



Boughton-under-Blean & Dunkirk Methodist Primary School

Forgiveness Friendship Trust Justice Perseverance
Communication Independence Aspiration Engagement



Doing all the good that we can



School Prospectus 2023 – 24

In our last Ofsted report it was said that we are:

'...committed to providing pupils with opportunities that help them grow into well-rounded individuals who contribute positively to their communities'

In our last SIAMS report it stated:

The vision for exciting and challenging learning results in a very broad, engaging curriculum which recognises pupils as unique individuals and ensures the flourishing of each pupil'

*'Start children off on the way they should go,
and even when they are old they will not turn from it.
Proverbs 22:6*



Welcome to Boughton-under-Blean & Dunkirk Primary School as a prospective parent.

Boughton-under-Blean and Dunkirk Methodist Primary School is a place where every child is equally important to each of our dedicated staff. We are focused on providing an all-round education for all within the classroom. We pride ourselves on our expertise in teaching and the wider opportunities we offer through regular trips, after school clubs and sporting events. We value creativity and arts whilst being determined to ensure that the curriculum is taught in a way to give every child a chance to succeed at secondary school and beyond.

Our last Ofsted report stated:

"Learning is carefully planned so that tasks match the abilities of pupils"

"Teachers plan carefully to allow pupils to develop their knowledge and skills within the topics they learn about."

"The curriculum is rich in experience... children have developed their historical understanding whilst also considering moral and ethical questions"

We have a modern, spacious school building, large grounds, excellent ICT provision and a settled staff team who work hard to ensure that all children become successful learners. The school offers a friendly breakfast club and late care facility that combines well with the wide range of lunchtime, before and after school clubs run by staff and outside specialists. We are a church school and use our core values of forgiveness, friendship, trust, justice and perseverance as guides to giving our children the best all round education possible. As a result of these values and the pastoral support we offer, each child and family is important to us and we are proud of our role within the local community.

Ofsted said:

"a culture of inclusivity that values diversity, demands tolerance and ensures equalities are central to the work of the school"

A parent told Ofsted:

There is a very strong sense of belonging and community throughout the whole school, I feel very lucky that my children have attended such a brilliant, nurturing school"

We are proud of our children and believe they are a credit to our school. We are also proud of the positive, safe and stimulating learning environment that our school provides.

We are a friendly, welcoming and happy school with high expectations in all areas. I would urge anyone interested in our school to visit. All the staff are happy to discuss the school and our ethos is very simple – we want the absolute best for every child within our care.

Mr S J Way – Headteacher

Mrs J Cottenden – Deputy Headteacher



Doing all the good that we can

We aspire for all our children to become confident, happy and caring individuals who achieve personal success and develop a love of learning and a life built upon our school values.

Boughton-under-Blean & Dunkirk is a Methodist Primary School and our Methodist values are at the heart of everything we do.

- Forgiveness
- Friendship
- Trust
- Justice
- Perseverance

These are then underpinned by our learning values.

- Communication
- Independence
- Aspiration
- Engagement

Our whole school ethos is built upon and guided by them. Every school policy is written with this in mind and implemented in way that reflects our vision of doing all the good that we can and developing children as life long learners.

Start children off on the way they should go, and even when they are old they will not turn from it

Proverbs 22:6

Our School History



In April 2008 following a short, but very successful Federation, Boughton-under-Blean Methodist Primary School amalgamated with Dunkirk Village School on the existing Boughton site.



We subsequently became known as Boughton-under-Blean & Dunkirk Methodist Primary School and a new school badge was designed to reflect the history of the two schools.



The school remains a Methodist Voluntary Controlled School and will continue to serve the two village communities of Boughton-under-Blean and Dunkirk and the surrounding hamlets.



The original school buildings were opened in 1905 when the existing church school moved from under the Methodist Chapel. In 1946 the school amalgamated with the school at Boughton Church with additional classrooms being built in the 1970s and subsequently mobile classrooms being added to the grounds.

In late 2007 the existing Victorian building was modernised allowing us to transform the wonderful old building into a high quality resource area for staff and pupils with better storage facilities, upgraded technology, dedicated teaching spaces, modern toilet facilities for staff and a multi-purpose school hall.



September 2008 saw the opening of our wonderful new 7-classroom extension. This exciting new facility includes a modern office/reception area, a large central area for small group working, a library, and new children's toilets.

Sadly the amalgamation of the two schools and opening of our new school building meant the old Dunkirk School site closed. Opened in 1846 following the Courtney Uprising the school served the locality for 162 years.



Starting School

Children start school in the 'academic year' in which they become five. We take a maximum of 30 children into the Reception class each year.

The Local Authority administers admissions to the school, for children entering the Reception class. A booklet outlining the procedure is issued in November and applications need to be submitted by mid-January. Online applications are preferred, but paper copies are available from the school office.

We are happy to show parents around our school and arrange a number of morning and afternoon times for this. These are normally in small groups so that parents can ask questions pertinent to their own child. We encourage parents interested in a place to complete an "Interest in Admission" form (enclosed in the back of this brochure). This will ensure you receive information at the appropriate time. However registering an interest does not give your child priority with the Local Authority, when places are allocated.

Primary school places are allocated according to the Local Education Authority's agreed criteria. Details of these are available on the KCC website (www.kent.gov.uk) or the school website.



Reception children and new entrants have fun at a transition Party



If you have recently moved into the area or are planning to do so and would like your child to transfer from their current school, you should contact us (the school) directly to establish whether we have a vacancy in your child's year group. Applications can then be made directly to the school and quickly processed.

If there are no vacancies but you would still like your child to attend Boughton-under-Blean and Dunkirk School you can ask to go on a waiting list, and will be contacted by us when spaces become available. You also have the right of appeal to an independent appeal. The school will be happy to provide you with details on how to go about this.

Uniform

Our uniform is very important to our school. The logo represents our school that brought together the two adjoining village communities of Boughton-under-Blean and Dunkirk and is an important symbol of our school community. Children are therefore expected to wear our school uniform with logo to foster a sense of belonging.

Girls

Red school sweatshirt/cardigan or a school fleece

Red or white polo shirt

Grey skirt or grey/black trousers

White, or dark coloured tights or socks

Black shoes (low heeled and sensible – not trainers or sandals)

Red striped or checked dress in summer

Boys

Red school sweatshirt or a school fleece

Red or white polo shirt

Grey or black long trousers or grey shorts

Black shoes (sensible not trainers)

PE Kit (available from the school)

Red, round-necked, logoed T-shirt

Black shorts & Black plimsolls

Juniors will in addition need:

Tracksuits (or equivalent warm clothing) and trainers



For safety reasons jewellery should not be worn in school. Watches and stud earrings may be worn but children remove them for P.E. lessons.

School uniform including sweatshirts, cardigans, polo shirts and PE kits can be ordered from the school or via our online supplier Mapac.

The School Day

We open the school gate at 8:30 and children and families are greeted by Laura (Family Liaison Officer) and Mr Way (Headteacher). In the playground children have an opportunity to mix with their friends and classmates before walking to their classrooms when the bell is rung at 8:40am. On wet days the children go directly to their classroom via the outside doors.

The gate closes at 8:45am which is the time that the register is taken and the school day begins. Children arriving after 8:45 should report to the school office before going to their classroom.

Morning break: 10:30 – 10.45 am

We are committed to being a 'healthy' school and through the support of our PTFA every child is provided with a free piece of fruit at break time.

Milk is also available. This is supplied by www.coolmilk.com and is free to under 5s.

Lunch: 12:00 – 1:00pm

There is no afternoon break although teachers are aware of the importance of children remaining refreshed and focused throughout a busy day especially in the younger year groups.

Home time: 3:15pm

The school gate is opened again just before 3:10pm. Parents collecting children at the end of the day are requested to wait in the main playground. When the gate is shut visitors should use the main door.

There is no regular supervision for children outside these hours and parents inform the school if collection arrangements change, eg. if your child starts walking home alone or being collected by someone else.

Punctuality and Absence from School

Regular and prompt attendance is vital for a child to make educational progress and is the shared responsibility of parents, the school and KCC.

Absence from school

When a child is absent, parents phone the school on the first day of absence as early as possible and also when the pupil is scheduled to return.

If you need to collect your child during school hours please let us know as early as possible. We will have them ready for you to collect at reception.

In line with government guidelines, the school can no longer authorise leave taken during term time, except in very exceptional circumstances.

Registration and Lateness

Registration closes at 8:45am, children arriving after this time should report to the school office. It is expected that learning will start at 8.45 am as persistent lateness impacts on both a child's education and disturbs their class. Regular lateness is monitored and the initially discussed with parents to see if there is anything we can do to help.

Severe Weather conditions

Sometimes heavy snow can force the school to close early or not open in the morning. If the weather is particularly extreme and deteriorates during the school day we will contact you by phone/text asking you to collect your child from school. Unfortunately being a village school does not always work in our favour when it comes to severe weather but we always make every attempt to remain open.

If the school cannot open in the morning you will be notified by text, facebook and on the schools and KCC websites, www.bad.kent.sch.uk & www.kentclosures.co.uk.
The information will be broadcast on Radio Kent and Heart FM.

Security

We are very aware of our responsibilities towards your children and we ask parents to support us in this. Parents are welcome in the playground before school and at the end of the school day, where you can catch up with teachers, but neither parents nor children should enter the classrooms before the bell rings in the mornings or after school. All parental contact with the school is made via the school office.



Travelling to school

Walking

Whenever possible we encourage children to walk to school. A member of our staff is the school crossing patrol officer and is on duty in The Street each morning and afternoon.

Cycling

Year 5 pupils have the opportunity to participate in Cycling Training, and the school provides a covered area for cycle parking.



Lots of children cycle to school in the summer.

School Car Park

Parents must not drive up School Lane as this is a danger for children and parents. However, the school pays an annual fee for the use of the village hall car park. It should be used with other users in mind and arrows indicating the direction of travel should be followed to avoid unnecessary congestion. Considerate parking along The Street is also an option for parents.

Public Bus

There is a public bus service that runs to and from Faversham in line with the school day.

School Lunches

The school has achieved 'Healthy Schools' status. We provide every child with fresh fruit everyday at break time (KS1 funded by the government, KS2 by the PTFA); and we actively encourage healthy lunches.



Lunchtime Meals are currently prepared off site and delivered to the school. A menu is always on display. There are various alternatives at lunchtime:

1. All foundation stage and KS1 pupils are entitled to free school meals
2. You may purchase a cooked meal for KS2 pupils (current cost £2.43 per day, payable in advance)
3. Your child may bring a healthy packed lunch to school

Free School Meals

If you are on Income Support, Income based jobseekers allowance, support under Part VI of the Immigration and Asylum Act 1999, the guaranteed element of Pension Credit, working tax credit or Universal Credit, your KS2 child may be eligible for Free School Meals. You can obtain further information from the KCC on 03000 416464. We are also able to help parents with this if guidance is needed and all enquiries are treated in confidence.



Packed Lunches

We encourage all children to eat a healthy, well balanced diet. Children should not be sent to school with fizzy drinks, food with lots of artificial colouring, sugar or caffeine or very salty foods. We actively discourage packed lunches with lots of chocolate, crisps or pre-packaged food.

For safety reasons we ask that parents do not send children in with soup. We do have some children with nut allergies and so ask parents to consider not sending your child in with nuts as part of their packed lunch.

Inclusive Education

Boughton-under-Blean & Dunkirk Methodist Primary School is an educationally inclusive school. This means that the school develops its cultures, policies and practices to include all pupils.

Special Educational Needs

The new Code of Practice came into force in September 2014 (a copy of which is available through www.gov.uk) This now covers the 0-25 age range and includes guidance relating to disabled children and young people as well as those with Special Educational Needs (SEN).

Parents of children identified as having special educational needs will be informed and kept up to date with the support their child is receiving. The next steps in their child's learning will be mapped out through clear, measurable targets and the support they will need to be given to achieve these outcomes identified through what is known as a provision map. Children with a statement for educational needs, will now have Educational Health Care Plan (EHCP) drawn up by the local authority, with identified targets to be met and the support required.

The Local Authority provides additional services to children with SEN and their families through their 'Local Offer'. A link to this is on our school's website.

Support

We provide support for children in a range of ways, best suited to their needs based on the nature of the need and them as a learner. We have a range of specialist teaching available to the school, some within existing staff and other through outside agencies.

All children are treated as individuals and we ensure that appropriate targets and provision is in place to allow them to reach their full potential and to meet their needs. Classes across the school have at least one teaching assistant working with them all day, and in most cases two, allowing targeted support to take place in the afternoons.



Behaviour and Pastoral Matters

Collective Worship

As a school we are very proud of our Methodist roots and the school retains a Methodist Foundation, whilst also having links with local Anglican churches.

Whole school collective worship is a varied and important time for the school to come together as a community to celebrate and worship, and to acknowledge individual and class achievements. While collective worship is of a Christian nature and is based on the teachings of the bible, as well as John Wesley, it also acknowledges other world faiths. There is a celebration each Friday during which we celebrate achievements across the school.

Our school's vision and values are formed through our Methodist background and our school prayer comes from John Wesley's rules:

*Help us to do all the good that we can,
In all the ways we can,
At all the times we can.
To all the people that we can
Today*

We have strong links with other Methodist schools in the area such as St Peter's in Canterbury and also Methodist schools across the South East of England.

Our Methodist ethos of 'doing all the good that we can' underpins and informs all that we do. We believe it is a principle that the children should hold close throughout their life in order to become a valued and respectful member of the community as well as continuing to work towards achieving their potential.

Pastoral Support

All staff constantly provide lots of praise and reward for individual and team behaviour and performance. Stickers, Gold Star Awards and Table Points are just a few of the ways that we encourage positive behaviour and marginalise any unacceptable behaviour. We have a very consistent approach to behaviour and track any unacceptable behaviour closely. We use the 'Good to be Green' system to encourage positive behaviours. If we experience any difficulties you can be assured that we will get in touch with you at a very early stage so that you can work with us to address the issue.

Family Liaison Officer (FLO)

Laura Jakob is our full time FLO. Her role is to provide a link between the school and families. Children and parents often request time with Laura if they are feeling upset or in need of an independent ear. Every child's well being is important to us and Laura runs lunch time 'drop in' sessions in her well-being room.

Child Protection

The school has a number of designated Child Protection Officers and a clear policy for dealing with and recording such incidents. All staff are trained annually kept fully informed of current procedure and practice.

Medicines and First Aid

If your child needs to take medicine during the school day it should be delivered to the school office by an adult in the morning, clearly labelled with the child's name and dosage and a permission form completed. Inhalers for asthma must be clearly labelled and will be kept in the classroom. Parents are kept informed of a child feeling unwell during the day and the fact that many staff are parents themselves is reflected in our approach.

Members of the school staff have received training in First Aid. They will give appropriate first aid, though in the event of more serious accidents we will contact you as soon as possible.

Collaboration

We play an active part in the thriving Faversham schools collaboration, coming together for staff training and sharing ideas and initiatives. Through this we ensure consistency of work, staff training, transition projects, sporting competitions and a choir festival.

Secondary Transfer

Children transfer from our school to a number of secondary schools. These include schools in Canterbury (Simon Langton Boys and Girls Grammar schools, Barton Court Grammar school, Canterbury Academy, Archbishops, St Anselms, and Barton Court) and Faversham (Queen Elizabeth's Grammar School and The Abbey school). Recently children have also transferred to The Whitstable school and schools in Sittingbourne. We are fortunate that due to our location there is a good choice for parents.

Enrichment and Extension Activities

Educational visits and visitors



Each class undertakes a range of visits throughout the year to support their curriculum work.

The school runs two minibuses to allow us to keep travel costs low.

We also have visitors coming in to the school when appropriate and have termly enrichment days to give opportunities for extended learning in creative subjects.

Ben Smith – who ran 401 marathons in 401 days to raise awareness about bullying

Yr 1 Visiting Wildwood



Residential Educational Visits

Part of the broader curriculum involves taking our older children on a residential trip. Our Year 6 pupils stay at Hindleap Residential Centre where they take part in a wide range of activities including abseiling, zip Lining, high Ropes activities, 'Leap of Faith' & orienteering.



Year 6 enjoying activities at Hindleap

Sports

We are extremely proud to have received the Platinum Sports Award in the summer of 2022. Our children have access to a wide range of sports and can join a range of before and after-school activity clubs run by school staff and specialist coaches. The school is well resourced for PE equipment and uses its minibuses where needed to access specialist facilities or events. In the last academic year, children had an opportunity to participate in football, hockey, athletics, gymnastics, netball, table tennis, golf, basketball, cricket, handball and fitness clubs. School teams also participate in many local inter school leagues, competitions and festivals. Year 3 children go swimming during the Spring/Summer terms and reluctant or non-swimmers from years 4 to 6 are taken in term 6.

Music

We have established a strong reputation for the role music plays across the school. Our children have taken part in a range of musical events and performances both in school and externally. We run a successful school choir with a weekly after-school club. All Year 5 children have a weekly music lesson with a ukulele tutor gaining a basic knowledge of playing a musical instrument. This tuition is provided free of charge using 'Soundhub' funding.

Children also have the opportunity to access a variety of music lessons delivered by peripatetic music teachers. The instruments taught include the piano, violin, recorder, guitar, drums, flute and various brass instruments. Last year almost 60 children were learning a musical instrument.

Breakfast, Twilight & Late Care Club

Boughton-under-Blean & Dunkirk Breakfast, Twilight and Late Care club currently provides wraparound care provision for all children attending the school.

Our Breakfast Club runs from 7.45am to the start of school and our Late Care from end of school to 6.00pm. Shorted sessions are also available after school until 4.30 pm at our Twilight Club. Children can attend anything from one session a week to all sessions. Should you think you might need access to this provision then please contact the school office.



Ofsted said "One parent commented 'The outstanding breakfast club and after school club are integral parts of the school and add to my child's overall academic and social development'"



Children enjoying activities at the Late Care Club

School Council

We have a school council who, through their elected members, ensure children have a voice in their education. They contribute to discussions on charities and improving different aspects of the school including the site and facilities. They also represent the school within the local community, and all members take their role very seriously.

Boughton-under-Blean & Dunkirk PFTA

We are fortunate to benefit from a hardworking and very dedicated PTFA. This small group of parents give up their time to organise and run various school based fund raising events. They are a very open group and are always very keen to hear from anyone who might be able to contribute in some way and on some occasions helping these events take place. Just by committing to help at just one event you will be making a significant contribution to their success. Everyone is welcome to come along to the P.T.F.A. meetings. Traditionally they have taken place on the second Tuesday of each term in one of the village pubs. In the build up to events further meetings may take place in school on a Friday morning. Many of our members work full time and so anytime spared is greatly appreciated by the school. If you would like to know more about the work of our P.T.F.A. they can be contacted via the school office.

Communication with parents

We consider your active involvement vital to your child's education. We very much want you to ask questions, to get to know your child's class teacher and to visit school regularly.

Your child's teacher, class teaching assistant or members of the leadership team are always available to speak to you, if not immediately then by an appointment which can be made through the school office. It is important that the school is kept informed of any changes to contact details.

Written communication from the school comes home regularly. These include:

- Weekly newsletter from the Headteacher and Deputy Head
- Termly letter from each Year group
- Various reports and parent meetings through the year.

Parents are encouraged to sign up to receive text messages from the school and also to receiving newsletters and other communications by email.

The school website www.bad.kent.sch.uk is updated regularly giving information on events happening at school.

Governors

There is a team of governors who lead our school. They monitor all aspects of what we do and ensure that we progress in the right way to ensure the best education is possible for all children.

The governors may be contacted via the school office.

Home – School Partnership

A successful school is one where stakeholders (school, families and children) work together.

The School will endeavour to:

- Provide children with a caring, safe and stimulating learning environment in which they feel secure and happy;
- Ensure that the school's Christian values - *forgiveness, friendship, trust, justice and perseverance* are at the heart of everything we do;
- Encourage children to care for and respect each other, and to make good choices;
- Encourage children to be independent learners who aspire to achieve;
- Keep parents regularly informed about their child's progress and any additional support;
- Provide a broad, balanced and engaging curriculum which develops life-long learners;
- Be open and welcoming at all times and to value our children, their families and community
- Be professional in our dealings with children, carers and families.

The Parents/Carers will endeavour to:

- Ensure that their child attends school regularly and on time, with the correct uniform and equipment;
- Value their child's learning and achievement;
- Support the school's policies and ethos;
- Support their child with homework and other opportunities for home learning, including regular reading;
- Show respect to other children, carers and families on and around the school site.
- Respect all teachers and staff on and around the school site
- Respect all stakeholders particularly when using social media platforms such as Facebook

The Child will endeavour to:

- Respect the school's Christian and Learning Values,
- Follow the School's rules and manage and modify their own behaviour;
- Care for every member of their school community and environment;
- Take responsibility for their own learning, both at home and at school
- Show respect for others in and around our local community
- Be proud of being a member of the Boughton-under-Blean and Dunkirk Methodist School family



BOUGHTON-UNDER-BLEAN AND DUNKIRK
PRIMARY SCHOOL

INTEREST IN ADMISSION FORM

Full name of child..... Male / Female

Date of Birth

Child's Permanent Address

.....

Post code..... Home Telephone Number.....

Details of those with legal parental responsibility:

Parent 1 (name).....

Address (if different from above).....

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Post code..... Home Tel. Number.....

Mobile number..... Email address.....

Parent 2 (name).....

Address (if different from above).....

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Post code..... Home Tel. Number.....

Mobile number..... Email address.....

With whom does the child live

Current school / nursery (if appropriate) and proposed date of leaving.....

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