

# **PURLEY CHURCH OF ENGLAND PRIMARY SCHOOL**

**Purley Village, Purley on Thames, Berkshire, RG8 8AF**  
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**School website: [www.purleyprimaryschool.co.uk](http://www.purleyprimaryschool.co.uk)**

## **Prospectus**



**Learn to love, love to learn**



## **Purley Church of England (VC) Primary School**

### **Welcome to Purley CE Primary School**

We hope that you enjoy your tour through our prospectus and find not only useful information about our school, but also get a feel for the learning and enjoyment our children experience.

We are very proud of our school and would invite prospective parents/carers to visit us in person so that you can see for yourself how happy and confident the children are at our school. We want them to enjoy learning and achieve their potential while having fun, making friends, gaining new interests and developing caring attitudes and enquiring minds in a safe environment.

Our high expectations encourage a positive attitude to learning and a responsible approach to all aspects of life.

Starting a new school is an exciting and important step. We want this to be positive for you and your child. Your interest and involvement in your child's progress and in the life of the school is positively encouraged. Between us, we can ensure that your child's time here is enjoyable and enriching and that they receive the best possible all-round preparation for the future.

*Mrs A Holland*

*Mrs H Gittins*

Mrs Amy Holland  
Headteacher

Mrs Hayley Gittins  
Chair of Governors

## Our vision

**“Let all that you do be done in love”**  
*from Paul's letter to the Corinthians (1 Corinthians 16:14)*

## Our mission

Our mission at Purley CE Primary School is to ensure everyone is nurtured as individuals to shine brightly with confidence to be the best version of themselves.

- Our provision for the spiritual, moral, social and cultural development is at the centre of all we do.
- Through our **value of love**, we inspire the children to love God, love themselves, love one another and love learning.
- Through our **value of courage** we guide our children to accept the things they cannot change and have the courage to change the things they can ( Serenity Prayer)
- Through our **value of wisdom** we encourage our children to make the right choices in life

## Background and history of the school

Purley School was built in 1873 as a Church of England School. It was taken over by Berkshire Education Authority in 1958 and is now a Church of England (Voluntary Controlled) School. Pupils have been attending Purley School for over one hundred and thirty years. In January 2006 we moved into the newly built parts of the school including a new hall, pupil toilets, office accommodation and a staffroom. In 2013 the school was granted primary status. In 2014, building work started to develop our school into a full primary school. The work finished in December 2015.

## What others say about us

Parents say:

“We feel that Purley Primary School provides our daughters with an outstanding education. We cannot imagine a better place for their development both academically and in providing them with a sound moral compass. Our girls love going to school every day and this contributes to them being happy children who feel safe and valued in their learning environment. We cannot talk highly enough about the school and its staff who have given them such a solid grounding”

*Parents from Foundation and Year 4*

Throughout the time our son and daughter have attended Purley Primary School, we have never ceased to be amazed by the quality of the teaching and effort put in by all the staff to go the extra mile. Although the school is smaller than some others, the children have still been provided with fantastic opportunities and have been involved in extensive after school and extra-curricular activities including performing at the Anvil and Hexagon theatres. Our children have thrived at Purley, both academically and emotionally, and we feel extremely lucky to have such a fantastic school on our doorstep. We would not hesitate in recommending Purley Primary School to anyone considering it for their child.

*Parents from Year 3 and Year 6*

**Children say:**

“I love Purley because we are all friends with each other and we know everyone”

“My school is great because we learn lots of interesting facts”

## Church School Status

Purley Primary School is a Voluntary Controlled Church of England Primary School. As a church school we teach explicit shared Christian values to our children, we try to show them the importance of being committed to a set of values by which we live our lives. Our school specific values are Love, Joy, Hope, Perseverance and Responsibility.

We spend the majority of our Worship time teaching about the Christian faith, beliefs and traditions including: knowledge of the bible, Christian practices – celebrations in the church calendar and Christian hymns. We visit our local churches on special occasions like Harvest and Christmas and our local rector or church member comes into school to work with the children. We also teach the children about people who have made an outstanding contribution to society.

Some of our assemblies teach the children about traditions and ceremonies in other faiths. The children are encouraged to have an understanding, sympathy and tolerance for cultures and societies other than their own and to respect the beliefs of others. During worship and at other times of the day the children are given the opportunity to reflect and, if they wish, to pray.

## School Organisation

We have four classes going from Foundation Stage to Year 6. Classes are usually mixed year groups.

The doors open at 8.50. Registration is at 9.00 am prompt. The school day finishes at 3.15 pm.

School lunches are prepared at Pangbourne Primary School and served from our kitchen, then eaten in the school hall, under supervision.

## Wraparound care

This is the childcare that is available at the beginning of the school day.

### Early Birds Breakfast Club

The club is open from 8am – 8.50am, Monday – Friday (term time only). All breakfast club members must arrive between 8.00 – 8.30am; this is when breakfast is being served. All sessions must be booked in advance.

For more information, please see the school's website:

<http://www.purleyprimaryschool.co.uk/page/?title=Wraparound+Care&pid=37>

## Clubs

In some of the school terms we run school clubs for the KS1 and KS2 children. These include gym, running, recorder and choir.

The choice and duration of our after-school activities depends on the goodwill of both the teachers and parents. Some clubs are free if they are run by class teachers; others will be chargeable if they are run by other professional workers. If you would like to run a club, please speak to the Headteacher.

## Music

Here at Purley Primary School, we believe that music plays an integral part of a child's education. Berkshire Maestros are currently coming weekly to do piano and guitar lessons for the children who have expressed an interest. (<http://www.berkshiremaestros.org.uk/>). During their time in Owl and Falcon class, all children take part in instrumental lessons (currently ukulele) taught by Good Vibes Music Academy.

## Woodland School



The Forest School principles originated in Sweden in the 1950's and was introduced in Britain in the late 1990's. It is an inspirational process that offers regular opportunities to appreciate and enjoy the outdoors. Learning occurs in a relaxed environment using all of the senses. Choices can be made and risks understood and taken. Woodland School happens all year round and so children should wear warm, waterproof clothing. The ethos of Woodland School is that learners should be allowed time and space to explore, develop skills and interests and understanding through practical, hands on experience. Woodland School promotes good health and fitness and an awareness of good hygiene. It helps children's social and communication development as they work together problem solving, developing motor-skills and coordination in a fun and relaxed environment.

Children also learn a sense of personal responsibility and respect for their environment as well as developing their confidence, self-esteem and independence. The FS2 and Year 1 get the chance to do Woodland School several times during the year using both local woods and Basildon Park.

## Swimming

Currently the Year 2 children have weekly swimming lessons at the Oratory Preparatory School in Woodcote. Year 5s have top up lessons in the summer term.

## Curriculum Intent Statement

We will enable children to take their place in the world beyond the classroom by providing them with opportunities to be the best that they can be. We want children to achieve their full potential and be happy whilst enjoying learning and appreciating that it can be rewarding on many levels.

The aim of the curriculum at Purley CE Primary School is to inspire students as courageous advocates who will make a difference to the world. Our priority is to ensure children are nurtured as individuals to shine brightly with confidence to be the best version of themselves.

Our curriculum prepares students by igniting a love of learning, forging self-motivated individuals who are reflective problem-solvers, collaborative team players and resilient citizens in an ever-evolving world.

Strong foundations for skills-based learning underpin our curriculum and students develop the capacity to perform, drawing on a firm bedrock of subject knowledge.

## Teaching and Learning

We provide a variety of opportunities for all pupils to learn and achieve by building on their strengths, interests and experiences and developing their ability to work independently and collaboratively. We promote enquiring minds and critical thinking, but we also develop physical and social skills and encourage children to recognise the importance of keeping themselves healthy and safe. We offer many activities to enhance learning including visits to places of interest linked to topics being taught.

From time to time, children may experience difficulties with their work and, for some, additional support is necessary. Our policy is to identify problems as early as possible to provide the appropriate help; progress is reviewed regularly and parents are involved and kept fully informed. We also have access to expert professional advice when necessary.

# Behaviour

Purley Primary School is committed to creating a safe and secure environment in which children can learn. We want our children to take responsibility for their actions and to show care and concern for themselves, appreciate the needs of others, the school, its contents and the community around them

The school rules are:

## **Show love**

We respect the school and everyone in it

## **Show courage**

We try our best in everything we do and stand up for what is right

## **Show wisdom**

We make wise decisions in the way that we behave

# Admissions

## **Admission Arrangements**

If you live outside the area normally served by our school you are advised to visit your designated school first. You are of course most welcome to look around our school as well. Do feel free to make an appointment to be shown around by our Head teacher.

The Standard Number of children who may be admitted for our school is fifteen.

The Governors will accept children for full-time education as "rising fives" if both parents and teachers agree the child is ready and according to the admissions criteria set out below. These children will be taught the Foundation Stage curriculum.

## **Admissions Policy West Berkshire Council handles the whole admission process**

- Children who are Looked After by West Berkshire Council.
- Children whose home address is in the area served by the school.
- Children who have brothers or sisters attending the school.
- Children whose parents choose the school on denominational grounds.
- Children whose parents have any other reason for their choice.

If we do not have enough places for all the children in one of the above categories, priority will be given to children who fulfil more than one of the admission criteria. If there are still insufficient places, a final decision will be made on the radial distance from home to school. Parents of children who are unsuccessful in gaining a place will be informed in writing on the date laid down by the LA, and will be told of their right of appeal.

## **How to apply for a place?**

During the Autumn term in the year before your child is due to start school, you will be able to get an application form from West Berkshire Council by visiting their Admissions web page (<http://info.westberks.gov.uk/primaryadmissions>). You can either apply online or print the form and send it to the Council. You will then be notified by the Council (usually around April) of your school allocation. The application process must be co-ordinated between all Local Authorities and this means that parents must apply to their home LA (i.e where they live), even if applying for schools in a different LA.

We have part time FS1 places (rising 4s). Applications to be made via the school.

## Working with Parents

We pride ourselves on being an approachable school and welcome contact with parents. We offer opportunities for you to see us at work through open mornings and we hold information meetings to explain new initiatives and to help you support your child at home. If you have any concerns however, that cannot be resolved through discussions; the Complaints Policy is available on our school website.

### Parents/Teachers Association (PTA)

F.O.P.S. or Friends Of Purley School is the Parent/Teacher Association of Purley Primary School. All parents and guardians of pupils at the school are members of FOPS, as are the staff and governors. The object of the Association is to advance the education of the pupils in the school. To this end, the Association engages in activities to support the school:

- The Association organises and runs fund raising events such as fairs, cake stalls, sponsored activities etc.
- FOPS also organises social events for the children and adults, such as parties, discos, visits, Ladies Evenings.

FOPS is managed by a Committee of members who are elected at the FOPS AGM which is held in the Autumn Term. Your support is vitally important to FOPS. Please join the Committee or be an active "ordinary" member of FOPS. If you can help in any way, please do so – it is very easy to think that "someone else will do it" – in our small school that is not the case. FOPS provide the extras that mean so much in our small school. Remember – by supporting FOPS you will be supporting your child.

