



**SEEND**  
CHURCH *of*  
ENGLAND  
PRIMARY SCHOOL



# Prospectus

## 2019



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# SEEND Church of England Primary School are proud to be part of The White Horse Federation Multi-Academy Trust

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The White Horse Federation (TWHF) is a high-performing multi-academy trust, which supports primary, secondary, special and teaching schools across Wiltshire, Gloucestershire, Swindon, Oxfordshire and Berkshire. At its heart is a belief that we want to develop the type of schools that we would be proud to send our own children to. We do this with a relentless drive for academic excellence blended with a shared moral purpose and shared values, but also with an awful lot of fun and happiness in our schools.

With a track record of improvement in standards and attainment, TWHF believes that every child should achieve all that they are capable of and more, regardless of background, culture, heritage, or ability. We genuinely believe that working in partnership with our schools, students and their parents, as well as the wider community, helps create the best possible outcomes for all our young people.

Dr Nicholas Capstick OBE  
CEO and Board Member





# A Warm Welcome

Choosing the right primary school for your child is one of the most important decisions a parent will make. Not every school is right for every child. It is therefore important to find a school whose values, aims and expectations are the same as your own as this will ensure every member of the school community is pulling in the same direction. So, what do we at Seend Church of England Primary School value? Quite simply, we value the child as a whole, and the contribution they and their family can make to their learning.

My aim as Head Teacher is to serve the community by providing a happy and successful school with the highest quality teaching; a school where everyone works in partnership to inspire children and to enable them to thrive and achieve their full potential within a secure and stimulating environment.

So, if you are looking for a school which expects high academic, behavioural and social standards; a school that works as an extended family to nurture and support your child whilst setting realistic challenges; a school that promotes strong Christian values and a school that you and your child will remember fondly in years to come, then welcome to Seend Church of England Primary School.



For an  
Education  
Full of  
Inspiration

# Our Vision and Values

We aim to inspire the members of our community to follow God's light and as a result: form caring relationships, have high aspirations, embrace all opportunities, appreciate diversity, give generously and show environmental responsibility. In achieving our mission, we can all make a positive contribution to our global society.

**"I am the light of the world. If you follow me, you won't have to walk in the darkness, because you will have the light that leads to life."** John 8:12

Our school promotes Learning "Powers" and a Growth Mindset, learning through the explicit teaching of strategies and how they can help improve achievement. Our 5 key values of Respect, Resilience, Generosity, Tolerance and Friendship are taught through whole school and class worships, and positive attitudes to learning and behaviour are celebrated regularly throughout the week.



**For all who work or learn at your school, it is a harmonious place. Pupils' attitudes to learning are exemplary. Your collective school culture enables all pupils to thrive in their personal development and make rapid academic progress in reading and mathematics. Pupils, parents and staff are overwhelmingly positive about the experiences the school provides, typically commenting on the "special place" that is Seend School.** Ofsted



# Foundation Stage

In the Early Years Foundation Stage (EYFS) children deepen their knowledge and understanding by exploring a mixture of child-initiated activities and adult-led learning that supports all 7 areas of learning. Play underpins the EYFS. It also underpins learning and all aspects of children's development. Through play, children develop language skills, their emotions and creativity, social and intellectual skills. As its name suggests, the Early Years Foundation Stage is the very foundation for all future education.

The first stage of your child's learning journey at Seend Church of England Primary School is in Holly Class which will typically have 16 reception children and a small group of year 1 children.

In the summer term before your child starts school, we invite them in for two visits, so they get the chance to meet the other children and adults in their class and to familiarise them with their new learning environment. Parents are also invited to a meeting to find out everything they need to know in order to make the transition into school successful. At the beginning of term one, the children have a phased start over three weeks to build up to full-time learning. We then also host another meeting for parents to learn about how Phonics and Reading is taught in school and how parents can support their children at home.

# Curriculum breakdown

At Seend Church of England Primary School we are committed to inspiring children to become valuable citizens of the future within the foundations of a Christian Environment.

English and Maths are therefore embedded within the school curriculum, supporting the development of children's learning, thinking, personal, emotional and social skills. The other curriculum areas are grouped within 4 areas:

- Science and Technology – Science, Computing and Design Technology
- Understanding Our World – R.E, History, Geography and a Modern Foreign Language
- Ourselves – P.E and Personal, Social, Health, Citizenship and Economic Education
- Expressive Arts – Music and Art

At Seend Church of England Primary School the curriculum areas are taught through stimulating and exciting topics. Our topics are planned over a 2-year programme, appropriate for each class, and are either history, geography or science-based, with links being

made to other areas as appropriate; thereby putting their learning in context. The skills in Reading, Writing and Maths are taught daily as part of the topic or as discrete lessons.

To enhance the children's learning, we regularly utilise external expertise through inviting visitors into the school, or arranging day trips to museums, art galleries and the theatre for example. We also arrange themed days or weeks to allow the opportunity to explore skills and concepts more deeply.

We arrange a short residential in years 3 or 4, and a longer residential in years 5 or 6 giving children opportunities to develop their confidence and team building skills as well as practical activities to support the curriculum.

# Celebrating Success

We believe it is vitally important for all children to feel successful and to have their efforts and achievements recognised and celebrated. We do this in a number of ways including a weekly "Goldbook" assembly, run by head boy and girl, where children are called up to have their achievement explained to the school. Children also receive a certificate which identifies their success. Achievements might be of an academic, sporting or creative nature or reflect a demonstration of the school's values.

Throughout the week, children may receive stickers, be sent to the Head Teacher, gain learning "Gems" for good learning behaviours or receive house points (which are totalled each week and shared in the goldbook assembly on Friday). Always it is the effort put in that is rewarded, not simply the end result.

At the end of every term a child in each class is awarded the "A Starred Learner" trophy for demonstrating the full range of learning "powers" that term.



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I like A Starred Learner at the end of the term. It inspires you to work hard for it but I'm equally happy to congratulate someone else for getting it





# Parent Partnerships

Working in partnership with parents is the key to success so each term we share the topic elements to be covered, on the class sections of the website. At the beginning of each academic year we hold a “meet the teacher session” so the expectations of the class and how parents can support their child’s learning, can be explained. We offer parent consultation evenings in the autumn and the summer and provide a written summary at the end of the year. We also hold open classroom sessions, when parents can come into school and look around the classrooms to see the learning that has taken place.

Staff are also available after school if parents need any extra help or information. We utilise email and texts to communicate and share information, update the website regularly with news and pictures and produce a detailed newsletter each month.

The school has wrap-around care in the form of a breakfast and after-school club, plus a range of extra-curricular activities which typically include netball, football, judo and craft club. Other clubs come and go depending on the interests of the children and the time of year.



## Governing Body & Friends of the School

We have a committed Friends of Seend School (FoSS) who organise a variety of activities like school discos, an annual Christmas Fayre, jumble sales etc. and who have raised money to purchase some much-needed equipment and pay for some activity days.

Examples of the things paid for include: reading books, iPads, timber trail equipment, musical instruments, trophies, costumes for the school play and activity days.

The governing body consists of a mixture of parents and interested members of the community and assists in the monitoring of standards, provision and recruitment. As a Church School, the majority of our governing body is comprised of foundation governors who are appointed by the local Parochial Church Council (PCC). Their role is to ensure the school meets its responsibilities towards maintaining a purposeful Church of England ethos so that children develop morally and spiritually, as well as supporting and challenging the Head Teacher to deliver high standards of education to the children and families they serve.

## On to Secondary School

Many of the children from Seend Church of England Primary School move on to Melksham Oak Secondary School, which is also part of The Whitehorse Federation.

Some children however move on to Lavington Secondary or a range of local Private Schools.

Whichever school children move on to, we encourage the take-up of taster days and visits and encourage a smooth transition by liaising with staff to ensure all relevant information is shared.





# Joining Our School

## Special Needs & Disabilities

Seend Church of England Primary School is a fully inclusive School and will endeavour to meet the diverse needs of all children.

We have a Special Needs Co-ordinator who works one day a week and is available to meet with parents before their child starts school to make sure all the necessary provision is in place.

The Special Needs Register is regularly reviewed to ensure that children who meet the threshold are included and support plans are put in place to make sure children have specific and achievable targets to work towards.

Staff receive necessary training to help them support the varying academic, behavioural and social needs of the pupils.

Any parents who are considering Seend Church of England Primary School for their child's education are encouraged to contact the school to arrange a personal tour with the Head Teacher.

Applications for reception places should be made online through the local authority. A parent applying on faith grounds should contact the school, or look on the website for the appropriate faith form which should then be returned to the school.

If you wish to move a child who has already started at a primary school, then this will need to be done using a special form available from the school office or the local authority for the current school.

Moving schools can be daunting so we encourage a half or full day visit beforehand and will "buddy up" new children with a good role model so that they feel quickly welcome and settled. We will also liaise with their previous school to make sure we have all the necessary information to help with their learning.



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