Hilperton

Church of England Primary School

Prospectus

We soar high on wings like eagles

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St Michael and all Angels' Church
Hilperton C of E Primary School

Our Leadership Team

Head Teacher – Mrs Anna Edmund
Assistant Head – Mrs Amanda Bray
School Business Manager – Mrs Mandy Cole
Inclusion Leader – Mrs Jo Clark
Senior Leadership Team Member – Miss Rosie Amey

Head Teacher
Mrs Anna Edmund

Chair of Governors
Mr Blair Keltie

Welcome to Hilperton Primary School

Our school is in the wonderful village of Hilperton, set in the beautiful Wiltshire countryside and we feel very lucky to call it our home.

We are a strong family school that puts our Christian Values at the centre of our learning, which is rich in academic and creative diversity. Our curriculum is filled with exciting stories and wonderful opportunities to share what we've learnt.

We listen carefully to our children to ensure they grow emotionally and academically and give them the best possible start in life. With our family ethos, expansive green and leafy grounds, spacious learning areas, a modern library, home cooked food, forest school, wonderful staff and a Head Teacher's door that is always open, I'm sure you'll agree, it's a magnificent place for children to learn.

This is, of course, only a prospectus, but we hope you see enough to feel that there's something very special happening here. We'd love you to be part of it.

If you would like to visit our school as a prospective parent, we'd be delighted to show you around. Please telephone 01225 755 343 or e-mail admin@hilperton.wilts.sch.uk to make an appointment.

"Distinctively Christian values are embedded in the life of the school and make a contribution to the children's understanding of relationships and their attitudes towards learning."

SIAMS Report 2016

Our School Vision and Values

Our Christian vision guides our school's ethos; we are filled with the hope and the inner strength to soar high. We help children discover their natural talents and allow their passion to flourish.

We believe our 'Wings of Kindness' can make the world a better place.

We know our children have dreams, and as they set out on the adventure of a lifetime it is up to us to make sure they have the courage and resilience to follow them. When we talk about hope and aspiration we believe our individual happiness is intrinsically linked to the happiness of those around us. We grow our 'Wings of Kindness' collectively so we can all fly high together.

Our Vision Statement above, is not just for the children, but a promise that we all make to one another: children, teachers, parents, and family. We are all on an adventure together and we wouldn't have it any other way!

Within our school family,
we nurture aspiration and resilience.

Together, with God's strength, we move forward with courage and honesty, learn collectively with kindness, and provide hope to flourish.

This is how we soar high on wings like eagles.

**Those who hope in The LORD will find new strength,
they will soar high on wings like eagles;
they will run and not grow weary,
they will walk and not be faint.**

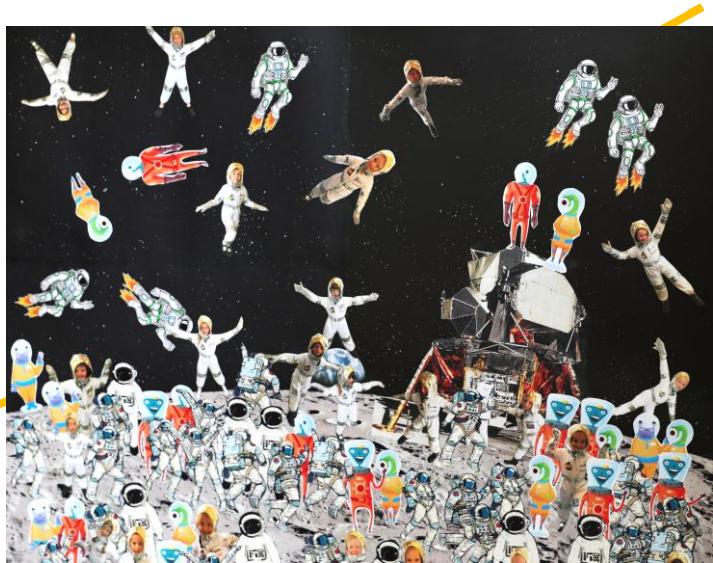
Isaiah 40:31

Who We Are

We Are:
Forward Thinkers, Story Makers, Passionate Advocates, Problem Solvers, Loyal Friends, Chance Takers, Hungry Learners, Creative Sparks, Energetic Explorers, Self Believers

We aim to ensure every child has the opportunity to perform, share and speak with an audience about their learning. In this way, their learning has meaning and purpose. We aim to build children's memories of expressing creatively and working with others collaboratively by providing opportunities to share their work and display their achievements.

We will arm our children with the tools to succeed: the confidence, knowledge and understanding of the world around them to hold their heads up high and be heard.



Inside Our School

Spacious and Stimulating Indoor Environments

Our classrooms, break out rooms and communal areas are well organised, spacious and designed to showcase the work of our children.

At the hub of our building is our School Hall, which provides a wonderful space for lunches, performances, P.E. and collective worship.

We have a modern, fully equipped kitchen offering delicious, home cooked meals. We're also proud to have a community kitchen, Forest School and separate library.

Library

Stories and books are at the heart of what we do and we are incredibly proud to have a dedicated and well stocked Library on site, providing a cornucopia of stories and a haven for reading and learning.

Happy Classrooms

Our classrooms are fun, vibrant and exciting places to learn in!

With stimulating displays of pupils' work and 'learning walls' of memory aides, they spark interest, encourage discussion and participation.

Each classroom is equipped with up to date ICT, including a Smart Board, visualisers and access to a large number of laptops.

Inspirational School Grounds

Our outside grounds are beautiful and fully make the most of the stunning views across the adjoining farmland. Our spaces are used every day for sports activities and during playtimes.

They comprise two playgrounds, a modern astro pitch, large playing field, trim trail, forest school area, story benches, wild area, small ponds, raised vegetable beds, outdoor classroom and picnic area where, during fine weather, pupils enjoy eating their packed lunches.

We believe that the opportunity to learn outdoors provides a broader and richer experience, so where we can, we take our learning outside.

"The school really gets their imaginations running, with lots of outside spaces to learn and play in, encouraging a real love of learning."

Simone Smith,
Parent and former Governor

"My favourite thing about school is playing on the trim trail with my friends."

Sam B, Year 6 Pupil

Our Classes

We are a small school of around 150 children, grouped into five classes: Robin, Sparrow, Owl, Heron and Eagle.

At Hilperton, our five-class structure means that we have mixed age classes within the school, to incorporate all seven primary school year groups. The balance of each class varies each year due to the differing sizes of year groups and each child is taught at the appropriate level.

Our mixed age classes offer many advantages:

- **The younger children learn from the older ones and aspire to emulate them, while the older children develop greater independence, self-motivation, responsibility and leadership skills.**
- **Longer time spent together means that children and teachers have more time to develop a close bond and children feel "known."**
- **Children are more likely to form friendships across age groups, facilitating a more inclusive school culture.**
- **Children are more likely to learn how to co-operate, support and care for each other.**

Our Zones

The school is organised into two zones: Sun Zone (Reception and Key Stage 1) and Star Zone (key stage 2) each with their own entrances, break out spaces and play areas.

Outside Learning in our Forest School

In 2021 we unveiled our new Forest School – a fabulous outside resource. This outside learning base is used daily and provides an alternative learning environment, enabling children to build resilience, friendships and confidence. We believe in widening every child's opportunity to find their own way to connect and grow.

What We Teach

Reading

Books are at the heart of our whole school curriculum. We teach 'word reading' through phonics, following the Sounds Write phonics scheme. All children are taught comprehension using a 'reading for inference' strategy which develops vocabulary and a knowledge of the world to build deeper understanding of texts. This is complemented by reading and discussing a range of stories, poems and non-fiction to establish an appreciation and love of reading, and to gain knowledge across the curriculum.

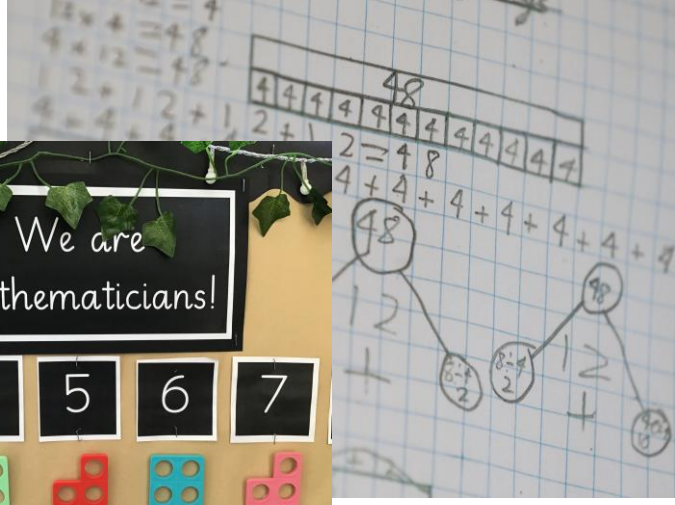
"We want every member of our school family to set their highest goals, knowing they will be supported in reaching them and equipped to challenge any obstacles they may face."

Writing

We put quality children's literature at the heart of our English curriculum and in every classroom, writing is taught through sharing and discussing great reading books. Children love stories and we use stories along with creative teaching to support and develop high quality writing and a whole school love of reading.

From books come a rich vocabulary, key themes, diversity, problems to solve, a deeper understanding of our social and emotional selves along with the opportunity for our children to build cultural capital – the essential knowledge they need to become rounded, educated citizens.

Books are at the heart of our school.



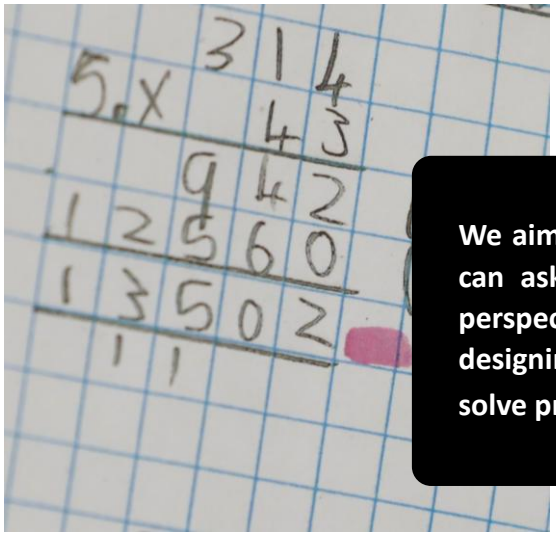
Mathematics

We believe that mathematics is an adventure for children (and adults) to get creative, make mistakes, ask questions, explore a wide range of mathematical problems and excel! We broadly follow Active Learn's Power Maths which was created especially for UK primary schools, and aligned with the new National Curriculum.

We teach mathematics using a mastery approach designed to spark curiosity and excitement and nurture confidence in maths. Our lessons are carefully sequenced to support children's understanding of core concepts and build their mathematical confidence. Each lesson is divided into evidence-based sections that take children on a journey through discovery, sharing of ideas, scaffolded practice, independent practice and reflection. It embeds growth mindset and problem solving to equip children with a deep conceptual understanding and a passion for mathematics.

"While we are passionate about learning, not testing, we're proud to enable our children to achieve their very best in formal assessments and arm themselves with a confidence they can carry with them, whatever they choose to do next."

Mrs Bray, Assistant Headteacher



We aim to teach children to be active readers and thinkers so they can ask questions, develop vocabulary and understand different perspectives - Children want demanding learning and so we are designing our curriculum to provide opportunities for children to solve problems, to provoke curiosity and build self-confidence.

Our Wider School Curriculum

Books and stories lead our children's learning. We aim to find stories throughout the curriculum to provide context to the learning, be it Science, Geography, History, Art or PE. This concept is grounded in cognitive science which has shown that the mind best understands and remembers facts when they are woven into a conceptual fabric such as a narrative. This way we ensure that information moves from the short-term into long-term memory, and is fun to learn!

The Arts

Enabling children to express themselves through the Arts is one of our key passions. We champion creativity and actively promote and celebrate Drama, Music, Dance and Art.

"Our extensive grounds, Astro and spacious hall mean we can offer a wide range of P.E. activities, designed to be inclusive, challenging and fun!"

Mrs Millard, P.E. curriculum lead

Enrichment

School trips are arranged throughout the year, when possible. They may include local visits to Trowbridge Museum, Roman Baths, Longleat and the surrounding countryside, as well as visits further afield, such as Bristol Zoo, Weymouth and Stonehenge. We also organise activity-based residential camps for Years 4 and 6.

Our School Day

A fun-filled day

The school day starts at 8.40am and finishes at 3.00pm. Morning lessons focus on reading, writing and mathematics. Much of our learning in the morning is linked to a class story book that connects with our afternoon's wider curriculum. This ensures our afternoons are rich and varied with opportunities for our children to excel in science, art, PE, geography, languages, design technology, computing, history and music.

Playtime

At 10.30am, children enjoy a breaktime across the school. Our two playgrounds, astroturf, 'trim trail', large green field and woodland area mean that there's plenty of outdoor space for children to enjoy free range play and a good chat with their friends. Younger children also have a short afternoon playtime.

Lunch

Lunchtime begins at 11.50am with staggered start times through the school, finishing for all children at 1pm. Our homemade school dinners are all cooked on site and are healthy and delicious.

Wrap-around Care

We offer a bookable breakfast and afterschool club at the start and the end of the school day, currently providing seamless care from 7.45am until 5.30pm. For prices and further details please contact our Office Team.

Uniform

Our children wear their school uniform with pride. It consists of a royal blue polo shirt, grey skirt/shorts/trousers, a royal blue jumper/cardigan with the school logo, and a pair of black shoes.

Our school P.E. kit consists of a pair of black shorts/jogging bottoms for cold weather, a blue t-shirt with the school logo, and a pair of outdoor trainers.

We do not permit children to wear jewellery, other than a small stud earring, although we do allow children to wear a small, analogue watch.

Collective Worship

Our Christian ethos is of high importance within our school and this can be seen in our daily collective worship where children can reflect, consider their role within our community and their contribution to it and take time to find peace.

Each term has a theme based around one of our values and once a week we have a celebration assembly which celebrates children's learning, kindness and achievement across the school. We love to share our assemblies with our families and often invite parents to be part of our collective worships and celebration assemblies.

"One of the most moving times at Hilperton is when the children, teachers and parents come together to sing in praise, it is truly uplifting."

Caroline Truss, Governor

The Hilperton Family

Parents and Carers

Class Dojo helps us to stay in touch with parents and families.

At Hilperton C of E Primary School, we see our children, parents, carers, staff and wider community as members of one big family. Communication is an essential part of any family relationship and we work extremely hard to actively engage with parents and carers to discuss their child's learning or any problems that may arise throughout the school year.

We use Class Dojo, a mobile phone app, as a swift method of direct communication between the school and home. Class Teachers send reminders, news and updates, and parents and carers can send direct messages in return. This is an incredibly useful tool.

We issue regular newsletters, send letters and emails, have a presence at the school gates and pick up the telephone to stay in touch. We also hold parent consultation evenings twice a year where you can discuss your child's achievements and progress with their class teacher.

The Headteacher and Class Teachers are very approachable and always happy to hear from members of our Hilperton family.

School Council

We firmly believe in making sure that the children have a voice in what is happening in the school. We have an active School Council and Sports Council who are democratically elected at the start of each year.

"Children are regularly consulted on any new initiative being planned and we make sure we listen to their feedback on what is going well – or not so well – in the school."

Mrs Sawyer, School Council Co-ordinator

Governors

Our Governors are volunteers, some of whom are parents, who help to guide and support the school. They offer invaluable insight.

We are eager for people with useful skills to join our team of Governors.

Other Schools and Nurseries

We work closely with local nurseries and pre-schools and make visits to see the children in their familiar settings before starting school.

During the term before they begin school, children are invited to four play sessions in Willow Class where they can explore the classroom, find out about the school and play alongside other members of the class.

As part of our transition process we also make a home visit and use this time to get to know each child and their family and learn about what they enjoy.

Our children progress on to a range of local Secondary Schools, and we engage with them all to ensure a smooth transition from Y6.

We also have strong links with other local primary schools, supporting each other as part of a schools collaboration.

PTFA

The Parent Teachers and Friends Association (PTFA) is a wonderful asset to the school. This very active group arranges a wide variety of fun activities throughout the year, designed to raise funds for the school while enriching the experiences of children, parents and staff alike. We're always looking for new parents to join our fun-loving group.

Our Wider Community

We hold strong and positive links with our wider local community and encourage children to see themselves as part of this. Our children enjoy visiting local care homes, reading and singing to the residents.

We often invite local community members in to speak about their experiences and we have a strong bond with our local church, St Michael and All Angels.

Inclusion

We're An Inclusive School

We are proud to be an inclusive school and want all of our children to feel settled, happy and able to achieve their full potential.

We know that sometimes children can experience a range of different challenges which can become a barrier to their learning. Our experienced Inclusion Team is sensitive, knowledgeable and trained in working closely with children, parents and teachers to support emotional wellbeing in school. Their role is to identify and work through certain situations before they become more challenging, as well as being skilled in obtaining external help to ensure the best outcomes for any child who needs it.

Our Inclusion Team

Our Inclusion Team comprises a dedicated Inclusion Leader / SENCo and specialist Teaching Assistants trained in THRIVE and Forest Schools.

Forest School

We are extremely proud of our Forest School. This exciting new outdoor classroom is run by specially trained staff and offers an alternative learning experience, designed to enable all our children to soar.

Copies of our Special Educational Needs, Gifted and Talented, Single Equality and Race Equality policies are available from the school office and through our website.

Positivity and Respect

Promoting Positive Behaviour

Positive behaviour is firmly rooted within our Christian Values. We set clear expectations and boundaries for children's behaviour with a strong emphasis on encouraging positive attitudes and actions and this is encouraged, recognised and celebrated through class and whole school reward systems which include Star of the Week, Dojo points in class and Headteacher awards.

We aim to develop, within our children, a sense of responsibility and commitment, ensuring that the school is a supportive and thriving learning community.

Our children are expected and encouraged to develop good manners and personal moral values, including respect for the truth, for themselves and for others. Our pupils and staff are determined that bullying has no place in our school and if incidents do occur, pupils know how to react and are confident that the situation will be dealt with.

Safeguarding

The school takes its responsibilities for safeguarding the children in our care very seriously and has regular reviews of its Safeguarding Policies and a comprehensive staff training programme in place.

Children are regularly reminded and encouraged to think and learn about keeping themselves safe through assemblies and activities such as Safer Internet Week and Anti-bullying Week.

"Leaders want the very best for pupils at Hilperton. The school has a caring ethos through which adults teach pupils to be kind."

"Pupils are polite, courteous and well mannered. There is a calm and orderly atmosphere in school and on the playground."

OFSTED April 2022

Early Years

We know that starting school is a milestone event.

At Hilperton C of E Primary, our team works extremely hard to ensure that children quickly feel part of our family and are happy and confident to begin their learning journey.

Our youngest children start school in our reception year: Robin Class. They follow the Early Years Foundation Stage curriculum, through carefully planned activities, making use of our delightful learning environments, including a large well-equipped classroom and dedicated outside play area for reception children only.

This is designed to provide a secure and supportive way for children to settle into school life, learn to work and play as a member of a small group, build good relationships with adults and other members of the class and grow in self-confidence.

Our wonderfully skilled staff team in Robin Class provide a nurturing and caring experience, welcoming our youngest children into the Hilperton school family with ease.

"Getting to know our new children, helping them settle in, make friends, laugh, play and care for each other is why Early Years is such a magical place to be! It's wonderful to see just how much they have learnt and grown in the space of one year! "

Mrs Millard, Robin Class teacher

Admissions

How To Apply

As a Church of England Voluntarily Controlled Primary School our admissions procedure is managed and administered by the Local Authority. Applications should be made directly to the Local Authority's admissions team, and forms can be found at www.wiltshire.gov.uk/schools-learning-admissions-online

Admissions

Children are admitted during the academic year in which they turn 5 years old. Pupils are able to attend school full-time from September, after an initial part-time settling in period.

For those pupils who join us mid-year a transfer application must be made and returned to the Local Authority. We are an equal opportunities school and do not discriminate with reference to race, gender or disability.

Hilperton C of E Primary School

Key Dates

We typically hold open events in September for families of children due to start the following academic year. The last date for applications to the Local Authority is usually mid January, by which applications must be received for admission the following September.

We warmly welcome mid-year transfers from other local schools and children from outside the Hilperton catchment area. If you are interested in joining us please contact us directly.

Arranging Visits

If you would like to visit our school, please contact us at: admin@hilperton.wilts.sch.uk

How to find more information

A copy of our Admissions Policy is available on request from the school or from the Local Authority.. Further information about our school is available on our website: https://www.hilperton.wilts.sch.uk

Contact Us

Thank You

Thank you for your interest in Hilperton C of E Primary School.

We hope you've seen from this prospectus that our school is a very special place and that we are very excited to share it with you.

We'd love to hear from you, so please do contact us with any questions or to book a visit.

Hilperton Church of England Voluntary Controlled Primary School

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