

**Christ Church C. E. (VC) First School
Northesk Street
Stone
Staffordshire
ST15 8EP**

Tel. 01785 354125

Fax. 01785 354126

office@christchurch-stone.staffs.sch.uk

Headteacher: Mrs L Croxall (B.ED Hons)

Chair of Governors: Mrs I Bowden

Christ Church C. E. (VC) First School is a co-educational day school for children aged 4 - 9 years, administered by Staffordshire County Council Education Committee.

Welcome to

Christ Church C. E. First School

At Christ Church C. E. First School, we believe that it is important that children achieve their full potential within a safe and caring environment. We aim to equip the children with skills to facilitate their life-long learning by developing lively and enquiring minds. We wish to foster their curiosity, enthusiasm and energy in order to enable them to acquire the right skills and attitudes.

We value the contribution made by all members of the school community, by aiming to provide an atmosphere where praise is attached to the acquisition of skills, knowledge and the joys of learning.

Christ Church C. E. First School, valuing its name and its partnership with the local church, seeks to be a learning community in which Christian values are exemplified and experienced on a daily basis.

The school is well equipped within the beautiful Victorian building that has been a part of Stone for many years. It houses children to a maximum number of 150.

We encourage children to participate in all aspects of school life, and we provide a range of out-of-school activities for the older children. We also plan educational visits, to support work in the classroom.

We are very proud of the standards and achievements of the children in our school. I hope that you will find all of the information you require in this prospectus. If you would like to know more about us, please do not hesitate to contact us. I look forward to meeting you and your child.

Mrs L Croxall
Headteacher.

Parents in Partnership

Christ Church C. E. First School is committed to giving the opportunity for every child to achieve his or her full potential. Parents are their child's first teacher, and we encourage the building of a lasting and positive partnership between home and school.

We encourage the children to take every positive opportunity available to them, within a caring environment where there is constant celebration of the children's achievements.

Contents

- 1. Parents in Partnership**
- 2. The curriculum**
- 3. School organisation**
- 4. The school in the community**
- 5. Pastoral care**
- 6. Out of school activities**
- 7. School uniform**
- 8. Charging and exemptions**
- 9. Collective worship**
- 10. Security**
- 11. Complaints**
- 12. Homework**
- 13. Admissions policy**
- 14. Extra information.**

School organisation.

The school is organised into teaching groups of mixed ability and wherever possible into year groups. Work is carefully differentiated by the class teacher to ensure that all abilities are catered for and all needs addressed in every lesson. The most able children are challenged.

Extra trained staff support the earliest classes to ensure a firm foundation to school life.

Hot lunches are provided. A sample menu is included at the back of the prospectus. Some children choose to bring a packed lunch.

Key Stage 1 pupils (Reception, Year 1 and Year 2) pupils have a break in the morning. Details of a typical school day, and holiday dates are also to be found at the back of this brochure.

The school in the community.

The school takes every opportunity to reach out into the community, and is ideally placed to benefit from all that Stone has to offer.

Children visit the local Day Centre for the Elderly, and local residents are invited to school for services, concerts and social functions organised by the PTA.

Children regularly visit Christ Church, and often conduct local studies throughout the town. We link with a rural school, and often visit other places of interest. We welcome a variety of visitors to the school to share their knowledge and expertise with us. We are proud of our links with the Police and other emergency services.

We have also linked with other countries through our work towards helping others in Romania, earthquake zones in India and Afghanistan. Our Lent Appeal each year has raised money and supplies for all of those areas, as well as for local charities.

The school regularly takes part in competitions, and has in the past been awarded a National Award for the part we have played in Stone in Bloom.

The curriculum

The curriculum is the total of all of the areas of study that the children work on at school.

We wish to foster good learning habits, with children being able to work effectively independently, with other children and with adults. Our children learn how to develop confidence and individuality, to learn and to use their learning.

Subjects include:

English
Mathematics
Science
History
Geography
Design and Technology
Information Technology
Art
Music
Physical Education
Religious Education

As a priority we teach our children how to listen, to read and to write, and to handle numbers with confidence. The ability to communicate is essential and children are given the opportunity to speak in public and to take an active part in musical and drama productions.

Religious Education.

Religious Education is based on the County's Agreed Syllabus and encourages the children to have thought for our world. Parents have the right ask for their children to be withdrawn from Religious Education or from the daily act of Worship if they so wish. Alternative supervised work in other National Curriculum subjects will be provided after close consultation with parents.

Christ Church C. E. First School is proud of its close links with Christ Church. This element provides us with a firm foundation and commitment to all within its community.

Special Educational Needs.

The children's achievements are closely monitored, and it may be necessary to seek further support from Advisory Teachers and the Educational Psychologist if your child is experiencing difficulties. The school has a clear policy, and parents are consulted at all times. We always work in partnership.

School Uniform.

It is not the policy of the Education Committee to make the wearing of any school uniform compulsory, but all children are required to attend school dressed appropriately.

The school has adopted a smart uniform which is comfortable and attractive, and many items are sold in school at cost price.

The uniform consists of a jumper or cardigan embroidered with the school crest. This is worn with either a white shirt and school tie, or a gold polo shirt. This is accompanied by dark trousers, a navy blue skirt or pinafore dress.

A blue and white dress is sold for summer wear.

To participate fully in Physical Education your child will need pumps, a tee shirt and shorts and suitable swimwear. A PE bag to store this kit in is useful. A tee shirt and shorts are available from school.

A school cap and book bag with the school crest on are also available.

It is important that all items are named.

Pastoral Care

Your child will be under the personal care of a class teacher, who will be your first point of contact. We pride ourselves in the caring nature of the school and all staff are committed to ensuring that your child is safe, well and happy. We have trained staff to deal with any incident requiring first aid.

It is the duty of the school to work with other agencies, and advice will be sought, or a referral made to Social Services if there is reason to believe that a child is in need of protection.

Health Education is given as part of our normal programme, and sex education is not singled out for special treatment.

Children are taught to treat every one with equal respect regardless of race, age or gender, through example set within the school and its own community.

Out of school activities.

Children are offered the opportunity to develop an interest in playing the recorder, joining the choir, using the computer, learning French or playing football after school. Occasionally, other activities are also offered to the children depending on the season - drama, country dancing, skittle ball, and other sports in the Summer months. These activities are conducted voluntarily by staff, with the exception of French Club which is run by a local French teacher.

Charges and exemptions.

When a visit takes place in school hours, it may be necessary to ask for a voluntary contribution to be made to cover costs. However, no child will be excluded from such a visit if parents have not felt able to make a contribution. The school believes that there is great value in all of the activities organised, and therefore we do ask for support when possible in order for these to take place.

Collective Worship

The children take part in a daily act of Worship, either as a whole school or in class groups. This activity offers the children an opportunity to explore and share beliefs, and reflect upon their own ideas and values. Children also participate in Worship presented by their own class, and in special 'achievement' assemblies which present an opportunity to celebrate success together. The Vicar regularly visits the school, as do other visitors (eg Chair of Governors, Baptist Minister, Salvation Army) to join with us at these times.

Parents have the right to withdraw their children from Collective Worship, but please discuss this decision with the Headteacher first.

School Security.

The school is conscious that children must be safe and protected at all times.

The site is locked after the children arrive in the morning, and access is then only permitted through the door entry system. Visitors to the school are then requested to wear an entry pass available only from the school office.

We constantly advise parents to be vigilant when leaving and collecting their children from the school.

What to do if you have a complaint.

If you have a complaint, you are asked, in the first instance, to discuss your concern with the teacher and then the Headteacher. If this approach proves satisfactory, then parents may address their concerns in writing to the Chair of Governors, or the Director of Education.

Homework.

The school has a homework policy which is included in the back of this prospectus. Further information will be given out at the annual introductory meetings with your child's class teacher, held each time your child changes class.

The principles of the policy are to enable staff and parents to work closely together for the benefit of the children. We ask for your support in this area, to build up a solid and mutually responsible partnership.

Other information.

Copies of the Governing Body minutes, all policies and the most recent Ofsted Inspection Report are available for parents to read in the school Office.

Other information is to be found at the back of this brochure, including:

- Holiday dates for the current year.
- National Curriculum test results.
- Session times.
- Mission Statement
- Prices of the school uniform
- A list of Governors
- A homework policy
- A sample menu for school lunches
- PTA information
- Parent/pupil registration form
- Home-school agreement