



Newtown C of E Primary School

Prospectus

Discover a world of wonder and learning at our fantastic primary school!



Welcome to Newtown C of E Primary School

As a Church of England, Voluntary Controlled, Primary School, we strive to teach and live out Christian principles and to encourage the same in our children. We are a caring community where the contribution of every individual is valued.

Newtown Church of England (Voluntary Controlled) Primary School was started by the Church Authorities in the mid nineteenth century to serve the 'new' town area of Gosport. In 1998 the school was relocated to its present site in Queens Road, having been previously housed in our Victorian building in Grove Avenue. The new building, designed by award winning Hampshire Architects, comprises of 15 classrooms, a beautiful library and a separate bespoke meeting room. The hall is used for P.E. and Collective Worship, as well as a dining room. We have a well equipped kitchen and delicious meals are prepared on site. We have two large playgrounds and a sports field, which also houses our: wildlife pond, spiritual space and giant story-telling chair!

Our school is located in the heart of Gosport, where the challenge of making the curriculum vibrant for our children is made a little easier by the wonderful environment and resources on our doorstep.



Our Aims

At Newtown, we provide a child-centred approach to learning in a nurturing, safe and happy environment.

We strive to nurture self-esteem and raise academic achievement by celebrating each child's uniqueness and provide high quality, engaging and valuable learning experiences. We have high expectations for all, no matter where their starting point was.

We will encourage our pupils to...

- Achieve more than they thought possible
- Become courageous learners who seek challenge
- Develop emotional maturity and resilient attitudes
- Be polite, caring and respectful towards others
- Be curious about learning and the world they are part of

The true picture of our school can only be painted in part in words and photographs; the best way to see and understand the school is by paying us a visit, seeing the environment, hearing about the journey we are on, taking in the atmosphere and meeting many of the children and adults who are sharing the journey together. You would be welcome at any time and we look forward to meeting with you soon.



Mrs E Howlett
Headteacher



Mrs G Wright
Chair of Governors



Our Christian Ethos Values

Our school motto is: **Growing Minds, Shaping Futures**

Our motto is strengthened by our Christian ethos values of Love, Courage and Friendship. Through these we aim to:

- Develop outstanding future citizens who are confident, thoughtful, independent lifelong learners.
- Develop outstanding teaching and an exciting curriculum which provides irresistible learning opportunities and a love of learning.
- Ensure all of our children are provided with the skills they need to succeed in life including those to lead happy and fulfilled lives.
- Develop strong positive partnerships with parents, the church and the local community.
- Be a welcoming and supportive Christian school in which staff, pupils, parents and governors work together to promote our values and ensure the best quality of learning.

These aims are supported by our Learning Behaviours (Resilience, Focus, Independence, Self-Regulation, Respect and Boundaries). Our Learning Behaviours are embedded within our curriculum through SMSC (Social, Moral, Spiritual and Cultural) and the Fundamental British Values (Rule of Law, Democracy, Individual Liberty, Mutual Respect and Tolerance of Those with Different Faiths, Religions and Beliefs).



Love is an ethos value for our church school because God is love. This means the putting of others before ourselves – a kind of love in action.



Courage is an ethos value for our church school because God tells people in the book of Joshua to be strong and courageous and not to be frightened.



Friendship is an ethos value for our church school because the stories of Jesus show us that we must offer a generous welcome to others, regardless of differences.



Our Learning Behaviours

Our six Learning Behaviours together with our positive engagement strategy support our ethos values and guide our children towards the desired behaviours and characteristics of effective learning.

- Post cards home - For children who have demonstrated Learning

The awards for demonstrating the Learning Behaviours also allow points to be awarded to the House of the child.

Other positive engagement strategies include:

- Stickers from the Headteacher, Assistant headteacher and Class Teachers
- Mrs Howlett's Wall of Wonder
- Attendance incentives including biscuits for the class
- The Governor Trophy
- The Golden Broom—awarded for the tidiest class by the Site Manager
- Top Table
- Pip and Polly

Rules and expectations for all children are displayed in each classroom along with a class charter which is developed at the beginning of the academic year. This flowchart illustrates the steps used when addressing behaviour that does not uphold the ethos values and Learning Behaviours at Newtown.

School House Teams

The House system is designed to embody the values and ethos of the school and aims to be an integral part of our school community. House points are awarded to children who have achieved recognition for demonstrating one or more of our Learning Behaviours, reading or school activities. House points are also awarded at our annual Sports Day.

The four houses are named after British trees and are each represented by a colour: Chestnut, Elm, Beech and Oak.



Admission of Pupils

Newtown C of E (Voluntary Controlled) Primary School follows Hampshire County Council's policy for admissions, a copy of which can be obtained from the school office and can be found on our school website www.newtownceprimary.co.uk

We take pupils in the Early Years Foundation Stage (EYFS) from many pre-school settings and make contact with each of these settings prior to the children starting school. Our transition programme includes inviting the children to stay and play sessions prior to starting school.

We believe starting school is an important step for children and we encourage them to be happy at school and enjoy their learning. This will stand them in good stead to enjoy their learning in future years.



Equality of Opportunity

It is important that everybody involved in the school is able to enjoy school life and activities free from discrimination and with equality of opportunity.

The governors endeavour to ensure that an ethos of equality of opportunity is promoted in all activities and is considered in all resources used. The school recognises its duty under the Equality Act 2010 not to discriminate against disabled pupils in their admission and provision of educational and associated services.

The school is totally committed to providing equal access to all children to the Early Years Foundation Stage Curriculum, the National Curriculum and to all the school's resources and activities.

Children with disabilities will not be treated less favourably and will have their needs met through a range of strategies and processes.



All children learn at different rates and have different strengths and needs. Children with learning difficulties are admitted in accordance with the Hampshire County Council's Admissions Policy. If appropriate, discussions may be held with parents and external agencies at the earliest opportunity to ensure that the necessary provision is in place.

If you have any concerns about your child's progress, please share them with the class teacher. The school manages Special Educational Needs and Disability (SEND) in line with the SEND Code of Practice. A copy of our SEND Policy can be found on our website together with the SEN Information Report.



The School Day

08:30am	Gates open
08:35am	Doors open
08:45am	Gates close
08:45am	Learning begins
10:30am - 10:45am	Morning break
11:30am - 12:45pm	Lunchtime - Year R
12:00pm - 12:45pm	Lunchtime - Key stage 1
12:15pm - 1.00pm	Lunchtime - Key stage 2
15:15pm	School day ends



All children are to be collected from outside of their classrooms, unless otherwise instructed. At the beginning and end of the school day members of the senior leadership team and site staff are present on the school gates.

Parents are urged to contact the school as early as possible if they are likely to be held up (this should be kept to a minimum). Parents are reminded children are their responsibility from 3:15pm.

If office staff are unable to make contact with the first or second points of contact for a child, then the school would be obliged to contact the Local Authority.

Punctuality

Children who arrive after the gates have closed (08:45am) are marked as late. Children who arrive in school from 8:55am after the register is taken will be marked as absent for that particular session. If there is no adequate explanation then this will be marked as an unauthorised absence.

Further important absence/attendance information is given overleaf.

In cases of persistent lateness parents will be contacted by our Home School Welfare Manager to discuss ways in which we can work with you to improve your child's punctuality. We have our Breakfast Club *Earlybirds* which is open from 7:30am and can be accessed free of charge from 8am. For more details, please contact the school office.



Attendance



Good attendance is essential to children's educational prospects. Parents are responsible for making sure that their children of compulsory school age receive a suitable full-time education

At Newtown we believe that every lesson counts. Term dates are always available from the school office or the Hampshire County Council website. Children who miss school miss out on education designed to build foundations for the rest of their lives. It is not always possible to 'catch up' on missed activities or experiences.

If your child is absent because of illness, or needs to attend a medical appointment, please telephone the school office as soon as possible so that we can record the reason for absence. The school office will need to see proof of all appointments within school time.

If a child of compulsory school age fails to attend regularly, the parents may be guilty of an offence and can be prosecuted by the Local Authority. Penalty notices can be issued by the Headteacher where the pupil's absence has not been authorised by the school. Penalty notices are fines of £80/£160 as an alternative to the prosecution of parents for failing to ensure that their child attends school regularly.

If your child is unable to attend school for any reason, for safeguarding purposes, it is imperative that you phone school or email adminoffice@newtown.hants.sch.uk before 9am to inform us. If we do not hear from you by 11:30am we will carry out a home visit, from the first day of absence.

Unauthorised absence

Schools are only able to authorise absence from school in **exceptional circumstances**. In making a request for an authorised absence from school you will need to explain why the circumstances are exceptional. Please note there is no general right to authorise absence for a family holiday and if you take your child out of school without permission the absence will be unauthorised and we may therefore need to consider if the matter warrants legal action.

You are advised not to make any arrangements until your request has been considered. Please ask at the school office for the form "Request to authorise absence from school due to exceptional circumstances". Careful consideration will be given to all applications. For further details look see the Attendance Policy, which can be viewed on our website or paper copies are available from the school office.

Exceptional Circumstances

It is at the school's discretion to decide which circumstances are 'exceptional'. Examples of circumstances that are not exceptional may include:

- Cheap holidays or holidays that have already been paid for
- Absence that coincides with important school events such as the start of term or exams

As a general guideline, exceptional absence circumstances usually apply only to immediate family. Requests related to extended family & friends are likely to be refused.



The Curriculum

Throughout the school, teachers work together to develop schemes of work which enable children to cover a wide curriculum, including those subjects identified in the National Curriculum.

The work planned for the children often integrates many of these subject areas. For example, a piece of science work may also involve the children in mathematics, English and Design & Technology. We make good use of excellent resources to support this learning.

Relationships and Sex Education (RSE) and Personal Development Learning (PDL)

At Newtown, RSE is taught through planned programmes of work for PDL, Citizenship and Science. The RSE programme of work is tailored to the age, physical and emotional maturity of the children. Parents have the right to withdraw their children from all/parts of the RSE programme except the National Curriculum Science components. Please speak to the Headteacher if you have any concerns.

Religious Education (RE) and Intercultural Education

RE is taught in accordance with the County agreed syllabus, "Living Difference." This encourages the pupils to understand and respond to the key concepts within the major religious traditions and the non-religious beliefs that are represented in Great Britain.

Pupils will also have the opportunity to develop their own personal views and values. Newtown Primary School provides opportunities for children to learn about Christianity and Hinduism. Other faiths and cultural and religious festivals may be explored through topic work.

Collective Worship

An act of worship takes place on a daily basis, and is broadly based on the Christian tradition. We also welcome regular visitors from local faith groups. Parents have the right to withdraw their children from RE and Collective Worship. Please contact the Headteacher if you have any concerns, alternative provision can be arranged if deemed appropriate.



Educational Visits

Educational visits to places of interest are organised for the children from time to time during the year to enhance the curriculum. We believe these visits are invaluable to children's learning. Visitors such as musicians, artists, historians and theatre groups are invited into the school regularly. These all add breadth and stimulation to the children's learning experiences.

When arrangements are made for trips or visits off of the school premises, parents will be given advance notice of all relevant details. A parental permission slip giving consent for local visits and local walks is requested on admission to the school. The Governors recognise the valuable contribution that these activities can make to children's personal and social education and that voluntary financial contributions might be requested. No child will miss out on an activity because of an inability to pay but some activities may not run if insufficient contributions are received.

Residential Visits

At Newtown we are committed to providing all of our children with the opportunity to take part in a residential visit.

In Year 5 a residential visit to Stubbington Study Centre is organised which enables children to enjoy the adventure of spending time with their peers but are still relatively close to home.

In Year 6 our children participate in a residential visit to the Isle of Wight at Little Canada in Wootton, Isle of Wight.

The centres we use to facilitate the residential visits offer a range of activities that cannot be accommodated at school and which allow for learning to take place in a variety of contexts and environments. These visits offer children the chance to work independently and as part of a group through a variety of challenges such as abseiling, orienteering and rock climbing.



Breakfast Club: *Early Birds*



The school currently operates a breakfast club for all children between 7:30am and 8:30am. For more information please contact the school office.

Each session costs £5 which covers your child being cared for by qualified staff, a selection of cereal, yoghurt, fruit, bagels and a relaxed start to the day.

If your child qualifies for pupil premium funding, the hour breakfast club session is reduced to £2.50 per day. If your child is in receipt of pupil premium funding and wishes to attend from 8am, this half session will be free of charge.

After school Club: *Busy Bees*

Our After School Club is also currently organised by dedicated school staff. Children can attend between 3.15pm-6pm.

You can book in advance, different days throughout the week and the timetabled programme is ever-changing! There are three different sessions you can book per day:

3.15pm to 4.15pm - charged at £7.50 per day per child

3.15pm to 5.15pm - charged at £12 per day per child (includes snack)

3.15pm to 6pm - charged at £14 per day per child (includes snack)

For more information, please contact the school office.

Extra Curricular Clubs

As part of our drive to make your child's experience at Newtown fulfilling, we offer a wide range of clubs and activities that take place after the school day. These clubs are free, so that as many children as possible can take part.

Current clubs include: Art Club, , Board Games Club, Football Club, Netball Club and Sketching Club, Makaton Choir, Gym & Dance.

We also run a successful Forces Club. This club is specifically for children from forces families to help build friendships with other service children and offer support whilst having fun.

In addition, our children access full music tuition from Portsmouth Music Services and the national Rock Steady programme, where our pupils learn to play modern instruments such as the electric guitar, keyboards and drums. Concerts are performed three times per year.



School Uniform

Our school uniform has been chosen to help children feel part of the school community and to enable them to manage independently throughout the school day. Items of embroidered uniform are readily and cheaply available from Print and Sew Station on Stoke Road or online at www.theprintandsewstation.co.uk. For non-embroidered school uniform, local supermarkets and clothing stores sell a wide range of styles meeting our Uniform Policy at low cost prices.



We encourage our pupils to have a pride in their school and wearing the correct school uniform represents this.

Winter	Summer
Black/Grey trousers	Red and white checked summer dress
Black/grey pinafore dress or skirt	Black/grey pinafore dress, skirt or trousers
White school-logo or plain polo shirt	White or Red school-logo or plain polo shirt
Red fleece, sweatshirt, cardigan or tank top (with or without school logo)	Red sweatshirt, cardigan or tank top (with or without school logo)
White, grey or black socks Grey, black or red tights	White, grey or black socks
Black shoes/boots (no trainers)	Black shoes Sandals can be worn with socks and must have a heel/back strap
Hats/ear warmers can be worn on the playground	Summer hats can be worn on the playground
Small hair bows, ties and headbands	Small hair bows, ties and headbands

We request that children wear school shoes, as plimsolls and trainers are for use during PE lessons only, with boots or heavy soled shoes for lessons/work. High heeled shoes should never be worn. We also ask that bows are kept to a minimum size and remain red, black or of neutral colour. Jewellery must not be worn, apart from watches (no smart watches) and studs in pierced ears. Please see our Uniform Policy for more information and clarification.

For PE, children in both should wear shorts (preferably black) and a white or house colour t-shirt. Red or black sweatshirts and jogging bottoms can be used during colder months. Shorts should be worn for indoor gymnastic lessons. All children will require plimsolls / trainers for out door P.E. sessions (preferably pull on style or Velcro for younger children) and a drawstring bag in which to keep their classroom.

Please ensure all clothing brought to school is clearly marked with your child's name.



All Weather School



We are an All Weather School so we aim to use our outdoor areas to learn in as much as possible. Therefore we ask all children to bring in a named pair of wellies to leave at school and that all children bring a coat to school EVERY DAY. Children DO spend time on the playground and need a warm coat, (preferably one they can do up themselves).

Please ensure all clothing brought to school is clearly marked with your child's name.

Jewellery

No jewellery of any sort should be worn in school (unless there are particular religious or cultural reasons), it is unsuitable for school activities and can be dangerous. Children with pierced ears need to wear small studs ONLY. Children with newly pierced ears need to have them covered with Micropore tape for up to 6 weeks after they have been pierced, after this initial period children should then remove their earrings for P.E. or you must provide them with Micropore tape to be applied before the lesson starts. Staff cannot help children to remove or replace earrings.

Valuables

Children should not bring money or valuables to school. Mobile phones are not allowed unless a parent makes contact with the school to indicate that a phone is required in the instance of walking to and from school. Any phones brought in will be kept in a locked box in the year group store, until the end of the school day. Smart Watches are also not permitted to be worn in school. We cannot take responsibility for any loss or theft of valuable items in school.

Medical Care & Medicines

If your child is ill it is important that he/she does not return to school before a full recovery has been made. In the case of sickness or diarrhoea in the night or morning prior to a school session, please allow 48 hours for the infection to pass and to allow a full recovery. Advice for keeping children away from school can be found on our school website, or from the school office. If your child has a medical condition or diagnosis, please contact Mr. J. Bagley, Inclusion Leader, to ensure an individual healthcare plan is created for your child before he/she starts school.

Staff can only administer medicines in school upon parents completing the "Administration of Medicines / Treatment Consent Form". Parents must inform the school if their child suffers from asthma and must provide a blue 'reliever' inhaler (and a spacer if needed) for use in school or if they have an allergy that requires use of an epipen. These should be named and will be stored in the child's classroom and they will be free to use them as required. If your child has a medical condition or diagnosis, please contact Mr. J. Bagley, Inclusion Leader, to ensure an individual healthcare plan is created for your child before he/she starts school.



Communication with Parents

The children are at the heart of what we focus on at Newtown and you, as parents and carers have a vital role to play in that too. We believe strongly in our parent partnership and accept that there are a number of key adults in our children's lives. Together we aim to harness all of that experience to make your child's school days very happy, positive and successful. The school has an open door policy which means that we prefer you to come and be involved with your child's education when you need to.

Please respect teachers' time as they are often preparing for the school day early in the morning. We encourage you to speak to a member of staff as soon as possible if you have any concerns or want to let us know what is working well. We have a weekly newsletter called the Newtown News and use an the school communication system Arbor to distribute messages and letters.

Written progress reports are given each term followed by a parents evening. There is a full written report to parents in the summer term. Every half term you will receive information about the topic to be studied and how you can support learning at home.

The school employs a Home School Welfare Manager, Mrs S Whittle, who is usually available each morning/afternoon for parents to speak to. She can provide support and assistance in many areas, including available benefits, general welfare and attendance matters. Mrs Whittle is contactable via the school office.

Governors

Newtown has a dedicated team of Governors who are either elected as Parent Governors, Community Governors, Local Authority Governors or staff Governors. They remain on the Governing Body for a period of four years and may be re-elected if no other candidates come forward. The Chair and Vice-Chair are elected annually. Vacancies for Governors are communicated through the School to the Parent Body and Hampshire County Council (HCC) Governor Services Team.



All Governors are members of the Full Governing Body (FGB) and have full voting rights. They meet collectively once per month. Each Governor has a clear role in supporting and holding the school to account. These areas are reviewed annually. Each Governor reviews aspects of school improvement each term to monitor progress towards identified goals. This ensures that Newtown's Governors 'know their school' and are able to challenge the school to achieve the very best outcomes for children. Further information on our Governing Body can be found on the Governors pages of the school website.

Our chair of governors, Mrs Glynis Wright, can be contacted via chairofgovernors@newtown.hants.sch.uk



Keeping Healthy

Healthy Snack Time

We feel that it is important for children to have a healthy snack during the morning as this will aid their concentration and ability to learn. Year R and Key Stage 1 children are provided with a piece of fruit or vegetable every day as part of the Government's Fruit and Veg Scheme. Key Stage 2 children are encouraged to bring a healthy snack to school to eat during the mid-morning break or they can visit our tuckshop.

Drinking Water

Children should bring a named water bottle to school with them each day, which they can re-fill as required.

Our school has pledged to be a water-only school. We have made this pledge because we are aware that schools that have adopted a water (and plain low-fat milk for children in Year R) only policy have seen pupils' health, behaviour and learning improve. Children who have too much sugar in their diet have an increased chance of experiencing tooth decay, obesity and diabetes.

In addition, we have a number of children with various allergies and intolerances and suggest that by becoming a water-only school, dramatically reduces the risk of children with allergies coming into contact with allergens throughout the day.

Only water is to be drunk in classrooms during lesson time. By adopting a water-only policy and becoming a water-only school, whereby water and low-fat plain milk are the only drinks available at our school, we are taking a positive step towards improving the health and learning focus of our pupils.

Lunch Times

Pupils may bring a packed lunch or have a hot school meal. All children in Year R, Year 1 or Year 2 are eligible to receive a free healthy school lunch under the Government's Universal Free School Meal initiative. If you are in receipt of certain welfare benefits your child in Key Stage 2 may also be eligible for a free school meal. Anybody in receipt of these benefits will also attract additional funding to the school to support their child's education; see the section overleaf for more information.



Pupil Premium

You may already have heard about the Government initiative: "Pupil Premium". This is a grant available for schools, determined by the number of pupils eligible. Registering your entitlement could raise an additional £1,480 per year for our school. The Pupil Premium is available to children in all year groups provided that parents meet the criteria below:

- Income Support
- Income-based Jobseekers Allowance
- Income-related Employment and Support Allowance
- Support from NASS (National Asylum Support Service) under part 6 of the Immigration and Asylum Act 1999
- The guarantee element of State Pension Credit
- Child Tax Credit (with no Working Tax Credit) with an annual income of no more than £16,190
- Working Tax Credit run-on
- Universal Credit

The Pupil Premium is targeted funding and we have to demonstrate to the Government how we use the funding to benefit your child. There is an annual report on our website detailing the wide variety of Teaching and Learning initiatives and intervention strategies that the Pupil Premium funding has enabled. These include:

- Free School Meal for children in Years 3, 4, 5 and 6
- Reduced rates for extracurricular activities
- Additional staff to enable 1:1 or small group support for literacy and numeracy
- Support from our Home School Link Worker and Attendance Officer
- Emotional literacy support
- Payment towards the cost of accommodation on residential trips
- A funded Breakfast Club place
- A free Newtown jumper/cardigan

For the school to access the Pupil Premium funding, you need to complete a form in the school office or submit your application online at www.hants.gov.uk/educationandlearning/freeschoolmeals



Safeguarding at Newtown

Newtown C of E Primary School and Hampshire County Council are committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children and young people and expect all staff and volunteers to share this commitment. We will ensure that all our recruitment and selection practices reflect this commitment. Our safeguarding policies and procedures ensure that every child, regardless of their age, disability, race, religion or belief, has a right to equal protection from harm. Safeguarding is the action we take to promote the welfare of children and protect them from harm.

What is Safeguarding?

The phrases 'child protection' and 'safeguarding' are often used interchangeably, but the words have distinct meanings. The key statutory guidance 'Keeping Children Safe in Education' explains what safeguarding is:

Safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children is defined for the purposes of this guidance as:

- Protecting children from maltreatment;
- Preventing impairment of children's health or development;
- Ensuring that children grow up in circumstances consistent with the provision of safe and effective care;
- and taking action to enable all children to have the best outcomes.

Put simply safeguarding is:

- Child protection
- Supporting vulnerable children
- Safe care, at home, in school and in the community
- Taking action

Safeguarding children and child protection guidance applies to all children up to the age of 18.

Our Designated Safeguarding Leaders



Mrs E Howlett
Designated
Safeguarding Lead



Mrs S Whittle
Deputy DSL



Mr J Bagley
Deputy DSL



Mrs K Grimshaw
Deputy DSL



Miss R Claridge
Deputy DSL



Mrs Stapenhill
Deputy DSL

If you have any concerns about a child's welfare, please talk directly to one of our [Designated Safeguarding Leads](#).

If you have a safeguarding concern or allegation related to the leadership of the school, you can contact the Local Authority Designated Officer (LADO) – 01962 876364

If you have an urgent safeguarding concern relating to a child and the school is closed, please contact the police or telephone Childrens Services on 0300 555 1384 or email childrens.services@hants.gov.uk

Please note, in an emergency, please call 999 immediately.



