



# **Woodcocks' Well CE (VA) Primary School**

**Prospectus**

*“Discovering a world of wonder,  
empowered by God’s spirit.”*

**Headteacher: Mrs Stephanie Beckett**

# Mission Statement



“Discovering a world of wonder, empowered by God’s spirit.”

Woodcocks’ Well is a unique, semi-rural church school. We will ensure that children feel safe and happy at school and are given a range of experiences to develop the knowledge and skills they need to be able to *live life in all its fullness*.

At Woodcocks’ Well we want our children to be confident, independent, resilient, passionate and aspirational. By developing their character and understanding of God at work in the world, our children will be able to make reflective, sound judgements; having a positive impact on our wider community and society by valuing all.

## School Values

As Julian saw God’s love, creativity and wonder in the hazelnut, we recognise the ‘fruit of the spirit’ as God in ourselves and others;

- To foster a **love** for ourselves and others and develop a love for learning
- To be **faithful** to God, others and ourselves and be excited to grow our minds and mature in fruitful character.
- To grow **self-control** and be **patient** when working alone or together.
- To find **joy** in real-life experiences and learning opportunities
- To encourage **peace** in others and recognise it within ourselves
- To show **gentleness** towards others and approach other cultures and world views with respect and **kindness**
- To display **goodness** to all those around us, regardless of differences, creating an environment in which we can all grow healthily, happily and safely.

Dear Prospective Parent/Carer,

It is my great pleasure to welcome you to Woodcocks' Well CE (VA) Primary School. We are proud to be a small school with big ideas. Our school is situated right on the border of Staffordshire and Cheshire East and this setting, along with our distinctly Christian ethos, gives Woodcocks' Well its warm, Christian, friendly, family appeal.

We are clear that aspiration is at the centre of everything we do and are guided by our school vision statement "Discovering a world of wonder, empowered by God's spirit." As Julian saw God's love, creativity and wonder in the hazelnut, we recognise the 'fruit of the spirit' as God in ourselves and others. In our church school we are committed to ensuring that the children feel safe, secure and happy in a climate of trust so that they learn to love themselves and understand and respect the views and needs of others.

We promise to provide a creative and nurturing environment in which children are engaged to aspire to always do their best. Our school is a hub for the local community and we are proud of our village involvement.

If you would like to find out more about us, please phone the school office and arrange an appointment to come and look around. We prefer you to do this during the school day so that you can understand the learning culture that we have here at Woodcocks' Well. Alternatively, please explore our school website further.

Warmest Regards,

Mrs Stephanie Beckett

Headteacher

## Where is our school?



Woodcocks' Well CE (VA) Primary School is situated, on the western side of the ridge which marks the boundary between Cheshire and Staffordshire, in the village of Mow Cop. The school has commanding views overlooking the Cheshire plain towards North Wales in the west, North Staffordshire and Stoke on Trent in the south and the Mersey Valley to the north. The school's idyllic location is a talking point for visitors. There are few schools situated in such a lovely position, which also provides opportunities for pupils to study, at first hand, the changing pattern of both rural and urban landscapes.

## The history of our school

The school was originally built to provide an education for the children of the agricultural workers, quarry men and miners who lived in and around the village of Mow Cop. Today, because of its caring family atmosphere, Christian ethos and provision for children who have special educational needs, the school draws pupils from a wider area.



In 2008 the school celebrated its 150<sup>th</sup> anniversary. The oldest part of the building bears the date 1858, but many years before this a group of local people acquired land from Squire Wilbraham of Rode Hall for the purpose of endowing a school near Woodcocks' Well. The school was originally built to provide an education for boys, but this changed in 1868 when girls were admitted.



The school has continued to grow and change, as has the community it serves. Although externally the building retains its original charm and character, it has over the years been extended and modernised, to meet changing educational needs.

## What is our school like today?

As a Church of England School, Woodcocks' Well is proud of its links with St. Luke's Church. Promoting strong Christian values, Woodcock's Well is very much part of the community it serves. It is loved and valued for the stability and continuity it provides. For many local people, the school is a focal point of their lives and they show a keen interest in all that happens. Their involvement with the school is welcomed. Many of our children are the descendants of past pupils. Pupils, staff, parents, governors and friends, both past and present, are proud of what the school has to offer.

As we are a Church School, we hope that parents will support us in our family services and special celebrations of Harvest, Christmas and Easter at St. Luke's Church. Built on firm Christian foundations, we aim to fully develop the potential of all our children within a supportive and caring environment. At Woodcocks' Well, we are one big family working together. Every pupil is well known to each member of staff which enables us to meet the needs of individual children.

The children are organised into four teaching groups; Reception, Key Stage 1 (Years 1 and 2), Lower Key Stage 2 (Years 3 and 4) and Upper Key Stage 2 (Years 5 and 6). The school is well resourced and each classroom has access to ICT facilities for use by both staff and pupils. There are four full time teachers, along with the Headteacher. We have a specialist teacher who delivers learning outside the classroom sessions weekly to all pupils utilising our fabulous grounds. The school is fortunate to have a number of highly skilled teaching assistants who provide additional teaching support in each class. The generous staffing levels in the school ensure that the children's education, welfare and safety are of the highest priority.

The school has a bespoke Early Years building which houses the youngest children in our care and a Pre-School, belonging to Adventure Clubs Ltd. Provision and professional expertise between both settings is shared and the transition between them is seamless. Facilities in the main school building include four classrooms. Outside there is a large playing field, netball court and play ground.

Woodcock's Well is one of the few schools in Cheshire to have such a diverse and rich natural environment. The school's grounds are a valuable resource, which provide a variety of learning experiences for our pupils. The hillside to the rear of the school is of particular interest.



## Our Staff

**Headteacher:** Mrs Beckett

**Teachers:** Mrs Edwards  
Miss Pimblott  
Miss Harley  
Miss Booth  
Mrs Phillips

Reception  
Key Stage 1 (Years 1 and 2)  
Lower Key Stage 2 (Years 3 and 4)  
Upper Key Stage 2 (Years 5 and 6)  
Learning outside the classroom

**Teaching Assistants:** Mrs Horton  
Mrs Stanaway  
Mrs Stoker  
Miss Sumner  
Mrs Paterson  
Mrs Glimmerveen  
Mrs Mckie

**Administrator** Mrs Timmis  
**Administrator** Mrs McKie  
**Caretaker** Mr Kirkham

**Catering Supervisor** Mrs Barrett  
**Catering Staff** Mrs McEvoy  
Mr Kirkham

### **Governors:**

Mrs M Lawless	Chair Person
Mrs Winterton	Vice Chair Person
Rector P Atkinson	Foundation
Mrs McKie	Foundation
Mr Doughty	Foundation
Dr K Walchester	Foundation
Mr New	Foundation
Mrs Scott	Parent
Mrs Stanley	Parent
Miss Booth	Associate Governor

## What do the Governors do?

The Governors have a general responsibility for the proper conduct of the school and have specific powers and duties which are set out in detail in a document called the 'Articles of Government', which is available for inspection in school.

Governors work closely with the Headteacher and staff to carry out school self evaluation and monitor school practice. Each Governor has responsibility for supporting and monitoring an area of the curriculum or school focus, such as Health and Safety.

The full Governing Body meets termly to review important areas such as finance, staffing and curriculum development.

Governors are also members of sub committees which focus on different areas of school strategic planning;

- + Teaching and Learning which includes Well Being and Community
- + Resources which includes Finance, Staffing and Premises

## How our school is organised

Woodcocks' Well CE (VA) Primary School offers education for children aged 4 to 11 years. The school year runs from September 1st until August 31st. A child starting school is in Reception and becomes a Year 1 child the following September.

National Curriculum Stages:

- Reception children are Foundation Stage (Infants)      Ages 4-5
- Year 1 and Year 2 children are Key Stage 1 (infants)      Ages 5-7
- Years 3 to 6 children are Key Stage 2 (juniors)      Ages 7-11

The school adopts a personalised approach to teaching its pupils. Our aim is to cater for each child's individual needs by providing support and challenge at all levels and for all ages. Skilled teaching assistants and the Headteacher, provided children with small group activities. Children with Special Educational Needs receive additional support.

The number of teaching hours (excluding Collective Worship) per week are:

Key Stage 1	21.0
Key Stage 2	23.5



## Our Curriculum

The school aims to promote a caring Christian attitude and create a friendly and supportive environment in which children can enjoy a complete education. Children are taught and encouraged to fulfill their potential academically and physically and to develop socially and morally in a positive way.

All areas of the National Curriculum are taught across the key stages and we aim to give our children the best possible start by developing the key skills in Maths and English. We have good facilities for ICT and believe it should be at the heart of 21st century education. We have extensive grounds and believe whole-heartedly in delivering a progressive learning outside the classroom curriculum. Music, sport and the arts play an important part in our curriculum too and link to the topics where possible. Trips and visits play a vital role in our school and classes are encouraged to get out and about as often as possible! The school offers all children in Key Stage 2 the opportunity to participate in a bi-annual residential educational visit.

Children in Reception follow the “Early Years Foundation Stage” guidance which encourages learning through play activities with more structured learning developing when the child is ready to learn.

All our children are treated as individuals and teaching within the school focuses on this, allowing for the wide variation of ability and aptitude within each class, from those with special educational needs right through to the more able child.



## **Religious Education and Collective Worship**

We are a distinctly Christian school drawing upon inspiration from the Christian faith. The school's ethos, values and curriculum are guided by these principles.

Religious Education (R.E.) is a compulsory part of the primary school curriculum. There is a daily Act of Collective Worship and we use the Chester Diocese Agreed Syllabus when planning R.E. lessons. Rector Phillip is regularly involved in the Christian life of the school in addition to a number of different guest speakers who also visit the school regularly.



## **Extra-Curricular Activities**

We have a thriving after-school programme which include activities run by sports coaches and staff. The range of activities varies according to the season and the interests of the children. Previous clubs have included - Football, Archery, Multi-skills, Craft, Gardening, Science and Choir. There is a charge of £1 a week to attend some clubs to cover the costs of resources.

All the children are encouraged to participate and to develop their skills and some financial help is available for families who are in receipt of the Pupil Premium Grant.

## **Pastoral Care and Discipline**

In class, and at play, our pupils are supervised to the highest level. Our staff prioritise the emotional well-being and development of all children as individuals. They are able to offer guidance, support and understanding to foster self-discipline and independence. A friendly atmosphere in which politeness, respect and Christian values are highly valued provides the context for this.

All the children are encouraged to be aspirational and take pride in their school work and this is reinforced consistently with praise and encouragement.

We have a behaviour and discipline policy which sets out in some detail the types of behaviours that are acceptable and unacceptable. Our main concern is for the safety and well-being of all children during the school day.

## **Education Needs**

The school has a Special Education Needs and Disability Co-ordinator (SENDCO). The Coordinator follows the Department of Education's Code of Practice on the identification and assessment of children with special educational needs to provide a structured analysis of the specific requirements of these pupils. This can include liaising with the child, teachers, parents, the Learning Support Service, the Psychological Service, Mental Health Services, the Health Service and Social Services. An individual education programme may be devised for a child with Special Education Needs as well as visits from the Learning Support Service or Educational Psychologist and other support services.

In catering for children with Special Education Needs, we aim to:

- Promote the early identification and intervention for children with Special Education Needs,
- Identify gifted / talented / able children,
- Help a child with Special Education Needs to fulfil their potential,
- Promote an awareness of children with Special Education Needs,
- Foster good relations between staff, parents, support services and other outside agencies,
- Promote inclusive education.

Every effort is made to provide all children, including those with Special Education Needs, with a broad and balanced curriculum. Individual Education Plans and differentiation of activities and tasks within the classroom are some of the options available. The child's parents will be invited to regularly review and contribute to their child's plans and encouraged to work with their child at home to reinforce the work done in school.

Whatever difficulties any child at Woodcocks' Well may have, the school aims to encourage and recognise achievement for all.

## **Higher Attaining Children**

Higher attaining children are offered enrichment opportunities within and occasionally beyond the class. The school teaches children according to their attainment and ensures children deepen their understanding with taught knowledge and skills.

## Safety and Security

The safeguarding of children is of paramount importance and we aim to make our school a safe environment in which our children can flourish. All staff and regular volunteer helpers have to undergo DBS checks and we have systems in place which help identify vulnerable children and offer them support. During the day, parents and visitors must use the main entrance so that staff can monitor who is entering and leaving the building. Visitors log their details in our visitors' book.

The area directly outside the school is marked with zigzag lines and should be kept clear of vehicles at all times. Parking is available along the street and on the back car park.

## Parental Involvement

The level of parental involvement in school enhances the children's education in various ways and is greatly appreciated by staff. Parents are invited into school several times throughout the year to both formal parents' evenings and informal drop-in sessions. We have close links with our parents and they feel able to come into school at any time to discuss matters openly with staff. If you have any concerns about your child please do not hesitate to discuss them with the teacher or Headteacher if they arise.

## School Uniform

Children will need to wear school uniform. Full uniform details can be found on our webpage and can be order via <https://www.myschoolstyle.com/school/woodcocks/>.

On PE days, children will need to wear school PE kits and trainers.  
Our uniform consists of:



- White or red polo shirt
- Red sweatshirt or jumper
- Black shoes (not trainers or heels)
- Grey or black skirt, pinafore or trousers
- Shorts may be worn during the Summer Term
- Red and white checked summer dress
- Optional red fleece or reversible fleece with school emblem
- Year 6 - optional royal blue hoody with emblem



## PE Kit

White t-shirt  
Black shorts  
Black pumps  
Black jogging bottoms and a sweatshirt during the winter months

## Swimming

Trunks or swim shorts / full costume

*Please see our uniform policy for full information*

## **How can I secure a place for my child to Woodcocks' Well?**

The school has an admissions policy, which can be found on our website. Parents requesting a Reception place need to apply via Cheshire East Local Authority, which provides one admission date in September for all children who are five years of age during that academic year.

If parents are considering sending their child/children to Woodcocks' Well, they are invited to contact the Headteacher to arrange a visit to the school and discuss all aspects of school life.

New Reception pupils are invited to attend introductory sessions at the school in the last term before they are due to start school in the September. This helps them to become familiar with school life. Our aim is to help all children to feel welcome at Woodcocks' Well and to support them in settling into the daily routines of the school.

## **School Meals**

Our daily menu offers two choices which include healthy, home-cooked options. Dinner money for the coming week must be paid via School Money by 23:59 the day before. Alternatively, a packed lunch can be brought into the school by your child. As part of our

commitment to achieving the national healthy school standard we ask parents and carers to include healthy choices.

## **Food and Drink During the Day**

Pupils have access to a water throughout the day as water is known to improve concentration. Pupils are encouraged to bring sports-style water bottles into the classroom and maintain their hydration throughout the day.

The school is part of the National Fruit for Schools Scheme. All children in Reception and Key Stage 1 are offered fruit during afternoon break as we encourage the importance of eating fresh fruit and vegetables each day.

## **Medicines in School**

Occasionally a child may need to complete courses of tablets or medicines at school, or take asthma treatments. We are only able to administer prescribed medicines or over the counter medicines that are no-longer prescribed to parents/carers such as hay fever tablets/ Calpol. These medicines must be handed to a teacher by an adult to be kept in a safe place. We need written permission from the parent/guardian to enable us to administer the medicines, as well as clear instructions about the correct dosage. Please contact the school office for further information and forms.

## **Pupil Premium**

Pupil Premium money is targeted by the Government to be spent on those children who are eligible for Free School Meals and Looked After or Adopted children. Funding received is used to provide:

- Small group intervention programmes
- Play Therapy
- After School Clubs

The impact on pupils has been:

- to provide the additional support to accelerate their progress
- to provide a service which addresses key issues impacting on children's low self-esteem and helps to restore well being
- Enables children's to fully engage in out of school hours clubs and residential opportunities

Check to see if you're eligible on the Cheshire East webpage:

[https://www.cheshireeast.gov.uk/schools/free\\_school\\_meals.aspx](https://www.cheshireeast.gov.uk/schools/free_school_meals.aspx)

## **School Policies**

The current versions of our school policies are available on our website. This include:

- Admissions
- Attendance
- Behavior
- Child Protection
- Collective worship
- Special Educational Needs and Disability Policy

Written copies are available, upon request, via the school office.

## **Complaints Procedure**

Most complaints are settled quickly and informally at school level. In the event of any parental dissatisfaction with any aspect of a child's education, or any matter relating to the school, it should in the first instance be discussed with the teacher concerned. If this is not satisfactory then the matter should be discussed with the Headteacher. If the matter cannot be resolved satisfactorily at this point then the Governing Body should be informed. The final stage of the procedure is referral to the Local Authority. A copy of the school's Complaints Policy is available on our webpage and from the school office.

## **A Final Note**

The information contained in this prospectus is correct at the date of publication: September 2021. The most up to date information can be found on our webpage.