



Billesdon Parochial Primary School

We are the Children of God 

We learn to believe, and believe to achieve



Welcome to Billesdon Parochial Primary School

2

Ofsted say: Pupils feel safe in school and say that adults take good care of them. Behaviour is often excellent in class and throughout the school where there is a vibrant climate for learning.

Foreword: Anita Timson, Headteacher, Billesdon Parochial Primary School



Welcome to our wonderful and friendly Church of England Primary school, providing exemplary education for children aged 4 to 11 years old.

Proud

In 2010 we had a major refurbishment, providing a new school hall, refurbished modern classrooms throughout the school, and a new entrance/reception area. I'm extremely proud of what we offer and how we offer it.

Christian Values

As a Church of England (Controlled) school, Christian values are at the heart of our school, allowing pupils to worship, grow and develop in a secure, happy and creative environment... and influencing how we teach. Within our new classrooms, I have highly experienced teachers who are dedicated to igniting a love of learning in your child.

Ambition

I am very ambitious for my pupils, and they in turn are ambitious for themselves. Through our creative and broad curriculum, our children learn about the world around them, which gives them the academic and life-skills needed to excel in life at school and beyond.

Family values

As we are a small school, I am fortunate in being able to get to know all the children as individuals, as do all the staff in our school. We know

parents and grandparents too...it really feels like one big family!

Community involvement

We are also closely linked with The Church and The Chapel, local groups including Billesdon Wildlife Group and Sustainable Billesdon, and usually have school representation at village events, for example our choir sang at the recent village Harvest Supper. The oldest children helped on the village housing plan and the school council are currently organising activities for the Church fete.

Parent partnership

Another important part of your child's learning journey is you! And you will see, by reading the many parent and pupil stories within this prospectus, that you and your child are very important to us. We champion the link between school and parent and work very hard to involve you in every step of your child's time here...and increase your child's enjoyment of learning.

Get in touch

I would urge you to visit our wonderful school. I am truly confident you will find this a welcoming and supportive school, with staff who listen, consult and actively encourage your involvement. I know that you will be impressed by the quality of education we can offer your child.

To make an appointment to visit, or to simply ask me a question, please call the school office on 0116 259 6327.



"Her inner confidence has grown as a result too - she has loved the responsibility of being a school councillor."

Why Liz selected Billesdon Parochial Primary School for her children

Liz Bown lives in Billesdon and has two children, Eloise, ten and Edward, nine.

A nurturing family feel

Liz moved her two children to Billesdon Parochial Primary School a year ago after falling in love with the family feel of the school. Both of her children moved from a larger primary school, but Liz felt Eloise and Edward would really benefit from the nurturing environment offered at Billesdon Parochial Primary School. "It had such a lovely feel to it. When I first visited, I remember thinking how it felt like one big family," says Liz.

Fulfilling potential

Eloise has always been quite bright and has been able to access fantastic opportunities under the gifted and talented scheme. "Whilst Eloise's previous school offered similar opportunities, they had a larger number of pupils so the opportunities had to be shared out. Eloise has been very fortunate in the experiences offered to her at Billesdon Parochial Primary School," explains Liz.

A Maths focused trip, an additional Geography trip and a Literacy workshop to a film illustrator have allowed Eloise to work with other like-minded children. "It's added an extra depth to her education and has really helped to push her development," says Liz. "Her inner confidence has grown as a result too - she has loved the responsibility of being school councillor. She has got so much from these opportunities," adds Liz.

Communication is key

Edward is less confident at school but is developing really well. "He will happily walk into school on his own and is really coming on. The school will always let you know if there is anything you need to know. They always have time to speak with you. It makes you feel more involved in their education, which is brilliant!" says Liz.

The school uses lots of visual cues to help communicate the school day to the children. Liz feels Edward has really benefited from feeling prepared about the school routine. "There's a board which lists the structure of the day; Edward has definitely found this helpful. He's less anxious about the school day as a result. He finds it easier to focus knowing what is expected of him and what is coming up next," explains Liz.

Children say:

Eloise says: "My favourite experience at school has been - everything! I have been made to feel very welcome. It's a happy, caring and fun place to be."

Ed says: "My favourite thing about this school is the trim trail and outside classroom. It makes playtime fun and exciting and I like it when we can learn outside."

3

School day: happy learners

School hours

8.45am - 12.00 noon
12.00 noon - 1pm lunch
1pm - 3.00pm

Breakfast Club, After School Club and Holiday Club are supplied through a provider and you would need to pay.

Uniform

We encourage our pupils to wear school uniform. A full list can be obtained from the school office.

Our uniform is:

- grey trousers, grey skirt or pinafore dress
- yellow polo shirt
- royal blue sweatshirt or cardigan
- blue checked summer dresses.



School Meals and snacks

Hot school meals, with a vegetarian option, are available. Children may also bring in a packed lunch, which they will eat in the hall with those children having hot food. We encourage a family atmosphere, and always pray before eating.

Morning Break

All children in the Foundation Stage and Key Stage 1 are offered a piece of fruit at morning break. Key Stage 2 children are able to bring a piece of fruit or raw vegetables to eat at playtime. Milk is available free of charge to pupils aged under five years, and water is always available in school.



Ambition: igniting that interest in learning

Children are ambitious and want to learn. So, we put learning at the centre of what we do. By igniting that interest in the world around them, our children are happy and active learners. It's not about remembering dates and names...it's about understanding the world and how it works!.

Billesdon Parochial Primary School Vision Statement

To provide a learning environment which is sufficiently flexible and adaptable to meet the changing educational landscape; and to enable each child to optimise his/her potential, both academically and in life.

Curriculum: learning to achieve



Learning outside

Outdoor provision for the reception aged children is extensive. It includes a secure area of the playground with wooden equipment and a raised grass area. We also have a pond, trim trail, outdoor classroom... and forest areas where many activities take place for this age group.

We are also developing a Forest School, which will be for all ages and help children to better develop life skills and further enhance learning.



What your child will learn at school

Key Stages

The National Curriculum at Billesdon Parochial Primary School is divided into three stages:

- Early Years Foundation Stage: from ages 0-5
- Key Stage 1: from ages 5-7
- Key Stage 2: from ages 7-11

Reception

The Early Years Foundation Stage Curriculum is based on seven areas of learning:

- Personal, Social and Emotional Development
- Communication and Language
- Physical Development
- Literacy
- Mathematics
- Understanding the World
- Expressive Arts and Design

Key Stages 1-2

Areas of the curriculum are:

- Mathematics
- English
- Science
- Computing
- History
- Geography
- Art and Design
- Music
- Physical Education
- Languages (KS2)
- Design and Technology
- Personal, Social and Health Education
- Religious Education.

Our classroom outside!

6



"Seeing Oscar excited to go to school is fantastic! The fact he wants us and his younger brother to also be involved in his school life via his play at home is a huge reward."

Clive and Sarah have really appreciated the way that Billesdon Parochial Primary School has recognised their son's individual needs

Clive and Sarah live in Billesdon with their children Oscar, four and Heath, two.

Individual child development

Clive and Sarah were impressed by Billesdon Parochial Primary School's environment and were encouraged by the Headteacher's interest in individual child development. When choosing a school, they knew instantly this was the one they wanted Oscar to attend. Oscar had some additional needs and they felt a village school with smaller class sizes was perfect for helping him to develop his social skills.

Celebrating personal achievement

When Oscar started with Billesdon Parochial Primary School there were some initial concerns that he might be on the autism spectrum. Clive and Sarah had noticed he was quite insular and happy to play alone.

Since starting at the school, Oscar's social skills have really developed and Clive feels this is thanks to the school's ethos of celebrating personal achievement. "Achievement isn't always about achieving great things, it can be small, personal achievements," says Clive. "Oscar received an award in the school's weekly achievement assembly after he wrote a sentence about a book he had read. For him, this was a great achievement. For us, Oscar receiving an award was really good! We really appreciated the recognition given to his individual personality and Oscar was thrilled!"

Positive parent involvement

One of the extra measures the school has put in place for Oscar and his family is a daily communication book. "Oscar finds it hard to

articulate his daily routine at school. We approached his teacher and explained that we weren't always getting to hear how he had spent his time at school," says Clive. "The school suggested a daily communication book into which they put a few lines about his day, which is fantastic! It has really helped us to feel assured that Oscar is receiving the support he needs."

Strong relationships

"Oscar has now been discharged from the paediatrician. We really feel the school has played a major role in his development," explains Clive. "There are no longer any concerns about autism. We, and the health care professionals, consider Oscar to be a late developer and believe the school has really helped in bringing his development on."

Peace of mind

Oscar's enjoyment of school has seen him wanting to play with friends outside of school which has been reassuring for Clive and Sarah. It has also seen him wanting to role-play school scenarios at home. "Choosing this school has given our family peace of mind and a recognition that our son is coming out of himself," says Clive. "Seeing Oscar excited to go to school is fantastic! The fact he wants us and his younger brother to also be involved in his school life via his play at home is a huge reward."

7

Enhanced curriculum: creative learning

Activities

To extend the curriculum, and make learning even more fun, we offer many trips and activities including:

- swimming in the autumn term
- Children in Need Day
- Sports Relief Day
- World Book Day
- e-safety
- recorder lessons
- Wildlife Day
- school choir
- pilgrimage around the village.

Class trips

Class trips are based on topics, for example Duxford Museum for World War 2, The Jewry Wall Museum for The Romans, Twycross Zoo for 'Our Amazing World'. We also run regular trips to watch religious celebrations, from Islam to Sikhism and Hinduism.

Working with other schools

Working together with a group of schools we run various competitions and events, including:

- science days
- sporting days
- swimming galas
- writing days
- music workshops and performances
- choir concerts
- general knowledge quizzes
- maths quizzes
- art days
- RE days.

Church events

Our school choir sings at village events and at the Church and Chapel. Children attend Christingle, Candlemas, Harvest Supper and confirmation services.

Residential trip

Key Stage 2 pupils have the opportunity to take part in a five-day residential visit. Recent visits have included Aberglaslyn Hall in Wales.



Inclusion: learning for all

Inclusion

We are totally committed to providing high quality provision and support for pupils who have special needs of any kind. We modify the curriculum where needed to ensure that all child can access education. Where appropriate a referral to an external agency may be arranged. Children may be added to the Special Education Needs Register, and an Individual Education Plan written to help them reach their potential.

Access

Children with a physical disability are fully supported in accessing all parts of the school and the curriculum.

More able children

We recognise that all children are individuals with their own specific needs, gifts and talents. Children who are identified as being exceptionally able or talented, are monitored and provided with stimulating and enriching lessons appropriate to their needs.

Different cultures and languages

We feel that it is important for children to be aware, and understand, other cultures. Such variety within school brings great enrichment to the teaching and learning that takes place. For example, as part of our RE work, we sometimes visit places of worship such as the Sikh Gurdwara in Leicester.

We also have links with a Leicester City school who visit our school and community. In return, our school visits their school and community, to see special celebrations performed by their pupils.

Worship: learning about faith

We are a church school and place great emphasis on learning Christian lessons. Our weekly collective worship takes the following format:

Monday: whole school collective worship led by the Headteacher.

Tuesday: alternate weeks –

- ‘Open the Book’ worship led by visitors from the church congregation
- whole school worship with the Minister of The Baptist Chapel.

Wednesday: Whole School Collective Worship led by a class teacher.

Thursday: Achievement Celebration – certificates, birthdays and awards from out of school activities. Parents, grandparents and friends are most welcome.

Friday: collective worship is led by our Vicar (or representative from the Parish Church).

Clubs: learning is fun



There is a full programme of clubs and activities to enhance the school curriculum, and give the pupils opportunities to succeed in other areas, including:

- tennis
- archery
- gardening
- choir
- story club
- cross country
- road safety
- worship workshop
- science club
- code club
- netball
- fencing
- gymnastics
- basketball
- football



A great education and a nurturing environment - Sue couldn't ask for more from Billesdon Parochial Primary School

Sue lives in Kibworth with her children Elliott, twelve, Oliver nine, and Freddie two. Elliott recently left Billesdon Parochial Primary School to start secondary school, Oliver is in Year four and Freddie will be joining as soon as he is old enough.

Friendly

"The school is friendly and the teachers are always approachable. It's just a lovely, small school where everyone feels very safe," says Sue. She has found the caring feel of the school, with its smaller class sizes, nurturing for her children.

Time to shine

Elliott and Oliver have very different personalities but Sue feels their individual needs have both been catered for equally well.

According to Sue, for Elliot, the more reserved of the boys, the opportunity for close involvement from the teachers was important. "They knew his personality well and did everything they could to ensure he was prepared for his recent transition to secondary school," says Sue.

In his last year at the school, the teachers gave Elliott a leading role in the school play. This has really boosted his confidence and was just what he needed before starting the next stage of his education. "Elliott's quite a shy child. I honestly feel the way Elliott has settled at secondary school is credit to the preparation and grounding Billesdon Parochial Primary School gave to him."

Parental involvement

Once a week there is an achievement assembly. Big and small achievements from both inside and outside of school are recognised and parents are invited to attend. "Oliver received a reading award recently and was thrilled we could all attend to watch. Even granny got to come along! What's also great is that there is a crèche that Freddie can go to. It's run by the reception teachers which is brilliant for helping to prepare him for his time at the school. But importantly, it allows me the opportunity to focus my full attention on Oliver's special moment."

Children say:

Oliver himself has a very positive view on Billesdon Parochial Primary School: "My favourite thing about school is working as a team on different projects. I really enjoyed taking part in the quiz competition against other schools. It was super exciting and the best feeling ever when we got into the regional semi-final. We came back to school with the trophy and got a hero's welcome! It felt great!"

"Oliver received a reading award recently and was thrilled we could all attend to watch. Even granny got to come along!"

Admissions

Ofsted say: All teachers have high expectations of pupils and manage their classes well. They plan interesting activities which meet the needs of most pupils and are very successful in engaging them in learning. Teachers are generally very effective at asking questions that build on pupils' knowledge and move them on to the next level of attainment.

Visit Billesdon Parochial Primary School

Parents who are thinking of applying for a place at our school are invited to visit and look around at any time.

Applications

Parents are asked to register their children for admission before they reach their fourth birthday. Children can be admitted into school at the beginning of the Autumn term if they have reached their fourth birthday before the beginning of the academic year.

Local Authority Admissions

The Local Authority Admission's Office deals with all new admissions to Billesdon Parochial Primary School. There is an online application form that can be completed.

Contact details for Local Authority Admissions are:

Tel: 0116 3056684

Email: admissions@leics.gov.uk

Web: www.leics.gov.uk/school_admissions_and_pupil_services/admissions.htm

Getting involved

Parent and Friends Association

We have a very active Parents and Friends Association (PAFA), who organise a number of events throughout the school year and who support the children's learning in school considerably. New members are always welcome to meetings. Recent events to raise money include Chocolate Bingo, Beetle Drive, BBQ, Winter Wonderland/Craft Fair...and a school stand at the Church fete with games and competitions for children.

For more details please contact the school office.

Governorship

The Governing Body consists of representatives of parents, teachers, the Local Education Authority, and a Foundation Governor who is linked to the church. They work closely with the staff and Senior Leadership Team to support the school and plan its strategic developments.

Do you want to be a Governor?

If you would like to be a School Governor please contact the school office.

Excited about starting school? *We are*

Be happy be kind
Invent and create
Learn to love
Love to learn
Everyone matters
Share success
Discover the world
Only your best
Never give up!
Skills for life
Care for our world
Help each other
Opportunities for all
Open your mind
Life is fun!

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Anita Timson
Head Teacher
Billesdon Parochial Primary School
Gaulby Road
Billesdon
Leicestershire
LE7 9AG
Tel: 0116 259 6327

Email: headteacher@billesdon.leics.sch.uk
officestaff@billesdon.leics.sch.uk
Website: www.billesdon.leics.sch.uk