

Haddenham St Mary's Church of England School

*'Committed to excellence, care and
fun for all'*



**Headteacher: Mrs Karen Collett
Chair of Governors: Mrs Gaynor Bull**

Aston Road
Haddenham
Buckinghamshire
HP17 8AF

Tel: 01844 291455
e-mail: office@haddenham-st-marys.bucks.sch.uk

Introduction

Haddenham St Mary's Church of England School provides education for children aged between 4 and 7 years. Founded in 1868, we moved in 1981 from the original Victorian building to a purpose-built school, with five classrooms, a large hall, modern resource area, playground and large playing field, all set in stunning grounds.



In 2009 we further enhanced our facilities with the building of an additional teaching room, enlarged Reception classroom and light and airy cloakrooms. Further work was completed in 2010 to provide extensive all weather surfaces and equipment. We are proud to offer outstanding facilities for outdoor learning and play, with an Eco Lodge and amphitheatre in the school grounds. In 2017 a whole new purpose build wing of the school was built which now houses our four key Stage 1 classrooms.



We provide a creative and happy learning environment, with a broad and balanced curriculum adapted to the individual needs of each child. All children are encouraged to be independent and to use their initiative to develop their full potential.

We are proud of our traditional roots built on an attitude of care and respect, as well as our forward looking attitude. This combines the best of technology and leading edge teaching with sensible, practical and fun classroom experiences. At Haddenham St Mary's every child is valued, supported and challenged.

We also value our strong relationship with parents and families and we play an important part in the village and the wider community. At Haddenham St Mary's we encourage a feeling of respect for people of all ages and beliefs. We want to develop the children's skills and personal qualities to provide a foundation for a fulfilled and constructive life.

Our committed staff value both excellence and effort. We are a happy school where we have high aspirations for every child, and where every child has the opportunity to learn and enjoy learning.



Our Vision

At Haddenham St Mary's Church of England School we are committed to excellence, care and fun for all. We want every child to achieve their full potential in a stimulating, exciting and safe environment - and at the same time to develop a lifelong love for learning. Integral to our approach is the Christian ethos of caring for one another in school, in the local community and in society.

We have six core Christian values which are embedded within our curriculum and whole school ethos. These are: respect, honesty, forgiveness, love, compassion and friendship.

At Haddenham St Mary's, every child matters and everyone cares.

Our Aims

We work in partnership with parents, governors and the wider community to -

- Promote curiosity and enthusiasm
- Develop all abilities
- Reward effort and achievement
- Encourage independence and confidence
- Promote creative and logical thinking
- Encourage respect and sensitivity for others
- Develop personal self-esteem
- Support Christian values

Our Legacy

For every child and every family to take away wonderful memories of their early years with us.



Admissions

The current admissions policy for children of compulsory school age is managed and operated by the Local Authority. They allocate places according to specific needs and distance from home to school. Full details are available from Bucks Council at <https://www.buckinghamshire.gov.uk/schools-and-learning/schools-index/school-admissions/>

We accept four year olds into the Early Years/Reception class in the September of the academic that they turn five. We offer a varied induction programme with a range of opportunities for children to get to know their new class and to welcome their families to our school. In September we have a phased introduction to full-time school where children will attend part-time for mornings only for the first two weeks of term.

Each year in June we organise a transition programme for new children and parents. In addition parents are welcome to arrange a personal visit and an interview with the Headteacher who will be very pleased to meet them. For further information or to make an appointment please telephone the school office on 01844 291455.

In the term prior to their child being admitted to school, parents are invited to an evening meeting with the Headteacher and the Reception teachers. At this meeting we discuss starting school and answer questions. Information documents relating to the school are distributed and families are welcomed to our school community.

Organisation

The school has six classes and children are taught in their academic age group with 2 classes per year group. This year the class teachers are as follows:

Rainbow 1 (Reception): Mr Williams and Mrs Wrigglesworth

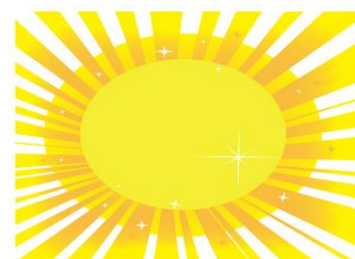
Rainbow 2 (Reception): Mrs Butler and Miss Longman

Sunshine 1 (Year 1): Miss Hook

Sunshine 2 (Year 1): Miss Hawes

Sky 1 (Year 2): Mrs Allison and Miss Longman

Sky 2 (Year 2): Mrs Williams and Mrs Nickless



Curriculum

The classroom teachers create an atmosphere where individuals are recognised, appreciated and encouraged. Learning to work and play together is a prime consideration.

Our aim is to create a happy secure environment where the children are both stimulated to learn, and encouraged to find things out for themselves. The Reception Class builds on the national Early Years Foundation Stage Curriculum with a focus on developing appropriate habits, attitudes and skills, for learning.

The school's curriculum at Key Stage 1 includes all the core and foundation subjects specified in the National Curriculum. The core subjects are English, Mathematics, Science, and ICT. The foundation subjects are Design and Technology, History, Geography, Art, Music, PE and RE. We also include personal, social and health education. We use a topic approach to encompass all these subjects.

Creativity and enrichment

At Haddenham St Mary's CE School we are proud of our creative curriculum. We make the most of our wonderful school grounds for learning opportunities outdoors.

We link areas of the curriculum with focus themes and projects and we enrich the curriculum with a very wide variety of events, trips and visitors to school.

Learning outside the classroom

We pride ourselves at Haddenham St Mary's on our beautiful and extensive grounds. We take every opportunity to use these and provide opportunities for learning outside. Learning about 'how to look after our environment' is a fundamental part of our curriculum.

All children have regular Forest Schools sessions with our 3 fully accredited Forest Schools teachers. This allows each year group to have a forest school session per week.



English

We focus carefully on all aspects of this subject. Speaking, listening, reading and writing should all be enjoyable experiences and we support and guide the children in the learning process.

The children are introduced to a wide variety of books including traditional and modern stories, fact and fiction, nursery rhymes and poetry. We have lots of fun with special events to celebrate books and stories such as World Book Day and we place great emphasis on children, parents and teachers all sharing the exciting and wonderful experience of reading.

Books, books, books!

- We have a wide variety of books for children to take home to practise their reading. Books are changed three times a week and children are given their own personal reading diary.
- We have an extensive collection of further reading material offering breadth and enrichment.
- In the classroom the children have access to a variety of books which may be found in any good book shop. They read frequently with parents or helpers, teaching assistants or teachers.
- Each child is encouraged to use our extensive school library and is given the opportunity to take a book to share at home.

Phonics

We have an extremely detailed and successful Twinkl phonics programme where children are taught in small groups throughout the school. Each group is named after a jewel and group work is targeted to specific ability. Children have daily phonics sessions and are assessed constantly to ensure that they are receiving the right input to allow them to progress rapidly.

Writing

Children are given constant opportunities for writing throughout the school day. Writing is an integral part of all areas of the curriculum. Children are encouraged to develop their writing over time. This may start in Reception from simple mark making and develop into clear, cursive handwriting with appropriate punctuation and exciting vocabulary. It is celebrated and we aim to help children develop a love of writing for all purposes.



Maths

The Maths curriculum is detailed and structured. Children learn about counting, calculation, shape, measuring and organising data. Great emphasis is placed on developing and applying mental maths skills and relevant real life problem solving.

Class teaching is supplemented by computer programs, mathematical games, design and construction activities, practical situations and investigative activities. Our approach is to develop lively minds promoting enquiry, reasoning and thinking skills.



Science

Our scheme of work comprehensively covers all the attainment targets of the primary Curriculum: scientific investigation, life processes and living things, materials and their properties and physical processes. Children enjoy carrying out investigations and enjoy learning through practical experiments.

Religious Education

We use the Buckinghamshire Agreed Syllabus for teaching Religious Education. Children learn about the history, tradition and values of a range of religions including Christianity.

A Christian assembly takes place each day in school and once a week, the Vicar or a member of the Church will lead an assembly. Parents who wish to withdraw their child from Religious Education or Collective Worship may do so, after discussing this first with the Headteacher or Chair of Governors.

We enjoy our links with St Mary's Church who help us hold special services in church, for example at Harvest, Christmas and Easter and to celebrate the end of a school year. Sometimes the children visit church to look at the symbols and artefacts and make sketches.

Creative topic based curriculum

We have a topic based curriculum with 6 topics for each year group throughout the year. Our long term overview which details these topics is available on the website. Our curriculum statement can also be found on the website.

Our aims for our creative curriculum:

- Increase learners' motivation, enthusiasm and engagement in their learning, making learning more meaningful, through putting it into context
- Raise standards in both teaching and learning
- Help learners become more independent and take greater ownership of their learning, developing children's confidence and motivation to learn through the use of a range of learning and teaching styles
- Give opportunity for a flexible timetabling approach to make space for true depth of study
- Establish cross-curricular links to foster a broader understanding
- Create and maintain an exciting and stimulating learning environment, including whole school and "specialist weeks"
- Provide opportunities to apply knowledge and learning in practical ways and to solve problems in a variety of situations
- Provide enrichment opportunities where learning and teaching can take place beyond the classroom



Art

Children are given experience of a range of different materials and media including pastels, paint, sculpture and photographs. They see their work valued and displayed throughout the school and have the opportunity to see and develop their understanding of the work of others. We are 'hands on' in finding out about local artists, famous works, special designers and art in the environment.



Music

We have a specialist music teacher and children have excellent opportunities to develop their understanding of the power and pleasure of music. The children learn about all three aspects of music - performing, composing and listening. They listen to a wide range of music and they especially enjoy creating their own music! We have a range of untuned and tuned percussion instruments and older children are also introduced to the recorder.

Computing

We have iPads in school for children to use. These are used throughout all lessons. We also use a range of multimedia across the curriculum to engage children in their learning. Children will have time to develop their skills in using technology and to use a wide range of exciting curriculum software. They will learn to explore, record and problem solve and have supervised access to the internet to find and sort information.

All our classrooms are equipped with 'Clevartouch' screens or interactive whiteboards and we use these to maximise opportunities for teaching and learning.

Physical Education

The PE curriculum includes a range of sports, gymnastics, dance and games. Children also have tennis lessons at school with a local coach.

We have a well equipped indoor hall, a large field and a hard surfaced playground. We make full use of our lovely grounds culminating in the summer term with a fun day of sports activities and competitions. Parents are invited to watch our exciting sports day and join us at any inter school sports events through our Haddenham Area School Sports partnership.

The Haddenham Area School Sports Partnership is a local network of schools which provides further opportunities to invite visiting coaches, organise taster sessions and take part in competitions.

The Foundation subjects are covered under our creative and exciting topics.



Personal Social and Health Education

We have a fully planned preventative PSHE curriculum overview which can be found on the website. Much of the work related to Personal, Social and Health Education and fits in the context of everyday life of the school and our ethos of caring for every child. Therefore, we discuss issues when the occasion arises through the use Circle Time and class discussion.

Sex Education is not taught as a discrete area of the curriculum but children begin to learn about their bodies and the scientific names for body parts in science lessons.

Special Educational Needs

All children receive an education appropriate to their particular needs, whether they are in need of extra support or they are exceptionally able.

If children need additional support we talk to parents as soon as possible and share information. We prepare a plan to meet the specific needs of the child and keep parents up to date with progress. There is a designated Special Needs Co-ordinator who liaises closely with the class teacher and parents.

Most importantly we are committed to providing challenge for all children. Our curriculum is rich and creative.

Pupils with Disabilities

The Governing Body is committed to making any reasonable adjustments to provide disabled pupils and their parents/carers with access to the school environment, to the curriculum and to information. Individual needs can vary widely and prospective parents are encouraged to visit the school, look around our site and talk to the Headteacher about the needs of their child.

Safeguarding

The health, safety and well being of every child are our paramount concern. We listen to our pupils and take seriously what they tell us. Our aim is that children will enjoy their time as pupils in this school.

We want to work in partnership with you to help your child to achieve their full

potential and make a positive contribution. The procedures which we follow have been laid down by the Buckinghamshire Area Child Protection Committee and the school has adopted a Child Protection Policy in line with this for the safety of all. Our School Child Protection Policy is reviewed annually by the Governors. If you want to know more about our procedures, or see the policy you can access this on line on the school website or see a printed copy in the school office. Alternatively please speak to the Headteacher who would be pleased to provide further information

Pastoral Care

There is a strong emphasis on care and support for one another within our happy school 'family'. The class teacher is responsible for high quality teaching and learning across the curriculum including the emotional development of all the children. A first aid trained member of staff, looks after any child who is taken ill during school, notifies the parents if necessary and applies first aid. No medication can be given in school without completion of medical consent forms.



Reports & Parents Evenings

In the Autumn and Spring term Parent/Teacher interviews are held to discuss children's progress. We send out an interim report in the Spring term which gives an insight into progress so far. End of year reports are sent out annually at the end of the Summer term.

We are committed to strong home school links and welcome any enquiries. Parents can

arrange to see the class teacher at any time, if they wish to do so. Printed copies of all school policies are available on request and health and safety policies can also be downloaded from the school website.

Home/School Links

Parents are kept well informed about activities related to the school. Regular newsletters are sent home via email. New families to the school receive parent information booklet. We have a 'meet the teacher' evening in the autumn term. Our website is full of information for parents. We value the contributions made by parents and friends of the school. We firmly believe that the quality of a child's education is enriched when parents and teachers work together in partnership.

Home Learning

The children take home their reading books each day to read with/to parents.

Children are given learning logs. These give parents information about what is being learnt in school and challenge children to practise their skills or find out more. Children can record their work in a variety of ways and have the opportunity to work as creatively as possible.

Children are encouraged to use the school library, the public library and books/computers at home to discover more about the topics taught at school. All parents receive a copy of the school's Home Learning Policy.



Discipline

We set high expectations for behaviour and model considerate behaviour for one another. The children are expected to be well-mannered and will be taught to understand our 'Sparkling Rules'. We have a structured behaviour plan so that all children are aware of rewards and sanctions.

Growing up however is a learning process where children can make mistakes. We understand that and so we always explain when behaviour is unacceptable and provide clear consequences to help children make better choices. There is always contact with parents of any child giving cause for concern. All parents receive a copy of the school's Anti-Bullying Policy and the Behaviour Policy is available for parents to read at any time. It is also published on our school website.

We have a number of incentives for excellent behaviour: children can diamonds for their class, to compete to for the glitter ball, 'Golden Time' is awarded for good behaviour, and 'Sparkling Star' certificates are awarded for exceptional effort. Children can also volunteer to work on the School Council or the Food and Sports councils and take on responsibilities around the school.

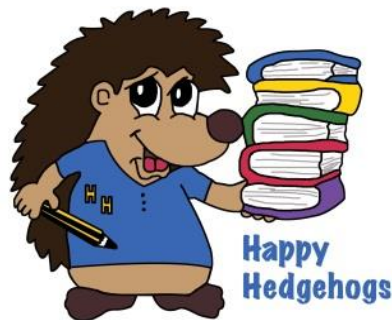


After School Clubs

We offer a variety of after school clubs for children on each day of the week which are run by our Happy Hedgehogs staff. These include sports, arts and crafts, science, reading and movie club.

Happy Hedgehogs

We offer before and after school provision in the form of our Happy Hedgehogs club. Breakfast club is in the school hall and runs from 8.00am to 8.55am and includes a choice of cereal plus toast, milk or water. The after school sessions are held in our Eco Lodge and run from either 3.05pm to 4.30pm or 3.05pm to 6.00pm and include a light snack straight after school and a hot meal at 5.00pm for those children who are staying until 6.00pm.



Water, milk, fruit and snacks

Children are asked to bring a named bottle of water to drink during the day; we also have two water fountains in school. All children are offered a piece of fruit every day. Children are also encouraged to bring a snack to eat before break time.

Lunch Arrangements

Every pupil in Reception, Year 1 and Year 2 is eligible for a free school meal every day. At Haddenham St Mary's School we believe that good food and good food culture has been shown to lead not only to healthier, happier and more fulfilled children, but also to improved educational attainment. We believe that the school lunchtime is a great opportunity for all of our children to sit down together and enjoy their healthy and tasty meal, while developing their social skills.

We really want to provide children with the whole 'grow, cook and eat experience'. To do this we grow vegetables in our school garden to supplement our lunches, educate the children about food preparation and provide them with an enjoyable, social dining experience. Our school meals are cooked on site using local food providers.



Governors

There is an active team of governors who are very supportive of the school and are always available to meet parents. Gaynor Bull is our Chair of Governors.

Parent Teacher Association

We also have a very active and enthusiastic PTA. The PTA supports the work of the school, raising money to buy extra resources and organises social events for the school community.

All parents are automatically members of the Association and very welcome to join in our social and fund raising events.

Parent Helpers

Parent helpers work with us in school, in a variety of ways. These include hearing children read, helping with cooking, computer work and art. Volunteers and special expertise are always welcome.

School Uniform

There is a school uniform, which the children are encouraged to wear. In winter the girls wear a grey skirt, trousers or pinafore dress, with a polo shirt or white blouse. There is a school royal blue cardigan or sweatshirt with logo. In summer they wear blue and white gingham dresses, or continue to wear skirts/pinafore.

The boys wear long or short grey trousers throughout the year, with polo shirts or white shirts and optional tie, royal blue pullovers/sweatshirts.

Children wear black, leather school shoes or sandals in summer with socks.

For PE children wear a blue school T shirt, plimsolls and shorts. These are kept in a drawstring bag in the cloakroom.

All branded uniform can be purchased through the Print Lab in Aylesbury:
www.the-print-lab.co.uk/school-uniform



School Sessions



The school sessions are:

- Morning 8.55 am - 12.05 pm
- afternoon 1.10 pm - 3.05 pm

All the classes have a morning break of fifteen minutes and a daily Collective Worship of fifteen minutes.