



Herstmonceux

Church of England Primary School

Learning, loving, caring



Welcome to Herstmonceux Church of England Primary School



Foreword: Catherine Cottingham, Headteacher, says...

Herstmonceux Church of England Primary School is a happy, thriving and inclusive school where every child is valued as an individual. We work hard to enable children to develop in their learning academically, socially and spiritually. We consider it a great privilege to work with children of a primary school age and are aware of the responsibility this carries. We work as partners

with parents in ensuring together that our children have the best possible start in life.

Our highly skilled staff team work together to provide the best learning experiences possible and as professionals, we are always keen to learn and improve ourselves. We offer rich learning experiences and aim to make the learning irresistible, building on the children's interests where possible. We have the highest expectations of the children and staff in our school and we know

that when we work together we are capable of achieving all that we strive for.

I hope that this prospectus gives you the information you need. There is much more information on our website and we always welcome visitors so please don't hesitate to make an appointment to come and see our school in action.

To make an appointment to come and see our school, please telephone 01323 833148 or email office@herstmonceux.e-sussex.sch.uk

Our school vision statement outlines our school values and ethos:

We at Herstmonceux Church of England School work in partnership with the whole community to provide an enjoyable learning environment that gives children the opportunity to achieve. We ensure that children and adults are recognised as unique individuals whose contributions are valued.

As a Church School we develop Christian values and provide an atmosphere of mutual respect and trust to encourage a love of learning and the development of self-esteem and confidence.



School day



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School hours

Morning sessions: 8.45am – 12.00pm

Morning break: 10.30am - 10.45am

Afternoon sessions: 1.00pm – 3.15pm

Afternoon break: 2.30pm - 2.45pm (KS1 only)

Breakfast Club

The school operates a daily breakfast club for children, at a cost of £2.50 per session. The club starts at 8am and children enjoy a drink, plus a healthy breakfast snack, and will then be taken to lessons, ready to start the day at 8.45am.

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. Children throughout the school wear a navy blue sweatshirt/ cardigan with yellow school logo, and a yellow polo shirt with blue school logo, plus grey trousers, shorts, pinafore or dress. School uniform, as well as book bags with the school logo can be ordered directly from [tesco.com/ues](https://www.tesco.com/ues), or via the school office.

Good quality nearly new school uniform can also be purchased and lists of available items can be viewed on the Friends of Herstmonceux School (FOHS) page of the school website.

School meals and snacks

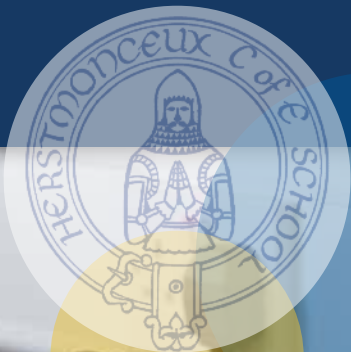
We help children to act in an orderly and friendly way at lunchtime, and good manners are actively encouraged. The school meal service for East Sussex is run by Chartwells, in partnership with East Sussex County Council. A menu is distributed so parents and children. The cost is £2.02 per meal, payable on a daily basis or via ParentPay. Alternatively, children may bring a packed lunch. Full supervision is provided.

All children in Reception, Years 1 and 2 can receive a free hot school meal. If parents or carers would like to enjoy school lunch with their child on their birthday they can contact the office and we will arrange this for you.

Break-time and drinks

Under the Fruit in School scheme children in KS1 are entitled to a piece of fruit each day free of charge. This is given as a playtime snack. Water is always available during the day. Milk is available for all children up to the year in which they are seven (Year 2). Those children who are entitled to free school meals will also be entitled to milk free of charge.

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The School is divided into three stages:

- Early Years Foundation Stage: ages 4-5
- Key Stage 1: ages 5-7
- Key Stage 2: 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:

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

Throughout all these subjects we teach social, moral, spiritual and cultural education.



Sport

As well as following the Physical Education programme of work as set out in the National Curriculum, there are many opportunities for children to enjoy extracurricular sport and team games. Children also take part in a variety of competitive tournaments and matches. These include football, rugby, swimming, netball, athletics and cricket. We are proud of our collection of trophies that have been won over the years at these events. We are very proud to have been awarded the Sainsbury's School Games GOLD in 2014-2015.

Moving on to secondary school

We have close links with the schools to which our children normally transfer at the age of eleven, as we recognise the importance of such links to the children's smooth transition at the end of year 6. Children in Key Stage 2, particularly those in Year 6, participate in projects and events organised with these schools. We hold regular discussions on particular aspects of the curriculum to ensure continuity and organise a programme of familiarisation visits by teachers and pupils in the term before transfer.

We are always delighted to see our former pupils who are often keen to come back to see us.



Extended curriculum



Trips and visits

To extend the curriculum, and make learning even more enjoyable, we offer many trips and activities. Recent educational trips have included:

- Year 1 Drusilla's Park trip
- Year 4 trip to Fishbourne Palace
- Year 5 Science Centre visit
- Year 6 trip to London
- School Council visit to Houses of Parliament
- Forest School

In addition we often have visitors into school and have recently had very successful Roman and Greek days where the children have dressed up and participated in activities related to these ancient civilizations including drama and food-tasting.



Behaviour and Self-Development



High standards

At Herstmonceux School we are very proud of our high standards of behaviour and we always try and deal with behaviour issues in an appropriate way.

School ethos and respect

The ethos of our school is based on the quality of the relationships within it. These include the professional relationships between teachers, and

the way in which pupils and teachers treat each other. We all show courtesy and respect to each other, listen carefully to everyone's views and value each other's individuality. The children are very much involved in problem solving, through groups such as the School Council, Play Leaders and Peer Mediators; who help children to find solutions to problems so that everyone can enjoy happy playtimes.

Motivation

We firmly believe that pupils are motivated by praise and positive comments, and provide a range of rewards, including Headteacher's awards and certificates for effort, achievement, behaviour and attitude, (both inside and outside of school). You can read full details about rewards and sanctions in the school's behaviour policy on our website.

Inclusion: a curriculum for all



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We are committed to a broad and balanced curriculum for all our pupils and want every child to thrive and be the best that they can be.

Special Educational Needs and Disabilities

Our Inclusion Manager ensures that the school provides the best support possible for children identified as having special needs. We discuss any support plans with parents and provide regular

feedback on progress. External agencies may need to be consulted on some occasions, but only with prior consent from parents. The school website has more details of the core offer that we can provide for children with special educational needs, and we will be more than happy to discuss this further with you if you need further information.

Access

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

Gifted and talented children

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

Communicating with parents



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Keeping in touch

Communication is important to us. If you are unable to come into school to visit us, we will let you know in writing about what is going on in the school. If there are any major changes to the curriculum we will send home a leaflet describing the changes, and telling you what we are doing and why. We also send out regular newsletters and keep the school website updated.

Your child's achievements

We hold parent/teacher consultations twice a year with a formal written report and open day at the end of the year. You will find that the teachers and the Headteacher are usually in the playground at the beginning and end of the school day for short queries. If the matter requires more time, it's best to contact the school office and make an appointment to meet with the teacher.



Clubs



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We offer a wide range of extra-curricular clubs throughout the year and most of the activities take place after school. Children and parents receive information about which clubs are available each term. Clubs we run include:

- Craft
- Homework
- J Club (with the Church)
- Football skills
- Multi-Sports
- Netball
- Cross-Country
- Cricket
- Gymnastics
- Book Club
- Karate
- Tag Rugby
- Athletics



Collective worship



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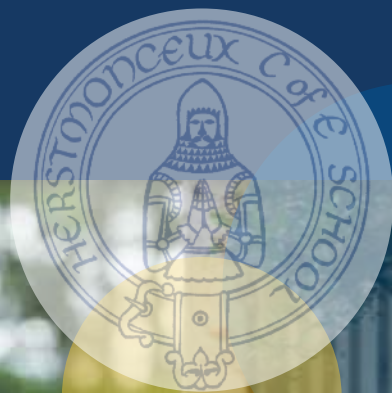
Assemblies

The school is a Church of England Primary School and its ethos is shaped by the importance it gives to moral and spiritual development. Assembly is held every day and Religious Education is given to all pupils in accordance with the Education Reform Act 1998 and the East Sussex agreed syllabus for Religious Education.

Celebrate

In addition to the daily act of worship, we have weekly assemblies that celebrate the efforts and achievements of our children through good learning assemblies, good manners awards and golden tickets.

Admissions



Parents who are thinking of applying for a place at our school should contact the office for an appointment to view the school and meet the Headteacher, who will be very happy to show you around.

Fifth birthday

Children start at Herstmonceux Church of England School in the autumn term of the academic year in which they will have their fifth birthday.

Applications

East Sussex County Council deals with all new admissions to Herstmonceux Church of England School. Contact details for the School Admissions Team are:

Tel: 01273 481000

Web: www.eastsussex.gov.uk

When you visit the school admissions page of the East Sussex County Council website you will find lots of helpful information, plus a link that will enable you to make an on-line application.

Getting involved



Parental Involvement

We greatly encourage the home/school partnership, and this is very much appreciated by all members of staff. The school aims to work together with parents so that we can provide the very best education for children. There are many opportunities for parents to actively participate in school life:

- An open door policy (parents can come and discuss matters with staff at appropriate times).
- Parent/teacher consultation evenings.
- Regular newsletter.
- School website.
- Parents' notice boards – one in school (by reception), one out of school (by the main entrance).
- Governor consultations.

Friends of Herstmonceux School (FOHS)

There is a very successful and popular parent teacher association at school called The Friends of Herstmonceux School. Social and fund raising events are organised on a regular basis, so please get involved, as it is great fun and very worthwhile. The Friends have purchased a number of items for the school including new equipment for the playground, interactive whiteboards and digital projectors for the classrooms. These 'extras' significantly enhance the children's experience in school.

If you would like to get involved please contact the school office, or see the regular FOHS updates in the school newsletter or look at the FOHS section on the school website.

Governors

Our school governors set the strategic direction of the school with the Headteacher. The Governing Body is made up of elected parent governors, co-opted governors, elected staff governors, a local authority governor and foundation governors from the Parish Church. The Headteacher is also a governor.

Do you want to be a Governor?

If you are interested in becoming a school governor, please contact the school office.



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