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**CHESHAM BOIS CHURCH OF ENGLAND  
COMBINED SCHOOL**

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**Headteacher: Mrs. C. Brown**  
**Chairman of Governors: Mr. A. Knight**

## MY SCHOOL

I like doing work.

At school I feel happy.

I like having friends to play with.

I like the field.

I love cooking!

We get to do fun topics like Ancient Greece and Rome.

Some children's views from different classes.

I love using the library

I love to play in our Woodland area.

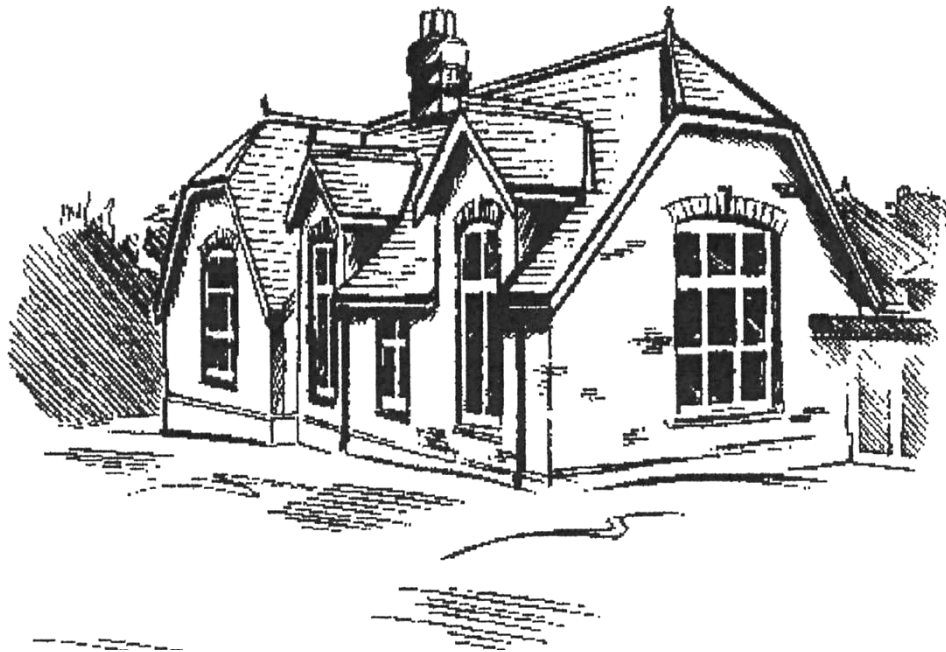
When I'm upset a friend always comes to cheer me up.

I like reading with the reading mummies.

Our School is special because it is like one big family. We all try to help and care for each other. It is a place to make many friends. Everyone knows everyone else. We are made aware that other children in the world aren't so lucky and we try to help by raising money for charities. As you reach the top of the school you are given more responsibilities which I think helps you to act in a more mature manner.

## OUR MISSION STATEMENT

"As a church school, it is our concern to ensure that all pupils understand their unique value and importance in the eyes of God and are given every opportunity to develop their full potential. We aim to develop a community which extends a special quality of care to all those involved with the life of the school. Christian values are taught and experienced, and pupils are given a good grounding in and understanding of the Christian faith."



Chesham Bois School is a controlled Church of England Combined School, with close links with St Leonard's Church in Chesham Bois. Children are admitted to the school as rising fives and they leave the school for transfer to secondary education at the end of the year in which they have their eleventh birthday.

Application forms for children to be considered for admission to the school are available from the school office. Applications for Reception and pupils progressing to KS2 (Year 3) should be sent to Buckinghamshire County Council, Admissions Office on 01296 383250 email: [admissions@buckscc.gov.uk](mailto:admissions@buckscc.gov.uk)

## OUR SCHOOL

### **Some Parents' Views:**

We chose the School for its friendly atmosphere combined with a commitment to high academic standards.

There is a deep sense of caring for children.

We wanted a Combined School, so our children would not have to transfer from First to Middle.

It is not too big.

The way the older children look after the younger ones is impressive.

I like a school that welcomes parents as well as children.

There are a range of opportunities.

The atmosphere of the School is special - you can feel that the children are happy and purposeful.

Children are well-behaved but not regimented.

There is a sense of individuality, and also of self-discipline.

The parents are friendly; you feel part of a community.

### **Some Governors' Views**

As I visit the School I am impressed by the incentives to learn that are everywhere on display.

All the children are valued and encouraged to fulfill their potential.

I feel that the connection with St Leonard's Church means that the School has a special role to play.

I am proud of our School, of its staff and pupils, of what they have achieved and what they continue to achieve.

## **AGE OF ENTRY**

Children are currently admitted to the school in the September or January term of the year in which they are five, depending on their date of birth. Children are admitted part-time, mornings only, for their first half-term.

## **ADMISSIONS**

The admissions number for each academic year is 30 at Key stage 1. The maximum number of children for Key Stage 2 classes is 35.

Parents wishing their child to enter the school should first contact the Headteacher and make an appointment to visit the school during the school day. There is a set of criteria by which entry is controlled. In order of priority they are:

1. Children living within the area normally served by the school, defined as "an area approximately centred on the school, bounded by, but including Cresswell Road to the north and the junction of Holloway Lane and Bois Lane to the south, and including St. Leonard's Road and Holloway Lane".
2. Younger brothers and sisters of pupils already in the school, if they do not live within the area normally served by the school.
3. Denominational preference for a Church of England school, especially when parents are active in church life and worship.
4. Children with any strong educational, medical, social or similar reason for admission to the school.
5. Geographical factors affecting ease of access to the school measure by distance.

In the term prior to entry, children are invited to spend some time in the school, and their parents have the opportunity to discuss matters relating to school organisation with the staff. The children are given an introductory booklet "Welcome to our school", which is produced with the help of pupils.

## **SCHOOL ORGANISATION**

Our children are in seven classes, which are organised in year groups, from year R (reception) to year 6. Classes are of mixed ability.

## **SCHOOL SESSIONS**

Morning:	Key Stage 1	- 08:55 - 12:00
	Key Stage 2	- 08:55 - 12:15
	Key Stage 1 break	- 10:25 - 10:45
	Key Stage 2 break	- 10:50 - 11:10
Afternoon:	Whole School	- 13:05 - 15:15
	(Key Stage 1 break)	- 14:20 - 14:30

The gate is opened and the children are supervised from 8.35am. Parents should not leave their children at school before this time.

The number of hours spent teaching during a normal school week are:  
First School - 21 hours 40 minutes, Middle School - 23 hours 45 minutes

## **LUNCHES**

Buckinghamshire County Council provides packed lunches for those children who are entitled to a free school meal. Other pupils should bring a packed lunch. We promote a healthy lifestyle and request that lunches are balanced, healthy and that a drink of water is provided in a clear sports bottle. Lunch is eaten in the school hall, or outside if weather permits, under appropriate supervision.

## **UNIFORM**

Our school colours are navy with gold and light blue and a uniform list can be found on page 14. The wearing of school uniform is expected. The wearing of jewellery of any kind is discouraged.

## **DATES OF TERMS & HOLIDAYS**

Dates of terms and holidays are provided separately and are available from the office or on the school website. Training days for staff are built in to the calendar. These are organised to minimise disruption at home and school.

## **ABSENCE FROM SCHOOL**

If a child is absent for any reason (eg. ill health) the school should be informed by telephone. Upon the child's return to school, an explanatory letter should confirm the reason for absence. If a parent expects a child to be absent from school, a prior request to the Headteacher must be made in writing. The appropriate request form is available from the school office and should be submitted one month in advance. The governors would not expect children to be removed from school for holidays under normal circumstances and family holiday will not usually be authorised.

Should a child become ill, or have an accident during school time, parents, or a nominated contact, will be informed. If this is not possible the sick child will be kept at school until the end of the session, unless emergency treatment is required.

### **HEALTH**

During the school life of your child, regular health checks will be carried out by the school Doctor, Dentist and School Nurse. Some health checks will include measurements of height, weight, eyesight and a general enquiry about the health of your child. Parents are strongly encouraged to attend their child's first health check, in their second term, where the general health of the child is discussed, although it is generally not essential for you to be present. If your child requires any further attention, you will always be informed.

### **PASTORAL CARE**

Pastoral care of the children primarily rests in the hands of the class teacher, who is most aware of their day-to-day needs. Teachers, support staff, pupils, and parents all have a part to play in creating and maintaining a supportive and caring environment.

### **CONDUCT**

High standards of conduct and behaviour are a feature of our school. They depend on the example and mutual respect of all in the school, staff and pupils.

Parents are expected to play their part in supporting these aims.

### **DISCIPLINE**

Our aim is a consistent and fair standard of discipline throughout the school. Imposed discipline is designed to lead towards self-discipline as each child becomes aware of the accepted standards of behaviour. Our children are taught to understand the effect of their behaviour upon themselves and those around them. A respect for the individual and for property is encouraged by the atmosphere within the school.

## **PARENT SCHOOL LIASON**

We believe that our children develop and progress most successfully when parents and teachers are mutually supportive. Parents are welcomed into the school at all times. Normally, contact should first be made with the class teacher, who will usually see parents at the end of the school day. *(It is helpful, however, if appointments are made to speak to staff if there are specific concerns about a child's progress).*

Parents' Information evening is held in September. Parents Evenings are held in the Autumn and Spring terms. Parents are able to view their child's work and discuss their child's learning with the class teacher. A written report is sent to parents in the Summer term. The school also invites parents and prospective parents to attend performances, exhibition and events which take place throughout the year.

All parents belong to the flourishing Parent Teachers Association which organizes fun events in order to raise money for the school. Parents are encouraged to form a close association with the school and many parents help in the school on a regular basis, with activities such as cookery, craft, art, reading, library and educational visits.

## **CURRICULUM**

The aim of the curriculum is to provide a broadly based and balanced education. It caters for all ability ranges, and every child is encouraged to achieve his/her full potential. The school fulfils its obligations under the National Curriculum and enriches the children's learning in many ways, including out of school visits and visitors to the school. The core subjects: Mathematics, English (*including speaking and listening, reading, writing and drama*), Science and ICT are taught alongside the foundation subjects: Geography, History, Music, Art and Design and Physical Education. Other areas of study include Religious Education, Personal, Social, Health Education and Citizenship, and Health and Sex education.

Detailed planning of work is based on a whole school approach meeting the requirements of the National Curriculum Programmes of Study. A topic-based approach is used to link together relevant elements of a variety of subjects to ensure deeper learning.

## **MATHEMATICS**

The school follows the National Numeracy Strategy in planning and delivering the mathematics curriculum. The aim is to give children the confidence to understand concepts and use mathematics to solve "real" problems.

## **ENGLISH**

We select a wide range of texts designed to promote high levels of literacy across the ability range. Our children are encouraged to develop their writing skills through reading, speaking, listening and drama activities. Spelling strategies are learned systematically through a weekly spelling programme. Children develop a cursive handwriting style.

## **SCIENCE and TECHNOLOGY**

Scientific and investigative enquiry skills are taught through topics in the areas of "Life Processes and Living things", "Materials and their properties", "Physical Processes" and meet the requirements of the National Curriculum.

## **HISTORY and GEOGRAPHY**

These subjects are not always taught separately, but form an integral part of the curriculum. They are designed to encourage pupils to develop skills and concepts which are important to the understanding of these subjects, but above all, important to the pupils' general understanding and awareness of the world about them.

The main objectives are the development of:

- the imagination and an enquiring mind;
- the need to understand people and what motivates them; and
- the ability to find, interpret and understand evidence in order to form judgments.

## **MUSIC**

Our children are encouraged to develop their musical abilities by listening, composing and performing in a variety of ways. Music is taught as part of class activities.

The County peripatetic music service offers tuition in a variety of musical instruments. We currently have children learning to play the violin, viola, guitar trumpet trombone, flute, clarinet and piano\*

Individual tuition is also available in many instruments.\*

These opportunities are available to children in year 4 and above.

## **FOREIGN MODERN LANGUAGES**

The teaching of French is developing in the Junior classes in curriculum time and as an after school club. This will be extended to the Infant Classes in due course. Lessons are designed to develop understanding of French focusing on speaking and listening skills with the emphasis on written French.

## **INFORMATION AND COMMUNICATION TECHNOLOGY**

The school encourages early, confident familiarity with computers. ICT is incorporated across the curriculum offering the children many opportunities for using digital cameras, microscopes, computers and control vehicles. Our school has a dedicated computer suite enabling classes and small groups to be taught in all areas of ICT including the use of the Internet, e-mail, scanning, design programmes, spreadsheets and word processing. Interactive whiteboards are used widely during lessons.

## **P.E**

Physical development is encouraged through movement, gymnastic skills, swimming and a variety of indoor and outdoor games and activities. We seek to develop children's co-ordination skills in order that they may pursue games in the future.

## **HEALTH EDUCATION**

Health education focuses on children's awareness of themselves. This includes Sex Education. A policy statement relating to health and sex education is kept at the school and may be viewed on request. Parents are invited to view video and written material before the sex education programme is taught.

## **RELIGIOUS EDUCATION**

Chesham Bois Combined School is a Church of England School and as such the church plays an important part in the life of the school, as summarised in the Mission Statement. RE lessons are part of the thematic approach to the curriculum and faith. There is a daily act of worship that is broadly Christian in character and children visit St Leonard's Church as part of the curriculum and at times of major festivals.

## **ART AND DESIGN**

Children are taught a range of essential skills. They are encouraged to express their ideas and feelings in a visual or tactile form. We aim to inspire our children to develop a lasting sense of joy and satisfaction in their own creative activities. They learn to record, investigate and analyse the visual world.

## **PERSONAL, SOCIAL, HEALTH EDUCATION (PSHE) AND CITIZENSHIP**

The teaching of PSHE and Citizenship helps children to develop mutual respect and support for each other. It encourages them to make informed decisions about key issues and supports the learning skills of life: awareness of and care for others and the environment; learning to express effectively one's own feelings; being constructively critical and questioning and being responsible for one's own behaviour and learning.

### **SPECIAL EDUCATIONAL NEEDS**

Every child always has his or her specific educational needs. However, if particular difficulties become an obstacle to progress, parents will be informed and additional steps taken to help the child. This may take the form of structured individual program of learning at certain times within the class; it may involve the child working on a one-to-one basis with an adult, or in a small group. Children who are identified by their teachers as being of exceptional ability, especially in areas of Mathematics or English, are encouraged to explore and develop their talents through schemes of study appropriate to their level of ability.

### **MULTICULTURAL EDUCATION**

The Governors of the school, in consultation with the staff, have produced a policy document relating to multicultural education, which may be viewed in the school alongside the Equal Opportunities policy.

### **ARRANGEMENTS FOR ADMISSION OF PUPILS WITH DISABILITIES**

A requirement of the Disability Discrimination Act 1995 is that all schools must make provision for pupils with disabilities as well as those with Special Educational Needs. Children with sensory impairments, affecting sight or hearing, or other disabilities are fully integrated into all aspects of school life. This integration is organized through close co-operation of the class teacher, SEN Coordinator, parent(s), guardians, and LEA assistance (where appropriate). Carpeting was recently installed in most classrooms to improve acoustics. Due to the older style of the school building with its narrow corridors and different levels and staircases it is not suitable for wheelchair access or other mobility difficulties. However, accessibility improvements are continually assessed as part of the Accessibility Plan.

## **CHILD PROTECTION**

This school is committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children and young people. To ensure this our recruitment and selection policy is in accordance with both local and national guidance.

## **DATA PROTECTION**

At Chesham Bois we pride ourselves in safeguarding any information gathered directly and indirectly about our pupils, colleagues and other stakeholders who are associated with or have an interest in our school. Chesham Bois Combined School complies with the Data Protection Act 1998 standards and regulations (full copy of the policy can be obtained through the school office).

## **HOMEWORK**

A limited amount of homework is set for children in the lower school, this generally consists of supervised reading and spellings. Pupils in the upper school, from year 3 onwards, have regular homework assignments which increase towards the top year. Homework diaries are used in Years 3 to 6 and provide a useful home/school communication.

## **OTHER ACTIVITIES AND SCHOOL CLUBS**

All classes are involved in a varied programme of educational visits, planned to link with topics studied within the curriculum. Such visits, which occur throughout the year, range from day outings to local places of interest, to residential visits. Currently there are residential trips for Year 4 and Year 6. The school participates in local sports competitions with other schools. There are a wide variety of activities and clubs for the children to enjoy after school and at lunchtimes including: Football, Cricket, Tag-rugby, Tennis, Recorder, Choir, Dance, Young Journalists Club, PowWow Reading Club, Book Club, French, Cars in Motion, Netball, Drama and Chess.

## **TRANSFER AT 11+**

Children in Buckinghamshire transfer to secondary education in the September following their 11<sup>th</sup> birthday. The Secondary School Allocation procedure is designed to place a child in the type of school that will most appropriately meet his or her educational needs. The decision is based upon the child's performance in a series of verbal reasoning tests, taken in the Autumn term of Year 6, together with a report and recommendation from the school. Parents may state a preference for a particular school. We always seek to help and support parents in making the best decision for their child's continuing education.

## **VOLUNTARY CONTRIBUTIONS**

Buckinghamshire County Council is unable to provide the school with adequate funds to cover all our costs, especially in such areas as music and technology including information technology. The school, consequently, has a policy of asking parents or guardians for voluntary contributions towards the provision of such resources within the school.

The position is clearly set out in letters sent to all parents. Whilst parents are invited to contribute to the school fund, they are under no compulsion to do so.

## **CHARGING FOR EDUCATIONAL ACTIVITIES**

Educational visits are arranged for all children on a regular basis. In order to cover the costs of such visits, it is necessary to request a voluntary contribution from parents prior to each visit. No child will be treated differently because their parent is unable or unwilling to contribute.

A Governing Body statement on the Charging Policy for Educational Activities is available for consultation at the school.

## **ABSENCE STATISTICS**

For the Year 2005/2006 Authorised absence was **3.9%** and unauthorised absence was **0.6%**.

## **SATS RESULTS**

### **KEY STAGE 1**

	<b>Level 2+</b>	<b>Level 3+</b>
<b>Reading</b>	97%	27%
<b>Writing</b>	93%	10%
<b>Maths</b>	100%	37%

### **KEY STAGE 2**

	<b>Level 4+</b>	<b>Level 5+</b>
<b>English</b>	100%	79%
<b>Maths</b>	93%	45%
<b>Science</b>	100%	83%

## UNIFORM LIST

All children are expected to wear school uniform. Please ensure that all items of clothing are clearly named.

Jewellery should not be worn in school.

All long hair should be tied back with a school coloured (blue) hair tie.

### BOYS

- Trousers** - Black
- Shorts** - Grey or Black
- Shirts** - white (worn with school tie) **summer shirt** - either short sleeve shirt and tie or white polo shirt.
- Sweatshirt** - Navy with school badge.
- Shoes** - Black/dark grey in appropriate styles for school wear. Please note: boots/trainers are **not** allowed to be worn around school.
- Socks** - black or grey

### GIRLS

- Skirt/Pinafore dress** - navy - should be pleated or 'A' line style. Length of skirts no more than 5cm above the knee.  
**Summer** - blue and white check or stripe dresses may be worn.
- Trousers** - Black or navy, regular style.
- Blouses/shirts** - white
- School tie** - should be worn with shirts.
- Sweatshirts/Cardigans** - Navy with school badge
- Shoes** - Black/Navy in appropriate style for school. Children are discouraged from wearing boots, or shoes with high heels or thick soles. Open toed sandals are not suitable for health and safety reasons.
- Tights** - in cold weather - navy or black tights (30 denier).
- Socks** - White

## PE KIT

Should always be kept in a named bag.

This should be kept in school during the week and taken home for washing each weekend. For reasons of hygiene, all children in classes 3,4,5 and 6 are expected to include a change of socks as part of their PE kit.

**T-Shirt** - team colour (yellow, green, blue, red)

**Shorts** - white or navy

**Socks** - white

**Shoes** - low trainers for outdoor games, plimsolls for younger pupils.

**Indoor P.E.** is normally in bare feet, in accordance with County Policy.

**Keystage 2 PE** - Children will regularly take part in planned outdoor game activities, whenever weather conditions allow. Track suit or other warm, functional clothing is necessary for these outdoor games session. We always encourage children to wear appropriate clothing for P.E. activities. For example, fingerless gloves may give protection during cold weather, whilst allowing freedom of movement.

**Studded footwear** - is most suitable for games on the field, when the ground is wet.

## ART AND CRAFT

All children should have a protective overall or an old shirt in school.

## UNIFORM AVAILABLE FROM SCHOOL OFFICE:

**Sweatshirt** - £10 **Cardigan** - £12.50

**Tie** - £3.50

**Tracksuits** - £20 **Jackets** - £16

**Team T-shirts** - £3

**Book bags** - £5 **PE Bags** - £3

**School Caps** - £3

**School winter wooly hats** £5

You can order uniform in advance by emailing the school office.

Your order can be paid for on collection.