

**Well above national  
average in combined  
Reading /Writing /  
Maths for our Year 6  
leavers in 2024**



# **Wantage CE Primary School**

**Learn Inspire Flourish Enjoy**

**A kind school, where you can be yourself.**

**Ofsted February 2025**



Nurturing Growth - Inspiring Minds

**For more information, contact:**

**[office@wce.cambrianlt.org](mailto:office@wce.cambrianlt.org)**

**01235 762 396**





## Headteacher's Welcome

Welcome to Wantage CE Primary School. I am so proud of this wonderful community of learners and I would like to thank you for taking the time to find out more about us.

As you learn about who we are and what we are like as a school, my hope is that you will see our school vision shining through...

**Learn:** Our core purpose is learning. Through excellent teaching and an inspirational curriculum, our vision is for every child to develop the knowledge, skills and understanding to be confident, independent, successful learners, ready for the next step in their education. We have high expectations for every pupil; our results are above national average and we are among the highest performing primary schools locally.

**Inspire:** Our pupils are actively encouraged to think, question and wonder about the world around them and the future that is yet to come. Teachers plan activities to stimulate awe, promote curiosity and motivate pupils' thirst for knowledge and meaning in life. Pupils are inspired and in turn, inspire us, building strong relationships within our community.

**Flourish:** Our vision is that all pupils flourish in a nurturing environment of love and respect for one another and the world. We are very proud of the quality of our pastoral care and support for children with special educational needs, so that every child is healthy, safe and well. Pupils learn to become excellent learners and kind, responsible citizens who behave exceptionally well. They relish a challenge and delight in discovering and developing new skills and abilities.

**Enjoy:** School is a time for excitement, laughter and joy. Our vision is for every member of our school community (pupils, families, and staff) to enjoy being part of Wantage CE Primary School. We know that children learn better when they are happy and are enjoying school. Our curriculum is full of opportunities for art, technology, music, dance, drama and sport. Trips and visits are an essential part of life at Wantage CE, and we love to create memories that we know will last a lifetime.

This is who we are, a school where everyone learns, is inspired, flourishes and enjoys life in all its fullness.

### **Everyone is invited**

If you would like to arrange a visit to meet us, please do contact me via the school office. I would be delighted to meet you and it is always a pleasure to show people around our lovely school.

Andy Browne

Headteacher

# Off to a flying start...



## Starting School

### Nursery

Our Nursery is staffed by a team of highly skilled Nursery Nurses and Teaching Assistants.

We are passionate about creating a safe and stimulating learning environment that supports young children in developing and extending their knowledge and skills. We achieve this by:

- ⇒ Nurturing warm and positive relationships between staff, children and their families.
- ⇒ Providing high quality education and care where children are able to learn through play and first-hand experiences both indoors and outside.
- ⇒ Supporting children in achieving their potential through high expectations and providing good role models.

We provide 30 Nursery places per session. These are available to children from the term following their third birthday. Children are eligible for a minimum of fifteen hours of funded provision per week, with working parents able to claim extra hours of funded provision.

### EYFS

Supporting children to begin their educational journey gives us an important role in the Nursery and Reception classes at Wantage C of E Primary School.

Following the Early Years Foundation Stage Framework, we promote and nurture the fundamental stages of development through child-led exploration and a play-based curriculum. We have set up our environment to enable the children to develop and practice their skills, pursue their own interests and have hands on learning experiences.

Our teachers and Foundation Stage staff develop positive relationships with every pupil, enabling us to respond to their needs and interests. Each child is encouraged to take his or her own individual journey towards achieving their Early Learning Goals. We inspire and encourage pupils to take risks, follow their passions and make progress in their learning in order to create resilient, capable and confident learners.



Learn Inspire Flourish Enjoy

# Our Mission, Vision and Values

## School Mission

Our mission is to serve the local community – families of all faiths and those with no faith at all – by providing an outstanding education.

Our purpose is to achieve this mission by keeping our children and families at the heart of everything we do. Our current development priorities focus on taking the school from good to outstanding – it is by doing this that we will maximise life in abundance so that everyone flourishes.

## School Vision

Our school vision is: Learning for Life where everyone learns, is inspired, flourishes, and enjoys life in all its fullness; in a community of love, respect, hope, forgiveness, courage and thankfulness.

This vision is inspired by Jesus' words from John 10:10, 'I have come in order that you might have life—life in abundance.'

We believe that school should be a celebration of life; this precious gift that we have all been given.

Learning for life means learning that takes us into the most fulfilling life possible; the awe and wonder of learning about this incredible world, and the development of the character, knowledge, skills and understanding that will enable us all to continue to learn and to grow beyond our school.

This is summarised in our four key vision words:

**Learn – Inspire – Flourish – Enjoy.**

## School Values

Our school values are: Love, Respect, Hope, Forgiveness, Courage and Thankfulness.

These values are both Christian values and universal values which we have chosen to help us to create our church school ethos where everyone is welcome, valued and loved, and where we can all learn to treat each other in the way that we would like to be treated ourselves.



## What does it mean to be a Church of England school?

Wantage CE Primary School has its origins 400 years ago when our parish church established a school in the centre of Wantage between 1604-1619. In 1811, the National Society for the Promotion of Education was created by the Church of England, and church schools as they are now known were established.

Church of England schools are not faith schools. They are open to everyone. In everything we do, our mission is to serve the local community – families of all faiths and those with no faith at all – by providing an outstanding education. Everyone is welcome, and we are here to serve you and the children of Wantage as we have been doing for over 400 years.

### Collective worship

Collective worship is an important part of the life of Wantage CE Primary School. We are a school that thinks, sings and prays together.

We meet together regularly during the week for key stage collective worship. During collective worship, we learn about our vision and values, we celebrate key festivals in the church year, we take part in local and national events, and we share our successes and achievements individually and as a school community. We love our weekly Open the Book collective worship that is led by friends from the parish.

Each class enjoys class collective worship one afternoon each week. This is a time when every class takes a moment to reflect, sing and pray.

During the school year, we visit our parish church. Our Christingle and Leavers' services are particularly special occasions. We host and are visited by BeSpace, a Christian organisation that provides prayer spaces for schools.

At Easter, Year 5 write and perform their version of a Passion Play in the church. Every Year 5 Passion Play is different and unique. It is a moving exploration of the first Easter through poetry, music, dance and drama.



# Enrichment at Wantage CE

Learning doesn't just happen in the classroom at Wantage CE! We offer a wide range of enrichment activities to every year group in the school.

Year Group	Examples of enrichment activities offered
Nursery	Trip to Roves Farm Life cycles of chickens- hatched in the Nursery setting!
Reception	Trip to Hill End Library visits
Year 1	Trip to Oxford Castle Trip to Beale Park
Year 2	Trip to Cotswold Wildlife Park Visit to Wantage Museum- A Victorian Christmas
Year 3	Trip to Wantage Museum-Stone Age to Iron Age Trip to Abingdon Pizza Express
Year 4	<b>1 night residential to Court Hill</b> Trip to The Living Rainforest
Year 5	<b>1 night camping, sleeping under the stars in our school field</b> Trip to Harwell Science Exhibition Trip to the Ashmolean Museum-The Egyptians
Year 6	<b>4 night residential at Kilvrough (South Wales)</b> Visits from the Royal Marines Summer Performance



**Learn Inspire Flourish Enjoy**

## Wraparound care – The Butler club



Welcome to our breakfast and afterschool club for children at Wantage CE Primary School.

Our team offer a wide range of experience with the majority working within the school providing continuity in care, knowledge of your child, trust and strong relationships. We provide a happy, safe, welcoming and friendly environment for all children before and after school. We understand that for some children this is a long day, so we are flexible in our approach to nurturing those individual needs.

Every member of the team is First Aid trained, DBS checked, staff preparing food hold a Food Hygiene certificate and we always have a DSL on call to ensure safeguarding and the welfare of your child is paramount.

The breakfast & afterschool club is based in the Goodenough Room which has been specifically set up to give the children a space that isn't a formal classroom, but a space where they can relax and enjoy.

Breakfast Club is from **7.15am to 8.30am** and includes a healthy selection of cereals, toast, yogurts and fruit.

Afterschool Club is from **3pm until 6pm** and includes a healthy high tea. Menus are available on the door each week. High tea is served from 4pm.



# Extra-Curricular Opportunities

## Sports Clubs

We offer a wide range of sports clubs to both KS1 and KS2 pupils. These are as follows:

Mondays– Dance for fun and Multi-sports

Tuesdays– Dance Team and Football

We alternate club sports according to the season and offer cricket and athletics in the summer months.



## Enrichment Clubs

In addition to sports clubs, we offer a range of clubs to appeal all interests.

### Art Club

We offer a weekly art club, with the children attending working towards a national award. Furthermore, the school's specialism is art has been recognised nationally and we have achieved the Arts Mark Gold Award.



### Music

We have a dedicated music room for music lessons provided by OCC. In addition, we have a specialist music teacher for half a day a week who runs groups with talented musicians as well as a school choir.

### Chess Club

Our chess club is run by one of our dedicated Higher Level Teaching Assistants. The children learn to play chess for fun and competitively.

### Forest School

We offer Forest School sessions within the school day on Fridays. This is a valuable part of our enrichment offer and gives children the opportunity to get in touch with nature.

**Learn Inspire Flourish Enjoy**

# Learning Powers

## *Fostering a love of learning...*

We have created our unique characters to support children in developing strategies to help them in their learning. The impact of these can be seen around our school, where you will see happy, resilient learners who thrive on challenge.

### Maribel Mouse -Resilience



I am ready and willing to have a go at learning  
I know how to work through difficulties  
I enjoy being engrossed in learning  
I concentrate well  
I recognise and reduce distractions  
I keep trying  
I enjoy being challenged

### Betjeman Bee-Reciprocity



I work well with others and on my own  
I help others to learn  
I respect other people's points of view  
I congratulate other people on their ideas  
I listen carefully so I can understand  
I notice and follow good learning habits

### Ormond Owl-Reflectiveness



I plan my learning carefully  
I make improvements to my learning  
I think carefully about what is being learned  
I use what I have already learned to help me  
with new learning  
I talk about the progress I have made  
I learn from my mistakes  
I notice when I have been inspired

### Segsbury Squirrel-Resourcefulness



I make good use of resources  
I manage my time well  
I make connections between things I have  
learned and new learning  
I ask questions  
I work in an orderly way  
I use 3 before me strategies  
I use my imagination

## Our PTA



## Our Friends Committee

### Who are the Friends?

We are people just like you. Parents, teachers and supporters of Wantage CE, who want to make school life the best it can be for our children. Contact us at [wantagecefriends@gmail.com](mailto:wantagecefriends@gmail.com) if you would like to know more.

### What do Friends do?

We organise and run events throughout the year, providing social opportunities for parents and a valuable source of fundraising for the school.

### Can I get involved?

Absolutely! Friends is open to everyone and all contributions, whether big or small are very welcome. Check out our latest opportunities to see if there is something that suits your skills and learn how you can raise money for Friends from the comfort of your armchair.

## Visiting us

Families are always welcome to visit us for a tour at any time of the year.

Please contact us via the school office to arrange a tour, we would be delighted to show you around and to answer any questions you may have about the school.

Please phone the office on **01235 762 396** to organise a visit.

## Admissions

### Applications for reception class places

Oxfordshire County Council (OCC) manages admissions for us.

If you would like to apply for a place for your son or daughter at Wantage CE Primary School, please go to the OCC schools 'apply for a school place' website.

<https://www.oxfordshire.gov.uk/residents/schools/apply-school-place/infant-and-primary-school>

Applications for starting school in September can usually be made online from 1st November of the preceding year. The closing date is normally mid-January of the year that you would like your son or daughter to start.

### Applications for in-year admissions

If we have space, you can apply for a place in any year group at any time during the year.

We always recommend contacting us before applying for a place. We would love to show you around the school and it gives us an opportunity to get to know you and your son/daughter.

If you would like to apply for an in-year transfer, please use the OCC website:

<https://www.oxfordshire.gov.uk/residents/schools/apply-school-place/year-transfers>

# Headteacher in tribute to his 'super' staff and pupils

**Jacob Manuschka**

[jacob.manuschka@newsquest.co.uk](mailto:jacob.manuschka@newsquest.co.uk)

THE head of a Wantage primary school said he is "humbled to be headteacher to such super staff, pupils, and families" after the school received a positive report from Ofsted.

The education watchdog praised Wantage Church of England Primary School for maintaining its high standards since it was rated 'good' following its last full inspection in July 2019.

The inspectors said the school has taken effective action to maintain its standards and to provide a "nurturing and enriching environment" for its pupils.

The report, which followed an inspection on February 11 and 12, highlighted a positive learning environment, dedicated staff, and high expectations for pupils' behaviour and academic performance as some of the school's major strengths.

Headteacher Andrew Browne said:



Pupils from Wantage CE Primary School with headteacher Andrew Browne. Image: Wantage CE Primary School

"I would like to thank everyone associated with Wantage CE Primary School for all that they do to create such a fabulous school.

"I am so proud to be part of this community, which really is like a 'big family', and I am humbled to be headteacher to such super staff, pupils, and families.

"I am also grateful to our governors and colleagues from the trust who support us so well."

The inspectors found pupils at the

school enjoy their lessons, with many crediting their teachers with making learning "fun" and "bringing lessons to life".

The report said the school provides a strong foundation for all pupils, ensuring they feel happy, safe, and supported.

Pupils consistently demonstrate positive behaviour both in and out of the classroom, and they thrive in a culture of mutual respect, Ofsted added.

The school was also praised for its

"broad and ambitious" curriculum, which equips pupils with the knowledge and skills needed for their academic and personal growth.

The development of essential skills such as resilience, reflection, and resourcefulness, are promoted through the curriculum.

The school's commitment to supporting pupils with special educational needs and/or disabilities was also recognised.

Inspectors said the school identifies these pupils' needs early on and provides tailored support to ensure they thrive alongside their peers.

The school places a strong emphasis on developing pupils' reading skills, with praise being given to staff for delivering an effective phonics programme that helps pupils to progress as fluent readers.

Ofsted also praised the high standards of behaviour and attendance at the school, with pupils found to consistently behave well, both in lessons and during social times.

Attendance is also high, and the school has successfully implemented strategies to support pupils who may struggle emotionally or behaviourally.

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