Fletching Church of England Primary School

A small school with BIG ideas!
Dear Parents

I am delighted to introduce you to Fletching Church of England Primary School. It is a wonderful village school that provides an excellent education in a friendly, nurturing environment that inspires and believes in each pupil.

Our pupils are passionate about their school and are proud of the part they play in making it such a vibrant and happy place to be.

We are a small village school, with strong links with our supportive community. As a Church of England school we have a strong Christian ethos, and love is at the heart of all that we do.

Although we are small, we have big ideas, and are both dynamic and forward-thinking. We aim to develop children who have a thirst for knowledge and feel confident to take risks in their learning as they know we will be there to catch them if they fall.

We know each pupil and their family well, establishing close relationships when they enter the school so we can work as a team throughout their time with us.

Our staff are dedicated and passionate and their enthusiasm for teaching shines through, inspiring pupils and ensuring their time at school is full of exciting learning experiences.

We are extremely proud of the pastoral care we provide for our pupils. We do everything in our power to ensure they feel happy and help support them through both the ups and downs that life can bring.

We would be delighted to show you around our wonderful school so please make an appointment to come and see us and experience all that we have to offer for yourself.

Gemma White
Headteacher

“A village school with a real sense of family and community. This is how schools should be - each child is treated as an individual and staff, pupils and parents, really do care about each other and the school.”

Parent of children in Years 2 and 5

“We have seen our four children through this wonderful village school and though sadly this year will be our last, we shall be leaving it on such a high note. We are confident it will continue to please parents we shall leave behind and impress new parents whose children join under such a passionate and devoted headteacher Mrs White.”

Parent of children in Year 6

“Pupils flourish because they are increasingly resilient and demonstrate a blossoming pride in their achievements.”

OFSTED, April 2017

“This little school is amazing from the inside out. Great teachers, great leaders and friendly children. Our experience with the teachers and SENCO is that they support every child and will go the extra mile to help each child succeed. There is a true sense of community between the school, parents and children. Fletching school truly focuses on character and great values right alongside academics. Our three children love to go to Fletching school and are making such good progress.”

Parent of children in Years R, 4 and 6
The early years of a child’s learning are perhaps the most important of all. The foundation blocks of learning are established and within the Foundation Stage at Fletching we provide an environment that is stimulating and caring. In our bright, spacious classroom children are encouraged to develop confidence and to explore their desire for knowledge through child-initiated play and structured adult-led learning activities.

Other activities that take place in small groups include letters and sound-making, mathematics, early writing, arts and crafts, cooking, drama, singing and music-making, while termly events such as class assemblies, sports day and nativity plays are eagerly rehearsed and performed with a sense of fun and much enthusiasm!

Our staff are highly dedicated and work hard to create a welcoming and supportive atmosphere which enables our children to develop a life-long love for learning. Our small class sizes and high staff-to-pupil ratios ensure that each child benefits from receiving a high level of attention, focusing on their specific needs and allowing us to celebrate their uniqueness and plan from their interests.

There are plenty of opportunities to play and learn outside the classroom too. The foundation stage has wonderful outdoor play facilities that pupils have access to whatever the weather! This includes a mud kitchen, adventure trail, water play and more.

Pupils’ learning is celebrated with parents regularly through photos of them learning and their masterpieces which are added to an online app for parents to see.

“As a new parent at Fletching school I feel, so far that not only has my little one been welcomed into a friendly healthy learning environment but we too as parents have been welcomed with open arms. Our little one was very wobbly (as was I!) but Miss Walters, Mrs Trickett and Mrs Ralph have been amazing and so sensitive. I feel confident leaving my precious bundle with them and know this is the perfect environment for her to bloom!”

Parent of pupil in Reception

“We couldn’t be happier with our son’s first few weeks of school. He skips in every morning and is beaming at pick up. From the amazing activities laid out every morning to the delicious sounding lunches he has every day, he loves his days at Fletching school!”

Parent of pupil in Reception
Children in Years 1 and 2 enjoy an exciting curriculum in their bright, vibrant learning environment. They benefit from a small class size and passionate staff who enjoy delivering exciting learning.

Pupils enjoy daily English and Maths lessons which develop key skills in a hands on, fun way.

Our curriculum is broad, balanced, engaging and creative. Pupils are taught Science, ICT, Humanities, Art, Design and Technology, Religious Education, Personal, Social and Health Education, Music, Drama, French and PE. Pupils in Year 2 also have weekly whole class instrumental lessons which they particularly enjoy.

Children are encouraged to reach their full potential in all subject areas and a reward system is in place to celebrate personal success!

Our cross-curricular themes and topics create a depth of knowledge and learning and inspire the children to develop an enquiring mind and an interest in the world around them.

Children in Years 1 and 2 are encouraged to develop confidence through performance. The main focus for this is the Nativity play but class assemblies and performances in the Harvest and Easter Service provide additional opportunities for them to share their learning with an audience of proud parents and family members.

All children benefit from access to our lovely school grounds for outdoor investigations. Key Stage 1 children also look forward to trips outside school which provide enjoyable hands-on learning experiences. Recent visits have been to the Wildlife Centre, Ashdown Forest and local museums.

Visitors to school are encouraged and have included authors, history groups and an animal handler.

"Pupils are kind, considerate and display exemplary behaviour." OFSTED, April 2017

“Our children (aged 6 and 8) love going into school everyday. While our son is stretched to achieve his potential, our daughter is nurtured to reach hers. Every child is given individual attention in such a caring environment. They also have a wealth of creative, emotional and social opportunities to enjoy, meaning all aspects of personality are encouraged. There is no tolerance of bullying and all the children, whatever their ages, play together making it an incredibly happy school to attend.” Parent of children in years 2 and 4
English, Mathematics, Science, ICT, Humanities, Art, Design and Technology, Religious Education, Personal, Social and Health Education, Music, Drama, French and PE are taught in small classes by our inspiring teachers and are ably supported by teaching assistants. Music and Sport are taught by specialist teachers with whole class instrumental lessons taking place weekly. Regular home learning tasks complement the topics studied in class. There is also a wide range of extra-curricular clubs on offer to enhance the curriculum.

Classrooms are bright and well-equipped and the school has a well-resourced library to share and enjoy books in and a cooking lab.

School life is stimulating, busy and fun. Music and Drama performances are yearly highlights with pupils performing a Summer Production in July and taking part in 'The Big Sing' in December, along with a number of other events during the school year. Years 5 and 6 also take part in the annual Uckfield Kit Car Grand Prix where they enjoy building and racing their own kit cars!

Pupils in Year 6 enjoy taking part in the East Sussex Book Awards which gives them the opportunity to read and discuss new fiction books, meet the authors and then vote for their favourite!

"An ethos of high expectations for all.”

"My daughters have a love for learning and my 9 year old comes home quoting Shakespeare now.”

“Thanks to the amazing teaching, both of my daughters’ favourite subject is Maths!”

OFSTED, April 2017

Parent of children in Years 3 and 5

Parent of children in Years 3 and 5
We enrich each topic to help children experience their learning in fun and exciting ways. One way we do this is by having dedicated topic days to enable pupils to really step into life during that time, such as dressing up as evacuees during World War 2 or as children from Ancient Egypt. We also invite visiting theatre companies to hold workshops to further bring these topics to life. Pupils regularly go on school trips to museums in London, local wildlife centres and places of historical and geographical interest. Pupils in KS2 recently visited ‘The Clink’ prison museum in London as part of their topic on ‘Crime and Punishment’ through the ages.

In Years 5 and 6, pupils go on a residential trip to an outdoor adventure centre. This is a great team-bonding experience for the children and they enjoy taking part in a range of outdoor and adventurous activities such as raft building, rock climbing and canoeing.

There are many clubs on offer each term which vary from music and sport to dance and ‘art and craft’ clubs and these take place after school and at lunchtimes. Our aim is to offer additional opportunities for children to learn new skills, develop self-belief and self-confidence and have fun!

We support all children and offer 1:1 and small group support to pupils where they may need additional help, and we also offer challenge to pupils working at a high level. In Year 6, able mathematicians attend a maths challenge class at our local secondary school.

We have a successful School Parliament which meets regularly to make decisions about school life, and also give pupils the roles of Librarians, Faith Council members and Play Leaders to ensure that pupils have the chance to take on responsibility and take a lead on decision making.

The whole school attends church fortnightly and we are proud of the strong links we have with our church – which is just a couple of steps away from the school.

We regularly visit Sheffield Park both for our Forest School sessions and to take part in events and activities as well as enjoying their beautiful grounds.

“The Curriculum engages pupils and provides them with a wealth of opportunities.”

“The school offers so many extra-curricular activities and means my daughters have a really well rounded education... violin, netball, French, forest school and gardening club to name just a few!”

OFSTED, April 2017

Parent of children in Years 3 and 5
The children have music lessons every week in which a range of musical styles is explored through listening and singing. Children enjoy using a range of instruments to compose and perform their own music. From Year 2 onwards, all children learn to play an instrument in whole class lessons taught by a specialist teacher.

We realise the importance of performance and each year we stage a Nativity Play and Summer Production. Pupils in the school choir perform regularly in the community and the whole school enjoys singing Christmas Carols at Sheffield Park in December. Pupils in Years 5 and 6 also take part in the East Sussex ‘Big Sing’ which is a wonderful opportunity to join with other schools to put on a performance full of singing and Christmas spirit!

We believe it is important to inspire pupils so take them to see many performances including both Youth Opera and West End productions such as ‘The Lion King’.

Peripatetic teachers offer individual and group lessons in a range of instruments including violin, guitar and piano.

“My two girls sing in the car on the way to school about how much they love it.”  

Parent of current children
All pupils take part in Forest School lessons over the course of the school year. We are extremely fortunate as these take place in a designated section of Sheffield Park National Trust gardens and are delivered by a Forest School Leader. These sessions develop pupils’ confidence, independence, self-esteem and knowledge of the natural environment we live in. Pupils have the opportunity to use a range of tools and enjoy building shelters in addition to a variety of other exciting activities.
Children are given the opportunity to participate in a wide range of activities and sports. Pupils begin learning fitness, balance, agility and co-ordination in the Early Years, then progress to learning a range of sports and activities in KS2 including netball, hockey, football, street dance, cricket and more. All pupils in KS2 receive at least one of their PE lessons from a specialist sports coach.

We take part in inter-school events with local schools and pupils enjoy the opportunity to represent their school. These events include cross-country, rounders, cricket, football and an annual swimming gala.

In the Summer, pupils are taught Traditional English Dancing and enjoy taking part in a festival with other schools.

Pupils in Year 5 attend Play Leader training and organise games and activities each day during break and lunch for pupils to join in with. These are always popular – especially parachute games!
All of our staff work as a team to ensure pupils are safe, nurtured, healthy, active, respected, responsible, included and happy. Our beautiful village school creates a wonderful setting for children to learn, develop and thrive. Our small class sizes and caring staff enable us to know and understand our children very well, along with their siblings, parents and extended family! All are welcomed every morning and after school by our friendly Headteacher and team of staff. Our children make great friends and form strong bonds for life.

We promote a growth mindset approach to learning and life and ensure that every pupil knows we are here to help them achieve their dreams.

We have staff members trained in the THRIVE approach who work with pupils both in individual sessions and in our Nurture Class to support their emotional development and help them to re-engage.

From the moment each pupil starts at the school, they become part of the Fletching family where each member is truly cared for and cherished.

“A nurturing approach to education

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“Fletching is a really close knit, warm and welcoming school, all the year groups look out for each other.”

Parent of children in Years 3 and 4

“It’s like one big family...all the children and teachers know and look out for each other. Children of all ages play together too.”

Parent of child in Year 3

“You nurture pupils’ growing ambitions, ability to persevere and to strive when work or situations are difficult and challenging.”

OFSTED, April 2017
Our Honeybees Breakfast Club is open from 7:40am each morning and provides the perfect start to the day – combining a delicious breakfast with the opportunity for games and laughter before school begins.

Come and discover all that Fletching Church of England Primary School has to offer. We look forward to meeting you soon!
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