



Walkwood

Church of England ⊕ Middle School



We are proud to welcome you to Walkwood Church of England Middle School



We are a middle school which educates pupils between the ages of 9 and 13 in a values-rich community. The school serves Walkwood and Headless Cross areas of Redditch, welcoming pupils between the ages of 9-13.

As a state-funded academy, it is our vocation, duty and delight to provide the best possible education for each pupil.

We are a very friendly and focused school. We aim to inspire every child – whatever their abilities – to achieve their very best and make a valuable contribution to the Walkwood community. We want our pupils to love to learn.

Our school is not just about knowledge and skills; it’s also about inspiring children to look at the world differently and about challenging them to be fascinated by lessons and subjects. In this way, we encourage our pupils to learn to live, preparing them for an adult life in a changing world and as such we seek to equip our children for the future. We want them to excel in school... and in later life.

We are a Church of England school, which is fully inclusive of all faiths and beliefs. While Christian principles underpin all of the school’s values, we know that these morals are shared by many faiths. Consequently, we also work to ensure children develop an understanding of each of the main world religions. We look for our pupils to take into their lives beyond our school, an outlook that allows them to learn to love the experiences, people and spirituality that they encounter.

“Remember your Creator in the days of your youth”. Ecclesiastes 12:1

Therefore, we want pupils to:

- Love to learn,
- learn to live,
- live to love.

It is what good education is all about.

Our mission is to provide high quality, balanced education to pupils in an enquiring and supportive environment. Experienced and subject specialist teaching staff are dedicated to developing each individual pupil’s well-being, whilst inspiring them to achieve their goals and excel in lessons.



School Values

Our Fruits of Faith are:

f	friendliness	We treat others as we would want to be treated.
	forgiveness	We accept an apology from someone, and offer one freely.
a	aspiration	We look to be our very best and make the most of life.
	achievement	We always try our best, so we can make the most of opportunities.
i	inquisitiveness	We think freely and in new ways and explore new ideas.
	inclusiveness	We include other people, loving them even if we find liking them hard.
t	tolerance	We accept the ideas and beliefs of others, even if they are not our own.
	thankfulness	We give thanks for each other and for what we learn together.
h	honesty	We tell the truth clearly and we are true to ourselves.
	honour	We show respect to others and know that all people are God’s creation.



We work through respectful partnerships

Not only is living and learning together, both lovingly and creatively, part of our mission, but we also work through partnerships. This happens within the school, as staff cooperate across colleges and subjects. We also work with other educational providers. Our partner high schools are key collaborators for children’s education, as are the partner middle schools. We value our partnerships with the feeder first schools. Funzone is our before school, after school and holiday time club partner (parents can book their children into the club from 7.45am in the morning, until 6.00pm in the evening).

Equality, tolerance and inclusiveness

Walkwood Church of England Middle School actively opposes bullying, racism and discrimination. If you are concerned that your child is unhappy at school for whatever reason, please contact your child’s tutor in the first instance. Also, there are members of the college pastoral staff who will be able to support any issues quickly and sensitively. There are many things we can do to make a difference.

As a result, all pupils are provided with a safe and secure learning environment in which they are encouraged to speak about their concerns.

Encouraging good behaviour

“I am God, your God, who teaches you how to live right and well. I show you what to do, where to go.”

Isaiah 48: 17, The Message

Praise and encouragement are the most important elements of developing positive relationships and friendships. We achieve this by awarding College Points and by recognising high quality work, which is celebrated during class time, college and whole-school gatherings.




Living and Learning Together

Isaiah 48
I am God, your God, who teaches you how to live right and well.

Matthew 5
How blessed are those who make peace, because it is they who will be called God’s children!

1 Corinthians 13
Love is kind and patient, never jealous, boastful, proud or rude. Love rejoices in the truth, but not in evil. Love is always supportive, loyal, hopeful and trusting. Love never fails!



Titus 3
People must always be ready to do something helpful and not say cruel things or argue. They should be gentle and kind to everyone. God our Saviour showed us how good and kind He is.

1 Romans 13
Behave properly, as people do in the day. Don’t quarrel or be jealous. Let the Lord Jesus be as close to you as the clothes you wear.

Proverbs 14
Watch your words and hold your tongue; you will save yourself a lot of trouble.

Proverbs 15
Losing your temper causes a lot of trouble, but staying calm settles arguments.

Comments from pupils who have just left us

“Walkwood has given me opportunities of a lifetime and memories that will last forever. I’ve made friendships with people that I’d never dream of. Teachers have helped me through four years here. Here are a few memories; Dream on, Cats, old 6F, Arts Evening, Sports Days, Takeover Day, The Black Country Museum and lots of other memories. Thank you for all of the support and everything Walkwood has done for me. I will miss Walkwood.”

- Mae Fullerton

“One of the best memories I have at Walkwood is my first day there and how all of the staff and pupils were really welcoming. My advice is treasure your time at Walkwood because it goes really fast!”

- Bailey Pearce.

“My advice to a new Y5 pupil would be - at first it may seem big and scary but once you’ve been here for a while you’ll get to know your way around and everyone becomes like a family.”

- Zoe Hemming

“Make sure you make the most of your time at Walkwood.”

- Thomas Carter



Then I heard the voice of the Lord saying, ‘Whom shall I send, and who will go for us?’ And I said, ‘Here I am; send me!’ And he said, ‘Go....’

Isaiah 6:8-9

Curriculum

A rich, broad and balanced curriculum is offered across the four years and two key stages. The planning through the four years is strong, both within each subject and across different subjects. This builds subject partnerships of ideas or concepts, which support pupils' learning. In Year 5, pupils have a smaller number of teachers, which eases the transition from the first school curriculum.

Areas of the curriculum are:

- English
- Mathematics
- Science
- ICT
- History
- French, German
- Music
- Geography
- Physical Education
- Religious Education
- Citizenship
- Design Technology
- Art and Design
- Drama
- Personal, Social and Health Education



Enriched curriculum

The curriculum is enhanced for pupils within school, the local community and the wider world. We provide an abundance of opportunities at Key Stage 2 and 3. These have included theatre trips, performing in the choir and orchestra, problem solving days, residential trips for example netball and football tours, chess club, a Victorian Day, creative writing workshops and visits to Coventry Cathedral and the Ironbridge Gorge Museum.

We also have specific 'theme' days during the academic year where the whole school is involved. These are generally based within the vertical tutor groups and can cover aspects of faith, business or eco-matters. Throughout the year, we also have a variety of guest speakers who visit and motivate the pupils.



Inclusivity in learning

All children have different skills, temperaments and talents. We aim to identify gifted and talented children and provide regular, stimulating and enriching lessons and activities appropriate to their needs.

Walkwood has adopted the practice of Provision Mapping to support pupils with special needs. This requires the school to identify the needs of a pupil and then match a resource or provision to meet the need.

There are a variety of methods used to support pupils with special needs including:

- Individual timetables
- Extra support from teaching assistants in lessons
- Handwriting programme
- Speech and language intervention
- Spelling intervention
- Fresh Start programme.



Specialist teachers and facilities

One of the strengths of Walkwood Church of England Middle School is that we employ specialist teachers and have subject-specific facilities. This means that these specialist teachers have a greater depth of expertise and enthusiasm for their subjects.

We have:

- 3 Science labs and 2 prep. rooms
- 2 full ICT rooms, with three further 'break out' ICT areas
- Pupil photocopiers and printers
- Newly refurbished changing rooms with individual showers
- Two hard play areas
- A four-pitch sports field
- Library and ICT resources
- A Food Technology room
- Workshops for Resistant Materials and Textiles
- A specialist Music base with separate practice rooms
- A dedicated Art facility
- Two school halls
- External 'quiet areas' for the younger and older pupils
- A 'Peace Garden' for reflection and a wooded zone too
- Lockers for every pupil (at no cost)
- On-site canteen for hot and cold food preparation



The School day

All pupils are invited into school from 8.45am and should be in classrooms by 8.50am.

School finishes at 3.30pm.

Organisation

On arrival to school, every pupil is placed into one of four colleges. These are as follows:

- Abberley
- Bredon
- Cleeve
- Malvern

We aim to encourage and develop a joint sense of team spirit and belonging. Pupils will represent their college in a variety of academic, sporting and non-sporting competitions. Colleges also meet weekly in an act of worship, which involves celebration of achievements too.

We operate a tutor system in which our youngest pupils are nurtured and supported by older pupils. These are known as Vertical Tutor groups.



Uniform

A simple uniform is helpful in establishing good standards of appearance in school and by wearing it, children quickly feel part of the community. We receive many compliments about the appearance of our pupils and are sure that you will wish to maintain this reputation.

The uniforms are shown here, with the ties indicating which of the four colleges the pupils belong to.

Homework

Regular, structured homework supports and enriches the learning that goes on in the classroom.

At the start of the year, children receive a homework timetable and record their homework in their planner.

A homework club exists too, providing support for pupils from 7:45 – 8:45am until 4:30pm each day.

School Meals

School lunches are prepared freshly on site. Pupils can choose to purchase a range of delicious hot and cold meals and snacks during morning break and lunchtime. The menu is altered on a daily basis and there is always a vegetarian option. Pupils may choose to bring a packed lunch to school. Menu and payment options can be seen on the website.



Communication

The first line of contact for parents is the pupil's tutor. Telephoning the school is also helpful, as is emailing office@walkwoodms.worcs.sch.uk.

If a pupil is absent, contact to the school can be by email, telephone or parents can reply to a text message which the school will send after the morning registers have been taken.

Planner

The child's planner is also a vital means of communication between home and school. It is where children record their homework, test results, achievements and targets and, importantly, it is a place for parents and teachers to exchange notes.

Partnership with parents

We believe that a good partnership between school and home is an essential element of effective education. Children's teachers, tutors and pastoral managers can be available to see parents before or after school. It is best to telephone ahead to ensure that a staff member will be available.

There are termly communications with parents in the form of either a formal parents' evening or a written report. The school's 'Parents' Zone' on the website is updated regularly to keep parents informed of the latest school news. There is also an information board by the front gate at the Feckenham Road entrance.



Our weekly newsletter, 'The Insider', informs parents about children's achievements and events in school.

A parent's view

"Since Jess has been at Walkwood I have noticed a massive difference in her attitude, willingness to learn and personality. Walkwood has helped shape Jess in to a young lady. I am very happy with the progress Jess has, and is making in year 5.

The support Jess receives from her teachers is amazing and they are all really encouraging and supportive.

In May we had our first Sports Day at Walkwood and it was fantastic to be part of. The atmosphere was amazing and there was a big emphasis on team work.

"I am looking forward to seeing Jess' progression over the next three years."

Jenny Stewart, mother of Jess Stewart-Clarke





Clubs and activities

Walkwood has a wide choice of after-school clubs organised for pupils. Most school clubs run from 3.30pm until 4.45pm, and there is no charge made for these activities.

Sport

Walkwood has an impressive record of sporting achievement both at district, county and national levels. There are regular sports fixtures and competitions in a variety of sports. No payment is required to take part. Sports clubs include:

- Netball
- Football
- Hockey
- Rounders
- Athletics
- Cross-country running
- Rugby
- Basketball
- Dance
- Cricket



Music

Music is a strength at Walkwood. Our orchestra and choir practise weekly and perform at many concerts throughout the year at various venues. Pupils who wish to play a specific instrument can have individual lessons. The school has close links with Worcestershire Youth Music and peripatetic music teachers visit to provide instrumental tuition.

Other clubs

Walkwood also runs other clubs including:

- Drama
- Art
- Textiles
- Cooking
- Computers
- Ecology
- Cheerleading
- Homework
- Chess
- European links
- Signing

All of these clubs are available free of charge.



Jesus said “I am come that they might have life, and that they might have it more abundantly.”

John 10:10



Comments from
Walkwood pupils now at
our parent high schools



The LORD says,
“I will guide you along the best pathway for
your life. I will advise you and watch over you.”
Psalm 32:8, New Living Translation

Trinity High School

“During my time at Walkwood I had lots of memorable events such as winning the Redditch Schools Football Tournament in year 8 and achieving three Head Teacher Commendations in year 8. Walkwood prepared me very well for high school, they gave us lots of opportunities to work as a team and individuals, providing different teachers for different subjects.

At Trinity the teachers and staff are very helpful, the sporting facilities are next to none and they provide different opportunities for all subjects.”

- Brad Smith



“The thing I liked about Walkwood the most was how the teachers made learning new things interesting. Walkwood is a friendly school that offers new opportunities and gives plenty of support to those who need it – Walkwood makes everyone feel at home.

Walkwood gave us a lot of confidence and by the end of year 8 we were all ready to leave and determined to do well in high school.

Trinity is a great school where you can have an education and fun at the same time. Trinity care about the welfare of their pupils and listen to their views. I’ve had an amazing first year at Trinity and made lots of new friends. If you want to go to a school that lets you have fun, express your views and gives you an opportunity to obtain a great education then Trinity is for you.”

- Ella Bowater



“At Walkwood my most memorable occasion was Sports Day as they were most enjoyable and we had them every year. Parents, family members or friends would come to watch and we would spend the whole day on the field. There would be competitions between houses and there was a record that could be broken!

Walkwood prepared me for high school by setting higher level work. They reminded us what behaviour should be like and what consequences we would have in high school. We did projects to be more independent and improve working in a team or as a pair.

What I like about Trinity is that the layout of the building is quite simple so you won’t get lost often. At the start of the year that was one of my worries, but what also helped me was that if I couldn’t find my friends then I could ring/text them because you’re allowed your phones on at lunch and break times. I personally think Trinity is a great school because the teachers are friendly and the lessons are enjoyable.”

- Tia Thompson

St Augustine’s Catholic
High School & Sixth
Form centre

My two favourite parts about Walkwood were firstly going the Residential trip in Year 6 to Wimbledon and secondly going on the trip to France. There were both memorable occasions and I had great fun with my friends on them.

Will Skelton

“What I liked about Walkwood/my most memorable occasion was the mixed tutor groups because it meant that I could talk to different year groups. Walkwood prepared me for high school as we were placed into ability sets, so we had an idea of where we might be in regards to sets when we joined high school. In that way, it was less of a shock.

What I like about St Augustine’s is that St Augustine’s is a multi-cultural and multi-faith school. I am therefore educated in other cultures and faiths. This will assist me in the future.”

Kareena Julier

“Walkwood Middle School prepared me for Saint Augustine’s High School by organising transition days. We were able to visit and walk around the school before our transition day, which made me more excited to start my new journey at Saint Augustine’s.

My most memorable and my most favourite times at Walkwood were to do with the PE department. I felt part of the team and part of the school community, making my time at Walkwood more enjoyable. The endless amount of opportunities offered by Walkwood, like going to cheer camp has given me the skills I now use at Saint Augustine’s.

Like Walkwood Saint Augustine’s makes you feel part of a community. The wellbeing of each student at Saint Augustine’s is the most important thing to the hardworking teachers.”

Emilia Battey

I love the feel and atmosphere of Saint Augustine’s Catholic High School - everyone is friendly and smiley. I love all the sporting opportunities that are available to us and particularly enjoy Science and Maths lessons, which are challenging but fun.

Will Skelton

I really think that the amount of cross curricular activities available at St Augustine’s is superb - such as football, rugby, rounders and many more.”

Callum Hall



“Pray as though everything depended
on God. Work as though everything
depended on you.”

Saint Augustine

Funzone

Funzone Out of School Club runs before and after school (from 7:30– 6pm) and all day during school holidays.

Funzone is based at Walkwood Middle School and, during school term time, cares mainly for children at Walkwood and the Vaynor First School. During the holidays, children from any school may attend.

In January 2015, Ofsted rated the club as Good; ‘Children are happy and enjoy themselves at this well-organised club where the focus is on learning through play. Staff are passionate about providing children with quality play opportunities. They provide children with a wealth of experiences in order to support their all-round development.’

In the morning, breakfast is offered, a light snack such as toast, fruit, crumpets or cereal. Children can come to Funzone after they have been to Walkwood School evening clubs, and are offered an area where they can catch up with homework, make themselves a hot drink and snack, or just relax. A range of activities are provided every night and trips and special events are held during school holidays weeks.

If you are looking for out of school care for your child, please give Funzone a call on 07703 610788 or e-mail Funzoneltd@hotmail.co.uk. Otherwise you are welcome to pop in at any time to visit.



Admissions

To view Walkwood’s policy on admissions please visit the school website www.walkwoodms.worcs.sch.uk.

If your child will be joining Walkwood as a Year 5 pupil in September, use also www.worcestershire.gov.uk/schooladmissions

Parents who are thinking of applying for a place during the academic year are invited to look around Walkwood Church of England Middle School, so making an appointment to do so is not a problem.

Walkwood

Church of England  Middle School

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