

Prospectus 2022



Milverton Community Primary School and Pre-School

We Care. We Aspire. We Belong.



**Artsmark
Gold Award**
Awarded by Arts
Council England





We Care. We Aspire. We Belong.

Milverton Community Primary and Pre-School
Milverton, Somerset TA4 1JP
Tel: 01823 400439
Pre-School Tel: 01823 400 243
Email: office@milvertonprimary.co.uk
preschool@milvertonprimary.co.uk
www.milvertonprimary.co.uk
Headteacher: Richard Stead
Chair of Governors: Linda Burton

Our Aims

- ⇒ We aim to provide a positive nurturing environment in which each individual is valued and where everyone can work and play happily together.
- ⇒ We aim to motivate and challenge each pupil creatively and academically to take full advantage of the education we provide, while recognising differences in personal needs, experiences, talents and potential.
- ⇒ We aim to develop sensitivity and awareness, encouraging everyone to treat each other and their environment with respect at all times. We are proud our school is recognised as an Eco School.
- ⇒ We aim to ensure that our children have a sense of pride in themselves, the school and the community they live in. We teach our pupils to develop a sense of personal responsibility for their actions and care in what they do. We want our pupils to recognise their abilities and talents, to do their best and be proud of what they achieve both individually and collectively.



Our Vision

Together, we are building a community of creative successful lifelong learners: we challenge ourselves to achieve whilst sustaining spiritual, moral, emotional and economic well-being.
The world is our classroom!





Welcome to Milverton Community Primary School and Pre-School

Our aim is to help everyone associated with Milverton School and Pre-School feel part of a lively, caring and active learning community. We believe that education is a partnership between parents, staff and children. Education should be fun. Children, like the rest of us, learn so much better when they are enjoying what they are doing. Our school ethos is best reflected in our motto:

'We Care. We Aspire. We Belong'

All of the adults that work in our school have a strong interest in the happiness and wellbeing of our children, and are keen to ensure that every child has the opportunity to develop and reach their potential. Our beautiful school grounds, full of mature trees and a variety of natural habitats, encourage us to be innovative in utilising this space as a valuable teaching and learning resource through regular Forest School and outdoor learning sessions. Please see our [Forest School page](#) on our website. This also inspires an environmental awareness in our pupils and has galvanised a firm environmental commitment in us all. The school was first recognised as an Eco School in 2006 and we are very proud to be holders of our 7th Green Flag Award. We also believe that children's mental wellbeing is as important as their physical wellbeing. We support this through regular mindfulness sessions in class and we have recently introduced yoga sessions. Please see our [Wellbeing page](#) on our website.

The school has an excellent academic track record and a long history of high expectations and achievements. Our curriculum is broad: we teach termly 'Quests for Learning' which are designed to make learning fun, accessible and tangible to our pupils. It is essential that the children grow to see themselves as learners; eager to explore, understand and find their place in the world. Our primary school is just the beginning of their lifelong journey of learning.

We asked our members of our School Council to describe their school:

"It is a friendly and welcoming school with lots of things always going on. We love the fact we have lots of outdoor space and lovely old trees!"

"There is always lots to interest us; loads of clubs and we go on many great trips out."

"Our teachers always make our lessons really fun!"

"We really feel part of the school, and feel that we belong."

We would like to extend to you a very warm welcome and hope that you and your child/children will enjoy a long and productive relationship with the school.

Richard Stead
Headteacher



YOUR CHILD STARTING AT MILVERTON SCHOOL

In Somerset, a child may be admitted to school from the September of the school year in which he or she will be five. In order to smooth the children's transition into school, we introduce them to school on a part-time basis for a short time at first. We find that this helps them to settle down and it gives us time to get to know each child and assess their needs. We have lots of exciting new experiences to offer our new pupils—new skills to learn, new friends to meet, new challenges to face, but at the centre of our busy world lies each child and we take our responsibilities to each child very seriously.

Parents should apply for a place at Milverton School at Somerset County Council on 0300 123 2224 or you can do this online: <http://www.somerset.gov.uk/education-learning-and-schools/choosing-a-school/apply-to-start-school/>

As many children join our Pre-school it means we are able to guide children's educational journeys from the age of 2 years. Reception teachers work very closely with the Pre-school practitioners and this enables a smooth transition; school staff know the Pre-school children and the children are familiar with the school. Pre-school children are involved with some school activities and have their lunch in the school hall, which means they already get to know the school before starting. We encourage prospective parents to involve their children in the Pre-school before they come to school to ease this transition process. If you would like more information about our Pre-school, please call 01823 400 243 or email preschool@milvertonprimary.co.uk.

During the Summer Term, prior to a child joining the Reception Class in September, we run a series of events and activities for parents and children. A variety of learning activities are available for the children to explore during these sessions and for parents to copy at home.

An evening presentation for new parents is organised in the Summer Term before their child starts school every year. This means parents can meet staff and be introduced to the way we work, and the organisation of the school day. It is also a good occasion to meet parents of other children who will be starting school with your child. There are opportunities to ask questions about the school and to raise any issues that may be worrying you. Parents are informed about the Early Years Foundation Stage curriculum, which each child follows during their first year in school, and is a continuation of what your child will have been doing in their Pre-school setting.

We do our utmost to make children who join us at other stages in their school careers feel thoroughly welcome. We recommend that prospective parents visit the school with the children and meet the Headteacher and staff. When children join us we make every effort to integrate them into their new class and environment as smoothly as possible.





Meet Our Staff

Senior Leadership Team

Richard Stead	Headteacher and Designated Safeguarding Lead
Katy Smith	Assistant Headteacher Pastoral, Reception Class Teacher
Stephen Penny	Assistant Headteacher Curriculum, Year 6 Teacher
Meera Pow	SENDCo.

Teaching Staff

Janie Boullin	Year 1 Teacher
Alice Atterton	Year 2 Teacher
Sarah Brooke	Year 2 Teacher
Caitlynn Downer	Year 3 Teacher
Rebecca McDonagh	Year 4 Teacher
Lydia Laphorn	Class 4 Teacher
Peter Coupe	Class 5 Teacher
Josh Wedderkopp	Forest School Teacher

School Operations

Marian Barlow	Office Manager
Debbie Hardy	Administrator
Gloria Hamlet	Finance Officer
Helen Jessep	Clerk to Governors
Robin Smith	Caretaker

Peripatetic Music Instrument Teachers

David White - Piano and Flute
John Snowdon - Guitar

Teaching Support

Helen Allen	
Sarah Bray	
Lisa Brierley	HLTA
Julie Brown	After School Club
Mary Jane Chiplin	
Mandy Cutler	HLTA
Tamsin Davy	
Soo Egerton	HLTA and ELSA
Sarah Farrow	
Ellie Hendy	
Laura Mansfield	
Nicola Pyne	
Maggie Storrs-Fox	
Laura Yeats	

Pre-School Staff

Charlotte Pringle-Kosikowsky	Lead Practitioner
Rachel Andrews	Key Worker
Lucy Pippin	Key Worker
Susan Withers	Apprentice

OUR SCHOOL FACILITIES

Milverton School is a seven class school for children aged between 4 and 11 years. We have a Reception class which is the final year of the Foundation Stage, two Key Stage 1 classes for our 5 and 6 year olds, and four Key Stage 2 classes covering ages 7-11.

We have a central resource area with four classrooms arranged around it. The resource area is the location of the school's library and networked computer suite. We have three more classes housed in Elliott classrooms. The school hall is used for assemblies, lunches, P.E., gymnastics, dance, drama and music and we are lucky enough to have theatrical lighting, microphones and a professional PA system. A wireless digital projector was installed to improve our audio-visual infrastructure. Dedicated facilities for children with Special Educational Needs are located in 'The Den'.



Outside we have two hard court play areas, an infant playground with a 'trim trail', an early years playground, an all-weather adventure playground and a dual-purpose target and climbing wall. We have a junior-sized football pitch and extensive grassed areas. We have an environmental area including a pond and a designated Forest School area under the trees with a purpose-built canopy, a camp fire and working areas. We also have a wonderful outdoor classroom, pictured above.

THE MILVERTON SCHOOL ASSOCIATION (MSA)

The MSA is a vital part of our school community and has been hugely successful in recent years, raising over £5000 per year for school projects. A committee is elected at the AGM and this committee organises social and fundraising events for the academic year. The staff, children and parents benefit enormously from the enthusiasm, friendliness and vitality of the MSA. New parents are strongly urged to get involved as soon as they can in order to feel part of the school community. Many of our working parents who cannot visit us during the day offer valuable assistance to the MSA and thus feel more of a part of our organisation. If parents cannot commit to being on the committee, they often get involved by helping out at individual events. The MSA can be contacted by email on msa-somerset@outlook.com.



Milverton Community Primary School is a 'maintained' school. This means that we are a state-funded school, but not an academy or free school. The basis of our curriculum is the National Curriculum for England. However, while this sets out the essential knowledge that children must be taught in the primary age-phase, we are more ambitious for our children and have spent time developing a broader, richer curriculum for the children of Milverton. We teach children key skills, knowledge and understanding through the core subjects.



Quest Learning

We teach the foundation subjects through a series of learning 'Quests' which help us to engage, enthuse and inspire a love of learning in our pupils. These are taught in a cross-curricular way because we feel this reflects the way that young children learn best. Quests have titles such as 'Animal Magic' or 'What a Performance!' and each Quest lasts for a term and is across the whole school.



CURRICULUM

For Primary children there are four core subjects:- English, Maths, Science and Information and Communications Technology;

Also six foundation subjects:- History, Geography, Art, Design and Technology, Music, P.E.

R.E. and Modern Foreign Languages are also statutory.

We hope that our children's experience from their earliest days is that 'learning is fun'. Learning is something that everyone can do and the more effort we put into learning, the more we get out of it. There is much positive reinforcement of effort and achievement throughout the school.

We are very aware that each individual child develops at a different rate from other children. We also recognise that children develop at various rates in different curriculum areas and that their progress rate will vary as they develop. For these reasons we organise our class work in a variety of ways and maintain as flexible an approach as is possible.

Our curriculum is also designed to build 'learning power' in our children. Time is spent helping children understand themselves as learners: they are taught personal learning and thinking skills which underpin a successful comprehension of the knowledge and skills taught in our curriculum. In this way, we are not simply filling children with the knowledge that we deem to be important, but also enabling them to be better at following their own lines of enquiry.

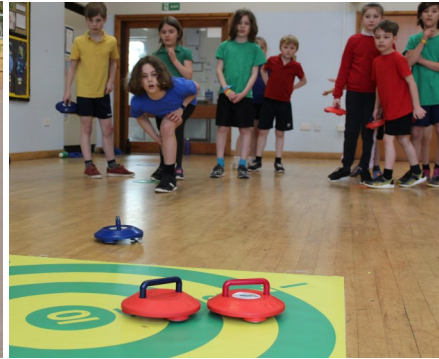
In addition we also address the cross-curricular issues of Personal, Social and Health Education, Multicultural Education, Environmental Education and Citizenship.

The school is not affiliated to a particular religious body. Religious Education follows the agreed Somerset Syllabus and teaches about Christianity and the major world religions. Assemblies are Christian based and non-denominational.



PHYSICAL EDUCATION

Physical Education is a subject area in which children can gain personal satisfaction and improved confidence. We cover many aspects P.E. in the course of a year - gymnastic activities, dance, athletic activities, ball games and swimming. Staff work hard with the children to develop good agility, balance and co-ordination skills. We encourage the children to keep fit by undertaking some sort of physical activity every day. P.E. is also a subject where lots of personal and social skills are practised as children work together with partners, in groups or in teams. The school has football, netball and rounders' teams that compete with local schools in the Taunton area. We run different after school sports clubs with our partner Premier Sports, who also hold PE enrichment days for our pupils.



FOREST SCHOOL

As we are incredibly lucky to have beautiful surroundings, we are delighted to be able to offer the children Forest School sessions. Every half term, each class has a morning of Forest School taught by a dedicated Forest School teacher. This learning covers a wide range of activities from wood work and using tools, to map work, trust games, sensory learning and finding our about nature and the habitat around us. We have a purpose built outside classroom, and use our fire circle and canopy so the children can enjoy a warming hot chocolate at the end of their session and talk about their learning!



RELATIONSHIPS AND SEX EDUCATION

Relationships and Sex Education is taught as part of the Science and Health Education curriculum and is introduced gradually to the children. From Year 4 to 6, the children receive units of lessons on relationships, sexual health and personal safety. The purpose of this unit is to provide knowledge and understanding of safe and healthy relationships based on love and respect. This is to encourage the eventual development of safe and healthy relationships in later life. The unit will develop understanding and attitudes which will help pupils to form relationships in a responsible and healthy manner and to appreciate and respect theirs and others emotions, feelings and body. Parents of this age group are asked to give consent for this unit, and can opt their out should they want to. More information on this curriculum can be found at

<https://www.milvertonprimary.co.uk/curriculum>

TIMES OF SCHOOL SESSIONS

School Day 8.55am—3.10/20pm

Parents can drop children from 8.40am

Key Stage 1

Registration	8.55 – 9.00am
Break	10.30am – 10.45am
Lunch	12pm – 1pm
Afternoon break	2.45pm – 2.55pm

Key Stage 2

Registration	8.55am – 9.05am
Break	10.30am – 10.45am
Lunch	12.15/30pm – 1pm

We operate a staggered collection time, dependent on surnames: A– H 3.10pm, I–Z 3.20pm



SCHOOL UNIFORM

The school colours are royal blue, grey and white.

Boys: Milverton sweatshirt/cardigan, charcoal grey trousers, white polo shirt, white, grey or black socks.

Girls: Milverton sweatshirt/cardigan, charcoal grey trousers, white polo shirt, charcoal grey skirt or pinafore dress, white, grey or black socks/ tights. In summer girls may choose to wear a blue and white gingham summer dress. The school office sells school sweatshirts, cardigans, book bags and PE bags.

PE KIT

Navy or black shorts, t-shirt in their house colours (as photo), trainers (no plimsolls please!) and tracksuit bottoms when the weather is cooler.

Jewellery should not be worn to school as a rule, although watches and stud earrings are acceptable.

Hairstyles should be natural in appearance. Long hair should be tied back. Neat-fitting hair ornaments may be worn. Footwear must be smart, sensible, dark-coloured shoes or boots (not trainers or 'Cros'). We encourage the children to be careful of their appearance when they come to school and to be proud of their school uniform. **All clothing worn in school must be clearly named.**



PE kit



SCHOOL TRIPS AND SPORTS FIXTURES

We run many school trips during the year. We often link our trips to the 'Quest' learning and feel that it is an important addition to the children's experience. Year 5 enjoy a residential trip to Kilve Court Activity Centre and Year 6 to Charterhouse.

We encourage engagement in sports and as a result our sports teams regularly attend sports fixtures after school, playing against schools in the area. We find that the children love being involved in these team activities and often do very well!



AFTER SCHOOL CLUBS

We offer a wide range of after school clubs, including sports clubs such as football and gymnastics and other clubs such as art club and chess club. These change from term to term.

We also operate 'Toasties' After School Club and Morning Club every day. Toasties runs two sessions after school 3.15—4.30pm and 4.30—5.30pm. Toasties sessions & sports clubs currently cost £5.50 and are very popular. Morning Club starts at 8am and will cost £3 per session.

CHILDREN'S ILLNESS IN SCHOOL TIME

Any child who is taken ill during the day, or who suffers a minor accident, will be cared for by our qualified first aiders. Parents will be contacted immediately if we feel the child should be sent home or requires further treatment. If your child requires medication whilst at school, we will ask you to complete a permission form for staff to administer medicine.

ABSENCES

Parents are asked to contact the school early in the day if a child is going to be absent for any unforeseen reason. You can also do this via Parentmail, email or telephone. If a child's absence is not reported to the school office, the school office will contact parents to establish the child's whereabouts. Holidays in term-time will almost always be unauthorised and may lead to parents receiving a fine. If an absence is unavoidable, a absence request form should be completed beforehand, which can be obtained from the school office or school website. Medical appointments for children should be made out of school hours.

SCHOOL CHARGING POLICY

The Governors have agreed that parents should be asked to make voluntary contributions to out-of-school activities that take place during normal school hours. The Governors wish to emphasise however that no child will be excluded from an activity if his or her parents fail to contribute to the cost of that activity. Unfortunately, if large numbers of parents fail to contribute then the viability of the activity will be jeopardised. Any family in receipt of Income Support is entitled to apply for financial assistance towards out-of-school activities. The school is entitled to ask all parents to pay the full cost of food and lodging on a residential trip but parents in receipt of benefits can have help with this. The Board of Governors' aim is to ensure that no child misses a school residential experience for financial reasons.

Milverton School Board of Governors

Members of the Governing Board are valued volunteers and bring a wide range of skills, experience and expertise for the benefit of our school. Governing Boards are the strategic decision makers and vision setters in every school and academy. They play a vital role in ensuring the best possible education for every child by creating robust accountability for school leaders. Many of our Governors have detailed knowledge of Milverton School and its priorities. The Governors can be consulted if you have any concerns about the school and you feel have not received a satisfactory response from the Headteacher. Governors can be contacted through the Clerk to the Governors via the school office.

Board of Governors at November 2022

Chair	Linda Burton
Vice Chair / LA Governor	Andy Wooller
Headteacher	Richard Stead
Parent Governors	Emily Weiss
	James Pyne
Co-Opted Governors	Andy Powell
	Cyril Kelly
	Gwil Wren
	Ewan Robertson
Staff Governor	Stephen Penny
Clerk to Governors	Helen Jessep

SCHOOL ASSEMBLIES

We are required by law to hold a daily non-denominational Act of Communal Worship in school intended to reflect our Christian tradition. Parents are entitled under the provisions of the 1988 Education Reform Act to withdraw their child from these School Assemblies should they so wish, and are requested to write to the Headteacher on this matter. If a child is withdrawn from school assemblies, he or she is expected to read quietly in the school ICT suite until it is time to re-join the class. The children join together every day for class, whole school or Key Stage assemblies. School assemblies are taken by the Headteacher, senior staff and various visitors including the Vicar. Representatives of other religious groups and delegates from local and national charities also join us on occasion.

SCHOOL TRANSPORT

If you live outside the village of Milverton you may be entitled to school transport. Please contact Somerset County Council if you are interested. At present we are served by a mini-bus that covers the Halse and Fitzhead area.





SAFEGUARDING CHILDREN

In our capacity as primary carers for children while they are at school we have a duty to ensure that our pupils are safe and well cared-for, both in school and out. Families do experience difficulties from time to time and it occasionally becomes necessary for us to work through these with children, parents/carers and external professional bodies. Our child protection policy gives full details and is available from the school office. Our Designated Safeguarding Lead is the Headteacher, Mr Stead.

HOW TO MAKE A FORMAL COMPLAINT

We hope that any complaints that parents may have can be resolved by the school. Complaints, outside of normal, everyday concerns should normally be made to the Headteacher in the first instance, and be dealt with at this informal level. However if a parent remains dissatisfied there is an agreed Complaints Procedure that should be followed. The formal complaint should be sent in writing to the Clerk to the Governors at the school office. The Complaints Policy is on the school website.



UNIVERSAL INFANT FREE SCHOOL MEALS (UIFSM) & FREE SCHOOL MEALS (FSM)

UIFSM is a government initiative that aims to provide every school-aged child in England in the infant classes (Reception, Year 1 and Year 2) with a free school meal, regardless of household income. This is an entitlement, but to receive it parents must claim it. If parents are in receipt of certain benefits their children will be eligible for FSM regardless of the child's age. Parents can apply online at www.somerset.gov.uk/freeschoolmeals and we strongly encourage those who are eligible to apply. This is because for each pupil in receipt of a FSM the school receives additional funding (Pupil Premium) which can help provide extra support for children. All of our school meals are made at the local secondary school, Kingsmead School in Wiveliscombe.

SCHOOL DENTAL, SIGHT AND HEARING TESTS

School dental, sight and hearing tests are conducted at different stages of the child's school career. Any parent who is worried about a physical condition in their child should contact their own G.P who may then refer you back to the School Medical Service. Please inform the school on the Admission Form of anything the staff should know which may restrict your child's ability to take part in certain school activities, (e.g. epilepsy, diabetes, heart problems, asthma, allergies). Please inform the school of any medical needs your child might have.

MOVING ON TO SECONDARY SCHOOL

At the age of eleven children transfer to Secondary Education. The nearest comprehensive school to Milverton is Kingsmead School in Wiveliscombe, although parents who live in or around Wellington may be allocated a place at Court Fields School. Milverton School has developed a close liaison with Kingsmead and Court Fields; pupils who are transferring from us have opportunities to visit their secondary school and meet the staff during the Summer Term of Year 6.

We hope that you have enjoyed reading about our school. If you require any further information, please contact the school office on 01823 400439 or email office@milvertonprimary.co.uk. You can also look our weekly newsletters on our website www.milvertonprimary.co.uk