

# Guestling Bradshaw CE Primary School

## Our School Prospectus



Where learning is a journey, not a race

## WELCOME

I am delighted that you have taken the opportunity to read our school prospectus, and I hope that you will come and visit us. Our children love sharing their school and I know that they will answer all the questions you have.

The decision that parents and carers make about their children's school is always a big one. Starting for the first time, or moving school is a big step for children and their families. I hope that information gained from this prospectus, your visit and also from the web site will help you make your decision in an informed way.

We pride ourselves as being a welcoming family school, where parents and carers, staff, children and the community strive to attain high standards in every aspect through SMSC (social, moral, cultural and spiritual development) .

We are committed to helping all children achieve their potential. I look forward to meeting you and your child and working in partnership with you as your child progresses on his/her learning journey.

Carolyn Weston  
Headteacher





## THE SCHOOL'S ETHOS AND AIMS

At Guestling, we believe in:

**Courage to be excellent**

**Healthy respect for the world and its people**

**Inspiration to motivate a generation**

**Learning for life**

**Determination to achieve and enjoy**

The school is a community of people working together day by day, where each person is a valued and respected member of the organisation, irrespective of age or position. We aim to work together to create an environment that allows each person to develop and flourish as an individual, and as a member of a team. The nurturing of Christian values, courtesy and good manners take a high priority. We want all our children to be well prepared for their future education and eventually their place in society.



The 2012 Olympics made us think about the values that are important to us as a school. Together we chose: *Courage, Equality, Excellence, Friendship, Resilience and Trust*, and we focus on one of these values each term.

## ENVIRONMENT

We are very proud of our school. The governors, staff and PTA are continually looking at ways to improve the learning environment for our children.

You will find us in a beautiful rural setting, surrounded by farmland and overlooking the Brede Valley. Guestling Woods are within walking distance, and we are only a few miles from the sea.

We have our own swimming pool and every child has swimming lessons from a qualified instructor from Easter until October.

Each classroom is equipped with an interactive whiteboard, laptop, computers and a visualiser for sharing children's work. The latest addition is a tablet for each class. We also have a purpose-built ICT suite.

Our outside learning environment includes a friendship circle in our wooded area and an adventure playground, as well as a large sports field.





## CURRICULUM

At Guestling, every child matters. The curriculum that we follow:

- ensures a broad, balanced learning experience for all our pupils
- develops essential literacy and numeracy skills and focuses on core subjects
- meets the needs of all our learners by using a range of teaching and learning approaches and a stimulating environment
- includes a range of extra-curricular activities
- includes the hidden curriculum, which the children learn from every day: the way they are treated and expected to behave.

We want our children to grow into positive, responsible, confident people who are emotionally literate, have the basic skills of literacy, numeracy and ICT, and the social skills to work and co-operate with others so that they can achieve their potential and make the most of all the opportunities that arise throughout their lives.

We aim to provide a balanced physical education curriculum, including games, dance, gymnastics, athletics and swimming, as well as inter-school matches in netball, cricket and football. A residential visit is offered annually to pupils in Years 5 & 6. The County's excellent music service gives children the opportunity to learn a musical instrument and, as part of the government's Wider Opportunities, all children in Year 3 are learning to play African drums.

## WELL-BEING

The children's welfare is of paramount importance to us. Each child's pastoral welfare is the responsibility of all staff and we will speak to parents if there is a cause for concern. Equally, parents are encouraged to keep their child's teacher informed of any matters that may affect the child in their efforts at school.

The older children have a School Council which helps to decide upon incentives, rules for playtimes and other current issues. In class, the children have the opportunity to share their feelings in Circle Time and they are encouraged to become more responsible for their own actions. The Children's Gathering is an opportunity for children in mixed class groups to discuss many aspects of school life as part of our "Working With Others". Together we help, work and learn from each other.

The school promotes healthy eating and healthy living, and provides a range of after-school activities. We also offer a breakfast club

We delight in recognising and praising each child's achievement and reward systems are in place to help confirm this.



## PARENTS

We believe that children's education is enhanced by good communication between home and school. On admission we ask the child (where able), the parent and the Headteacher to sign their commitment to a home-school agreement.

Regular newsletters inform parents and carers about school events, and general information is posted in the entrance lobby, and on the school noticeboard. The school website is another way for parents to find a variety of information.

We aim to provide three formal opportunities, one in each term, for parents to meet with the class teacher. Other appointments can be made at a mutually convenient date and time should the parent or teacher require it.

We welcome parent helpers in the school. Every new voluntary helper will be asked to undergo the statutory Criminal Records Bureau checks. Many parents have skills that would benefit the children and should you be keen to assist in any way, you are invited to contact the Headteacher.

All parents are members of the Parent Teacher Association (PTA). There is a small active committee of people who willingly give their time to arrange activities that will benefit the children, as well as social events for the parents and friends. They are always looking for new people to join the committee or help during the year. The PTA motto of 'Supporting your child's education through fun and fundraising' epitomises their aims.



## COMMUNITY

Village primary schools are often at the heart of the community they serve, and we consider ourselves no different. As a Church of England (CE) voluntary aided school, strong links exist with the parish churches of St Andrew at Fairlight, St Laurence at Guestling and St Mary & St Peter at Pett. We hold our Christmas carol service at Fairlight Church and walk across the fields to Guestling Church for our Easter service, weather permitting.

Our friends in the church community actively support by helping in school, running the Jaffa Club, and welcoming children, staff and parents into their churches to share in major festivals. We are very fortunate to have local church leaders who are involved in leading school worship, Religious Education and festivals.





## GLOBAL SCHOOL

The school vision of caring and helping to sustain the Global World has been evident across the whole school environment and ethos. The school is proud of all that it has achieved in terms of global awareness and sustainability. We place this at the heart of all that we do, so that children today will ensure that they contribute to a world fit for the children of tomorrow.



We make links and cross-curricular references to our vision wherever possible and it is embedded as part of our SMSC policy, including our Healthy School Week and National Anti-bullying Week, where we focus on:

- caring for ourselves through keeping safe, healthy and clean
- caring for others with visits from community members who are available to help everybody such as drug-safety advisors, police officers, fire safety officers and the road safety team
- caring for others around the world, including events such as Children in Need and Operation Christmas Child
- caring for the environment through our recycling initiative including composting and waste disposal
- the High Weald Hero project
- our link school in Gambia
- community links such as the Rye lantern parade



# Guestling Bradshaw CE (Voluntary Aided) Primary School

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Much more information, including the latest newsletter, can be found on our website:  
[www.guestling.e-sussex.sch.uk](http://www.guestling.e-sussex.sch.uk)