



# Ashleworth

Church of England Primary School

*Respected and nurtured for uniqueness*





Ashleworth is a friendly village school where children enjoy coming to school each day and find pleasure in learning and working together.

## WELCOME TO OUR SCHOOL

We sit in the heart of the village, and work closely with our children, their families, and the local community to ensure that Ashleworth is a thriving successful school.

Our small classes mean that we know our children well and we can tailor our teaching to meet the needs of each one individually.

If you have any questions or would like to visit us, please get in touch on **01452 700340** or email **head@ashleworth.gloucs.sch.uk**.

We would love to show you around our wonderful school.

**Michelle Kelly**  
Head Teacher

*"Pupils are at the heart  
of this inclusive village school."*

Ofsted, 2021





## OUR VISION

The school motto of 'respected and nurtured for uniqueness' runs throughout everything we do in the school.

Our aim is to foster a nurturing learning environment which focuses on each child individually to stimulate and encourage them to flourish yet, respects their cultural heritage and enables them to take their place in our diverse society.

Christian Values are at the heart of our school and run cross all our learning. Each term we focus on a new value to help the children develop a broad understanding of the world, be open-minded and good citizens for the future. The 'Core Values' (as agreed by our school family) are **Friendship, Trust and Respect.**

## OUR CHRISTIAN VALUES





## OUR CURRICULUM

*"The school is incredibly supportive and nurturing. My son has made amazing progress since joining."*

Mrs L

Our curriculum places books and reading at its heart and follows a rolling topic-based programme which allows for children at different ages and educational levels to learn together. The lessons are well planned by our teachers and supported in the classroom by experienced teaching assistants who know the children well.

Learning is linked to a termly theme which underpins all subjects. Recent themes used by the teaching team have included the Romans, Mountains, Crime and Punishment, World War II, and My Community.





## APPROACH TO LEARNING

We have 2 mixed aged classes – Class One for Reception, Year1 and Year2 and Class 2 for Years 3, 4, 5 and 6. In addition to the experienced teachers, each class is supported by our Teaching Assistants (TA's).

Our close partnership with Churcham Primary School means that we have been able to build a team of staff experts across the curriculum. The teaching team work closely together across both schools sharing ideas and best practise.

Our very low pupil/teacher ratio means that our teaching team spend lots of targeted time with the children.



*“Due to the small class sizes, I always felt sending my children to Ashleworth was like sending them to a private school, but without the fees!”*

Mrs C





## WORSHIP

Ashleworth is a Church of England Primary School and fosters an inclusive Christian foundation for children.

Our Christian identity is important and woven throughout the fabric of the school curriculum, learning and day-to-day life in the school. One element of this identity is our Collective Worship which takes place daily in school. Members of staff may lead the worship assemblies, alongside the Collective Worship Team; this is an enthusiastic group of pupil volunteers who read bible stories, act out short sketches and take part in role-play activities.

At the start of each week, the termly Christian Value is explored through a variety of bible stories, scenarios, and experiences. Volunteers from our local churches provide 'Open the Book' stories, by visiting in person or recording short films for use with the children. Thursday worship is centred around the 'No Outsiders: Everyone different, everyone welcome' programme of resources, designed to prepare children for life in modern Britain.

Our school has strong links with the village church and local vicar, and we hold our special assemblies there, inviting parents and friends to celebrate events such as Harvest and Christingle with us. We use the church to host activity and experience events, such as visits from the 'Prayer Spaces in Schools' team and visit other places of worship to learn more about different faiths.





## FOREST SCHOOL

We have a wonderful Forest School provision at Ashleworth, with regular visits to the village Forest School Orchard, a short walk across fields to the secure little apple orchard. Here learning is achieved through interaction with the natural environment where imaginative play is nurtured, along with learning practical skills and the environmental awareness.

This learning is then taken to Gramath Wood, a privately-owned wood a short journey away, where the children have a full day to practice their skills and appreciation of nature, punctuated with hot chocolate and toasted marshmallows!





## PHYSICAL EDUCATION

Children are taught the importance of a healthy lifestyle through sport and exercise. Specialist qualified sports coaches work with both classes to provide fun and engaging lessons which allow them to thrive physically but also socially, developing life skills such as communication, listening, problem solving, leadership and decision making.



The school uses a broad range of facilities on offer within the village for PE. The spacious village green, playground and new play area, memorial hall and Woodpeckers Cricket Club are all used frequently.





## SPECIAL EDUCATIONAL NEEDS

We follow the SENDCo Code of Practice as set out by Gloucestershire Local Authority. Our Special Educational Needs Coordinator (SENDCo) works very closely with the class teachers in providing for those pupils with additional learning needs. This could be within the classroom, smaller groups or one-on-one with the teacher, teaching assistant or SENDCo.

Learning is broken down into small manageable steps so that pupils experience success. Our teachers keep a close eye on how well pupils are learning and adjust individual teaching plans to help support them further.

We are committed to supporting all children at Ashleworth school so that they achieve their full potential.

*"Pupils with SEND thrive in this nurturing and supportive environment."*

Ofsted report 2021





## LEARNING AT HOME

Our small classes sizes mean a lot of our teaching is one-on-one or in small groups and we recognise the importance of reinforcing and extending the learning that has taken place in class.

Home learning can involve simple projects, times tables or topic research. The younger children may take home phonics activities to practise whilst the older children have weekly spellings to learn. This helps to extend and develop their vocabulary.

All children are encouraged to take home reading books and keep a diary of what they have read. We find that daily reading at home builds confidence, sets good habits and fosters a life-long love for reading.





## TRIPS AND RESIDENTIAL ACTIVITIES

Throughout the year both classes take trips outside of the school to places of interest which support the subjects they are learning in the classroom. Most recently the children have taken part in a WWII evacuation experience, visited the corinium museum, spent a day exploring the beach and visited a local mosque.



In Class 2 children can take part in a two-day residential trip camping at Viney Hill in the Forest of Dean. A popular trip, children take part in outdoor team building activities such as abseiling, zip wires, climbing, and raft building.

In year 6 children have an opportunity to experience a week-long residential to the Isle of Wight alongside children from other local primary schools. This trip is designed to build on their National Curriculum learning in different and stimulating surroundings. As well as encouraging self-confidence and independence it also enables them to develop wider friendship groups before they move to secondary school.





## COMMUNITY LINKS

As a village school we are at the heart of the community and links with the village are very important to us with our children using many of the facilities that are on offer in the local area including the church, memorial hall, and village minibus.

We are supported by a motivated PTFA team who find incredible ways to raise funds for the school. Popular events they have run in the past include Easter Bingo, a Gin Festival, Quiz Nights, and James Bond themed Ball.



## BEFORE AND AFTER SCHOOL CLUBS

Our before school club runs each morning from 8am. It's a fun time for children to catch up with their friends.

Afterschool club runs from 3:20pm – 5pm. During this time the children can take part in games, undertake arts, craft, and cooking activities, catch up on schoolwork/get ahead on their homework or simply spend time playing with their friends.

Twice a week, children can also attend our after-school sports club, run by a qualified sports coach or if they are in Class 2 an art club on Friday afternoons.





## COMMUNICATION

We recognise the importance of having regular open dialogue with the parents of children who attend the school.

Our teachers connect with parents via an online App called Class Dojo. Using it they can share photos and videos with parents to show what the children have been doing in class. Parents can also use Class Dojo to message their child's teacher directly.

Face to face contact remains very important and parents can almost always have a quick word with their child's teacher or the Headteacher at the beginning or end of the day without having to book a formal appointment.

Parents' evenings are held in the Autumn and Spring Term and a detailed written report is provided in the Summer Term.



*"I can't praise the teaching staff at Ashleworth enough. They are all so approachable and always available if you need to talk to them."*

**Mrs A**





## SCHOOL GOVERNING BOARD

“It is a privilege to be the Chair of Governors at Ashleworth Church of England Primary School. Our governing body consists of a dedicated group of volunteers representing parents, staff, the local authority, our community, and village church.

Our governing team have a variety of skills and backgrounds that provide the school with a wide range of expertise and support, but we all share a strong commitment to ensuring that the school Vision, *‘Respected and nurtured for uniqueness’* as a guiding principle in our learning environment, which allows every child to flourish and achieve their full potential.

The children, parents, staff, and governors are proud of our school, and I hope that this prospectus has given you an idea of the enthusiasm and commitment of all those who work here.

We look forward to welcoming you into our happy school family.”

**Bridgette Nulty**



Friendship Perseverance Trust



## CONTACT US

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Headteacher  
Mrs Michelle Kelly



Proud to be rated "Good" by Ofsted  
See our website for 2021 report

