

Primrose Hill Church of England Primary Academy



Growing a Brighter Future Together.



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Welcome Letter

I would like to extend a warm welcome to Primrose Hill C of E. The Academy is a member of the Diocese of Gloucestershire Academies Trust (DGAT) and therefore has a caring and supporting Christian ethos at its core.

At the heart of all we do at Primrose Hill is our children, we invest a lot of energy and time into making their education the best we can. We aim to provide children with skills and attitudes that they can use for the rest of their lives. We involve the children in their learning journey and create active, independent, resilient learners. It is our ambition for all of our learners to be full of ideas and love using their imagination and resourcefulness to help them with their learning. We want them to believe they can achieve the highest goals and anything is possible. We are 'growing a brighter future together'.

Children only flourish when we in school work with parents, promoting the same values and sharing closely their progress, understanding and concerns. Education is at its strongest when approached through a triangulation of pupil, home and school. At Primrose Hill, we firmly believe parents play a vital role in the education of their child and we aim to develop excellent working relationships with our families.

Finally, we think that wherever possible, for it to be effective, learning should be fun. It can be wet, it can be muddy and it can be a bit messy sometimes too. Your children may come home looking a bit dishevelled but we hope they have had a memorable day!

Visits are encouraged and welcomed. We would love to show you around our wonderful school.

Emma Mignaud
Head Teacher



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A Church School

Our aims are stated '*within the context of a Christian framework*'

These include:

- visits to the school by local clergy e.g. to take Collective Worship
- regular input from the local 'Open the Book' team who re-tell Bible stories in a straight forward and interesting way
- school services held at the church at Christmas and Easter and Harvest Festival

The school is also advised, supported and inspected by the local Diocesan Board of Education.

Diocese of Gloucester Academy Trust Member



We are a Church School and we have strong links with our local church community, Holy Trinity. We also joined The Diocese of Gloucester Academy Trust on the 5th February 2014. The mission of the Trust is to create and sustain a family of academies in the Diocese of Gloucester which provides children of all faiths and none with excellent educational provision within a distinctively caring and supportive Christian ethos.



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Our School Vision, Mission and Aims

Our Vision

'Growing a Brighter Future Together'

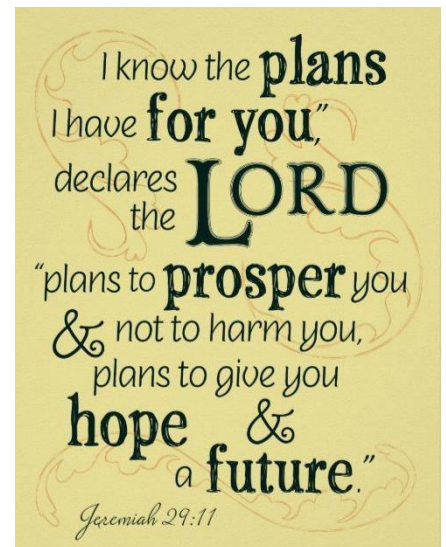
Jeremiah 29:11

Our Mission

We aspire that this Church of England Academy will be a distinctive centre of excellence. Our pupils will become independent, thinking individuals with a passion for life and learning. They will have the academic skills, resilience and belief that they can achieve anything. Together we will grow and nurture our children giving them the wings to fly into their future.

Our Aims

- To equip the children with the skills to learn academically, vocationally, socially and spiritually and to take responsibility for their learning and actions
- To provide a stimulating, high quality curriculum which is fully inclusive and enables achievement and enjoyment for all
- To provide a safe, happy and healthy environment in which children are encouraged to adopt a healthy lifestyle
- To create a welcoming school community, in which all families are encouraged to play an active role in their child's education
- To encourage all pupils to make a valuable contribution to the school, local and wider communities
- To encourage all pupils to reach their potential both academically and socially
- To develop respect and consideration for the beliefs, differences and ways of life of everyone involved in the school
- To enable children to explore and discuss faith and worship, working from a Christian foundation, in the context of a multi-faith society





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The school day

Our school day starts at 8.30 a.m. and ends at 3.00 p.m. with a worship held each day. Parents and their children can wait in the designated outside areas until handing their children over. Up until the children are invited into the classroom, their behaviour and safety is the responsibility of the parent/carer.



Approximate School timetable

Reception and Key Stage 1		Key Stage 2	
8.30-8.50	Registration and morning quiz	8.30-8.50	Registration and Arithmetic
8.50-9:30	Lesson 1	8.50-9:30	Lesson 1
9.30-9:50	Worship	9:30-9:50	Worship
9:50-10:30	Lesson 2	9:50-10.30	Lesson 2
10.30-10:45	Play time	10.30-10.45	Play time
10:45-12:00	Lesson 3	10:45 – 12:10	Lesson 3
12:00-1:00	Lunchtime	12.10-1.00:	Lunchtime
1:00-3:00	PM session	1.00-3.00	PM session

Collective Worship



We recognise the value of collective worship and hold daily whole school worship. These are lead by different people including the Head Teacher, Teachers, children, local clergy and members of the open the book team. We focus on a range of different themes including our termly value, bible stories and whole school celebration. Pupils visit the local churches in Lydney and places of worship in the wider area.



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Extra-curricular Activities

We offer a wide range of extra-curricular activities to the children at various times of the year. We endeavour to make the most of our sunning grounds and all of the sporting possibilities. Our clubs are run by a mixture of teachers, teaching assistants and volunteers.



Sporting Commitment

Pupils throughout all years and classes receive swimming tuition at our local pool. Cycling proficiency sessions are also held for our Year 5 pupils. We have a dedicated team of teachers and teaching assistants who provide a wide range of sporting opportunities. Our pupils perform very well in district sports tournaments and have a strong track record in a range of sport. We have been awarded the schools games award for a number of years in recognition of our sporting achievements.



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School Organisation

The school now has places for 30 children in each year group from Reception to Y6 and all children are taught in single age classes.

Year group	Class name
Reception	Oak
Year 1	Elm
Year 2	Chestnut
Year 3	Birch
Year 4	Holly
Year 5	Beech
Year 6	Rowan

Teachers follow a carefully planned programme of study which is linked to the national curriculum. Children's progress is carefully monitored throughout the school year and bespoke provision is provided when necessary.

Children identified as having special educational needs have an individual plan which identifies key targets. These targets are addressed within the classroom situation. Some children will work in small group situations with the special educational needs co-ordinator or pastoral lead.

We recognise the importance of communication between school and parents, and are always willing to meet to discuss any aspect of your child's education and welfare. We also hold open evenings twice a year when parents and teachers can meet to discuss the work and progress of the children. A written report is sent out in July.



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Admissions into School

We aim to admit children wherever possible, whether joining in Reception or in other year groups throughout the school. We are proud to have a strong community ethos and good relationships with parents.

Children who have their fifth birthday during the school year will be offered a place in Reception starting in the September after their fourth birthday, in line with our admissions policy. Primrose Hill has an annual intake of 30 pupils each year, with one class per year group. The full admissions policy can be viewed on our website.

We believe that a pupil's entry to school and their first year are vitally important in developing a good attitude to self, others and learning. We have invested greatly in our Foundation Stage provision including a large designated outdoor area that pupils can use to learn in all weathers and use of our Forest School area and our wonderful grounds.

An induction programme takes place during the summer term prior to your child starting school. This includes visits to the school, story time in the classroom, a parents' information session and visits by our teacher to the local nurseries and playgroups. We liaise closely with Primrose Hill Nursery (an independent nursery on the same site as the school) and other local providers to ensure a smooth transition.



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Our School Curriculum- EYFS



We offer a wide ranging and comprehensive curriculum that is creative and stimulating.

In EYFS we ensure that the children receive the final year of the EYFS curriculum, this starts at birth and is continued until the end of Reception. During this year the school follows all aspects of the EYFS curriculum to ensure that they are able to move into Key Stage 1 fully equipped with the necessary knowledge and skills for them to become strong, confident individuals who are capable of learning and achieving through positive relationships. The children learn through a range of different teaching methods; meaningful play based activities; teacher led activities and teacher directed activities. There is a focus on the three prime areas of learning: Personal Social and Emotional Development, Physical Development and Communication and Language. The four specific areas of learning, Literacy, Mathematics, Understanding the World and Expressive Art and design are also used to promote these fundamental skills.

The children have access to a large outdoor area as well as the indoor classroom. All areas of the curriculum are targeted in the provision and children are able to self chose the areas they would like to discover. The provision is continually changing to take into account the needs and interests of the children.





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Beyond Reception

The Core Curriculum consists of: English, Mathematics, Science, Computing and RE. Children in both Key Stages also study a range of **Foundation subjects** including: History, Geography, Design Technology, Music, Art, MFL (modern foreign languages) and Physical Education. In addition, children are taught PSHE (Personal, Social and Health Education) and RSE (Relationships and sex education).

For each subject discipline we have schemes of work that ensures breadth and depth of study and progression throughout the school.

English

We aim to develop pupils' abilities to communicate effectively in speech and writing, to listen with understanding and to enable them to be enthusiastic, responsive and knowledgeable readers and writers.



We aim to develop and promote listening and discussion skills throughout the pupil's school life. Children are encouraged to use their language skills to talk constructively about their work, to share ideas and to solve problems.

We aim to foster a love and enjoyment of reading for personal pleasure as well as improving pupil's ability to read fluently, accurately and with understanding.

In written work we aim to achieve a balance between development of pupils' creativity and the acquisition of basic skills. We aim to develop confidence and foster the ability to communicate ideas and creativity through writing.





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Mathematics

We aim for our pupils to become highly numerate with the ability to apply their knowledge to problem solving and everyday situations. We want to develop confident mathematicians who find the subject enjoyable. Children are presented with a variety of approaches to learning and we encourage both independent and co-operative work.

Activities are designed to promote the use of investigative and problem solving skills. A wide range of resources are used to support the structural understanding of the mathematical concept.

Each child takes part in regular 'Fluency' sessions with the aim of improving their speed of calculation. Children deepen their knowledge and are taught to reason.

Religious Education

Our teaching of Religious Education is based on the locally agreed syllabus and we use the understanding Christianity resource.

Christianity forms an important area of study along with the teaching of other major world religions, reflecting Britain as a multi-cultural, multi-faith society.

Parents have the right to withdraw their children from Religious Education and school worship. If you wish to withdraw your child, please see the Headteacher.





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Friends of Primrose Hill (FoPH)

We have a committed and thriving Friends (PTA) organisation that continues to be an integral part of the school community and has raised thousands of pounds for pupils' benefit. Over the past years, the FoPH have run a number of social and fundraising events including the Christmas Bazaar, Summer Fete, discos, film nights, bedtime story sessions, Easter trails and craft events. Its main aim is to provide closer links between home and school and it is an excellent way to bring staff, parents and friends together socially in support of the school. Parents and carers are automatically members of FoPH when their children join the Academy. At the regular committee meetings, decisions are made regarding how the money is spent. The money is put back into the school and is used to enhance the learning experiences of the children. Over the years the FoPH have funded new laptops, iSingPOP, new EYFS resources, Maths resources, theatre trips, forest school area and reading books.

School Uniform

Our school uniform comprises grey skirt/pinafore dress/trousers, white polo shirt and a bottle green sweatshirt with the school logo. In summer, the girls can choose to wear yellow or green checked dresses and both the boys and girls may wear grey shorts. Children are asked to wear PE kits to school on PE days. These consist of a white T-shirt, black/navy shorts or tracksuit bottoms and black plimsolls/trainers. Our full uniform policy can be found on the website.





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Primrose Hill Church of England Primary Academy
School Crescent
Lydney
GL15 5TA

Tel: 01594 843453

Email: admin@prh.dgat.org.uk

www.primrosehillcofeacademy.org.uk