



St. Edmund's Church of England Primary School

'Let your light shine' (Matthew 5)



Headteacher's Welcome



Welcome to St Edmund's Church of England Primary School, I hope that this prospectus will give you an insight into what it's like to be part of the St Edmund's family.

We are a small, village, church school for children from 4 years to 11 years of age. Our vision is that our community 'let their light shine!'

St Edmund's is a friendly, welcoming atmosphere, the sense of family that pervades the whole school and the warmth of the welcome is commented on by all who visit us. It is this caring, nurturing and welcoming ethos that underpins everything that this school is and everything it does.

Our culture ensures that this is a school where every child feels valued, where they understand the importance of their unique contribution to the school community and where they feel it is safe to challenge themselves, knowing making a mistake is a crucial part of the learning process.

I believe that our primary responsibility is to nurture in our pupils a life-long love of learning. To achieve this, we offer a broad curriculum that encourages children to think beyond the confines of an exam-based syllabus. This is reinforced by a wide range of extra-curricular and cross-curricular activities, which enable pupils to discover those talents and interests that will enrich their whole lives.

Ben Hulme, Executive Headteacher



School day: settling in and our curriculum

We are looking forward to welcoming you and your child to our school. We are proud to be a small school, where your children will be encouraged, inspired, empowered, nurtured and taught by qualified and dedicated teams of teachers, teaching assistants and office staff.

Your child will start to learn very quickly at school, building on the valuable experiences you will have already provided for them at home. On starting school, children do not distinguish between work and play and neither should we as adults.

In the Foundation Stage, learning takes place through play, some of which is child-initiated and some of which is adult-led. Some children are ready earlier than other children. This is not to be seen as a competition; all individuals engage with learning at different rates. Being in a new environment can alter their usual independence and they will be supported by caring and nurturing staff. As the children move through the school they will move into mixed-age classes. In Year 1 and 2 they will continue to learn through play and access the National Curriculum. In Years 3 to 6, children are further challenged academically and study a range of topics and subject areas.

In addition to learning within the classroom, we have a thriving Forest School that every child in school accesses. This is taught by a highly qualified teacher and the children have the chance to tie ropes, create art, climb trees and make fires!

We use the National Curriculum and other published frameworks as a guide. However, topics and schemes are adapted to be relevant to the experience of children when possible. We also try to develop the children's understanding of their own learning behaviour and cultural diversity, within a Christian ethos.

Enriched curriculum: *trips, outdoor learning and clubs*

At St Edmund's, academic success is just part of what we offer our children. Over and above this, we provide an environment where our children feel secure about their own worth so that they can thrive, develop and grow. The school is not just a place for learning, but a society in the true sense of the word. Pupils, teachers and parents all contribute to making West Kingsdown into the school we are all proud to be part of. What happens outside the classroom is just as important as what happens inside.

Throughout the school, a wide range of extra-curricular activities are on offer to our children, including clubs, music lessons, school trips, inter-school sports events and after-school clubs.

Trips and outings are an integral part of how the curriculum is planned and taught at West Kingsdown, both consolidating and enriching classroom learning. Our children enjoy trips and workshops outside the normal classroom routines.

Our proximity to London and the surrounding area allows us to provide a wide range of educational outings.

Specialist teachers are brought in for educational workshops.



Wrap-around Care

Our breakfast club is run by West Hill Life Ltd and opens at 7.30 am daily. Cereal and toast are provided and children will be supervised by qualified, accredited staff for the duration of the session. Children are escorted to their classrooms in time for registration.

We also run an After School Club that runs between 3.15 pm and 6.00 pm. Children get a healthy supper, snacks and can participate in a wide range of clubs and activities.

Admissions...and getting involved

Please note that Kent are our admission authority and therefore set our admissions policy. Admissions for West Kingsdown Church of England Primary School are based on the following criteria:

- Special Educational Needs
- Looked After Child
- Sibling Link
- Distance

Whilst we are a Church of England School, admission to our school is not based on church attendance or church links.

Applications are done online through the Kent County Council Website. Apply online via www.kent.gov.uk/primaryadmissions

If you require further support or guidance, please contact the School Office on 01474 853484.



What do you like about the school?

'This is a fantastic school, really supporting both academic and cultural development. The children get great experiences and days out, especially for musical activities' **Parent**

'I really love the Forest School and how everybody cares for me' **Bobby**

'I love the English lessons especially the readingy' **Lucy**

'Everyday, I think how lucky the children are to come to West Kingsdown ' **Mrs Massey**