their emotional development alongside their academic progress.

Our school's Behaviour Policy is well articulated, linked to our core values, and the impact is evident throughout the school. Behaviour is tracked and managed, resulting in a calm and positive atmosphere that enhances the learning experience. Staff are vigilant and proactive, ensuring that pupils feel secure and supported.

Furthermore, Delph Side demonstrates an admirable commitment to improving overall attendance and addressing punctuality issues. Rather than resting on past achievements, we actively seek to enhance these areas, ensuring that every child has the opportunity to engage fully in their education. Our dedicated staff and robust 'ethos' mean Delph Side is a nurturing environment where effective learning takes place, day in day out.

Personal development **next level!**

Delph Side stands out for its unwavering commitment to personal development, which sits at the heart of all endeavours. The school's holistic approach ensures that the curriculum extends beyond mere academic achievement; it embraces life experiences that prepare students for the world beyond the classroom.

Pupils have rich opportunities to develop their 'cultural capital', enhancing their understanding and appreciation of the diverse society in which they live. **The school works tirelessly to cultivate aspirations** among its students, fostering an environment where **ambitions can flourish**. One student enthusiastically remarked, "I've been on so many journeys," reflecting the wealth of educational trips and enrichment activities that are thoughtfully interwoven throughout the curriculum.

The extra-curricular offer at Delph Side is comprehensive, including 'The Gift of Music' where every upper KS2 child leaves school with their own ukulele and the skills to play! These opportunities not only enrich our school community but also extends into the wider locality, especially through our work in 'The Studio', **showcasing an exemplary model worthy of sharing with other schools**. Students are encouraged to engage with the world around them, and they develop a profound understanding of the importance of tolerance and respect for others.

Our school effectively levels the playing field by providing exceptional experiences that are accessible to all. This inclusive philosophy ensures that every child has the opportunity to thrive, making it a beacon of excellence in personal development and community engagement.

From trips on the bus to Liverpool, or the train to Manchester....or the plane to Belfast....our **Delph Siders are taught the value, excitement and potential the wider world has to offer!**

Leadership and management

mega!

Delph Side thrives as an educational institution, with **leaders at all levels** demonstrating a commendable level of confidence in their vision and delivery. The commitment to providing all children with a high-quality educational offer remains a cornerstone of the school's ethos. This is underpinned by a strong culture of teamwork, where collaboration is valued and evolution is encouraged, ensuring that the educational experience is both enriching and relevant.

Staff engagement within the school is notably high, with many expressing their sentiment that it is "the most positive place I've ever worked." This positivity is further supported by governors who possess a wealth of experience and expertise, affirming their trust in the strength of the leadership team. Together, they actively contribute to an environment where the wellbeing of staff is prioritised and protected, fostering a supportive atmosphere conducive to learning and growth.

A strong emphasis on professional development provides staff with "amazing opportunities" to enhance their practice, enabling them to deliver high-quality teaching and learning. **Delph Side stands as a model of educational excellence**, continually striving to achieve its ambitious aims for the benefit of its entire community.

The leadership of Special Educational Needs and Disabilities (SEND) is particularly robust, with ambitious expectations set for every child. This highlights **our school's commitment to inclusivity and excellence for all learners**, ensuring that no child is left behind.

Early years education

cute!

The Early Years provision is excellent, exemplifying a nurturing environment that promotes complete development for our youngest learners. The curriculum is well designed and thoughtfully implemented, ensuring that it meets the diverse needs of all children. An immediate focus on speech and language is key, enabling children to express themselves confidently and fostering effective communication skills from an early age.

We pride ourselves on our high-quality interactions between staff and children, our staff members engage warmly with learners, creating a positive atmosphere that encourages exploration and inquiry. Additionally, learning routines are well established, providing a structured yet flexible framework that **allows children to thrive** and adapt as they progress.

Our team is particularly secure in their knowledge of Phonics, ensuring that children receive a solid foundation in their early literacy. This expertise is reflected in the tailored support available to our little learners, enabling them to make significant strides in their reading and writing abilities.

The team places great importance on engaging with parents regarding their children's learning journeys. Regular communication and collaborative efforts foster a strong partnership between home and school, ultimately enhancing the overall educational experience.

Delph Side is dedicated to ensuring all interactions, within our EYFS settings, are of a very high standard and the commitment of our staff ensures that all learners are well supported and encouraged to reach their full potential.

Safeguarding

strong!

The commitment to safeguarding is exemplary with our safeguarding leaders demonstrating **relentless dedication in seeking support for children and families**. Our approach is proactive and ensures that every child feels valued and supported, fostering an environment where safety and wellbeing are prioritised for the whole family.

Our school embraces an open and positive culture that encourages dialogue and trust among children, staff, and parents alike. There is always someone to turn to for help, whether it be a member of the teaching staff, senior leaders or support staff. This **unwavering support** system is integral to promoting a sense of belonging and community within our school.

Delph Side has established a rigorous platform for recording information that further enhances our safeguarding procedures and this meticulous approach guarantees our intervention is swift in any situation that may arise.

Furthermore, our school demonstrates an inclusive culture where everyone is welcome, and **differences are not only acknowledged but celebrated**. We actively promote diversity and mutual respect, inspiring students to embrace and learn from each other's unique perspectives.

In summary, our school exemplifies a holistic approach to education, safeguarding, and inclusivity, **making it a nurturing place for every child to grow and flourish.**

Information about this school

- We have Forest School
- We have a purpose-built Art and Design Tech studio
- We gift every child in Year 5 a Ukulele – the gift of music!
- We have a school therapy dog – Poppy O
- We have two very cute guinea pigs, Pumpkin and Spice
- We have a school lake!
- We have The Hub – a safe home-from-home space to chill, relax and thrive
- We have a KS2 SEN Unit – The Hangout
- We raise our own funds and fly (on an airplane!!) to Belfast in Year 6
- We have enrichment experiences threaded throughout our curriculum
- We love to host community events
- KS2 perform an 'Alter-nativity' each year, think of normal nativity but with pop songs

School details

Unique reference number	119304
Local authority	Lancashire
Type of school	Primary
School category	Community
Age range of pupils	2-11
Gender of pupils	Mixed
Number of pupils on roll	250
Appropriate authority	The governing body
Chair	Thomas Hederick
Headteacher	Mrs O (proud as punch!)
Telephone number	01695 721881
Website	www.delphside.lancs.sch.uk
Email address	head@delphside.lancs.sch.uk
Date of Ofsted inspection	By Ofsted: 1 st and 2 nd October 2024

(Our alternative In-sted Report was produced by school, **NOT** Ofsted.)

Our latest Ofsted report can be found via this link
<https://reports.ofsted.gov.uk/provider/21/119304>)

Information about this overview:

- This report is **NOT** an Ofsted document, **BUT** is based on their report
- The report was compiled by Delph Side School Leaders, including Governors
- This report is an accurate and honest reflection of our school

Not Official Ofsted