

Bomere Heath CE Primary School Prospectus



Bomere Heath Primary School

Part of the Bomere and the XI Towns Federation

We hope that through this prospectus you will gain a good picture of our school and we look forward to welcoming you and your family.

Much more information is available on the school website or from the school office.



Contact us

Address: The Crescent, Bomere Heath, Shrewsbury, SY4 3PQ

Telephone: 01939 290 359

Email: admin@bomereheath.shropshire.sch.uk

Website: <http://www.bomereheath.shropshire.sch.uk>

Mission Statement

Our mission is to provide a school that is a relaxed, caring, safe environment in which children feel secure and valued, where we can nurture confidence, pride and responsibility alongside a balance of good discipline.

We focus on co-operation and partnership with parents, the local community and church, and strive for continuous improvement in every aspect of school life.

We pride ourselves on providing every child with a well-balanced education in a supportive, stimulating atmosphere with the efficient and effective use of resources available.



Our school aims

We try to achieve our mission statement through our school aims. These aims have been generated by our children.

These are their wishes for their time at this primary school:

- We want to be happy at school
- We want to feel safe and secure at school
- We want to be able to talk well with others
- We want to learn to be confident
- We want to learn lots of different things
- We want to know how we learn best
- We want to learn how to learn
- We want to learn to work with others
- We want to get ready to be a grown up
- We want to get ready for secondary school
- We want our school to look nice

History of the school

Bomere Heath is a Church of England (voluntary controlled) School, and places high emphasis on shared values within a Christian context, both by example and by teaching. All children are welcome, whatever their beliefs.

The original school, known as Preston Gubbals Church of England School, was opened in 1859 and was situated on a site at the junction of Preston Gubbals Road and Shrewsbury Road. The school was financed by Robert Slaney MP and his daughter Elizabeth Eyton. This building was replaced in 1956 by the present school.



Buildings and Grounds

The school has four permanent classrooms and over the years has been added to with a new entrance and office, hall with PE apparatus also used as the dining room, computer suite, library, administrative area, and a demountable classroom. In 2016 the kitchen was modernised, and one room has been purposely adapted to be used as a nurture room. The school has its own playing field, forest school area, hard surface playground, and a separate outdoor play area and workspace for the younger children. Use is also made of the nearby community ball park. On site is a separate building used for pre-school provision by Sunshine Pre-school, for children from 2 years old.

School Ethos

We are a neighbourhood village school welcoming all children whatever their parents' beliefs. As a Church of England school Christianity is emphasised, both by example and by teaching. A high priority is attached to strong links between the home, school and parish, with active involvement of the foundation governors (appointed by the diocese) and local clergy. The school aims to develop in the children a sympathetic understanding of the Christian faith, and an understanding of other major world faiths, cultures and customs.



School Organisation

Classes are taught in mixed year groups, usually 2 year groups in one class.

Some of the teaching takes place in groups - the grouping arrangements remain flexible in order to allow for a range of social and academic interactions. Some of the teaching takes place individually and some with the whole class. The ranges of groupings allow more able children to work alongside older children where appropriate. Teachers are supported by a team of teaching assistants (TA's) and support workers, lunchtime supervisors, an office administrator, kitchen staff, and cleaners.

The School Day

8.50am	School doors open
9.00	Registration in class
9.00-9.40	Session 1
9.40-10.00	Assembly and Collective Worship
10.00-11.00	Session 2
11.00-11.15	Morning break
11.15-12.15	Session 3 (12.00 for Class 1)
12.15-1.05pm	Lunch break - supervised by lunchtime supervisors
1.00-1.30	Registration and reading time
1.30	Sessions 4 and 5
	(there may be a 10 minute break during the afternoon for EYFS and KS1)
3.00pm	EYFS and KS1 end of the school day
3.10pm	KS2 end of school day

For safety and security, the building has a single entrance for all visitors with controlled access throughout the school day.

Admissions information

As a voluntary controlled school, the admissions policy is operated by the Local Authority (LA) - the Admissions Authority for all community and controlled schools within Shropshire. Full details of the policy, together with information about arrangements for admission, are set out in the booklet "Parents Guide to Education in Shropshire" available on request from the Admissions Team, Learning & Skills, Shropshire Council, Shirehall, Abbey Foregate, Shrewsbury, SY2 6ND, telephone or 0345 678 9008 or on the Shropshire Council website: <https://www.shropshire.gov.uk/school-admissions/>

Starting compulsory schooling, applying for a place:

Children are required to start school full-time from 1st September in the school year in which they are 5 years old. Parents are required in the Autumn Term prior to the school year of admission to complete the on-line application at <https://www.shropshire.gov.uk/school-admissions/>

If there are more applications for places than are available within the admission limit, then priority will be given based on:

- **Priority 1:** Looked After Children and previously Look After Children.
- **Priority 2:** Children living within the catchment area. Firstly to children who will have an older sibling at the school on the day they are due to start there and then to other children who live in the catchment area.
- **Priority 3:** Children living outside the catchment area based on distance. Any places left will be offered firstly to children who will have an older sibling at the school on the day they are due to start there. Secondly, to other children who live outside the catchment area.
- **Priority due to exceptional circumstances:** very exceptionally where a child has a particular health reason requiring them to attend a specific school, that child may be given a place before any of the children who qualify under Priority 2 and 3. This will only be allowed if parents/carers can provide medical evidence that attending that particular school is essential to the medical well-being of their child.

If you apply for a school place and are advised that there is no place available, you are entitled to appeal against allocation of a school place, to an independent appeals panel. Contact the LA.

Parents should be aware that attendance at the pre-school on site does not ensure a place at the school, nor does attendance at a particular primary school in any way guarantee a place at a particular secondary school.

Please note that our admission limit for all school year groups is set at 20.

Starting school

Children will start school in the Reception until the beginning of the next Autumn Term when they transfer to Year 1, and then Year 2, the following Autumn, etc.

Reception is known as the Early Years Foundation Stage (EYFS)
 Years 1 and 2 are known as Key Stage 1 (KS1).
 Years 3, 4, 5 and 6 are Key Stage 2 (KS2).

Links with local pre-school providers enable the children to visit with leaders, and for the teacher to visit them in their pre-school environment, before the child comes to school.

Children will be invited to make visits during the term preceding starting school. This allows them the opportunity to become familiar with the school, staff and other children. It gradually introduces them to the expectations and

opportunities available in school, also allowing their teacher to assess and evaluate the achievements of your pre-school child.

Future parents and children are welcome to visit the school at anytime (a telephone call prior to the visit would be appreciated), to view and discuss any queries. The invitation applies to other school functions eg. concerts, sports days, open days etc.

When your child starts full-time education we ask that you encourage your children to enter the classroom unaccompanied, thus promoting independence. Any messages for the teacher can be sent in writing which means that the teachers can devote this important time of the school day to your child. If you wish to see your child's teacher at any time, about a non-urgent matter, please do arrange a meeting, preferably after school, if possible. Obviously we understand that urgent messages will need to be conveyed immediately.

We also have a Teaching Assistant (TA) available on the playground every morning from 8.45am who will take messages to pass on to class teachers.

Joining the school at other times

If you have moved into the village and would like your child to attend, or want to change your child's school, contact us to arrange a visit. Apply to the school directly for all mid-year transfers.



Uniform

All children wear school uniform which, like all other personal belongings, should be clearly marked with the child's name.

Our school uniform consists of:

- a grey jumper, cardigan or school sweat shirt

- grey trousers, shorts or skirt
- blue and white gingham dresses in the summer
- blue polo-shirt
- grey socks and sensible black shoes

We also have red or navy fleeces with the school logo, which are an extra option.

Children are required to change for PE and should have plain black or navy shorts, white vest or t-shirts and plimsolls (KS1) or trainers (KS2). Ideally these should be kept in school all week, in a drawstring bag and hung on their pegs.

Uniforms, PE and swimming bags, and book bags are available from the school's uniform supplier, 'The School Shop' - 01743 440 449

<http://www.schoolshopdirect.co.uk/bomere-heath-c-of-e-primary-school>

PE shorts and t-shirts with the school logo are available in school.

Provision of an apron for art/craft, or an old large shirt, would be advantageous for children in years 3 to 6. Waterproof aprons are provided for younger children.

Watches may be worn, but school cannot take responsibility for these or other valuable items. Studded sleepers for children with pierced ears are permitted but for safety reasons these must be removed or covered during PE lessons, by the children themselves. No other jewellery is appropriate in school.



The Curriculum

We encourage intellectual, social and emotional development and give opportunities for enhancing physical skills, special talents and aptitudes. By nurturing curiosity, enthusiasm and energy to develop an enquiring nature, we endeavour to build up a good learning attitude.

Our school aims for all children to achieve their full potential by setting high standards and expectations, and by displaying sensitivity to those with special needs. We promote understanding and harmony between cultures as well as furthering equality.

Our curriculum aims to:

- develop lively and enquiring minds so they appreciate education is a lifelong process
- acquire knowledge and skills relevant to life and employment prospects in a fast-changing world
- develop the capacity to apply knowledge and skills in order to solve problems
- develop qualities of independence, self-motivation, self-confidence and self-esteem
- question and debate rationally
- develop appreciation and concern for the environment
- work co-operatively in groups

Curriculum Content

The school follows the National Curriculum, laid down by the Department for Education (DfE), and is organised into the following subjects:

English	Mathematics
Science	Design Technology
History	Geography
Art	Music
PE	Computing

Modern Foreign Language - currently French

Personal, Social and Health Education (PSHE) including Relationship and Sex Education (RSE)

Religious Education (RE) is provided in accordance with the recommendations of the LA's agreed syllabus, a copy of which is available in school. (Parents have the statutory right to withdraw

their child from all or part of RE lessons, and acts of Collective Worship, at all maintained schools, including faith schools. Parents are not obliged to give a reason for requesting withdrawal - please discuss this with us).

More information about each curriculum area is available on the school website.



Assessment and Testing

Children receive an assessment on entry to Reception in order to identify strengths and areas to develop, and to enable children to make progress from where they are, when they begin school. At the end of their year in Reception they are assessed against the EYFS early learning goals.

As well as the ongoing day to day informal assessment of children's progress by teachers, there are a series of more formal annual tests in spelling, reading and comprehension, mathematics and science. These are in order to identify children's strengths and areas for further development. Parents are informed of the results and of any special programmes that are being implemented.

Statutory Assessment (SAT's) take place at the end of year 2 and year 6 and parents are fully informed of their child's performance.

Year 1 children are assessed nationally on the Phonic Test.

High ability more able pupils are identified as soon as possible and learning programmes are planned to extend them.

All pupils are regularly re-assessed to ensure they are making the appropriate progress for their ability. Progress is reported to parents at parent's evenings and in individual end of year reports.

Any concerns highlighted during assessments are shared with parents, explaining what will be done and how home can support work in school where this would be valuable.

Children's attainment in regard to age related expectations linked to the National Curriculum, for reading, writing and maths, are explained and reported annually to parents for all children in KS1 and KS2.

Parents are kept informed of pupil assessments and have the opportunity to discuss these with class teachers.



Children with Special Educational Needs and Disabilities (SEND)

The school's policy is based on the following principles:

- that all teachers are teachers of all children irrespective of special educational needs or physical disabilities and have a responsibility to meet those needs with the advice and support of specialists, as appropriate;
- that all children are entitled to a broad, balanced and relevant curriculum which includes the National Curriculum;
- that needs will be identified at an early stage and progress regularly monitored;
- that pupils with special educational needs or physical disabilities will be integrated into the life of the school, enabling them to maximise their potential as learners and to contribute to the social and cultural activities

of our school. There is some withdrawal for structured support for individuals and groups where appropriate.

- that parents have an important role in setting targets and supporting their children's special educational needs or physical disabilities and are kept regularly informed of progress.
- the school building and resources are adapted according to pupils' individual needs and any resourcing issues are addressed.

The school maintains that, through early intervention and giving high priority to provision, all pupils are enabled to achieve to their fullest potential.



Extra-Curricular Activities

A number of sporting, leisure and cultural activities take place out of school time. The type of activity is dependent upon the interests and qualifications of the school staff. In addition a number of outside agencies also run activities after school. There is often a charge for clubs. We endeavour to involve the children in performing eg. in concerts and plays. The school fully participates in sporting and arts events organised by local primary and secondary schools.

School Lunches

Healthy Eating:

We prepare and cook meals in our own kitchen on site. The planning of school meal menus take account of Government recommended nutritional standards. Menus are available in school and on the website. Dinner money should be sent in on a Monday to the school office. Payments may be made weekly, monthly or

termly - always in advance. Cheques should be made payable to Shropshire Council.

As a healthy school we encourage packed lunches provided from home to also contain a balance of food groups. The lunchtime supervisors encourage the children to eat well.

Please ensure that drinks are sent to school in non-breakable containers.

Water:

Children are encouraged to bring in water in a non-breakable container, which they can have access to throughout the day.

Universal Infant Free School Meals (UIFSM):

All children in Reception, Year 1 and Year 2 are entitled to a free school meal as part of the universal infant free school meals (UIFSM) grant from central government.

Free School Meals:

Children in all years may qualify for free school meals depending on your family financial situation. Some extra funding (Pupil Premium) comes to schools each year based on the number of children eligible for free school meals. The school encourages all eligible families to apply, even those who get UIFSM, and those who choose not to have the lunchtime meal. Please contact us to find out more information.

National Fruit and Vegetable Scheme:

Our school takes part in the National Fruit and Vegetable Scheme, provided free of charge to the school. Each KS1 child is offered, and encouraged to take, a piece of fruit or vegetable at each morning break. This is a very popular scheme and promotes our healthy eating policy. Our School Council asks that KS2 children only bring in fruit or vegetables instead of a chocolate or crisp snack for break time.



Health, Illness and Medicines

When your child is ill and unable to attend school, we ask that you inform the office as soon as possible. This ensures that we know where all the children are for safety reasons. We require a telephone message between 8.30 and 9.00am, or as soon as is possible, which must be followed by a written note explaining the reason for absence when the child returns to school. If we have not received a message before 9.30am, the school will make every effort to contact the parents or other family member.

School registers are closed at 9.00am and 1.05pm and children arriving after this time are recorded as absent.

Please inform the office of any serious illness or disability. Certain illnesses have to be notified to the Shropshire Health Authority. These include: mumps, whooping cough, scarlet fever, impetigo, ringworm, scabies, chicken pox, etc. The office has a printed list of periods of exclusion for pupils with various illnesses, please ask for a copy.

If children have to bring prescribed medicines to school because 4 or more doses a day have been prescribed, they need to be taken to the office and the relevant form filled in to allow us to administer the medicine at the correct dosage and time. The guidelines request that the medicine is sent into school in the bottle it was dispensed in, clearly showing the child's name and the type of medication. Wherever possible, it is advised that medicine should be administered at home. We are advised that we should not administer painkillers, eg, Calpol - as children requiring such medication during the day should not be in school.

Every effort is made to contact parents when a child is unfit to remain in school. Where an emergency occurs we have to act as necessary at the time and contact parents as quickly as possible.

All children are routinely tested for hearing and vision. Height and weight are checked in Reception and Year 6, by the School Nurse. Any problems will be referred to the correct agency and then be monitored.

The School Nurse can be contacted via the office or via Shropshire Council.

Holidays and Absences

From 1 September 2013 there has been a change in The Education (Pupil Registration) (England) Regulations 2006. Where there used to be the option for school to grant leave of absence for the purpose of a family holiday during the term time in 'special circumstances' of up to ten days in a year, this has been removed. Schools are now only allowed to authorise any leave of absence when an application has been made in advance and it is felt to be for an exceptional circumstance; the annual family holiday would not be deemed an exceptional circumstance.

If a parent wishes to request a leave of absence they should contact the school, before planning any leave of absence.

If a child goes on holiday in term time, or takes leave of absence for other reasons, without permission from the school, the absences will be marked in the school register as unauthorised absences and this may result in a Truancy Penalty Notice and a fine, per parent per child, being issued by the Local Authority. In some cases, parents may be prosecuted for the offence of failure to ensure regular attendance at school.

Parents/carers should never simply discount the amount of a penalty notice from the cost of a cheaper holiday, because this is a criminal offence and when doing so they are always risking prosecution.

Any school days missed will lead to gaps in your child's education.



Discipline

The emphasis in school is on celebrating positive behaviour. We operate a system of rewards and sanctions. Individuals or groups are given rewards for good work and behaviour. The children help to set targets and are aware of how to achieve rewards. Parents are encouraged to support the school system - a strong message to the child is achieved when they see school and home are working together.

The school's behaviour and discipline policy is available from the office and on the website.

Relationship and Sex Education (RSE)

Our Relationship and Sex Education (RSE) Policy places the emphasis upon relationships, and supports pupils' understanding and skill in developing positive and healthy relationships. We have therefore chosen to call our policy Relationship and Sex Education (RSE), rather than the usual Sex and Relationship Education (SRE).

Our policy is based on:

- the DfEE guidance (ref DfEE 0116/2000Ofsted 2002):
'A caring and developmental Sex and Relationship Education (SRE) programme needs to be more than just biology and the fundamentals of reproduction. Young people want reassurance about their body image, behaviour, feelings and relationships. They also need knowledge and skills appropriate to their level of maturity and developmental needs.'

And the:

- The Lichfield Diocesan Board of Education (Sex and Relationship Guidance: A Christian Perspective 2008):
'Sex and Relationship Education is part of a child's broad, balanced curriculum, integral to the basic curriculum of the school and part of the child's all round development.'

The full policy can be read on our website.

Daily Act of Collective Worship

The Department for Education (DfE) legislation requires us to provide a daily act of collective worship, which is wholly or mainly Christian. In both our schools the Trust Deeds of the two schools requires collective worship to be consistent with the principles and practices of the Church of England.

The 1944 Education Act, restated by the 1988 Education Reform Act, allows for parents to withdraw their children from the daily act of collective worship - but not assembly. We recognise this right; parents/carers do not have to explain or give reason for their decision.

Respecting the historical Trust Deed of the school, the daily act of collective worship is in accordance with the Church of England. The local clergy regularly visit the school to lead the worship. Collective worship is an important aspect of school life. We engage in events and services with the local congregation as much as possible. We use other Christian locations within the village to enjoy worship and promote reflective thinking.



School Council

The school believes that the children's voices should be heard and that they have the opportunity to have a say in aspects of the school, be involved in decision making and take on responsibilities. The school council is divided into four groups. Each group consists of two pupils from each of the classes, year 2 to 6, a staff member and a school governor. Each year children elect a member of their year group to represent them. Elections are held in September each year.

The groups are:

- Learning and Teaching (LAT)
- Eco Schools (Green Team)
- Healthy Schools (Healthy Helpers)
- Fundraising and extra-curricular activities (Fun and Games)

They meet regularly to discuss school issues and concerns and try to improve school life.

Emergency closures

In the event of school having to be closed during the day due to unforeseen circumstances (heating, extreme weather conditions, etc.) parents will be informed by phone where possible. If extreme weather conditions necessitate early morning closure prior to the start of school day, announcements will be reported by Radio Shropshire and updated on the Shropshire Council website. The school will also use the text messaging system to notify parents.

In the event of weather conditions worsening during the school day, parents considering journeys home to be dangerous, may arrange to collect children early.

Travelling to School

The School Travel Plan aims to reduce car use, promote healthier and more environmentally friendly forms of transport and improve safety on the journey to and from school. We actively encourage walking and cycling (helmets please) to school. A copy of our School Travel Plan is available in school.

Friends of Bomere Heath School

A committee of parents, friends and staff organise events to raise money for the extra things used in school. Major achievements include: buying wooden play equipment for the school field, a shed for storing PE equipment, gazebos for outdoor events, books for the library, furnishing the nurture room.

Fundraisers include: summer and Christmas Fairs, children' discos, refreshments sold on sports day, annual dash and dawdle in the community.

We are very friendly, don't have too many meetings and are always looking for new members and new ideas. It's a great way to meet other parents and be

involved in the school. Look out for our letters and information posted on the notice board by the entrance, or ask in the office.

Parents in school

You can also help your child by involving yourself in the school. You will receive invitations to parent information evenings to familiarise you with the teaching policies and practice and give you the opportunity to find out more about the way your child is being taught.

To be really effective, a child's education must involve a partnership between home and school. As part of that partnership the school provides an annual written report on each child's academic and personal progress. Parent's evenings are organised to enable parents and teachers to discuss each child.

We communicate regularly with parents through the newsletter.

From time to time an extra pair of hands or many extra pairs of hands in and around the school are a great help, and additional people to help supervise on activities off the school site. If you are willing to help, please let us know. We would also be interested to know if you have special skills you can offer, maybe in cooking, drama, gardening, arts and crafts. All volunteers helping in schools have to undergo a DBS check - not very onerous.



Charging Policy

The Governors have a clear Charging Policy for school visits, musical instrument tuition, and extra-curriculum activities as, recommended by the LA. A copy is available in school and on the website.

The Governors would like to point out that activities offered to the children are unlikely to take place unless sufficient parents offer the suggested level of voluntary contribution.

All cheques should be made payable to Bomere Heath Primary School with your cheque card number written on the reverse. In the event of a dis-honoured cheque a charge will be added to the amount owing.



Concerns, Complaints and Compliments

Parents are encouraged to contact the school if they have any concerns.

We encourage all parents to use the informal method of meeting with a teacher, deputy or executive head, as soon as a concern arises, in order to avoid relatively minor matters escalating. In the event that there should be a complaint, we hope that the situation will not proceed beyond the informal stage. If however any parent wishes to make a formal complaint under Section 23 of the Education Reform Act, they should contact the executive head in the first instance.

Our school is clear about the difference between a concern and a complaint. We take initial informal concerns seriously at the earliest stage, thus reducing the number of concerns that may develop into a formal complaint.

We believe in a system based on partnership between home and school, thus developing greater understanding and a sharing of responsibility. If home and

school can be seen by children to be working together, then we surely must be giving them a very powerful message.

If you would like assistance in setting out your complaint the school will, if asked, help you to do this, facilitating access to translation services where necessary.

The school then promises to deal with your complaint as follows:

- formally acknowledge it within five working days
- inform you who will be handling your complaint
- respond to it within twenty school working days or, if it is not possible to give you a complete answer within that time, inform you of progress to date
- explain to you if it has to be dealt with under a special procedure

If, following this you feel your complaint has not been resolved satisfactorily, you may then take your complaint to the Chair of Governors, who will investigate the complaint and convey the outcome to you.

If then you feel that your complaint still hasn't been resolved, you need to write to the Chair of the Governors' Complaints Committee giving details of the complaint. Full explanation of the procedure following this action can be found in the Complaints Procedure document available from the office or the website.

Our staff team welcome compliments.