



Our Vision

Our school Vision is for everyone in our school family to 'be the **BEST** we can be, through love'.

Believe

The Christian faith and values are at the heart of our school family and in everything we do, as we strive to serve all.

Enjoy

Our school is a safe, exciting environment that provides broad and inspiring opportunities and experiences.

Succeed

We support all members of our school family in reaching their full potential for lifelong learning.

Together

Our school family grows together within a happy, caring environment.

'Love God and love your neighbour as you love yourself.' Taken from Matthew 22, verses 37 and 39.

About our School



The school is a voluntary controlled C. of E. primary school and has very good links with the Parish Church of St. Paul's. We are a co-educational school with approximately 200 pupils between the ages of 4 and 11. Our website address is www.shurdingtonceprimary.co.uk



There has been a primary school in the village since the 1850s and the original village school was next to the church. The majority of the current building on Badgeworth Lane dates from the 1960s but two major building projects; the first completed in February 2011 and second in September 2018 have extended the school further.

The building now comprises of administration offices, seven classrooms, a practical area for Foundation Stage pupils, wonderful outdoor learning areas for all of our pupils, a range of intervention spaces and two libraries. We have a very spacious hall which is used for Collective Worship, P.E. and other curriculum activities, as well as performances. It is also used for serving cooked meals and packed lunches. We have a cookery room for our children as well as a physiotherapy room, hygiene suite and lift for anyone with any physical need. Outside we have a large playground, adventure playground, trim trail, pirate ship play area, spiritual garden, forest school area and extensive playing fields including a large sandpit and digging areas. The school offers a fantastic environment for children where they can feel secure, safe and happy in surroundings that are attractive and well cared for.

"All staff are so approachable. Lovely school atmosphere which makes this a school that children can thrive in." One of our parents (July 24 Parent questionnaire).



"The school has friendly and approachable staff, including office staff and lovely teachers" One of our parents (July 24 parent questionnaire).

The school is well resourced with good computing facilities, including laptops and iPads, and offers a stimulating learning environment. We are a caring and supportive community. Our pupils are eager to learn and they achieve well because of the hard work and strong commitment by staff, governors, parents and carers at the school.



School Policy Statements

The school has a comprehensive list of policy statements relating to the curriculum and other areas of school life. If you wish to see any of these policies many are available on our website, but they are all available from the school office.



Class Organisation

The children have chosen to name their classes after trees which can be found on the school site:

Apple Class: Reception

Willow Class: Year 1

Acer Class: Year 2

Sycamore Class: Year 3

Cherry Class: Year 4

Elder Class: Year 5

Eucalyptus Class: Year 6

"We love Shurdy, there is clearly genuine care about each and every student shown by all of the staff. Couldn't recommend it highly enough."

One of our parents (July 24 Parent questionnaire)

"The teachers are amazing, they seem to really care about the kids. The head and deputy head seem to know every single student in the school."

One of our parents (July 24 Parent questionnaire)



School Houses

We have four school houses: Chosen (green), Cleeve (blue), Coopers (yellow) and Crickley (red). Each child is allocated a house when they start school and Year 6 House Captains are elected at the start of each academic year. House points are awarded as an incentive and reward for good work, behaviour, attitude or manners. Trophies are awarded at the end of each half term and each child competes for their house on Sports Day or in other termly competitions such as the Spelling Bee or House Football Tournament.



"The ethos and atmosphere is great. I love how inclusive the school is, and how well staff get to know and understand the needs of every child. It is a very welcoming environment, little things like the head/deputy being out in the playground and saying good morning to the children by name sometimes - it's so simple but makes a real difference. I think my son feels like he is part of a wider family at this school and it has given him so much more confidence." One of our parents (July 24 Parent questionnaire).



Church of England Voluntary Controlled Status

Shurdington is a Church of England school, controlled by the Local Authority. Foundation Governors are nominated by the Parochial Church Council and appointed by the Gloucester Diocesan Board of Education to represent the church.

Foundation Governors have a particular role to play. This covers the monitoring of R.E. (Religious Education) as well as worship and the overall Christian distinctiveness of the school - its community, values and the impact of the Christian ethos upon the pupils.

A lively school and a lively church are two important ingredients for any strong community. Shurdington Church of England Primary School encourages children to grow with Christian values. Within such an environment, the children not only learn the Christian story but are provided with a clear social and moral framework. The Vicar of St. Paul's Church is a school governor and plays an important role within our school. Assemblies and Acts of Worship are led by members of the local clergy on a frequent basis and pupils regularly visit the church.

School Hours

The school day begins with a flexible drop off between 8:40 and 9:00 a.m and the school day ends at 3:10 pm for KS1 and 3:15 pm for KS2.

Pupils have a 15-minute break from 10:50 a.m. to 11:05 a.m.

Lunch is from 12:15 p.m. to 1:15 p.m.

"The staff are welcoming and helpful with any concerns we have". One of our parents (July 24 Parent questionnaire).

We provide a breakfast and afterschool club for care outside of these hours. Breakfast Club is from 8:00 a.m. until school starts and After School Club is available until 6:00 p.m. There is a small charge for this service. More information can be found on our website.

"Staff are warm and welcoming. They have a real and obvious passion and love for the children and teaching." One of our parents (July 24 parent questionnaire).



"There's a great sense of community, strong learning strategies and care of all for each student"
One of our parents (July 24 Parent questionnaire).

Communication

Whilst your child is at school, the class teacher will normally deal with any concerns and urgent matters will receive immediate attention. However, for non-urgent matters, you will be asked to meet the appropriate member of staff at a mutually convenient time. The Headteacher is always willing to meet and talk with parents.

Formal Parents' Evenings are held in the Autumn and Spring Terms, where you have the opportunity to discuss the progress of your child and also view their work. All children receive written reports at the end of each term.

"I love the incredible staff team, led by Mr Millin. He sets the tone for such a kind, caring, friendly & welcoming community. Every single member from the secretaries to dinner ladies, TA's & class teachers seem so supportive: it's honestly a breath of fresh air!!! Thank you one and all". One of our parents (July 24 Parent questionnaire).



"The school places a lot of importance on the child's wellbeing, the teachers are very supportive and approachable, the curriculum is engaging and diverse, there are excellent extracurricular activities, the school fosters a strong sense of community and inclusiveness." One of our parents (July 24 Parent questionnaire).

A newsletter is sent home fortnightly. This will keep you informed of upcoming activities, events and important dates in the school calendar. The newsletter can also be viewed on our website and spare copies are available from the office. A texting service is also used to keep parents and carers up to date with news and events. Online safety newsletters are also sent every other week and reading newsletters are sent monthly. Our Reception Class also use Tapestry to keep our new parents informed.

School holidays are published well in advance and these include staff training (INSET) days. Copies can be found in the school office and on our website.

"After 7 years at the school, we have had such a positive experience, kindness, empathy and understanding, I feel heard, they have a very personal approach to each child." One of our parents (July 24 Parent questionnaire).



"The teachers are incredible, supportive and kind. The senior team are strong. Mr Millin is a strong head, and steers the ethos and happiness of the school." One of our parents (July 24 parent questionnaire).

School Uniform

The school is very proud of its standing in the local community and seeks to promote a high standard of dress to help to instil in pupils a sense of pride in their school. All branded school wear can be purchased online or in store from Monkhouse although we also have second hand items in school for sale. Please contact the school office for more information. School uniform must be clearly marked with your child's name.



Grey or black trousers, skirt or pinafore dress

White polo shirt or blouse

Sky blue sweatshirt or cardigan

(In summer girls may wear a light blue gingham dress)

FOOTWEAR

Sensible plain socks. Shoes should be black, flat (no higher than 2cm), sensible and should ideally be closed for comfort and safety. Children may also wear sensible, black boots



PE Kit

White or pale blue T-shirt
Black or navy shorts
Black pumps
Trainers
Track suit or joggers and sweatshirt for winter sports

"Shurdington feels like a family. Teachers and pupils are all well known to each other which I feel supports the children's capabilities and wellbeing." One of our parents (July 24 parent questionnaire).

The School Curriculum

To enable our children to take their place in our demanding, rapidly changing society, our curriculum needs to be well planned, with a breadth, depth and variety that will meet their needs. This is achieved through the National Curriculum, cross-curricular links and the ethos of the school.

The National Curriculum consists of the following subjects: English, Maths, Science, R.E., Design and Technology, Computing, History, Geography, Art and Design, Music, Personal Social Health and Citizenship Education (PSHCE) and P.E. All pupils in Key Stage 2 have the opportunity to learn French as a Modern Foreign Language.

The National Curriculum is made up of the following Key Stages:

Key Stage 1	5-7 years
Key Stage 2	7-11 years
Key Stage 3	11-14 years
Key Stage 4	14-16 years

"All teachers are so friendly, eager to help in any situation, always rewarding children etc."
One of our parents (July 24 Parent questionnaire).



"The pastoral care is amazing. Care and wellbeing from all staff is exceptional. Loving, friendly atmosphere with helpful, kind caring and supportive staff as soon as you walk through the door." One of our parents (July 24 Parent questionnaire).

We place great value in learning through experience and practical activities. Breadth is added by offering a range of experiences beyond the classroom. Club activities, school visitors, church services and educational visits all play an important part in school life. In previous years we have achieved "Artsmark" and 'Music Mark' status, which recognises our provision, commitment and achievement in the Arts. We have also been awarded the "International School Award" and various Eco-awards as recognition of our success in promoting the international and eco-friendly dimension to our curriculum. We also hold the platinum Sports Mark for success in the promotion of sporting activities.

At the beginning of each term parents are informed about each class's learning journey. This enables parents to assist their children by supporting schoolwork at home. A brief description of the curriculum can be found on the following pages with more details on our website.

"The range of extra-curricular activities available and included in the school day is amazing, i.e. instrument lessons within music and a great range of sports activities during sports day etc. I like that parents are invited to read with their child one morning a week." One of our parents (July 24 parent questionnaire).



Early Years Foundation Stage

We provide an exciting, balanced curriculum across the seven areas of the foundation stage, using play as a vehicle for learning. Our classroom provides a stimulating, nurturing and multi-sensory environment which supports the children's interests and needs. It is a purposeful space where children feel happy, secure and engaged. Our language-rich environment provides open-ended play opportunities where children are actively encouraged to work together to develop communication, language and social skills. We recognise the importance of involving families in their child's learning and maximise opportunities to build these relationships when joining our school family.



English

In studying English, pupils develop skills in speaking and listening, reading and writing. We encourage our pupils to develop a love of reading, express themselves creatively and imaginatively; and to communicate with others effectively. They learn to become critical readers of stories, poetry and drama as well as non-fiction and media texts.



We believe that Maths is an integral part of everyday life. We aim to promote and develop competent and confident use of mathematical skills, knowledge and processes. We wish to ensure that Maths is an activity which all children find enjoyable, where perseverance, curiosity and logic are applied. Pupils are encouraged to use and understand Maths in real situations, where it is meaningful and relevant to their lives, now and in the future.

"The school is inclusive for all students. Communication is good and there is a breadth of after school club activities." One of our parents (July 24 parent questionnaire).



"Children are happy due to relaxed atmosphere, staff are always friendly." One of our parents (July 24 parent questionnaire).

Parents have an important part to play in helping their children to develop confidence and enjoyment. Support at home is highly valued e.g. when learning times tables, telling the time, handling money and in playing maths games as part of our Home/School Partnership.

Science

The teaching of Science helps children to explore and understand the way in which our world works. The school has a good reputation for the teaching of science and it is taught every Friday morning. The emphasis is on a practical approach to scientific investigations and enquiry.

The local environment provides a valuable resource for the study of plant and animal life. Our Forest School area is a focus for many investigations. The subject is well resourced to support other areas of science including, materials, light, electricity, sound and forces.



Design and Technology

In Design and Technology, pupils use their creativity and imagination to design, make and evaluate products for a wide range of users. They acquire a broad subject knowledge whilst making cross-curricular links and learn to use a range of tools and materials. Pupils will understand and apply the principles of nutrition and learn how to cook.

They will develop a critical understanding of the impact that Design and Technology has on daily life and the wider world.

Computing

In Computing, pupils learn to use computational thinking and creativity to understand the world, whilst making links with other subjects. They learn computer science through a variety of programming activities. Pupils become digitally literate and will be taught to be responsible, competent, confident, creative and safe users of information, communication technology.

"The huge amount of extracurricular sporting opportunities and enrichment events is really good."
One of our parents (July 24 Parent questionnaire).



"My favourite things about Shurdington School is that my child's emotional needs are met. I cannot praise the teaching staff in reception class highly enough! One of our parents (July 23 parent questionnaire).

All our computers are networked and have restricted access to the Internet via the South West Grid for Learning. All pupils are taught to use computers accurately and online safety is at the centre of the curriculum. The use of computers is incorporated into most subjects; all year groups have either a bank of laptops or iPads to use.



"Shurdington is caring and compassionate. It makes my child feel comfortable" One of our parents (July 24 Parent questionnaire).

Art

We aim to inspire and challenge children to express themselves creatively. They are provided with a wide variety of materials and are taught a range of different techniques. Pupils are taught to be aware of shape, pattern, colour and design in two-dimensional and three-dimensional forms. They work individually and together on collaborative pieces of art. They learn about the work of different artists, both local, past and present and from a variety of different cultures.

Geography

The children are taught geographical skills and how to use these in developing their understanding of places: locally, nationally and throughout the world. They learn to use first-hand experience and how to research and investigate. They look at both physical and human areas of geography.



History

The children are taught awareness of, and facts about, the past. In Key Stage 1 pupils study the immediate past within and beyond living memory. Important events and the lives of famous people are also taught. In Key Stage 2, we teach important periods and developments in Britain's past, from Roman to modern times. Children learn about Ancient Civilisations and the history of other parts of the world. Good use is made of visiting speakers, local visits, drama and theatre visits. Outreach schemes from local museums are also used to bring this subject to life.

Physical Education (P.E.)

Children are encouraged to grow in confidence and develop skills through a variety of physical activities, as an individual and as part of a team. Dance and gymnastics are taught in our spacious, well-equipped hall. The school benefits from an extensive playing field and a large playground. The school participates in a range of competitive inter-school fixtures including football, tag rugby, netball, cross country, rounders and orienteering. Pupils also participate in the Gloucestershire Dance Festival, archery festivals and inter-school athletics events. The school runs a number of very popular after school clubs for sport, often supported by external coaches. We fully support the ethos of competitive sport but with the emphasis on developing basic skills and a general enthusiasm for sport.



Music

Music is a valuable part of school life at Shurdington and is enjoyed by children of all ages and abilities. The children are introduced to music through a range of enjoyable experiences. They have opportunities to listen to, sing and create music using tuned and un-tuned instruments. There are a number of opportunities for children to perform to wider audiences.

Certain year groups learn an instrument together such as the ukulele. Utilising the support of specialist teachers, children will also be given the opportunity to learn to play the guitar or drums and other instruments as they progress through the school.

"Shurdington is such a friendly environment. It has great staff and great values."

One of our parents (July 24 parent questionnaire).



"The teaching staff are great with parents as well as the children, being competent at talking with parents makes me feel much more secure that my children will be well looked after by them."

One of our parents (July 24 parent questionnaire).

Modern Foreign Language (French)

KS2 pupils enjoy weekly French lessons. The emphasis is on making learning a foreign language fun and we aim to encourage confidence through singing songs, role play and having conversations.



Religious Education

As a Church of England School, we follow the recommendations of the Diocesan Board of Education that Religious Education should be based on the Gloucestershire Agreed Syllabus. Children are taught about the Christian faith as well as exploring other world faiths. They investigate the different beliefs through a variety of activities such as visits to religious buildings and visits from specialists.

"I really like the friendly ethos, and sense of community. How the teachers have got to know and really understand my child in a relatively short space of time. The events held such as bake sales, fireworks, readathons etc. are amazing and After school club is great." One of our parents (July 23 questionnaire)





At various times during the school year parents are invited to join us for worship, class assemblies or other events. As a church school we have strong links with our local church of St. Paul's. The vicar and other members of the clergy lead assemblies as do the Open the Book team, who are a group of local Christians who bring to life many Bible stories for the children to enjoy and learn from. Parents who wish to withdraw their children from attendance at religious worship or education should discuss this with the Headteacher.



"The staff are fab! The teachers seem to know my daughter very well and understand her. They do a lot to ensure my daughter is happy and safe and confident. My daughter adores her teacher! The staff are happy and friendly despite having a lot of challenges in schools and their massive workloads. We appreciate you and think you are great. Thank you for everything."
One of our parents (July 23 questionnaire)

Special Educational Needs and Disabilities (S.E.N.D)

At Shurdington C of E Primary School, quality teaching that is differentiated and personalised will meet the individual needs of the majority of children and young people. SEND or Special Educational Needs and Disability is when pupils may need additional or different provision to enable them to achieve their potential.

Shurdington is fully inclusive and we welcome all children. Where a child has a recognised special need or disability, we will make necessary adjustments to meet those needs to ensure your child thrives in our mainstream setting. Our school is fully accessible and whilst supporting our children we will also encourage independence skills.

A full copy of the school's S.E.N.D Policy is available online or from the school office on request.

"There is a wide range of after school clubs available and many opportunities available for children to take part in external events and competitions." One of our parents (July 24 parent questionnaire)



"I think the range of after school activities on offer to all ages is fantastic." One of our parents (July 24 parent questionnaire).

Extra-curricular Activities and Educational Visits

During the year a range of clubs are offered at lunchtime and after school. Subject to staff availability and to the number of children showing interest. These have recently included:

Art	Football	Choir	Netball	Gardening	Rugby
Sewing	Martial Arts	All Stars (church group)	Cricket	Cross Country	
Tri-golf	Board games	Athletics	Drama	Mini Marines	Tennis
Story Telling	Cooking	Ballroom/Latin/Street dancing	Archery	Forest Schools	



PTFA (Parent, Teacher and Friends Association)

All parents and staff are automatically members of the school's PTFA. The role of the association is to foster good relations between home and school and to raise money to buy essential services or equipment.

"Shurdy is the best school ever and all the teachers really care about you."
One of our past pupils.



"This school is seriously the best!!!"
One of our past pupils.

Meetings to organise fund-raising events and social occasions are held regularly. Your support is essential for the PTFA to be successful, so please get involved if you can!



"I used to go to this school; I really loved it, the best primary school ever! Sadly, I had to leave and move up to secondary but didn't want to! Shurdington is like one big family, everyone looks after each other and all the teachers are really kind and polite! I really miss it. Wish I could go back!!"
One of our past pupils.

"I love that all the teachers know all children not just children in their class. The headmaster is present and also knows all children's names and is very approachable. It's a lovely environment and every child is made to feel special and valued. Generally a lovely feel to the school environment." One of our parents (July 24 parent questionnaire).



We hope this prospectus has helped answer any questions you might have. If you would like to find out anything more about our school family please visit our school website or, alternatively, feel free to give us a call.



The Virtual School
Best practice award 2022



SCHOOL MEMBER

