

Cherhill CofE VA Primary School



Encouraging and Enabling Excellence and Enjoyment

CHERHILL CofE (VA) PRIMARY SCHOOL



MIDDLE LANE, CHERHILL, CALNE, WILTSHIRE, SN11 8XX
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Dear Parents/Carers

Welcome to Cherhill CofE (VA) Primary School. We look forward to being involved in the academic, personal and creative development of your child.

This brochure is designed to provide you with a picture of the education offered to children at Cherhill CofE (VA) Primary School. We hope that you will find the information useful and are encouraged to find out more.

We want our school to be a happy place where the children feel secure as they learn. We offer a caring, community atmosphere where the abilities of all children are encouraged and developed.

You will always be made welcome when you visit the school, for we believe that children will benefit from parents and the school working together - sharing aims, achievements and concerns openly. We are in partnership with you to ensure your child's steady educational progress and development.

We see this brochure as the first stage in this partnership.

If, after reading this brochure, there are any questions which you would like to ask, please do not hesitate to contact us. Appointments to see a member of the teaching staff can be made through the school office.

Mrs Terry Hall
Headteacher

THE SCHOOL



Cherhill Church of England Voluntary Aided Primary School

Cherhill CofE (VA) Primary School was officially opened in May 1961. It was built to replace the small village schools of Cherhill, Yatesbury, Calstone and Compton Bassett and to provide a school for the children of RAF personnel at the then RAF Compton Bassett. This continues to be our catchment area, and Blacklands has been added.

The school is housed in a light and spacious building, set in extensive grassed and hard playing areas; situated at the foot of the downs with panoramic views of the hills and Cherhill White Horse. The three classes at the Eastern end of the building share a practical area equipped for Design Technology and Art work. At the heart of the building we have a large, well-equipped hall. We have a library and an ICT suite with 17 computers and SMARTboard. All classrooms have computers and SMARTboards as well as laptops for the children to use. School meals are cooked by Sue Brady Catering off site and delivered to school daily.

Children spend seven full years in primary schooling. The first of these year groups is referred to as the "Reception" year, YR, Foundation Stage or FS2. The following six years are referred to by numbers 1 to 6. Y1 and Y2 are called Key Stage 1; Y3, Y4, Y5 and Y6 are called Key Stage 2. At present the 7 classes organised as follows:

<u>Class Name</u>	<u>Year Group</u>	<u>Teacher</u>
Emerald	FS2 or Reception	Miss Catlin
Sapphire	Y1/2	Mrs Osborne
Amethyst	Y1/2	Mrs Burton and Miss Pearce
Ruby	Y3/4	Mrs Burr ridge
Pearl	Y3/4	Miss Starling
Diamond	Y5/6	Mrs Lammin and Mrs Hulford
Topaz	Y5/6	Mrs Price and Mrs Griggs

All classes at Cherhill CofE (VA) Primary School are named after precious gems from the Bible. As a Church of England school we express a commitment to the Christian faith through our acts of worship and through our strong links with the church, which appoints our Foundation Governors. Christian values, principles and beliefs influence the curriculum and relationships in the school. Cherhill CofE (VA) Primary School is a Voluntary Aided school, supported by the Diocese of Salisbury.

SCHOOL AIMS

"Every Child, Every Chance, Every Day"

Cherhill CofE (VA) Primary School

As a Christian School Community we embody the following values:



Christian school focused on our wider community

A belief that our Christian values should underpin all our work and relationships with the community



Happiness and imagination

A belief in the importance of ensuring a happy environment for all in which imagination can flourish



Empathy and Respect for All

A belief that empathy with, and respect for all members of the school community is essential in a Christian school



Reflection and Aspiration

A belief that time for reflection is essential for both pupils and staff in order to sustain high aspiration



Honesty and Care

A belief that honesty and care for others are essential in our relationships with each other



Innovation and Motivation

A belief in and commitment to innovation to sustain high levels of motivation



Love and Faith

A belief that as a Christian school Christian love and faith inform all we do



Learning Community

Together these values help us to develop as a learning community

STAFF

Teaching Staff

Headteacher	Mrs Terry Hall	
Deputy Head	Mrs Helen Lammin	Diamond Class
Teachers	Mrs Sarah Price Y5/6	Topaz Class
	Mrs Sue Griggs Y5/6	
	Mrs Helen Lammin Y5/6	Diamond Class
	Mrs Sue Hulford Y5/6	
	Mrs Kirsty Burr ridge Y3/4	Ruby Class
	Miss Rebecca Starling Y3/4	Pearl Class
	Mrs Katie Burton Y1/2	Amethyst Class
	Miss Anna Pearce Y1/2	
	Mrs Katie Osborne Y1/2	Sapphire Class
Miss Charlotte Catlin YR (FS2)	Emerald Class	

Non-Teaching Staff

Administrative Officer	Mrs Clare Randall
Clerical Assistant	Mrs Jennie Noble-Nesbitt
Teaching Assistants	Mrs Serena Morten
	Mrs Heather Morris
	Mrs Paula Norris
	Mrs Jackie Matthews
	Mrs Louise Vowden
	Mrs Tina Goodman
	Mrs Amanda Goodship
	Mrs Corrin Barbieri
	Mrs Diane Gill
	Miss Debbie Hillier
	Miss Lauren Webb
	Mrs Nicki Stagg
	Mid Day Supervisors
Miss Debbie Hillier	
Miss Lauren Webb	
Ms Suzanne Graham	
Mrs Diane Gill	
Mrs Jennie Noble-Nesbitt	
Cleaner in Charge	Mrs Paula Norris
	Mrs Julie Pearce
	Mrs Corrin Barbieri
Cleaner	Mrs Nicki Stagg
	Mrs Tina Goodman
Kitchen Staff	

SCHOOL GOVERNORS

The *Governors* have responsibility for overseeing many aspects of the management and running of the school. These include:-

The curriculum taught to the children.

Finance - agreeing and monitoring the school's spending plan.

Personnel - deciding staffing levels and appointing staff.

Admissions, conduct and discipline, the provision of information about the school through the prospectus and an annual report.

School inspections.

Premises - ensure health and safety and maintenance of school buildings and equipment.

These responsibilities are shared with the Headteacher and professional staff at the school. The Governing Body has representatives from staff, parents, the Parish Churches, and the local community and meet each term. Sub-committees also meet and report back to full meetings of the Governing Body.

Governors

Chairperson	Mrs Nicola Brennan	Foundation Parent
Vice Chair and Chair of Teaching, Learning & Achievement	Mr Barry Seed	Parent Governor
	Mrs Debbie Ludkin	Foundation Parent
	Mrs Hannah Ellis	Parent Governor
	Mrs Alison Wylie	Foundation Parent
	Mrs Vicky Wilson	Foundation Non-Parent
	Mrs Katie Burton	Staff Governor
Chair of Finance, Premises and Staffing	Mr Rex Orton	LA Governor
	Rev Philip Bromiley	Foundation Ex Officio
	Mr Alan Carter	Foundation Non-Parent
	Mrs Helen Lammin	Staff Governor
	Mrs Terry Hall	Headteacher
	Mrs Jennie Noble-Nesbitt	Clerk to the Governors

STARTING SCHOOL

ADMISSIONS POLICY

As a Church Aided School, the Governing Body is the admission authority for the school; an admissions policy is available with this brochure. It is the intention of the Governing Body to continue the tradition of Christian service in education to the local community of Cherhill, Yatesbury, Blacklands, Lower Compton and Compton Bassett. Should there be more applicants than places available, the Governors will admit children from outside the catchment area in accordance with the school's Admission Policy. All admissions are subject to the requirements of the planned Pupil Admission Number (PAN) of 30.

The law says that children must attend school full time from the start of the term following their fifth birthday. In Wiltshire, a school place is available for all children from the September following their fourth birthday.

Parents can decide to delay their child's admission until the start of the term following their fifth birthday. Children in Wiltshire can only be admitted early to school for very exceptional reasons. Our School Admission Policy states that the Governors have the discretion to determine whether attendance should be full-time or half-time during the term(s) before the children attain the age of 5. This decision has been delegated to the Headteacher who will inform parents of the induction arrangements during Term 5.



A guide for parents seeking a Primary School Place is available from the Customer Care Team at County Hall (01225 713000). This describes the common admission policy.

The school's designated area is defined as the villages of Compton Bassett, Yatesbury, Calstone, Blacklands, Lower Compton and Cherhill. There is room to admit children from outside our designated area and we regularly take children from Calne, Devizes and Beckhampton.



Every Child, Every Chance, Every Day

If you wish your child to start their schooling and join the Foundation Stage class you should register your child by filling out a Wiltshire Council application form, available as a paper copy from the school office or online in the Wiltshire Council website. The closing date for Reception intake is January 31st 2015. The County Admissions Team liaises with the School Governors' Admissions Panel. Visits by prospective parents are welcomed. Please contact the school office to make an appointment.

We liaise with local playgroups and nurseries and arrange a series of visits to school to help our four year olds to get ready for school. At the first visit the children will be accompanied by their parents on a tour of the school, where they will meet their teacher and other members of staff. After their visit they are invited to spend a morning or afternoon each week for 3 weeks with their teacher and future classmates. This will be during term 6 (Approximately June time).

Any parents wishing to transfer their child/ren from another school should contact Wiltshire Council Admissions team directly.

SCHOOL DAYS AND HOLIDAYS

The School Day:

Morning Sessions 8.45am to 12.00pm

Afternoon Sessions 1.00pm to 3.00pm

Children may come into school from 8.30a.m where they will be supervised by staff and engaged in Early Morning Activities. Children are not permitted onto site before 8.30a.m.

There is a 15 minute break during the morning for all pupils.

YR-Y2 have an afternoon break when required.

At the end of afternoon school, our Reception, Y1 and Y2 children are to be collected directly from the class teacher (unless they travel on the school bus).

We ask all parents to let their child's teacher know if a different person is collecting their child. Children are to be collected from the doors nearest their cloakroom. They should not leave via the main entrance.

The three traditional school terms have now been divided into six. The Autumn term is now referred to as Term 1 and Term 2, the Spring term as Term 3 and 4 and the Summer term as Term 5 and 6. We hope that you will take family holidays during the school holidays to avoid disrupting your child's education. (See Attendance Policy for further details).

An additional five days are allocated each year for Teacher Training; pupils are not expected to attend school on these days. You will be notified of these as arrangements are made.



We ask all parents and visitors to use the main entrance and report to the school office. The school's main entrance is at the centre of the school.

HOME SCHOOL AGREEMENT

Cherhill CofE (VA) Primary School has a Home School Agreement, which enables families and the school to make a formal commitment to work together for the benefit of the pupils, parents and the school.

ABSENCES FROM SCHOOL

At the start of morning and afternoon school, the teachers complete a register of attendance, showing which children are present or absent for the session. Teachers are legally required to indicate the reason for any absence.

Parents should notify us of absences by 8.45 a.m. either by e-mail or telephone message. Planned absence should be requested by the Parent/Carer in a letter to the Headteacher. If no explanation is given the school is required by law to report an unauthorised absence. If the school has not been informed we will telephone the parents/carers on the day of absence. The Local Education Welfare Officer will be involved when long absences are not explained satisfactorily.

We request that parents avoid arranging medical and dental appointments during school hours and, unless unavoidable, not to book holidays during term time. If an annual holiday has to be taken in school time please write to the Headteacher with your reasons in advance. Strict guidelines are in place following advice from County.



SCHOOL UNIFORM

We encourage parents to provide sensible, comfortable school clothes and shoes through our promotion of a school uniform. We do not wish to prescribe particular types of shoe, but ask that parents consider what is suitable for school wear bearing in mind differing floor surfaces, steps, and grassed areas. If a member of staff feels that a child's footwear is unsuitable they may be asked to change into their plimsolls and you will be notified accordingly. Many parents will feel that school uniform liberates them from early morning arguments about what to wear to school and share our view that clothes appropriate to learning and not leisure help to create the right attitude to work.

Our uniform is based around a suggested colour scheme. Items of clothing bearing the school logo can be purchased from the School Office. An order form is available on request.

Girls - White school polo shirt. Grey skirt or pinafore dress. Navy blue school cardigan, school sweatshirt or school fleece (sweatshirt and fleece not to be worn together). In cold weather, girls may wear sensible grey or black trousers.

Boys - White school polo shirt. Dark Grey trousers. Navy school sweatshirt or school fleece (sweatshirt and fleece not to be worn together).

Girls' Summer Uniform - Pale blue/White gingham print dress with navy school cardigan.

Year 6 - Navy blue t-shirts with white striped collar, with the school logo

Indoor PE Kit - Children are expected to have a change of clothing for physical activities. Navy blue shadow striped shorts and school T-shirt. Ideally children should go bare-foot for indoor physical activities, but plimsolls (daps) may be worn.

Outdoor Games Kit - The indoor games kit may be worn outdoors with appropriate footwear i.e. trainers (not their normal school footwear or indoor plimsolls) and a change of socks. The children in Years 3 to 6 will be expected to use the field in light rain or wet conditions. They should bring additional warm clothing for cold weather during autumn and spring terms. This may be a tracksuit (navy, black), jogging bottoms, a sweatshirt or simply an old jumper; they may also bring a towel to dry themselves.

Swimming - If your child is having swimming lessons they will require swimming trunks or costume, a towel, a swimming hat (boys and girls) and a small waterproof bag. If your child is not well enough to swim they should not be attending school. However, if for exceptional reasons your child is unable to swim they will remain at school and complete work with another class.

It is important that all belongings are clearly labelled with your child's name. Many items of clothing are identical and it is often impossible to distinguish between them.

Jewellery - The wearing of jewellery by children is not permitted, although some parents may wish their children to keep "studs" in pierced ears. For safety reasons, these must be removed by the children before PE or Games lessons. Children unable to remove studs themselves should not wear them on the days when they have PE activities (including swimming). Children will be asked to cover their ears if they have studs in on a PE day and are unable to remove them themselves.

SCHOOL TRANSPORT

Free transport on a public service bus is provided by Wiltshire Council. This is available to children who live in Yatesbury, Calstone, Blacklands and Compton Bassett village. Parents need to apply for a free bus pass via the Wiltshire Council website or request a paper copy of the application form from the school office

MEALS

School meals are provided by "Sue Brady Catering" and are cooked offsite. We have a hot server in our kitchen where these meals are served. A fortnightly menu is e-mailed to parents for each child; children have a choice of a hot meal or school packed lunch. Parents may choose which days they wish their child to have a school lunch, but all dinner money should be paid at least a week in advance. Payments can be made online at www.suebradycatering.com.

The introduction of Universal Infant Free School Meals means all FS2 and KS1 children are entitled to a hot or cold school meal free of charge. This can be ordered via Sue Brady Catering website using a unique code.

Children may bring packed lunches to be eaten under supervision in the dining hall. KS2 children may bring fruit or other healthy snacks as a mid-morning snack. KS1 children are currently provided with free fruit under the national scheme for their mid-morning snack. Children should **NOT** bring sweets into school. KS2 children are offered any fruit not eaten by KS1 children. All children need to bring a refillable water bottle each day.

Parents/carers who are in receipt of Income Support, Income Based Job Seekers Allowance, or Child Tax Credit, but who are not entitled to Working Tax Credit (as assessed by the Inland Revenue), are eligible to apply to the Local Authority for free school meals for their children. Application forms are available from the school office.

MEDICAL CARE

We take care to provide a safe and healthy environment for our pupils but accidents occur from time to time. Minor bumps and grazes are dealt with at school but we are not allowed to provide any medication. If there is a cause for concern, parents are contacted as quickly as possible.

The school needs to be notified of long-term illness such as asthma and arrangements will be made for the safe storage and administration of any medications.

The school is unable to supervise or administer prescribed medication if it is to be taken less than 4 times a day or is not for a specific medical condition. Medicines bought over the counter should be administered at home or by the parent at school. A form should be completed by the parent/carer to authorize the administration of any prescribed medication. Medicines brought into school must be:

- ✚ named
- ✚ include exact details for administration
- ✚ smallest amounts only
- ✚ delivered by parents only to the office (not the child)

All medication will be kept secure until needed. Medication should be self-administered under adult supervision (usually the Headteacher or First Aider).

Children should not be sent to school when they are unwell or within 48 hours of an incident of vomiting and diarrhoea.

Head lice are a recurring problem in all schools; please let us know if you suspect this problem.

The Bath and North East Somerset NHS Trust arrange medical examinations and each child receives a personal health record book on entry to school. Health services for school children involve hearing, height, weight and vision checks. The school nurse or paediatrician can also be consulted if the parents or teachers are concerned about a child.

CONTACT NUMBERS

Please could parents inform the school if there is a change in their telephone number or address which may be needed in an emergency, particularly for mobile phones where numbers change more frequently.

SCHOOL DISCIPLINE

The atmosphere of the school is friendly, but firm. Our School Rules all have a clear basis on common sense. The children are reminded of these rules and the reasons for them as part of an assembly at the beginning of the year and further reminders will be given to classes, groups or individual children when necessary.

The most desirable form of discipline is self discipline. Most children respond well to a precise set of rules and expectations of behaviour. However, these expectations must be shared and maintained by all members of the school community.

Children like to know

where a line is drawn,

why it is drawn and

the response to expect if it is crossed.

We encourage our pupils to be caring and tolerant in their relationships with others. We want them to have a sense of responsibility towards the community, the environment and those around them. We expect them to enjoy learning and show commitment and perseverance in their work.

Problems arising from a pupil's behaviour are best dealt with through close co-operation and dialogue between parents and the school. One party should contact the other as soon as possible and work together to improve any undesirable behaviour.

Our approach to discipline is positive. Children are rewarded for good behaviour and attitudes and constant praise and encouragement is offered. Children are continually given the opportunity to be rewarded for their efforts.

A copy the School Discipline Policy is enclosed.

SCHOOL VISITS AND FIELDWORK EXCURSIONS

The school places a strong emphasis on environmental studies. These studies extend from the school grounds where we are developing our own environmental/sensory area, into the local village and even further afield. KS2 children spend time away each year. Y6 children spend a week in Danywenallt, Wales and Y5 spend 4 days in New Barn, Dorset. Voluntary contributions are requested to enable a variety of school activities to take place.

AFTER SCHOOL ACTIVITIES AND MUSIC LESSONS

We encourage our children to develop their own interests. We offer a variety of activities outside lesson time and most children should be able to find an activity to interest them. These clubs usually run from 3.10 to 4.15 pm and include sport, music, art and other activities which vary from term to term. Some children choose to learn the guitar or piano. These lessons are taught by specialist teachers who charge for their lessons; if you are interested in your child learning an instrument please contact the school office.

Staff give their own time to provide after school clubs. The school also offers private clubs (ones that parents pay for) and we currently offer Judo and Football. We have two after-school clubs run by Go Active, and these vary termly from Alternative Sports to Gymnastics. One of these clubs is free and funded by the Government PE grant, divided into a club for KS1 and 2. The second club is paid and can range of Street Surfing to Fencing.

VOLUNTEER HELPERS

We encourage volunteers to help in the classroom with a variety of tasks. All volunteers are given a handbook, which provides guidance for working with children, and should undergo a D B S check. Volunteers must always be aware of the confidential nature of helping out at school and should never discuss things they hear or see outside the school. Our school policy is that parents, who volunteer on a regular basis, e.g. reading, do not work in a class where their child/children are. We are always very grateful to parents/carers for their help and support in so many different aspects of school life.

NEWSLETTERS

Parents/carers are kept regularly informed of news and school activities through the school newsletter; this is sent out on the last Friday of every month. Copies are displayed in the entrance hall and on the parent's notice board situated at the front of the school by the main entrance. Information about the curriculum (topic web, timetables and a letter asking for help and resources) are displayed on our class pages on our school website at the beginning of each term.

PARENT CONSULTATION EVENINGS

Parents/carers receive an annual written report of their children's activities and progress during the year. There is an opportunity in July for this report to be discussed in private with staff. Parents' Evenings are held twice a year. Staff are always happy to see parents at other times but it is recommended that an appointment is made for longer discussions. Children's attainment, progress and assessment results are also sent out to parents after every big term.

FRIENDS OF THE SCHOOL

'Friends of the School' is a thriving PTA whose aim is to foster good relations between staff, school and parents through social and fundraising events. All parents are automatically members and fundraising events are held throughout the year. Organising events is hard work but great fun and a good way to make new friends.

Over the years, 'Friends of the School' have been able to purchase many items for the school and their efforts are much appreciated by everyone who has benefited from their hard work and generosity. Details of the current committee and their planned activities can be obtained from the School Office.

Parents' notices may be placed on the notice boards inside the Entrance Hall and outside the main entrance.

PHOTOGRAPHER

A photographer visits the school in the Autumn Term to take individual and family portraits and in the Summer Term for class and team photographs. This is offered as a service to parents and there is no obligation to purchase the photographs. Once every 5 years a whole school photograph is taken.

THE CURRICULUM TEACHING

There will be a wide range of ability in any class of children and it would be impractical to teach them all the same things at the same time. Therefore, a pattern of classroom organisation will usually be adopted which enables smaller groups within the class to be taught and work at an appropriate level. There will be times when the whole class will come together and also times when the teacher will organise the class to allow him/her to work with individual children. Each teacher will adjust the organisation of the class to best suit the requirements of the lesson.

CHILDREN WHO NEED EXTRA HELP

All staff at Cherhill CofE (VA) Primary School are committed to the aims of providing a broad, balanced, relevant and differentiated curriculum for every child, in accordance with National Curriculum guidance. Children's progress is monitored and assessed as required.

Each teacher attends regular meetings with the Special Needs Co-ordinator (SENCo) to discuss children in the class, who give a cause for some concern.

The SENCo (Special Educational Needs Co-ordinator) may work alongside the class teachers to design an individual programme of work for a child who has a difficulty or exceptional ability in a certain area. Sometimes children may be withdrawn from their classroom for extra help, or may receive help from another teacher or assistant working alongside the child in the classroom. Occasionally we call upon the services of the Educational Psychologist.

At all stages, we work closely with parents, and have the support of Wiltshire's Education Advisory Service and ensure we are in accordance with the National Code of Practice. Our detailed Special Educational Needs Policy can be obtained through the school office.

At present the children are grouped in the following classes:

	Age	Class Name
Foundation Stage (FS2)	4-5 years	Emerald
Y1/2	5-7 years	Sapphire
Y1/2	5-7 years	Amethyst
Y3/4	7-9Years	Ruby
Y3/4	7-9 Years	Pearl
Y5/6	9-11 Years	Diamond
Y5/6	9-11 Years	Topaz

Our children spend at least five and a quarter hours a day at school, of which four and three quarters are devoted to lessons. The school "curriculum" means everything that the child experiences during his/her time at school and this includes activities beyond the classroom. At Cherhill CofE (VA) Primary School we aim to provide a broad, balanced curriculum, matched to the individual abilities, experiences and interests of the children. The main focus of the term may involve a close study of a particular time in History, a place in Geography or a theme in Citizenship.

Young children do not readily see distinctions between one subject and another, but as they mature and are eventually ready to leave our school our children will be familiar with the qualities that makes each subject special in its own right.

Cherhill CofE (VA) Primary School provides a learning environment which encourages each child to develop his or her own potential as fully as possible. At Cherhill CofE (VA) Primary School we want all children to experience successes and build self-confidence, regardless of ability and to know that they are making progress at Cherhill CofE (VA) Primary School. We aim to give our children as many opportunities as possible for learning from first-hand experience, providing them with a rich variety of stimuli such as: visits, guest speakers, handling artefacts and using interesting displays. Pupils are encouraged to be independent and learn to make good use of a wide range of reference books, film clips, sound recordings and computers.

The National Curriculum was introduced with the aim of setting out a clear, full and statutory entitlement to learning for all pupils. It describes what should be taught and how to assess and report on pupils' progress. It provides teachers, pupils and parents with a clear understanding of the skills and knowledge that young people will gain at school and provides a framework for schools to develop a character rooted in their local communities.

The National Curriculum consists of eleven subjects plus Religious Education. The subjects are Maths, English, Science, Computing, Religious Education (R.E.), Design and Technology (D.T.), Art, Geography, History, Music, Languages and Physical Education (P.E.). The core subjects are Maths, English, Science and Computing, and as we are a Voluntary Aided School also includes R.E. All other subjects are known as foundation subjects. Schools should also teach personal, social, health and economic education (PSHE).

Personal Development

To enable children to:

- fulfil their maximum potential as individuals and to develop their self esteem
- develop the ability to plan independent work and organise their own time
- find enjoyment in a variety of aspects of school work and gain satisfaction from their own achievements
- develop a questioning attitude towards their environment and make good use of leisure time

Social and Moral Development

To enable children to:

- know those moral values relating to people and property, which are shared by the majority of members of society
- be kind and considerate e.g. give personal help to younger or new children; to consider the elderly and the disabled
- be courteous, civilised and caring human beings with self-control and a healthy respect for others regardless of race, creed or colour.

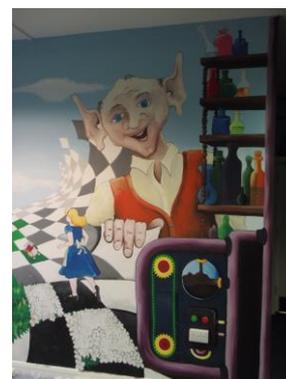
ENGLISH

The new National Curriculum is followed. This aims to enable children to:-

- read easily, fluently and with good understanding
- develop the habit of reading widely and often, for both pleasure and information
- acquire a wide vocabulary, an understanding of grammar and knowledge of linguistic conventions for reading, writing and spoken language
- appreciate our rich and varied literary heritage
- write clearly, accurately and coherently, adapting their language and style in and for a range of contexts, purposes and audiences
- use discussion in order to learn; they should be able to elaborate and explain clearly their understanding and ideas
- are competent in the arts of speaking and listening, making formal presentations, demonstrating to others and participating in debate

In addition to this time, speaking, listening, reading and writing will obviously be used in all the other subjects. Reading, writing and understanding English is the basis for all other learning.

The development of a love of reading and an appreciation of literature, both poetry and prose is most important. The children are taught to listen with concentration and understanding; to put forward their ideas and discuss them with confidence, respecting the views of others and to describe, explain and narrate clearly.



Every Child, Every Chance, Every Day

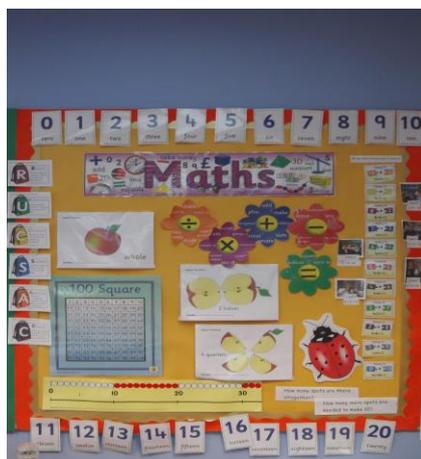
At Cherhill we use Bug Club, which is a whole-school reading programme designed for use at Foundation Stage, KS1 and KS2. It is the first phonic-based reading programme to join books with an online reading world, to teach today's children to read. Children will have access to a wide range of paper-back books, along with their own personalised reading world which includes: interactive activities, characters they know and love and rewards to keep them motivated. This will create that all important link between school and home.

The books are carefully graded to match the children's reading ability and the importance is placed upon children going back and re-reading the books, playing games to reinforce their understanding. This skill will develop the children's comprehension ability and moves away from the children reading books at a fast pace to get 'through a colour band'. Each book has an activity page at the back, where the children can complete tasks related to the text. Children have their own login to access their online reading world. On their homepage the children will see books allocated by their teacher which they can read. When they complete the quizzes, they can earn 'Bug points' which can be exchanged for online rewards. We also supplement this Bug Club with a selection of books from many successful reading schemes

The children also bring home a "Contact Book" in FS2 and KS1 and "Home School Record Books" in KS2. This book can also be used to relay non-confidential or non-urgent messages between staff and home. We expect parents to play an important part in encouraging reading progress by sharing the reading book with their child as often as possible and entering their comments in the reading records. You will also be given a booklet about how you can support the school by helping your child with reading. Our home learning policy states that children need to read at least 4 times a week, which can be from a variety of genres: comics, magazines, library books etc.

Joined script is taught from an early age and children are encouraged to present their work attractively. Writing lucid letters, reports or descriptive accounts is as important as writing creatively and sensitively for a range of audiences. Each child follows a daily structured spelling programme linked to their Phonics sessions in FS2 and KS1 and the use of Spelling Journals in KS2, which allows fun multi-sensory activities to support their learning. They are taught a range of helpful spelling strategies and grammar rules alongside their daily spelling activities.

MATHS



The New Numeracy Curriculum is followed at Cherhill CofE (VA) Primary School and most children will spend up to one hour per day on Maths. The aim is to ensure that children:-

- become fluent in the fundamentals of mathematics, including through varied and frequent practice with increasingly complex problems over time, so that pupils develop conceptual understanding and the ability to recall and apply knowledge rapidly and accurately
 - reason mathematically by following a line of enquiry, conjecturing relationships and generalisations, and developing an argument, justification or proof using mathematical language
 - can solve problems by applying their mathematics to a variety of routine and non-routine problems with increasing sophistication, including breaking down problems into a series of simpler steps and persevering in seeking solutions
-
- Have a sense of the size of a number and where it fits into the number system
 - Know by heart facts such as number bonds, multiplication tables etc
 - Use these number facts to figure out answers mentally
 - Calculate accurately and efficiently
 - Recognise when it is appropriate to use a calculator, and be able to do so effectively
 - Make sense of number problems
 - Explain their methods and reasoning
 - Judge whether their answers are reasonable and be able to check them where necessary
 - Suggest suitable units for measuring and make sensible estimates of measurements
 - Be able to use graphs, diagrams, charts and tables

Maths lessons will usually have three parts -

- A short session involving oral work and mental calculation (5-10 minutes)
- The main teaching activity (30-40 minutes)
- The "plenary" to round off the lesson (10-15 minutes)
- However, each session has regular 'pit stops' to ensure the learning is moved forward and any misconceptions are discussed

The approach to teaching Maths recommended by the Curriculum emphasises the importance of mental calculation, direct teaching and that all pupils in the class should be doing Maths relating to a common theme.

The children are taught to think and solve problems mathematically, using appropriate basic concepts of the number system. They develop a wide range of skills including measuring, data handling, use of the calculator and understanding of Geometry.

The children are given the opportunity to enjoy learning a variety of strategies for calculating, practical work and investigation. Our aim is to teach real understanding before working with abstract numbers. Multiplication tables are taught and quick fire mental skills using the four rules (+, -, x, ÷) are taught daily. Problem solving activities are part of our curriculum and give children opportunities to use and apply the mathematical concepts they have learnt to a variety of everyday situations.

SCIENCE

Science helps children to understand more about their world. Children are naturally curious and so a major aim of science education is to stimulate and develop this curiosity.

The New National Curriculum is followed at Cherhill CofE (VA) Primary School. The aim is to ensure that children:-

- develop scientific knowledge and conceptual understanding through the specific disciplines of biology, chemistry and physics
- develop understanding of the nature, processes and methods of science through different types of science enquiries that help them to answer scientific questions about the world around them
- are equipped with the scientific knowledge required to understand the uses and implications of science, today and for the future



Science is taught as a separate subject, making links with other subjects whenever possible.

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

The Wiltshire Agreed Syllabus for Religious Education is followed at the school. This divides R.E. into two main areas of activity. The first is concerned with the ability to learn **about** religion and human experience of religion. The second is concerned with the ability to learn **from** religion and apply their learning to their lives.

Our children are taught basic Christian beliefs and have an opportunity to study other forms of religions such as Judaism and Islam in order to develop respect and understanding of them. The children learn the nature and responsibilities of religion and appreciate truth, honesty, self-control, helpfulness, friendship, compassion, obedience, forgiveness and cheerfulness. They also learn tolerance, courtesy and respect for all regardless of sex, race or creed.



Each class has an R.E. lesson once per week. In Year 5 and 6, the subject is called 'Theology and Philosophy.'

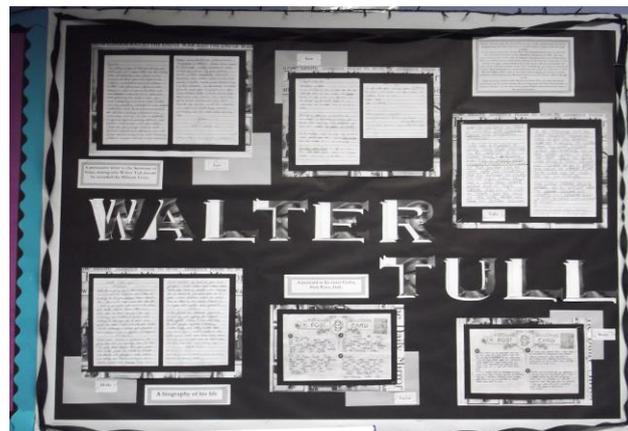
Parents/carers have the right to withdraw their child/ren wholly or partly from attending R.E. in school and the school must comply with such a request. At Cherhill CofE (VA) Primary School we ask that a request be made in writing and that the parents meet with the Headteacher, R.E. subject leader and a member of the Governing Body before making a final decision.

Computing



At Cherhill CofE (VA) Primary School, a new ICT Suite was opened in June 2007. It has 17 computers linked to the Internet as part of the National Grid for Learning. In addition we have access to Education City as a web based learning resource. Each class has a computer and SMARTboard in the classroom; the children also have access to laptops. The children use them to develop their computer skills as well as enhancing their learning in other areas of the curriculum.

HISTORY



At Cherhill CofE (VA) Primary School we believe history matters as it is concerned with factual evidence of human beings; how we lived and how we have changed through time. Historical study enables children to have an awareness of the past and a sense of chronology and time. They learn to appreciate change and continuity as well as understanding cause and effect. They gain experience in the use of many forms of evidence and an awareness of bias as well as an understanding, for instance, of what it must have felt like to be a slave. At Cherhill CofE (VA) Primary School we always attempt to use as much first-hand experience as possible, by arranging out of school visits or visitors, by good use of visual aids and by taking starting points which are familiar to the children and which draw on experiences already gained.

GEOGRAPHY

At Cherhill CofE (VA) Primary School our aim is to develop an informed concern for the environment and its future and a sense of responsibility for the care of the earth and its population. Our children learn to read maps; gaining knowledge of places and understanding the distinctive features that give them identity. Our children are taught about the changing nature of the world and the variety of physical and human conditions. The proximity of Cherhill CofE (VA) Primary School to the Downs and its location within a small village provides the teaching staff with a variety of stimulating starting points. In addition; visits further afield are arranged to museums and other places of interest.

DESIGN AND TECHNOLOGY (D.T.)

It is important to us that our children are prepared for and able to understand the technological world in which we live. Design and Technology is an exciting and challenging area of the curriculum in which our children are given the opportunity to work with a variety of materials for a wide range of purposes. Our children design and make artefacts, choosing appropriate materials and construction methods, using tools and equipment safely, learn to explain their methods clearly, and describe the process in various ways such as drawing, modelling, taking photographs and using the computer. Our children are encouraged to explore technology both past and present and in different cultures.

ART

Our children are taught to handle tools competently and safely, learning to take responsibility for organising their own space and materials. The techniques of colour mixing, painting, drawing, clay work, three-dimensional concepts and printmaking are taught as well as appreciation of artists' work and craftspeople from other times and cultures. The work of our children is valued and displayed with care.

MUSIC

At Cherhill CofE (VA) Primary School we foster an appreciation and love of music from the time a child enters our school. Our school is well equipped with tuned percussion instruments and there is also the opportunity for the children to have lessons in either piano or guitar. We have an active Sing-Up group in KS2, who meet weekly and perform in the local community and annually as part of the Young Voices concert at the O2. Singing and performing are embedded in many aspects of school life with FS2 and KS1 putting on a Nativity every year, Year 5 and 6 put on a Spring Production and Year 3 and 4 perform a Summer production.



Every Child, Every Chance, Every Day

PHYSICAL EDUCATION (P.E.)

Our children are taught to appreciate the relationship between physical education and their own health and well being. Our children develop a range of movement, dance and gymnastic skills and learn co-operation and sportsmanship when playing games. We provide opportunities to meet other children and visit different schools when playing matches, which enhance their social education. P.E. consists of regular gymnastics, games, athletics, dance and swimming lessons.

At present we are able to provide a weekly swimming lesson, alternating between Years 3, 4 and 5. Part of the necessary funding is provided by Wiltshire County Council's "Learn to Swim" programme, though we rely on contributions from parents to cover the majority of the cost of transport and lifeguard.

In addition we employ Go Active to provide P.E. coaching which is a fantastic opportunity for our children and allows teaching staff PPA time (Planning, Preparations and Assessment). They also provide two after school clubs, where children have the opportunity to try a variety of sports.

DRAMA

This is a very enjoyable activity and is an excellent teaching method that enables children to develop imagination, sensitivity, empathy and understanding as well as self-confidence through role-play. Drama is used to explore other areas of the curriculum and there are regular dramatic productions (Christmas Concerts, Productions, Y6 Leavers Assembly, Harvest Service, Easter Service) to which parents/carers and friends are invited.



PERSONAL, SOCIAL, HEALTH AND CITIZENSHIP EDUCATION (PSHCE)

This part of the curriculum is concerned with providing our children with the skills for living. Our children learn how to work and play with others, what to do if they are worried, how to relate to adults in varying circumstances and how to look after their bodies.

Many children are taught these things at home, but at Cherhill CofE (VA) Primary School we do not feel that this should be left to chance. Certain elements of Social and Personal Education will be approached through other areas of curriculum while some will be taught as specific units of study. We use the Wiltshire Learning for Life, which explores:

- Feelings and Relationships
- Healthy Lifestyles
- Money
- Risk
- Cyberworld

SEX EDUCATION

After careful consideration, the Governors of Cherhill CofE (VA) Primary School have decided to offer a programme of Sex Education that is appropriate to the pupils' age and experience. It is taught in Y5 and 6 and will be presented within a moral, family orientated, Christian framework.

The Sex Education Programme teaches the children how a new life begins, the physical changes of adolescence and the responsibilities these changes bring. At Cherhill CofE (VA) Primary School we make use of published material and parents are always invited to see the material and discuss the programme before lessons start.

Parents are able to withdraw pupils from all or part of the Sex Education programme that does not form part of the National Curriculum. A request should be put in writing and any concerns may be discussed with the teaching staff.

ASSEMBLY, COLLECTIVE WORSHIP AND OUR LINK TO THE CHURCH

We are a Church Aided School and have close links with the Church. We hold services both at church and at school where parents are invited to join us. There is an act of collective worship each day led by a member of staff, a member of the church, and a member of the local community or the children themselves. We visit St James' Church for important festivals and as part of our Religious Education. Although we are closely linked to the church, children from other religious backgrounds are welcome.

Parents may request their child be withdrawn from assemblies and other acts of worship. At Cherhill CofE (VA) Primary School we ask that a request be made in writing and that the parents meet with the Headteacher, R.E. Subject Leader and a member of the Governing Body before making a final decision.

HOME LEARNING

We expect children to share their enthusiasm for their work with their parents when they get home. Our younger children should share their reading books with their parents on most evenings. In KS1 and 2 children will be expected to practise spellings, number tables or handwriting at home, as well as sharing reading books at least four times a week. If you have any uncertainties about tasks your children bring home, please contact the class teacher at once. This may be done through the "Contact Book" or "Home-school Records". A timetable for home learning activities is displayed each term on our school website and is displayed in the cloakroom.

A copy of our "Home Learning Policy" is enclosed with this brochure.

GREEN SCHOOL COUNCIL

Pupils from Y1 to Y6 are elected by their classmates to take part in the School Council. This group meets fortnightly during school time to discuss matters raised in class councils or by others. They provide support in organising school events such as Children in Need and Comic Relief. The councillors find time to discuss issues within their own classrooms and feedback these in our meetings. They investigate how to make the school more energy efficient through recycling and energy saving, along with a 'litter picker' rota to ensure the school grounds are kept neat and tidy.

ASSESSMENT AND RECORD KEEPING

The teachers are constantly making formal and informal assessments of the children in their care. Teacher assessment is the basis for what happens next in the classroom.

Statutory Assessment Tests and Tasks (SATs) are used to determine each child's level of attainment as they near the end of Key Stage 1 (Summer Term of Year 2) and Key Stage 2 (Summer Term of Y6).

A record of each child's progress in the core subjects of the National Curriculum (English, Maths, ICT, Science and R.E.) is regularly updated by the teachers in the child's Progress File. Records of achievement in foundation subjects (History, Geography, PE, Art, Music and DT) are also kept in class assessment files. Children in the Foundation Stage Class have a detailed Foundation Stage Profile document indicating achievement against the Early Learning Goals. Parents/carers will be shown the Progress Files when they discuss their child at Parents' Evening; held twice during the school year.

School curriculum and policy statements, as well as documents relating to the National Curriculum and other Government directives are available for consultation upon request from the school office.

The children are constantly involved in reviewing their progress and they have an opportunity to assess their work each day against the set Learning Objective (L.O.). They are also involved in setting their targets and reviewing their progress against these targets.

There are three main points of assessment each year; October, February and May. At Cherhill CofE (VA) Primary School our children will sit a spelling test (SWST), a reading test (NFER GRTII) with KS2 children also completing a times table test. The data will be analysed and recorded in the child's Progress File. The children will be assessed at the end of every topic or unit of work that they cover in the Foundation Subjects. This information is used to help plan the next stages of learning for the children. Reading, Writing, Maths and Science National Curriculum Levels are reported each term to the Assessment Leader, using the ongoing APP (Assessing Pupils' Progress) statements.

When teaching staff mark the children's work they assess it against the set Learning Objective. The child will receive a red spot (needs help), an orange spot (nearly there) or a green spot (got it). Children are then able to see the progress they are making.

TRANSFERRING TO SECONDARY SCHOOL

Unless parents make alternative arrangements for secondary education, children living in Calne and the surrounding villages usually transfer to The John Bentley School in Calne at the end of Year 6. This comprehensive school has a Primary Classroom and children leaving Cherhill CofE (VA) Primary School will spend several days at The John Bentley School in their final year. All WCC secondary schools run their own induction programmes for children and their parents, and you will be informed of these by the respective schools.

CHILD PROTECTION

The Children's Act of 1989 requires Local Authorities and their departments e.g. Social Services and Education, including schools, to co-operate in respect of their work with vulnerable children. The school policy is based on Wiltshire's Child Protection guidance. Our Headteacher is the named person for Child protection.

FORMS

- We ask all parents to sign our Photographic Images agreement. This allows us to take photographs of your child and use them in our school brochure, newspaper articles, displays around school and on the web site. Parents have a right to withdraw consent at any time and can stipulate any conditions they have regarding photographic images e.g. no name, first name only, group shots only, no full facial image etc.
- We ask all parents to sign a consent form to allow us to take the children on short walks around the village and to the local church. This means we can make use of good weather without having to write each time we have to cancel due to rain! Trips by car or coach which go further than the local village boundary will require additional parental consent.

COMPLAINTS PROCEDURES

Curriculum & Religious Worship

Any complaints concerning the school curriculum or religious worship should initially be referred to the Headteacher. Should you be dissatisfied with the Headteacher's handling of any matter to do with the school, including the curriculum, you should write to the school governors. Details of the statutory complaints procedure on curriculum matters are available from the school, or from the Local Education Authority.

Complaints

The 1988 Education Reform Act has established a complaints procedure for parents to use if they feel that their child's school is not complying with National Curriculum requirements or other aspects of the 1988 Act.

Information on the complaints procedure can be obtained from the Clerk to the Governors or from the school. However, by working closely with parents, we hope complaints can be dealt with informally but effectively by first of all making an appointment to talk with the Headteacher. Should further discussion be needed, parents should contact the Chair of Governors via the school office.

Other Concerns

If you have concerns about any aspect of your child's school life please first contact the class teacher who may involve the Headteacher.

Compliments

“School is a place for children where there is love, concern, praise and recognition.”

If you wish to compliment the children, staff or the work of the school, please do so. The Headteacher, members of staff and Governors will ensure that the compliments are made known to those who have earned your appreciation.

You may like to tell the wider community.