



'Roots to Grow and Wings to Fly'

PROSPECTUS 2023/24

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'Roots to Grow and Wings to Fly'

As a proud Church school, we are rooted in love. We aspire to nurture and help our children flourish as respectful, compassionate citizens who seek to positively contribute to our local community and the world beyond. Our school family model our Christian values of RESPECT, COMPASSION, TRUST, FORGIVENESS, ASPIRATION, HOPE and COURAGE.

We strive to help our children experience 'life in all its fullness' as expressed in John 10:10, The Bible.

Our vision links to the parable of the mustard seed in Matthew 13:13-32. For seeds to grow, they need solid, firm and strong roots. In this parable, Jesus explains that a mustard seed is one of the smallest seeds, yet when planted in the ground, it grows into one of the largest garden plants, so big, that birds can perch on its branches. From small beginnings, the kingdom of god has grown and spread across the whole earth. From small beginnings, we seek to give our children strong roots that allow them to thrive and flourish, giving them wings to fly as they seek to experience 'life in all its fullness', as expressed in John 10:10.



'Roots to Grow and Wings to Fly'

Our children will be given the 'ROOTS TO GROW' through our Christian values and Golden Rules:

- Stay safe
- Try our best
- Be happy and believe in yourself
- Always be sensible and helpful
- Respect our school and each other
- Treat each other kindly
- Strive to make our school outstanding

These roots give our children the 'WINGS TO FLY'. This means:

- Having the ability to live in and value a diverse society
- Children realise their potential and seek to be the best they can be
- Having the confidence to make informed choices and think for yourself, disagreeing well
- Being aware of your own gifts and using them well
- Valuing the local community and world in which they live and making a positive contribution
- Recognising and celebrating the good in everybody and everything



HEADTEACHER'S WELCOME

At St Bartholomew's we have high expectations of everyone in all they do in our school. This is essential in enabling our children to reach high standards in all aspects of the curriculum, personal development and extra-curricular activities. This is underpinned by our Christian ethos built on our Church of England foundations.

Our school mission statement reflects the words of the Bible, 'I have come that they may have life, and have it to the full' (John 10:10) and from this come our seven Christian values which are rooted in love and thread through every aspect of our school life: Trust, Compassion, Forgiveness, Aspiration, Hope, Respect and Courage.

At St Bartholomew's we believe in nurturing every aspect of our school members; academically, emotionally, physically and spiritually. We aim to develop a lifelong love of learning from our nurturing environment. We offer a full, broad curriculum including a wide range of extra curricular activities.

At St Bartholomew's we are proud of our church school status. Our school is supported by our local church, St Bartholomew's, and the diocese who work in partnership with us to ensure our school family has the opportunity to experience a relationship with God and a spiritual life in whatever form supports them.

We strive to help each child develop their individual talents and characters working in partnership with parents and carers to give children the 'Roots to Grow and Wings to Fly'. If you have any further questions after reading our prospectus, please do not hesitate to contact us.



Gemma Coward

GOVERNORS

Dear Parents/Carers

On behalf of the Board of Governors, I am delighted to welcome you to St Bartholomew's C of E Primary School. As governors, we are extremely proud of St Bartholomew's and seek to make it the best school it can be for all in our community. We wholeheartedly embrace our vision of 'Roots to Grow and Wings to Fly', aspiring for that to be true for our children, staff, parents/carers, governors and beyond. Our vision and values are central and we therefore keep these firmly in mind when discussing and making decisions for our school. Our role is to oversee the management side of the school: strategy, policy, budgeting and staffing.

The role of governors and governing bodies is to help the school provide the best possible education for their pupils by:

- Setting the school's values, vision and strategic aims, agreeing plans and policies, and making creative use of resources;
- Monitoring and evaluating performance, acting as a critical friend to the Head Teacher to support and challenge them in managing the school;
- Ensuring that the school is accountable to the children and parents it serves, to its local community, to those who fund and maintain it, as well as to the staff it employs.

The Board of Governors are extremely committed and passionate about St Bartholomew's C of E Primary School and know that we are very fortunate to have a dedicated, talented and hardworking team of teachers and support staff led by Mrs Coward. Our staff and governors continually strive to provide the best possible education, learning opportunities and experience for each pupil in our care.



CHERYL GOVIER
CHAIR OF GOVERNORS

COLLECTIVE WORSHIP

We are proud to be a Church of England School and hold a daily whole school collective worship session. Collective Worship is held in the school hall each day. Worship is led by teachers, but we also receive regular visits from the local ministry team and other organisations to lead collective worship virtually. We have weekly aspirational 'awe and wonder', singing and celebration worships. We aim that our worship:

- Contributes significantly to our children's spiritual, moral, social and cultural development.
- Provides opportunities for worshipping God, reverence, celebration, linking to our school values and reflection.
- Provides a rich and supportive educational experience which responds to children's age, experiences and cultures.
- Mainly provide our children with a broad spectrum of Christian belief and practice.
- Provides opportunities to staff, children and members of our wider community to contribute to the life of our school.
- Provides an inclusive worship experience that does not offend the integrity of the non-religious or those of different faiths. At times, our worship will include material from other faiths.

Parents and carers have the right to withdraw their children from collective worship and religious education if they so wish. Those wishing to exercise either of these rights are asked to make a written request to the Headteacher.



THE SCHOOL DAY

We have three Key Stages, Early Years Foundation Stage, Key Stage 1 and Key Stage 2. The session times are as follows:

EYFS/KS1/ LKS2

8:50am-12:00 noon Morning session (Registration 9:00am)

1:00pm-3:15pm Afternoon session

Upper Key Stage 2 (Year 5&6)

8:50am-12:30 noon Morning session (Registration 9:00am)

1:30pm-3:15pm Afternoon session

Hours spent on teaching during the week

The school has a curriculum framework. This document sets out our long term planning including teaching time allocations for all areas of the curriculum. Total teaching time per week, excluding collective worship and breaks, is 24 hours and 30 minutes.

Regular pupil attendance is paramount. All absences from school are recorded in the appropriate class register. The school maintains an electronic registration system, allowing easy monitoring of pupil attendance by the Head Teacher, Attendance Officer and Education Safeguarding Officer. Please inform the school of the reason and duration of any absences from school by the start of the school day at 9 am.



If the school has not heard from a parent or carer by 9.20 am the school will telephone home for clarification. Children who arrive after registration at 9:00 am will be marked as late. If a child arrives after 9.20 am in the morning their absence will be recorded as unauthorised.

Families will be referred to the Team Around the School if attendance is a concern. Persistent absence, even due to illness, will be monitored. Any absence below 90% is of significant concern and medical evidence will be requested before this point. We have PFSA and School Nurse services we can refer to in order to support families who may be having difficulties in this area

The Fixed Term Penalty Notice Fees are currently set at £60/£120 per parent per child. The school does not receive income from fines it goes to county and fines are per absence not per day of absence.

The school publishes its term and holiday dates in advance and these are available on the school website and on request.



EARLY YEARS FOUNDATION STAGE (EYFS)

the Reception year is the foundation on which all our curriculum builds. It is a vital foundation year of learning. The Foundation Stage is about developing key learning skills such as listening, speaking, concentration, persistence and learning to work and co-operate with others.

There are seven areas of learning and development in the EYFS. They are all important and interconnected. There are three **Prime areas**;

- Personal, Social and Emotional Development
- Communication and Language
- Physical Development

There are four **Specific areas**;

- Literacy
- Mathematics
- Understanding the World
- Expressive Arts and Design



Rich language and print within the environment is highly valued.

At St. Bartholomew's C of E Primary School we aim to:

- Make the transfer to school as smooth as possible for both parents and children through parent meetings, home visits (in person or virtual), pre-school sessions and strong links with our local preschool providers.
- Recognise and build on the immense learning which has already taken place within the home acknowledging parents as a child's first and continuing educators.
- Develop an educational environment responsive to the child's needs by providing a safe, caring place to play and learn, encouraging a positive attitude and disposition to learning alongside skills of independence and self-management and offering a planned curriculum based on Early Years Foundation Stage.
- Provide a carefully structured curriculum, which makes provision for the different starting points from which children develop their learning, builds on what the child can already do, has planned and purposeful activities, providing opportunities for teaching and learning both indoors and out and is good fun!
- Recognise that quality learning takes place through carefully planned and monitored play activities that are both teacher and child initiated. Great value is placed on highly skilled adults scaffolding play and learning alongside our children.
- Provide a well organised environment inside and outside which gives children rich and stimulating experiences in which the children can explore, experiment, plan and make decisions for themselves. Ensuring rich opportunities for language acquisition, physical and social development is key.



NATIONAL CURRICULUM

Throughout the school, our children follow the National Curriculum. Therefore, the nationally agreed programmes in Maths, English, Science, French Computing, Art, Music, PE, History, Geography and Design Technology are followed and personalised to meet the needs of our context. We ensure that aspiration and careers are linked into learning. Much of our children's learning is linked together through overarching themes to broaden and deepen their understanding within a broad and balanced curriculum building on their knowledge and skills as they move through the school. Our Christian Values are embedded in the curriculum as children move through the school.

Teachers assess children in an on-going manner, formally recording their assessments on a termly basis which are shared with parents at termly Parent Meetings. National Assessments also monitor our children's progress. Information about curriculum content for each term will be sent home to parents in order to support learning at home. Parents are respectfully requested to sign the Home/ School Agreement when their children first start at St Bartholomew's C of E Primary School. We want to work in partnership to ensure every child is respected and, through our Home/ School Agreement, they are encouraged to respect others, their school and equipment. We expect our children to be polite and well-mannered at all times.



REPORTING

The school holds two parents meetings per year for parents to come and discuss their child's progress with the class teacher on an individual basis. An annual report is sent to parents in the summer term which can be discussed with your child's teacher by arrangement. We hold Parent Share sessions, workshops and presentations.

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION (RE)

Religious education is taught according to the Somerset Syllabus (AMV) and the diocese 'Understanding Christianity'. This, together with our daily act of collective worship is intended to reflect our Christian tradition and ethos. The Somerset syllabus develops knowledge of Christianity as well as an understanding of other world religions.



OUR SCHOOL STAFF

For an up to date list of our school staff, please refer to our school website.

SEND AND INCLUSION

St Bartholomew's C of E Primary School was described by Ofsted (November 2017) as a 'nurturing haven'. We are a fully inclusive school and are confident of meeting the needs of all our children here.

The staff at St. Bartholomew's recognise that some children may have additional needs that require a carefully planned and resourced curriculum. The school has a separate policy for Special Educational Needs and Disabilities, which sets out principles, procedures and practices. The current policy for SEND includes guidance from the Government and Local Authority according to the new Code of Practice. Through the provision of a secure physical and emotional and communication rich environment, all pupils are able to develop to fulfil their potential. Our Special Educational Needs and Disabilities Co-ordinator (SENDco) is Miss Lucy Ramwell. The SENDco works very closely with all staff to ensure that all the children work at a level appropriate to their needs. Pupils with SEND will receive recognition, attention and appreciation and the majority of their support will be in class. However, if appropriate, and with parental consent, further advice, support and guidance from other professionals may be sought. The school's Educational Psychologist, school staff, the school's SENDco and you as a parent will be involved in the process that will help ensure appropriate support is available.

Gifted and Talented pupils can be defined as pupils who demonstrate a significantly higher level of ability than most pupils of the same age in one or more of the curriculum areas or in any of the following:

- General intellectual ability
- Specific academic aptitude
- Creative ability
- Leadership qualities/social skills

SAFEGUARDING

"A duty is placed on the School and the governing body to protect and promote the welfare of children." Our school follow the government guidance of Keeping Children Safe in Education. At St. Bartholomew's C of E Primary School we are committed to promoting the safety and wellbeing of the children within our community by following the guidelines offered by the Somerset Safeguarding Children Partnership. When necessary we work in partnership with other agencies such as Children's Social Care and Health, the local Health Authority, Parent and Family Support and the Police force to keep children in our care safe.

If there is any cause for concern over the well-being of a child within our School community, all staff, pupils, volunteers and parents should be aware of who to contact within the School staff. The key staff are:

- Designated Safeguarding Lead: Mrs Gemma Coward, Head Teacher
- Deputy Designated Safeguarding Leads: Mrs Jenny Coram and Miss Bev Davis
- Safeguarding & Children Protection Governor: Mrs Cheryl Govier

All staff have under gone basic safeguarding awareness training and have been alerted to the signs and symptoms of abuse or neglect in children.

If a child discloses any concerning information to an adult working within the school, the adult is asked not to question the child or comment on the disclosure. The designated child protection person is informed as soon as possible and a factual record of the child's disclosure is made. All concerns which are brought to the attention of the designated person are recorded confidentially in line with government guidance.



Disclosures made to members of staff by parents and children cannot be kept a secret, where the safety of an individual is compromised. All disclosures will be reported to the Designated Person. Somerset Children's Social Care can be contacted directly on 0300 1232224. Information can be found at <http://www.somersetsafeguardingchildrenboard.org>, the Somerset Safeguarding Children Partnership Website.

A full copy of our Safeguarding and Child Protection Policy is available to download from the school website at www.st-bartholomews.somerset.sch.uk. Hard copies can be obtained from the School office on request. This policy is approved and adopted annually by the Full Governing Body.

SCHOOL SECURITY

The school provides a safe, secure environment where children and adults can work effectively. Our School security systems continue to be upgraded to improve our systems. This means people cannot enter the school unless they are let in by a member of staff. We appreciate your support in keeping access to the school restricted to safeguard your children and our staff.

We only let children leave our school with their parents or an adult that the parents have nominated to bring or collect their child. Please let us know if a different adult is collecting your child. Children are never allowed to leave school alone during school hours, and if they do they must be collected by an adult and signed out.

Visitors, volunteers and students must only enter through the main entrance and after signing in at the office and acknowledging our statement regarding safeguarding.



HEALTH AND SAFETY

St. Bartholomew's C of E Primary School operates a non-smoking policy, including vaping. Due to life threatening allergies we are also a NUT free and BANANA free school. No products containing these items should be brought into school, please. Dogs are not allowed onto school premises including the playing field. Your cooperation is appreciated.

SCHOOL POLICIES

These are available to read in the school office, by e-mail (office@stbartsprimary.co.uk) and on our school website. Hard copies of policies can be obtained from the office.

If you need additional help, accessing any of our policies, please ask at the school office and we will be happy to help and provide a copy free of charge.

HIGH EXPECTATIONS

Our broad, balanced and creative curriculum enables our children to learn new knowledge and develop key learning skills. Our children's achievements are celebrated and everyone enjoys success and praise regularly during their time in our school. We encourage our children to become independent and confident in both their work and social development. Our children are taught by their own class teacher in mixed ability classes with children from one of two year groups. Each class has up to 30 children. The staffing complement for each class is a fully qualified teacher with trained teaching assistant support to meet children's needs within the Somerset Core Standards. Every classroom is fully furnished and equipped with good quality learning resources. The class teacher will get to know your child very well and will be pleased to involve you in their life at school. Children make progress at their own rates and in their own ways. It is important to value them as individuals and to provide learning opportunities that will build on their strengths and support them to overcome their challenges.

RELATIONSHIPS, BEHAVIOUR AND ANTI BULLYING

At St Bartholomew's C of E Primary School we are committed to inclusion, equality and justice. Our school has a number of rules, but our Relationships and Behaviour policy is not primarily concerned with rule enforcement. It is a means of promoting good relationships, so that people can work together in an effective and considerate way. We aim to reinforce positive behaviour in a number of ways. These may include; verbal and non-verbal praise, displaying good work, 'Star of the Week', special achievement certificates, notifying parents of good behaviour, celebration worship, Dojo points, Headteacher awards and through giving the children additional responsibility.

At our school we believe that bullying behaviour is totally unacceptable, we aim to ensure that all children are treated fairly, with respect and dignity and to enable children to feel safe and build good relationships. Our policy states that we will listen carefully to children and treat all reports of bullying seriously. As a parent, if you are concerned about bullying, including online 'cyberbullying' then in the first instance please speak to your child's teacher.

The School Council helped to develop their own set of school rules. These are underpinned by our Seven Christian values which all come from love: Trust, Compassion, Respect, Hope, Aspiration, Forgiveness and Courage.

They are:

Stay Safe;

Treat each other kindly;

Be happy and believe in yourself;

Always be sensible and helpful;

Respect our school and each other;

Try our best;

Strive to make our school outstanding.

The rules spell the words '**ST BART'S**' to make them easy to remember!



ZERO TOLERANCE AND DIGNITY AT WORK

St Bartholomew's C of E Primary School has a Zero Tolerance Policy towards Abusive or Aggressive Behaviour both verbally, physically and online. We feel sure that you will understand that proper behaviour is absolutely necessary for our children, parents, visitors and staff and that non-observance will not be accepted. Copies of our policy are displayed on all our Safeguarding boards.

ACCIDENTS

Minor accidents are recorded and are dealt with by the adult in charge and parents informed if appropriate. If a child has bumped his/her head then a phone call home is made and a note is sent home to inform parents of the injury. For more serious injuries the same procedure will apply and the child will be taken directly to hospital if necessary. Further information on Health and Safety procedures is available at school.

MEDICATION

If your child has sickness or diarrhoea then they should be off school for 48 hours after their final bout of illness. If your child is a little under the weather and needs a non-prescribed medicine, we welcome parents to come and administer this. If however children do need to receive prescribed medicine at school, please ensure that a medicine form (available from the office) is filled out and that the medicine is clearly labelled with the child's name. It is up to the discretion of the headteacher and the first aider whether or not he/she is happy to administer any medication. Prescribed medication is dispensed at noon by one of our First Aiders. All doses are logged, signed and dated. Children are not permitted to have any medication on their person or in their bag, with the exception of inhalers. Parents are expected to keep all medication in date.

PARKING

Please park considerately when you bring your car to school. If you are parking on Kithill, please ensure that the flow of traffic is not blocked. Please do not park in the yellow box area outside the school gates or near the zebra crossing as this can restrict visibility and make it very dangerous for children & parents to cross the road safely. Where possible please use the parent car park. Your cooperation in this matter would be appreciated. The staff car park is not available for the use of parents. There is an accessibility bay available in the parent car park. The school works closely with Somerset Parking Services and the PCSOs. Any issues around parking should be reported to Somerset Parking Services.

CHARGING POLICY

There are no compulsory charges for the usual curricular activities in school. From time to time the school may ask for parents to make a voluntary financial contribution towards the cost of a trip or activity. In these circumstances, parents are always informed at the outset. Whilst these contributions are voluntary and no child will be excluded from any visit or activity, some activities may not go ahead if insufficient funds are raised. A savings scheme is offered for residential trips. Anyone who may be concerned about any aspect of voluntary contributions should talk to the headteacher in confidence. We run a cashless system and all money should be paid through ParentPay which parents and carers are given information to set up an account when their child joins our school.



SCHOOL UNIFORM

All our children should wear uniform for school in line with our policy.

- Grey or black skirts or pinafore dresses (on the knee at shortest)
- Green summer dresses
- Grey or black trousers (long or short)
- White or green polo shirts /shirts/blouses
- Jade jumpers, sweatshirts or cardigans
- Black shoes or closed toed black sandals in the summer - no trainers
- Book bag

These are available from many retail shops at varying prices. School wear with an embroidered school logo can be ordered from Tesco or South West Clothing. The school regularly sells second hand uniform items.

PE KIT

Your child will also need to bring a full PE Kit to school. Each child will need the following in school every week for PE:

- 1 white or green T-shirt
- 1 pair black PE shorts
- 1 pair gym shoes (plimsolls or trainers)

Trainers and tracksuit bottoms will be required in cold weather. PE Kit needs to be stored in an appropriate PE bag and kept on your child's peg during school hours. Children may also be required to bring in a swimming kit. Please check the school newsletters to find out when your child's class is swimming.



SCHOOL COUNCIL

Children at St Bartholomew's are given the opportunity to vote for two members of their class to represent them on the school council. The School Council meet to discuss issues, plan events and help solve problems in school. We value our children's thoughts and ideas which feed into how our school runs. It also enables our children to experience the British value of democracy.

ECO AND FORGET-ME-NOT COUNCIL

St Bartholomew's also has an Eco and an Forget-Me-Not councils who meet regularly. The Eco Council work on ideas to help our school recycle and reuse and not waste energy. They carry out the practical jobs of collecting our recycling boxes, composting and supporting children in school with these matters. The Forget-Me-Not council also meet twice a month. They liaise with the Royal British Legion Admiral Nurses and local care home to support people with dementia.



BREAKFAST AND AFTERSCHOOL CLUB

St Bartholomew's offer a 'drop in' Breakfast Club from 8:00 – 9:00 am every morning.

The Afterschool Club runs from 3:15 pm - 5:00 pm. This service is only available booked in advance. They are also given fruit and a snack of a biscuit and squash earlier in the afternoon. This club also offers a half an hour home learning session where the leader supports the children with their home learning. Full details on costs and sessions can be found on our website and from the school office.

SCHOOL LUNCHES AND SNACKS

Children in KS2 may either eat a hot lunch or bring a healthy, balanced packed lunch which should not include sweets or chocolate bars. Hot lunches must be ordered and paid for using our ParentPay online payment and menu booking system at a cost of £2 per meal. If your child is eligible for a free school meal this will be provided. If you think your child(ren) may be entitled to free school meals, please contact the school for an application form. Currently all Key Stage 1 children (Reception, Year 1 & Year 2) are entitled under the Universal Free School Meals scheme to a hot or sandwich meal every day.

We encourage healthy eating during the mid-morning break and all children in Reception and Years 1 and 2 are provided with a piece of fresh fruit by the Government initiated School Fruit and Vegetable Scheme. The older children in KS2 will need to bring in their own piece of fruit. We do not allow sweets, biscuits or crisps to be consumed during this break. School milk is also available to purchase, please enquire in the school office. Please note we are a NUT and BANANA free school and these items should not be brought in for snack or lunch. Thank you for your support with this.



COMPLIMENTS, CONCERNS AND COMPLAINTS

We hope that any complaint that a parent has can be resolved by the school. Any complaints or concerns should, in the first instance, be made to the Class Teacher then the Headteacher, and it is hoped that in most cases complaints can be dealt with at this informal level. If this is not successful there is an agreed Local Authority (LA) Complaints Procedure that will be followed by the Chair of Governors (contacted via the school office). A compliments, concerns and complaints leaflet are available on our website.

PHOTOGRAPHING AND VIDEOING

Parents consent to school taking photographs by signing a permission slip upon entry to school and unless we hear from you we will assume that you agree to photos being taken of your child. School photographs that are for use outside of school are anonymous unless specific permission has been received from parents. Once a child starts at our school you will be asked to complete a 'permissions' form to agree that your child may be included in photographs for publication in our newsletters, on our website or within the school premises.

SCHOOL PERFORMANCE AND HOME LEARNING

Our school performance is published on the school website. We are proud to perform above the national and Somerset averages at EYFS and KS1 for several years.



SEVERE WEATHER CONDITIONS

If the decision is made not to open school as a result of deteriorating conditions overnight, a email or text message will be sent to parents. A message will also be placed on the school website and Facebook page. If you anticipate difficulties collecting your children later in the day due to weather conditions, please come early and collect them from school or telephone us to advise alternative arrangements. The Headteacher, Senior Leadership or other authorised staff will remain at school until all children have been safely collected by their parents. If worsening weather conditions indicate that children and staff may have difficulty getting home, every attempt will be made to contact you to ask you to come and collect children from school. Local radio will be notified and information will be broadcast on: Heart FM 96FM - 107FM or BBC Somerset FM 95.5FM The school telephone will be 'manned' where possible.

GENERAL DATA PROTECTION

Schools, local education authorities and the Department for Education (the government department which deals with education) all hold information on pupils in order to run the education system, and in doing so have to follow the Data Protection Act 2018. This means, among other things, the data held about pupils must only be used for specific purposes allowed by law. We are therefore writing to tell you about the types of data held, why that data is held, and to whom it may be passed on. The school holds information on pupils in order to support their teaching and learning, to monitor and report on their progress, to provide appropriate pastoral care, and to assess how well the school as a whole is doing.

This information includes contact details, National Curriculum assessment results, attendance information, characteristics such as ethnic group, special educational needs and any relevant medical information. From time to time we are required to pass on some of this data to the Local Authority (LA), to another school to which the pupil is transferring, to the Department for Education (DfE). The Local Authority maintains and uses information about pupils to carry out specific functions for which it is responsible, such as the assessment of any special educational or welfare needs the pupil may have, and targeting resources to pupils.

It also uses the information to derive statistics to inform decisions on (for example) the targeting of financial resources to schools, and to assess the performance of schools and help them set targets. The statistics are used in such a way that individual pupils cannot be identified from them. The school has a full GDPR policy and privacy notices both of which are available on our school website and from the school office.

EXTRA CURRICULAR ACTIVITIES

St Bartholomew's C of E Primary School is committed to offering a rich source of learning and an essential part of our pupils learning at school are the day visits, residential visits and visitors to school. However, there are times when the cost cannot be borne solely by the school and voluntary contributions will be requested to ensure that the activity takes place. These might include excursions, educational visits, swimming and board and lodging for activities involving residential visits. Parents will be informed by letter if voluntary contributions are requested. No child would be excluded from an activity if a contribution can't be made. However, if not enough contributions were gained a trip or activity may not be able to go ahead.

SWIMMING

Our swimming programme is part of the Government's drive to ensure that all children can swim 25 metres by the time they reach the end of their primary schooling. The ability to swim is a vital life skill to have; it can help to keep your child safe and is part of your child's National Curriculum entitlement. All children in Years 2–4 will have 6 sessions during a school year. We currently use the Aqua Centre in Crewkerne and children walk to and from the venue accompanied by their class teachers, volunteers and Teaching Assistants.

EDUCATIONAL TRIPS AND VISITS

Residential trips take place during your child's time at St Bartholomew's. These visits are very popular with children, bringing their lessons to life and stimulating their interest in a theme. The school makes use of the local environment to support projects in school. In some cases these excursions will be within walking distance of the school. All children will go on an educational trip that involves a coach journey at least annually. The children in Year 4 and 6 will have the chance to go on a residential visit. We are also visited by a range of artists, authors and experts to broaden our curriculum experience. In addition to this, we annually take part in Young Speakers and Poetry Recital competitions.



MUSIC LESSONS

Year 4 children are given the opportunity to learn an instrument through whole class music tuition. In previous years children have learned to play clarinet, brass and samba drums. This is organised by Somerset Music through their 'Wider Opportunities' scheme and the instruments are provided free of charge. The children are provided with online instrumental support through music world and this includes music to play along with. The children are also given printed sheet music to enable them to play their instrument at home.

AFTER SCHOOL CLUBS

A variety of after school clubs are available most days of the week each term. These range from gym, sports and multi skills clubs to recorder, STEM, Lego and Science club to name but a few. Clubs are run by staff and sometimes outside agencies. The cost for all school clubs is £1 per session. Clubs run by outside agencies may vary in price. The school also encourages sport and enters teams in local sporting events, for example Football matches and tournaments and Dance festivals. The Crewkerne and Ilminster Partnership runs sports festivals every year.

SEX AND RELATIONSHIP EDUCATION

The Governors have a curriculum statement on Sex and Relationship Education. This is written into a policy document, a copy of which is available on the school website. Parents were consulted on this in the Summer term 2020 and again in Summer 2022. The content taught is usually integrated into other areas of the curriculum, particularly through PSHE and Science.

Our aim as a Church Of England School is:- "Recognising its historic foundation, the school will preserve and develop its religious character in accordance with the principles of the Church of England and in partnership with the Church at parish and diocesan level.

