



Cropredy C of E
Primary School

Prospectus

'We believe in inspirational teaching that encourages every child to gain confidence and strive for personal success.'



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Welcome to Cropredy C.E. Primary School



Dear Parents and Carers,

I would like to take this opportunity to welcome you to Cropredy C.E. Primary School, where we celebrate the achievement of each child as a unique individual.

At Cropredy School we strive to provide a holistic education within which each child has access to a wide range of experiences and opportunities. We believe that by sharing these, children learn and develop the skills, knowledge and understanding needed for their future.

I am sure your child will enjoy their time here and will be well supported to reach their full potential. It will be a place where strong friendships are formed and your child will develop a life-long passion for learning. They will have fun, learn important skills and have happy memories.

At Cropredy School, every child is valued and nurtured by a caring and dedicated team. We are committed to working with you as parents to foster a love of learning and to enable your children to acquire the skills which they need to reach their full potential.

The school has high expectations of its pupils in terms of work and behaviour. We ensure that all children have equal access to all opportunities offered by the school.

We believe that children learn best when they are happy and stimulated to learn. The school places an emphasis on creating a dynamic, creative learning environment where pupils learn through hands-on, meaningful activities.

It is a privilege to be the Headteacher of Cropredy Primary School. I am extremely proud of our pupils and the achievements they make during their time here. We are a committed, enthusiastic team who really believe that every child matters.

Thank you for your interest in our school and we hope that having looked at our prospectus you will come and have a look around.

Kind regards,

Hilary Stevens

Headteacher

Welcome from the Chair of Governors

On behalf of the Cropredy School governors I invite you to read our prospectus and to visit our school. When you visit you will experience our close knit-school community that inspires our children to flourish and succeed.

On my first visit to Cropredy School in 2016, I was immediately impressed by the positive outlook of the pupils, staff and indeed everyone in the school. I am pleased to say this is still very much the case. We have worked hard to improve our focus on achievement and have a clear improvement plan driven by our vision and values.

We have a highly skilled and experienced governing body committed to improving our school. Governors at our school include doctors, a Christian minister, the Headteacher, a staff governor, teachers, a children's book designer and a landscaper. Our performance committee is chaired by a senior private sector executive and our resources committee is chaired by a qualified accountant.

The recent Ofsted inspection judged the school to be a mixture of good and requiring improvement; overall we are judged to be requiring improvement. This is similar to the governors' self-assessment. We initiated a school review and this has helped to identify the key areas to improve; our agreed priorities are set out in our strategic governance plan. As a church school we are judged by Church of England inspectors to be good and their latest report recognises that we are keen to develop as a church school.

We have a very good team of committed and dedicated staff led by Mrs Hilary Stevens, our Headteacher. We invest in and encourage all our staff; they play a critical role as they are responsible for inspiring our pupils. We have increased leadership time in school as this is essential to deliver improvement.

We have fantastic pupils and Ofsted noted their good behaviour. Almost all of our leavers this year have been offered high school places at their preferred school, including many to Warwickshire schools. Pupils do exciting activities to complement their learning such as Victorian days, Roman cooking and visits including the Fire and Rescue Service. We continue to invest in Forest School and the School Farm as these are important in inspiring our pupils.

We work closely with many local organisations; in particular we value our partnership with Cropredy Pre-school. We are grateful to our parents for their superb fundraising and together with the financial support from Fairport we enrich our pupils' education. We are delighted to have been allocated £220,000 from a local developer to invest in our school infrastructure; we are working on how to make best use of this grant.

I am very proud of our school and would be delighted if you would consider enrolling your child / children at our school.

Andy Bird, Chair of Governors, Cropredy Primary School.



What our parents and pupils say

“My children love coming to Cropredy School and I have to encourage them to leave at the end of the day!” Helen Yr 3 Parent

“A wonderful school with hard working staff which has a very positive result on my child. Cropredy school feels very warm, caring, and nurturing a real community my son often comments how his class are like a little family” Catherine, Yr 4 parent

“Our son loves the outdoor space. Not many schools have a field and onsite forest school area. Learning is creative and linked to topics children enjoy. Being a small school, everyone knows each other, big kids know the names of the little ones and say Hi by name; teachers get to know all the children, it’s so friendly.” Leigh, Yr1 parent

“we have great maths at school and lots of activities” Lola-Wray, Yr 3 Pupil

“The happy atmosphere stands out . I’m very impressed with the teacher supporting my child at school and making active changes very quickly.” Lorraine, Yr 6 parent

“A lovely friendly school always with lots going on!” Sarah, parent

“We have not had a easy school life with our little man, but the communication has always been very good with both listening and making suggestions on how we work together, thank you.”
Michael, Yr 2 parent

“We have been delighted with our daughter’s progress at school and the way her teachers have got to know her as an individual, seeing past her initial shyness. She skips into school every day and comes home full of ideas for projects and telling me about split diagraphs and other things I have to google! It is lovely to be able to come in to a class assembly every term and see how the whole class is growing up and learning.” Maria, Yr 1 parent

“This is what primary school should really be about!” Rachel, cygnet and yr 1 parent

“I was delighted at how quickly my daughter learnt to read and write, and it’s just improving everyday she spends at school.” Emma, Yr 1 parent

“Moving from a town school to a village school has been a really positive move for us.”
Melanie, Yr 1 parent

“I am very happy with the school. My child is doing well. He enjoys coming to school and is keen to learn. He is happy and feels safe. If we have ever had a problem, we have found it easy to raise and it has been dealt with. I am pleased that we chose Cropredy Primary School.” Pamela, Yr 5 parent

What our parents and pupils say

”Cropredy School has been the perfect start to my daughters education. Her transition from the super on-site Pre-school to her first year in Cygnets was seamless. She is absolutely thriving as a student here. She is happy, confident and full of enthusiasm about every aspect of school life. I would without hesitation highly recommend the school to anyone moving to the area.” Jodie, Yr 1 parent

“Cropredy is a lovely little school which offers children a caring, warm and nurturing environment to thrive in. M. happily goes to school every day. He likes his teachers and he misses his friends when he is not in school. What a great little school, well done! :)”
Yr 2 parent

“Both of my children are very happy at Cropredy School. They are very different children but I feel that they both make progress and each has the opportunity to shine in their own way and celebrate their own successes.” Ally, Yr2 and Y5 parent

“My child is really happy at school, looks forward to it every day! He really enjoys sports, science, music, forest school and languages.” Melanie, Yr 3 parent

“My daughter is extremely happy at Cropredy. Each morning she wakes up eager to go to school and comes home in the afternoon wanting to share what she’s has learnt with me. She is inspired by the teachers and enjoys doing extra research on their current topic outside of class! We feel that the school is very well equipped and strives to help her to reach her personal, social and academic goals.” Philly, Yr 2 parent

“The school has a lovely feel and friendliness about it. I love the fact that the Cygnets get buddies from Year 6. I think this is lovely and makes them feel part of the school.”
Emily, Cygnet parent

“As a parent of a special needs child I feel school constantly go above and beyond to meet their needs and ensure inclusion.” Rachel, Yr 6 and Yr 4 parent

My daughter has been thriving since she started in September. Her reading and writing ability have gone from zero to amazing, for a four year old. The staff are very encouraging and caring. She loves going to school and has made so many friends. She, and therefore we, are very happy with the school.” Thomasina, Cygnet parent

Introduction to Cropredy School

Cropredy is a Church of England Primary School situated on a green-field site in an idyllic rural setting. The school is guided by Christian principles and values and takes its inspiration from Psalm 23. It is a happy and thriving place, where children and adults work and flourish together in a rewarding atmosphere. The school is a single form entry school with a maximum capacity of 210 pupils.

Pupils and staff quickly get to know everyone in the school and this helps us to provide a supportive, secure and stimulating environment where high standards of learning are expected.

We are guided by our vision:

‘We believe in inspirational teaching that encourages every child to gain confidence and strive for personal success.’

This vision is central to the work of staff and governors, supported by our core values:

Care, create and challenge in a Christian environment

Our school is here to:

- Provide high quality education for children of the local community in accordance with Christian principles.
- Teach respect for individuals and an understanding of the beliefs and cultures of others, as well as Christian values and beliefs.
- Further the links between the school and the local community.

We recognise that all children are individuals with individual needs. Our concerns are for the all-round development of each individual child; social, moral, spiritual, cultural, physical and mental.

We encourage children to be positive learners and to take personal responsibility for their actions. Good progress and achievement are expected in both work and personal development; the children are counted upon to observe high standards of behaviour and courtesy.

We also warmly encourage parents to be part of the school community and are very fortunate to have the support of a wonderful wider village community.



How the school is led and managed

Senior staff

The Headteacher is supported by a senior leadership team:

| | |
|-----------------|---------------------------|
| Headteacher | Mrs Hilary Stevens |
| Senior teachers | Miss Andrea Hancock |
| | Mr. Mike Wakeford - SenCo |

An up-to-date list of all staff is available on the school website.

Governors

School Governors help schools provide the best possible education for their pupils by:

- Thinking and working strategically to help raise standards.
- Monitoring and evaluating progress towards the school's priorities and targets.
- Supporting the head and staff as well as challenging their expectations.
- Accounting to all stakeholders for the school's overall performance and for the decisions they have made.

The role of governors is to act as 'critical friends' to the school. They are responsible for monitoring and overseeing the strategic priorities of the school and supporting and listening to staff and parents. The Governing Body works closely with the Headteacher to determine the school's aims, objectives and policies in accordance with all the relevant legislation and to monitor standards and progress.

At Cropredy we are fortunate to have a very well-qualified and engaged team of governors with experience from a wide variety of backgrounds. There are several governors who are also parents at the school as well as others who have long-standing experience of working with schools. An up-to-date list of governors is available on the school website.

The full governing body meets at least once a term. We also have sub-committees with specific responsibilities who meet separately in addition to the full governing body meetings.

Our current sub-committees are:

Performance and Standards:

- Responsible for monitoring and evaluating progress and attainment and the quality of learning; identifying and celebrating pupil achievements; monitoring and evaluating curriculum provision; ensuring that the requirements for pupils with special educational needs are met; and for setting pupil performance targets.
- This committee also looks at community cohesion and ensures the school is working effectively with the immediate and wider community.

Finance, Premises and Human Resources:

- Responsible for determining the yearly budget and monitoring expenditure.
- Responsible for staffing issues and relevant policies, including pay, appointments and performance management.
- Responsible for the occupation, use and upkeep of the school premises.
- Responsible for ensuring that the school and all occupants are safe. This includes risk assessments and regular health and safety audits

Parents will often meet governors at school events and will receive a termly update about governor's work. One governor is a parent champion and is available most days on the playground. Minutes of governor's meetings are made available on the school website once any items of a confidential nature have been removed.



Daily life at Cropredy School

Cropredy School admits boys and girls and currently we have seven classes. From the September after their 4th birthday, children join our Reception class (Cygnets). Although part of the main school, children in Cygnets are based in our purpose-built Foundation Stage unit alongside Cropredy Pre-School. This facilitates smooth transitions for those who progress from Pre-School. Every year we also welcome children from other pre-school settings and work with staff and parents to help children settle in.

Starting school

We recognise that starting school is a significant milestone for children and their families. While this is an exciting time, there may also be concerns and nervousness about settling in. We do our best to work with parents and children to make the transition to school as smooth as possible.

- Soon after school places are confirmed, you will receive a letter from us inviting you to meet the class teacher along with all other parents of children starting. The teacher and a member of our senior team will welcome you and talk you through daily routines and answer any questions you may have.
- You will be given an information pack with details about uniform, policies, after-school club and other information we think is relevant or interesting to you.
- We also hold Parent/Teacher meetings where you are invited to come along and meet the class teacher on a 1:1 basis so that you can talk to them about your child and get to know the teacher too.
- Your child will be invited to attend a “move up” session in the summer term.
- In September, we plan a staggered start for our Cygnets so that they do shorter days for the first few weeks.
- At this stage there will be another “Meet the teacher” session and an introduction to how we teach phonics and reading here at Cropredy so that you are given all the information you need to support your child’s learning at home.



Here at school, your child will also be teamed up with a “buddy”, a child from Year 6 who will be paired with your child for some activities and keep an eye out for them around school. The older children are asked to write a letter outlining their reasons for wanting to become a buddy.

The older children thrive on this responsibility and the younger children are often reassured by a familiar face that is so old and wise in their eyes! This is especially helpful as the younger children start to negotiate the playground. We run a system of “play leaders” to help set up games and activities where everyone can join in something that interests them.

Some of the benefits of the buddy system include:

- teaching children to actively care for and look out for other children
- helping to ensure that all children are free from loneliness or isolation at playtimes and lunchtimes
- encouraging children to form a variety of friendships with both older and younger pupils
- encouraging participation in a variety of traditional and modern playtime games and activities
- encouraging high levels of self- esteem and confidence in all our pupils as valued members of our school family
- encouraging children to take responsibility

Progressing through the school

Children's progress through the school is as follows:

| Year group | Age (years) | Key Stage |
|----------------------|-------------|------------------|
| Pre-school * | 2.5 - 4 | Foundation Stage |
| Reception (Cygnetts) | 4 - 5 | |
| Year 1 | 5 - 6 | Key Stage 1 |
| Year 2 | 6 - 7 | |
| Year 3 | 7 - 8 | Key Stage 2 |
| Year 4 | 8 - 9 | |
| Year 5 | 9 - 10 | |
| Year 6 | 10 - 11 | |

*Cropredy school does not operate a pre-school but there is an independently-run pre-school on site and children may progress to Cropredy school from here and other pre-school settings.

Each year in September, you will have a chance to meet the teacher and hear about the learning plans for the year ahead. You will also get an overview of the plans and topics each term alongside any homework and updates at parent's evenings. Children are assessed throughout their time here and school leaders check that progress is in line with expectations using local and national benchmarks.

The school day

The usual school hours are indicated below.

School Times Activity

| | |
|-------------------|------------------------|
| 8.25am | Children line up |
| 8.30am | School starts promptly |
| 11.45am – 12.40pm | Lunch time |
| 2.45pm | End of school day |



Wraparound care

- Early drop off
We offer an early a drop-off service, which is available from 8.00am. Pupils are supervised in the hall by a member of staff. There is no charge for this facility.
- After school club
We also offer after-school club that is open Monday to Thursday, 2.45pm – 6.00pm. Children can take part in a variety of activities including cooking, sport and art and craft. Children receive a healthy snack and a drink and can have a 'light tea' sent in to be eaten later.
Please ask at the school office if you would like to find out about availability and price per session.



Travelling to school

Pupils who live in our outlying catchment villages are entitled to free transport provided by Oxfordshire County Council transport. The villages covered by the service include Great Bourton, Little Bourton, Mollington, Claydon, Williams Scot and Wardington. If you are interested in using this service please collect a form from the school office.

We try to encourage as many pupils as possible to use the school bus service due to limited parking near to the school. We also encourage pupils to walk, come by bicycle, scooter or lift share.



Eating and drinking at school

Snack

Children in Foundation Stage and Key Stage 1 receive a piece of fruit each day. This is free of charge, operated by the National School Fruit Scheme.

Key Stage 2 pupils are allowed to bring in a healthy snack from home such as a piece of fruit.

School dinners

All children in Foundation Stage and Key Stage 1 are entitled to a free school lunch. The catering company Dolce provide school meals. Hot meals are cooked on our own premises and served daily. Some ingredients come from the community farm across the road from the school.

The cost of meals is notified at the beginning of each academic year, and a termly menu is sent home. Parents may order online at home with their children. Payment is made by Direct Debit. See the Live Kitchen website for sample menus and further information: www.live-kitchen.co.uk

Packed lunches

Alternatively your child may bring a packed lunch. As a school we actively promote healthy eating and request that children bring in healthy meals to school. For safety reasons, hot drinks, glass containers or cans of fizzy drinks should not be bought into school. We also discourage sweets and chocolate. A number of children and staff have allergies so we ask that packed lunches and snacks are nut free.

Children eat together in the main school hall. The younger children eat first and then each class comes in and out in their turn. During their first few weeks at school, Cygnets eat with their Year 6 buddies. Lunchtime eating is supervised by a team of lunchtime supervisors who are very popular with the children.

Drinks

Children are all asked to bring their own bottle of water to school which can be topped up if required.



RE and Collective worship

We follow the Oxfordshire Diocese scheme of work to teach RE with a focus on Christianity and world faiths. Each term we focus on one of our school values; perseverance, peace, respect, firendship, forgiveness and trust which are inspired by our guiding Biblical text - **Psalm 23; The Lord is my shepherd**. Example of a weekly timetable (subject to change):

| | |
|-----------|--|
| Monday | 2.15pm - whole school worship led by the Headteacher, vicar or visitor |
| Tuesday | 8.40am - Hymn practise accompanied by the church organist |
| Wednesday | 2.15pm – teacher-led worship |
| Thursday | 2.15pm – class worship |
| Friday | 2.00/2.15pm – class-led sharing worship |

Throughout the year each class will have the opportunity to lead a class assembly. Parents are warmly invited to attend their child's class assembly.

Our Vicar Rev Hilary Campbell leads collective worship during the year. Children will have opportunities throughout the year to worship at Cropredy Church. Parents, carers and other family members are warmly invited to our Church Services. Parents have the right to withdraw their children from religious education, or collective worship. Please contact the Head teacher if you wish to exercise this right.

Three times a year, we have a "Celebration Cup" assembly. One pupil from each class is nominated by their class teacher to receive the cup. The award is for outstanding achievement either socially or academically. Other awards are also presented on these occasions including for PE/sports and attendance.

Our Christian distinctiveness, collective worship and RE are regularly inspected through the Statutory Inspection of Anglican and Methodist Schools (SIAMS). The inspection report can be found on our website.

School visits Coach trips and residentials

All classes go on school trips throughout the year to enrich their learning and experiences. Recent trips have included:

- Broughton Farm
- Pantomime in Leamington Spa
- Thinktank Science Museum Birmingham
- Christ Church Cathedral, Oxford
- Chedworth Roman Villa
- Batsford Arboretum
- Year 4 go on a residential to Grendon
- Year 6 go on a residential to Stackpole

For major visits involving some time and distance away from school or needing coach transport, we will ask you to give your written consent.



Local trips

On occasions when it is appropriate for your child to be away from the premises for a short time but within the local vicinity, we would ask that you sign a general consent form annually. Examples of this kind of trip include going out to watch the Flying Scotsman train steam through the village, sketching, a nearby walk linked with the curriculum work, helping with Luncheon Club, visiting church or visiting the community farm across the road from school. All visits are well supervised and at least one adult with First Aid training will accompany these trips.

Cost of trips

Schools are not allowed to charge directly for transport or entrance fees on school trips. As learning from first-hand experience plays such a vital role in Primary Education, we wish education and cultural visits to continue. We are very lucky to have a PTA which helps to finance some aspects of school trips thereby keeping the costs down. To make up the balance we are permitted to ask for voluntary contributions to cover the cost of each outing. It is important to point out that there is no legal obligation for parents to make contributions. Pupils will not be identified or omitted from the activity whether or not their parents have made any contribution in response to a request. However, the school has no means of financing the full cost of trips and without sufficient parental support many of these activities may not happen.





Moving on to secondary school

The happiness and progress of every child is our concern throughout their time at Cropredy School and we want to equip all children with the skills and knowledge they need to go on to a successful lifetime of learning. The next big step for our pupils on their journey through education is to progress to secondary school. Cropredy School is within the catchment area for North Oxfordshire Academy in Banbury, but there are several secondary schools in the vicinity and parents are always encouraged to visit the schools and talk with staff before making a decision about their child's secondary education.

Secondary school catchment areas are defined by home postcodes rather than on which primary school children attend. Parents are advised to look up the full admissions policy of any secondary schools you are considering to be well informed about your options.

Given our location close to the borders of three counties, in recent years children have transferred to a number of different local schools.

In Oxfordshire:

- North Oxfordshire Academy
- Blessed George Napier School
- Banbury School
- The Warriner
- Sibford School

In Northamptonshire:

- Chenderit

In Warwickshire:

- Kineton High School
- Princethorpe
- Warwick Boys
- Kings High Girls
- Stratford Grammar Schools
- Kingsley School

We will always do our utmost to make the transition between schools as easy as possible for children and parents. Towards the end of Year 6 children take part in induction programmes run by the secondary schools aimed at facilitating a smooth transfer.

We are always interested in the children who have transferred from our school, and enjoy hearing how they progress through their secondary school years and beyond.

How we work with parents

We regard it as vitally important that parents and school are partners in education. Our work in school becomes much more effective when the child knows that we have the support and confidence of parents.



Communication

We work hard to make sure that parents are kept well informed about what is happening in school and have a number of channels that we use for different types of information.

General updates about activities across the school:

- School website – www.cropreddyprimary.org.uk
Our website contains useful information about the school (calendar, newsletters, lunch menus, club information etc.) and details of what each class are doing throughout the term.
- Community noticeboard
There is a community noticeboard by the entrance gates to school where general notices and information are posted.
- Emails from school office
Messages will be sent to alert and remind parents about upcoming activities and any school news that cannot wait for the school newsletter.

- Parent texting service
Certain messages can be sent to your mobile phone through our texting service. We are able to accommodate one mobile phone number per family, so please ensure you provide an up to date and convenient number. The texting service is particularly important for emergency school closure procedures, such as heavy snow or flooding.
- Newsletters
You will receive weekly newsletters, giving you information about the school, forthcoming events and any other issues of interest or concern. Please take time to read these and make sure you keep your diary up to date. You can also find these on the school's website. We encourage as many people as possible to receive their newsletter via email and most parents find this the most convenient way to hear from us.
- School Facebook Page
School has a Facebook page which gives information about things happening at school. (This does not feature images of children).

Updates about learning in your child's class:

- "Meet the teacher"
At the beginning of the school year parents are invited to an informal 'Meet the Teacher' session, when you can find out more about the year ahead.
- Class pages on school website
Class newsletters and curriculum information can be found on your child's class page on the website.
- Letter from the Class teacher
At the beginning of each term, you will receive a letter from your child's class teacher outlining plans for teaching and keeping you informed about general class matters. This often includes a topic web showing what your child will be covering in each subject area as well as reminders of key dates for the class, for example any trips or the class assembly date for that term.



Individual updates about your child:

- Parents' evening
Twice a year parents are invited to a formal parent/teacher consultation to discuss their child's overall learning, welfare and development.
- By appointment
Parents are able to see their child's teacher at any other time, by arrangement with the class teacher. If you ever need to discuss an issue with the class teacher please make an appointment with the school office. You may also request to see your child's work at any time.
- End of year report
A written report is sent home in the summer term.

Homework

So that our children may gain the most from their time at Cropredy, we set homework regularly to support their learning in the classroom. The amount and type of work set will depend very much on the age of the child. In early years, homework will often be reading, and will be fairly short.

As children progress through the school longer homework tasks will be set including the learning of spellings, completion of work begun in class, Maths, English and other tasks specifically set for home. Your child's class teacher will let you know details of homework arrangements.



Other ways for parents to get involved in school life

Volunteering in school

We welcome parents helping in school whether it is in the classroom or setting up or helping with a school improvement project. It is school policy for parents not to help in their own child's class. Please let the school office know if you're interested in volunteering in school.

Friends of Cropredy School (PTA)

The Friends of Cropredy School committee is primarily a fundraising committee made up of parents. The committee organises various fun/social events throughout the year in order to raise extra money to help towards necessary school items and so that our children can enjoy some little extras. Joining the committee is a great way to meet other parents and to be involved in fundraising and social events that are organised throughout the year. It is also a great way to give something positive back to school at the same time as benefiting all of our children.

If you have any fundraising ideas or feel you can support us in any way, please don't hesitate to talk to a member of the committee in the playground or ask for details at the school office. Previous activities and events include: film night, school disco, jumble sale, class cake sales and a special "secret gig" benefit concert by Fairport Convention held at Cropredy village hall!

Fairport Committee

Cropredy is home to a famous annual concert of folk music called Fairport's Cropredy Convention which attracts around 10,000 visitors to the village on a weekend in August. The village turns into a festival venue and campsite for the weekend and a committee of school parents organises 'Fairport Breakfasts', which are served to hungry visitors who come to Cropredy every year. The committee raises an enormous amount of money which is used to pay for additional resources for the pupils and this is a highly valued activity. Over 80 volunteers are needed to keep this activity going year after year and the committee welcomes new members.

A short guide to your child's education in primary school

We recognise that many parents may be unfamiliar with the changes in primary education in England over the past few years. The following provides a summary of what to expect at each stage. However, please be assured that teachers will communicate with you regularly and help you to support your child with the skills and knowledge they are focussing on at each stage. (See Communication pg 22)

The National Curriculum

"The national curriculum is a set of subjects and standards used by primary and secondary schools so children learn the same things. It covers what subjects are taught and the standards children should reach in each subject."

This quote is taken from www.gov.uk/national-curriculum where you can read more about the national curriculum.



At Cropredy we plan a curriculum which:

- is creative, broad and balanced, and meets the requirements of the Foundation Stage Curriculum and National Curriculum
- is stimulating, challenging and seeks to extend knowledge, skills and creativity of children in order to develop enquiring minds
- is firmly committed to providing equal opportunities for all pupils
- is relevant to the needs and interests of the children
- provides opportunities for children to develop their potential intellectually, physically and emotionally
- enables children to question, gain self-knowledge and develop independence
- provides children with the opportunity to develop their own self esteem

The curriculum is taught using a variety of teaching styles and groupings appropriate to the intellectual and emotional development needs of the children. All teaching is planned to develop individual potential and will take account of both previous and future learning needs.

Children will be provided with the opportunity to learn from a wide range of experiences including new technologies. Links to the wider community are sought and valued.

We provide opportunities for our pupils to understand and practise values for life, enabling them to become responsible and caring citizens of the future.

We aim to give equal opportunities to all, to foster a partnership between home and school, to be active partners in our local community and the Banbury Partnership of Schools.

Early Years Foundation Stage (EYFS)

The EYFS curriculum starts at pre-school and continues during the first year of primary school. From the September after their fourth birthday, children join the Foundation Stage class known in Cropredy as 'Cygnets'. Although this is part of the main school the class is based in a purpose built Foundation Stage Unit which is shared with Cropredy Pre-School.

The Foundation Stage curriculum covers three prime areas of learning:

- Personal, social and emotional development
- Communication and language
- Physical development

These are strengthened and applied through four specific areas of learning:

- Literacy
- Maths
- Understanding the world
- Expressive arts and design

The areas of the curriculum are taught in many ways: through play, stories, topic work, role play, songs, art and dance.

The curriculum is planned and organised for indoor and outdoor learning. Children are encouraged to explore, experiment, plan and make decisions for themselves. Children have opportunities to work as individuals and as part of small and large groups, encouraging communication with peers, staff and other adults. Children also have a weekly Forest School session led by a trained Forest School leader.

Parents are sometimes baffled when educators talk about "assessments" for such young children. Rest assured that no four-year olds are expected to sit down and attempt a test of any kind! Assessments are carried out through a variety of methods - a mixture of informal observations, interaction with children, record sheets and discussions with staff. The information gathered during this process is used to identify what children already know and can do, and to plan for future learning.



Key Stages 1 and 2 (Year 1 to Year 6)

During their time in Key Stages 1 and 2 children, as a result of our teaching and their own learning, will:

- develop the basic skills of reading, writing and mathematics
- express themselves clearly and confidently in speaking and writing
- listen carefully and understand what they hear
- learn to research and record information
- have practical experience of using technology
- understand the geography, history and environment of the area in which they live and the way this relates to the wider world
- become aware of and tolerant towards people of other races, religions, ages and abilities
- acquire agility and physical co-ordination
- explore music, drama, art and movement.

A large amount of teaching is done through work on a science, geography or history based theme.

Other curriculum areas include:

Personal, Social, Health and Citizenship Education (PSHCE)

Health and sex education are usually taught within a topic framework (e.g. Ourselves, Growth, Change). School nurses help us to promote healthy eating and lifestyles. We aim to present the facts of personal hygiene and puberty in an objective, sensitive and age-appropriate manner set clearly against a moral background in all aspects of sex education. We will encourage pupils to have due regard to moral considerations and the values of family life. School nurses deliver sex education lessons to upper KS2 children. Parents may withdraw their children from the sex education provided, except when it is required as part of National Curriculum Science.



Citizenship involves encouraging children to take a responsible role in society. It includes developing awareness of personal safety and learning behaviour that is expected as members of society. Drug Education is about educating pupils in the safe handling of medicinal drugs as well as the consequences of misusing substances.

Children take part in a range of activities which provide first-hand experiences. For older children this may include Junior Citizen and Injury Minimisation Programme for Schools (IMPS). Children of all ages may have lessons in the Life Education Bus.



PE

PE is one of the most important subjects taught at Cropredy and it is recognised that children should receive 2 hours of taught PE per week. We firmly believe that PE allows children to develop confidence, team work, determination and self-belief. We also believe physical activity should be factored into the school day to allow children to access the 60 minutes of daily activity recommended by the Government. All staff build in activity breaks across the day to reduce sedentary behaviour and increase brain activity.

At Cropredy, using the Sports Premium funding, we employ a mentor who comes into school and works with all teachers across the school, upskilling them in all areas of PE meaning that the children receive high quality PE lessons every week. We are also a member of NOSSP (North Oxfordshire School Sports Partnership) with whom we work closely to give children access to Level 2 sports competitions, staff training and inter-school competitions.

Swimming – children from Year 2 upwards have swimming lessons at Southam swimming pool.



Forest school

We are extremely lucky to have a dedicated Forest School site within our own grounds as well as fully qualified staff. For many children, Forest School is a highlight of the school week. Research has shown that by taking learning outdoors, whatever the weather, children become more resilient, confident and independent. We believe that taking learning outside is good for promoting children's self-esteem, well-being, behaviour, co-operative learning and problem solving. These skills feedback positively into classroom work and other settings.

The sessions are not activity based but instead are led by the interests of the learners. Children may enjoy such experiences as building shelters, woodland craftwork, telling stories, cooking over fires, climbing trees, hunting for mini-beasts and making mud pies. As the programme develops woodland tools are introduced to extend learning and provide new opportunities for risk management.



Farm school

In partnership with parents and local people, school also plays a key part in a community farm that is across the road from school. Pupils regularly visit the farm as part of Forest School time, curriculum linked lessons, or whole-school celebrations such as harvest. The pupils get involved in all aspects of small-scale farming, from feeding lambs to selling produce at the school gates. All aspects of the farm are not-for-profit, with all monies raised going back into improving the farm for pupils and local people.





Music

Music is taught as part of the curriculum. We also offer the opportunity for children to learn an instrument through the Oxford Music Service and with other music teachers. Currently there are opportunities for children to learn keyboard, piano, guitar, strings, ukulele or wind instruments. All lessons must be paid for.

Assessment

Children are regularly assessed and tested throughout their time at school. Much of this assessment is informal, with teachers keeping a close eye on the progress of their children. Some statutory testing is required by the Department of Education as follows:

- Children at the end of the Foundation stage are assessed on the Early Learning Goals.
- Year 1 – phonics check
- Year 2 – SATS
- Year 6 - SATS

Results of the national tests can be found on the school website and on the Department for Education website. The results of assessments can be discussed with the class teachers at parent consultation evenings or at any other time. End of year reports give parents full details of children's progress in each area including the results of assessments, tests and next step targets.

Special Needs

We consider it important to respond to and provide for the individual needs of each child. Teachers plan lessons that are accessible to all and as inclusive as possible, and we believe it is this 'Quality First' teaching that makes a difference for children. When possible, this provision is bolstered by additional Teacher or Teaching Assistant support for small groups and individuals. If children need additional support, we work co-operatively with a range of outside agencies, such as the Educational Psychology Service. At all stages parental involvement considerably enhances the success of individual learning programmes. A copy of our Special Educational Needs Policy is available on the school website.

More able

For more able children, more challenging tasks are set in order to extend their capabilities and promote greater achievement.

Our policies

All schools must have a comprehensive set of policies which are public statements of how we handle certain situations and meet our statutory duties. A full list of our policies is available on our website:

<http://www.cropredyprimaryschool.org.uk/Policies>

A summary of some of our key policies is given below.

Admissions

Admission to Reception is handled by the Oxfordshire County Council (OCC) School Admissions Team. Parents are asked to submit an application for a reception place by a set date in January in the year before their child is due to start school. Parents list their three preferred schools and the school admissions team are responsible for the allocation of places. Parents are notified where their child has a place in April before their child. Full details are available on the OCC website: <https://www2.oxfordshire.gov.uk/cms/content/admissions-infant-and-primary-schools>

In Oxfordshire, children may enter school in the September after their fourth birthday. Our admission number for Cygnets is 30 children. Sometimes the demand for places exceeds the number available. In those cases the Oxfordshire criteria for admissions will apply.

If you are looking for a school place in any other year group, please contact the school directly to enquire about availability and to book a visit.

All applications for places are made through the OCC School Admissions Team

Attendance – Every lesson Counts!

It is obviously very important that children attend school regularly. At Cropredy we are very proud that our attendance statistics are high. We look forward to working in partnership with you to support your child with their learning and their individual needs to help them achieve their potential.

We are required to keep and monitor records of attendance, absence and lateness and the details are submitted to the Local Authority. When children are away from school, please telephone us before 8.45am on each day of absence. Wherever possible, medical appointments should be made outside of the school day.

From September 2013 requests for leave of absence in term time are no longer allowed unless there are exceptional circumstances. Any requests must be made in writing to the Headteacher for consideration. Please remember that every lesson does count.

If you are taking your child out of school during term time, parents and carers must realise that their child will be missing key lessons which will naturally impact on future learning and understanding. We appreciate that holidays are more expensive out of term time, but we urge you to put your child's education first.

Please remember that parents can be cautioned and/or fined if they take their children out of school.

Behaviour

At Cropredy our behaviour policy is based on respect for others and ourselves. We expect everyone to behave in a responsible and caring manner. A series of Christian values are promoted among staff and pupils and these form the basis of our expectations for behaviour standards:

- To be kind and caring in a happy and secure environment.
- To work co-operatively and in partnership.
- To have respect for one another and to value all individuals equally.
- To have high expectations which challenge and support each individual to reach their full potential.
- To value learning throughout life.
- To behave in a consistent and positive manner.
- To recognise and foster individuality, developing confidence, independence and potential.

The children help us to set our school rules which are aimed at helping us to maintain our high standards within a happy, purposeful and safe environment. We also have a rewards system, which acknowledges effort, achievement and good behaviour and there are sanctions in place for unreasonable behaviour. We will always inform parents where there is concern.

Complaints

If you have any concerns about your child's education please tell us. In the first instance you should discuss your concern with the class teacher. If you feel the issue has not been resolved you should then discuss your concern with the Senior Teachers – Miss Andrea Hancock and Mr. Mike Wakeford. If you are still concerned, please make an appointment to talk to the Headteacher, Mrs Hilary Stevens.

If you are not satisfied with the response, then you are encouraged to take your concern to the Chair of Governors. A copy of the formal complaints procedure may be obtained from the school office.

Health and safety

At Cropredy we aim to maintain a safe and healthy environment, in accordance with the Health and Safety at Work Act. The school has a clear Health and Safety Policy, a copy of which can be obtained from the school office.

A number of staff have First Aid Training and can be called upon in case of accidents and emergencies.

We endeavour to keep your child safe and well while they are in school. In the case of minor knocks and bumps we will deal with problems. You will be given a note to explain the accident and treatment. In the event of more serious accident or illness during school time it is essential that we have a contact number. If your emergency contact number changes, please let the school office know.

Inclusion

We believe that inclusion is essential in ensuring equality of opportunity for all learners whatever their age, gender, sexual orientation, ethnicity, disability, attainment or background. This demonstrates our commitment to valuing the diversity of the school community. We will pay particular attention to the provision for and achievement of all pupils in our school activities and policies.

Medicines in school

School staff are only able to administer prescribed medicines. If your child does require any prescribed medicine, you will need to complete a consent form and hand the form and medication into the school office. The schools 'administering medicine' policy is available on the school website and in the school office.

- Use of an inhaler

Parents need to sign a consent form for their child to use an inhaler in school. Should your child need to use an inhaler, this is kept in the classroom with them.

- Allergies

Please notify the office if your child has an allergy.

- Vomiting/diarrhoea

If your child has suffered from vomiting or diarrhoea then they must remain at home 48 hours after the last bout, in order to prevent the spread around school.

If you require any support regarding health and well-being issues which may be affecting your child, the school nurse service in Banbury will be happy to talk to you. They can be contacted via the Orchard Health clinic in Banbury.

Safeguarding children and child protection

We believe that we play an important role in preparing children to become caring and confident adults. Our curriculum provides opportunities to develop awareness of sources of danger, together with strategies of problem solving and avoidance of danger.

To protect every child and to follow health and safety guidelines, it is important that any visitors to the school report to the school office, sign in and wear a visitor badge. This procedure also applies to parents. All members of staff wear an identity badge. All staff members and volunteers are required to complete an enhanced DBS check before they can work in school. The school gates are locked from 8.30am every morning. All visitors can only enter and exit the school via the main entrance to the school.

The lead member of staff for safeguarding and child protection is the Headteacher, Hilary Stevens.

It is the statutory responsibility of the school to report to Social Services if there is a concern that a child is being abused or neglected or if a child makes a disclosure. We also have a statutory responsibility to share any safeguarding concerns when they leave Cropredy C.E. Primary School.



Cropredy C of E Primary School

'We believe in inspirational teaching that encourages every child to gain confidence and strive for personal success.'

Find out more

How to book a visit

We welcome visits at any time of year and would be delighted to show you around our lovely school and answer any questions you may have.

Please do book your visit in advance with the school office as the school timetable is very busy.

We also hold an annual **Open Day** in the autumn term where children from the senior classes will show you round during the normal teaching day.

Please email office.3000@cropredy.oxon.sch.uk or call 01295 750210 during school hours.

Website

Visit our website, to watch our promotional video and read more about our school.

www.cropredyprimaryschool.org.uk

Contact details:

Headteacher: Mrs Hilary Stevens

**Contact:
Cropredy CE Primary School
Station Road
Cropredy
OX17 1PU**

Telephone: 01295 750210

Email: office.3000@cropredy.oxon.sch.uk

www.cropredyprimaryschool.org.uk



Designed by emojodesign.co.uk with photographs by jodiecoolingphotography.com
School video by Emma Spellman oojamaflick.com



Cropredy C of E
Primary School

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