

Brimscombe Church of England Primary School



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Dear Parent, Carer, Guardian.

I would like to take this opportunity to introduce myself. I have been the Head Teacher at Brimscombe Primary School for just over four years and I am very proud of our school for many reasons.

Brimscombe is a happy place to be for the children and a place where we genuinely care for all our pupils. We pride ourselves on knowing our pupils and working well with families. It feels like a proper community school.

We are blessed with excellent facilities, plenty of space and a beautiful setting but it is the ethos of the school that for me stands out—we are a school with a big heart.

Academically, the school performs very well in comparison to local and National measures, and we have high expectations of our learners. However, the challenge for me and the team is always about how we get those standards without losing so many of the experiences and opportunities that I believe should be part of a child's primary school years, keeping the balance.

I want our school to be an interesting place to come to for our pupils and a welcoming place for our parents. A school that provides experiences that children will remember and that builds pupils confidence and sense of self worth that will carry them forwards onto the next stage in their education.

We have a lot of fun here, keep a healthy sense of perspective and hold onto what we believe is important.

If, years from now, our pupils look back and remember Brimscombe as a warm caring place with great teachers who believed in them, a place where they were encouraged to be their best in all areas and with experiences to remember I believe I will have done my job well.

Mr Joe Roberts



Our School Values

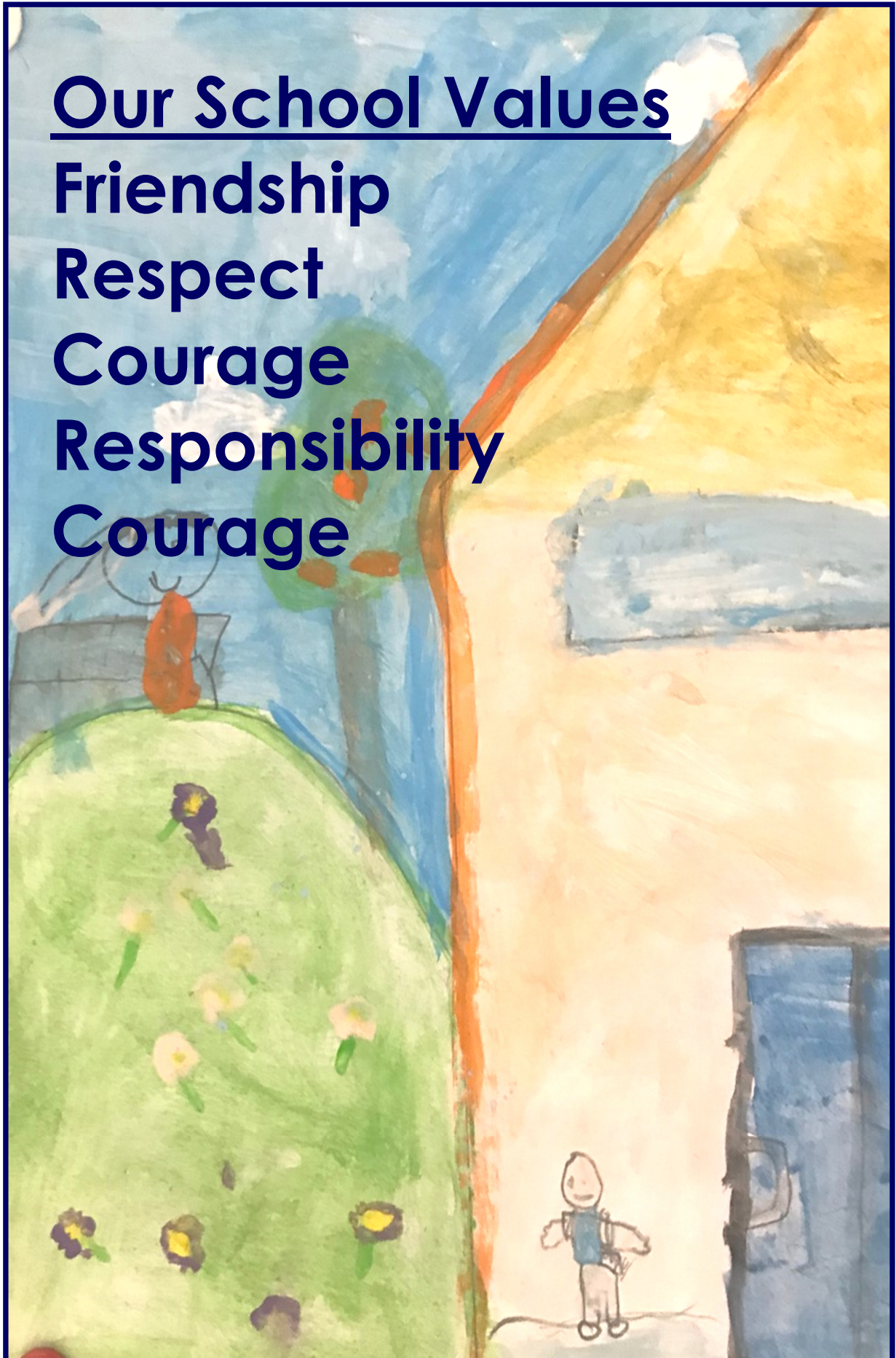
Friendship

Respect

Courage

Responsibility

Courage



About our school

There are just less than pupils in our school which we think is the perfect size for a primary school that prides itself on the individual care of its pupils.

The village of Brimscombe is located in the Cotswolds and was formerly the home of a thriving port on the Thames and Severn Canal, which is now being regenerated by Stroud District Council to its former glory. The Primary School was established in 1840 on a site adjacent to the Parish Church. In 1997 the school moved to its present building further down Brimscombe Hill. The school is set back from the road, has parking facilities and good access for the disabled.

Our school boasts a light and airy octagonal hall, well equipped with gymnastics apparatus. From the hall there are four spacious classrooms adjoining a purpose built practical room with facilities for cookery and art activities. We have a fully equipped kitchen, where hot meals are prepared daily on site.

In addition, we have a purpose built Early Years Foundation Stage area, which is home to Brimscombe Preschool and gives access to a well-equipped outdoor learning area shared with the reception year.

We make the most of our outdoor space. We boast a level field for summer and winter sports, an outdoor classroom and workshop and an adventure playground. The site also features the children's garden with raised beds for growing fruit & veg, trees and a pond. There is also school orchard planted by the children. Brimscombe is a member of a thriving cluster group of village schools. A variety of shared activities, including sports and music, take place between the schools, giving our children a wide range of experiences. The cluster group benefit both staff and children through the co-operation and support of the other schools.

As a Church of England Voluntary Aided school, Brimscombe is assisted by Central Government local Education Authority, and the Diocese of Gloucester. The majority of the governors, known as Foundation Governors are nominated by the Parochial Church Council and appointed by the Diocesan Board of Education to represent the church. They are supported by governors representing parents, teachers and the Local Authority.

The school follows the National Curriculum but arrangements for Religious Education and collective worship are made by the governors and reflect the Church of England in accordance with the Trust Deed.



School Vision...

The school vision, aims and values are the foundation of all we do at Brimscombe.

Vision

We work together to create a safe, welcoming and happy environment rooted in Christian values. We provide rich opportunities and challenges for our pupils to learn. Kindness, respect, courage, friendship and responsibility are at the heart of what we do. We support all our children in becoming confident, skilled and optimistic young people.

Aims

We aim to ensure that:

All our pupils feel safe, secure and valued

Each child grows in spiritual awareness, knowing that their own views are respected

Everyone in our school understands tolerance and respects others

The school community promotes positive attitudes to relationships and learning

The school delivers a vibrant, innovative and forward thinking curriculum fit for our times

We build a community of children, staff, parents and governors that works together for the benefit of all

Our skills for learning

Aim high, Collaborate, Focus, Persevere, Reflect

Academic Standards

At our school we have high academic standards. We work hard to get the best outcomes for our pupils while making sure the curriculum is balanced and broad.
Year 2019 SATS

	Expected Standard +	Higher Standard
Reading	93% (National 73%)	64% (National 27%)
Writing	86% (National 78%)	43% (National 20%)
Maths	86% (National 79%)	50% (National 27%)
GPAS	79% (National 78%)	29% (National 36%)

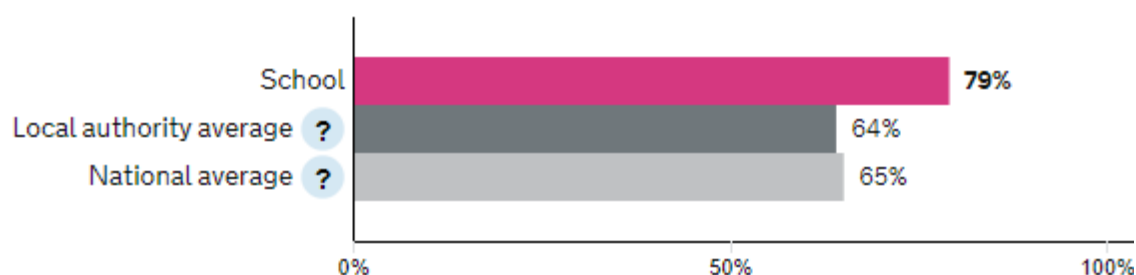
One of the key measures for a Primary School is the progress pupils make from year 2 to year 6 this is compared to a National score of 0.0 Year 6 scaled score. This is the average score in SATS compared to National.

	Brimscombe	National
Reading Progress	+ 3.98	0.0
Writing Progress	+ 2.36	0.0
Maths Progress	+ 0.53	0.0

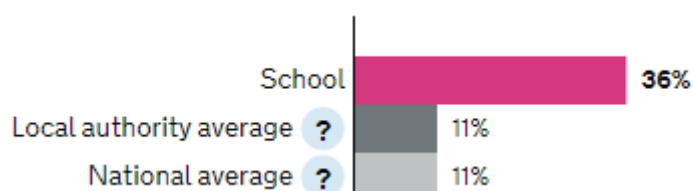
Greater Depth is the DFE definition for children achieving a higher than expected standard. See below how we compare. Below is the number of children reaching the expected standard in Reading, Writing and Maths

	Brimscombe	National
Reading	109.2	104.4
Maths Progress	106.3	105.0

combined



And the number of children reaching the higher standard in Reading, Writing and Maths.



Enrichment

We work hard to enrich the children's all round experience at our school.

Each year the classes organise to go Somewhere new and to meet someone new. Some of the place our children have been to are; the National Space centre, We the curious, evacuee trip to Swindon, Greystones Iron Age Village, the Gloucester Cathedral and Mosque.

We have enjoyed visitors in school from the WI, the Hindu community, local flying club, Police, Fire and ambulance Service and many more.



Extended Learning

During the year we hold a variety of theme days such as : science day, do something different day and Grandparents' afternoon as well taking part in as National events like anti bullying week, comic relief and children in need.

Each class has an afternoon outside doing outdoor learning in our lovely outdoor classroom. Every child goes swimming for a block of weeks from reception through to year six and every child gets the opportunity to do cooking every year.

We run many afterschool clubs during the week which change every term. We have run: cycling club. Chess club, Reading club, Construction Club, Science Club, Drama club, Singing and Dancing Club, Forest school club and others through the year.



School curriculum

We deliver an innovative and forward thinking curriculum that is designed around three principles: Providing memorable and new experiences, focussing on academic excellence, delivering a broad, rich and balanced curriculum.

Term Topics

Each class covers three main topics a year with a week in September to think about what learning is and how to be a good learner with a week of reflection at the end of the year. The topics are History/Geography or Science based and are planned so that the children visit somewhere different three times per year and that for each topic a visitor comes to the school. In addition each topic is supported by a novel which is the class reading book.

English

We believe reading is the bedrock of learning and a great emphasis is put on learning to read and the enjoyment and pleasure to be had from reading.

Reading is taught right from the beginning of school and the initial recognition of sounds and continues to be taught even to proficient readers who can gain more from inference, deduction and the subtleness of complex texts.

Maths

There is a emphasis put onto two fundamental mathematical skills.

Fluency in the recall of key maths facts starts very young. In reception and continues through to year six. Children are supported in being able to quickly recall facts such as number bonds and times tables as this speed and confidence will support all areas of maths. The other area we focus on is mathematical reasoning and supporting children being able to think their way through increasingly complex maths problems.

Foundation Subjects

The foundation subjects of Art, Music, geography, History etc. are given high status at Brimscombe and although we get good results in Reading, Writing and Maths we do so not at the expense of the foundation subjects which help form part of the balanced and rounded curriculum we offer.

Active School

We pride ourselves on being an active and healthy school. Sport and exercise play a big part in school life with a variety of external teachers coming in to work with the children for example with street dance, gymnastics, martial arts and many more. As part of the school week each class also has an outdoor learning session for one afternoon in our outdoor classroom.

The school day

The school day is organised to allow children access to a varied and broad curriculum whilst providing plenty of opportunities for exercise and refreshment. At Brimscombe School we recognise the importance of drinking water and providing short breaks which together improve the children's concentration skills.

Break times

Children are supervised by teaching staff during the morning break and by lunchtime supervisory assistants at lunchtime.

SCHOOL BEGINS	8.45am
REGISTRATION	9.00am
MORNING PLAY	10.20 to 10.40am
LUNCHTIME	12.15 to 1.15pm
COLLECTIVE WORSHIP	3.00 to 3.15pm
HOME TIME	3.15pm

School promotes healthy eating, consequently children may bring fruit, nuts or cheese to school as a morning snack. All Key stage 1 children receive fresh fruit daily through the 'Fruit For Schools' scheme and require no extra snack. Drinking water is available in all classrooms and children are encouraged to drink throughout the day. There is also an opportunity to order fresh milk, free for those entitled to school meals.

Lunch times

The children may choose to bring a packed lunch or have a healthy cooked meal, freshly prepared on site. All children in key stage 1 are entitled to a meal through the Universal Free School Meals scheme launched by the Government in September 2014. Children in key stage 2 are charged £2.30 a meal. Children sit at a table with children from their own & other classes regardless of whether they have a packed lunch or cooked meal. We foster independence by encouraging the children to collect their own meals and tidying away afterwards. To encourage active play we have a range of supervised outdoor games every lunchtime.

Free School Meals

Free school meals provide an allowance of £2.34 per day to provide a lunch of your choice for your child. The service is completely confidential. For eligibility and further information visit www.gloucestershire.gov.uk/freeschoolmeals



Teaching & Support Staff

We consider ourselves to be a very cohesive and supportive teaching team and the staff all work well together in the best interests of the children. Teachers are ably supported by a fantastic team of learning support staff.

HEADTEACHER

Mr J Roberts

TEACHING STAFF

Early Years Mrs Singh
Year 1 & 2 Miss Bishop
Year 3 & 4 Mr Poyser
Year 5 & 6 Mrs Brown
Mrs Singh

SENCO

SUPPORT STAFF

Teaching Assistants:
Ms Negri
Mrs Lowe
Mrs Birchley
Mrs Oliver
Mrs Clapton
Mrs Williams
Mrs Minchin
Mrs Adamson

Parent Support Advisor

Mrs Adamson

SCHOOL BUSINESS MANAGER

Mrs Newman

LUNCHTIME SUPERVISORS

Ms Pascoe
Mrs Birchley
Ms Moreia
Mrs Lowe

School Governors

Our School Governors play a very important role in supporting the school and challenging the decisions of the Headteacher. Their role is to ensure the quality of Education for the children and that there is the sound financial planning. They give up a lot of their own time to support what we do.

CO-CHAIR OF GOVERNORS

Mr R Harris

VICE CHAIR

Mrs C Crampton

COMMITTEE

**Mr G Ayre
Mrs F Short
Rev P Francis
Mrs E Jones**

STAFF REPRESENTATIVE

Mrs Brown

PARENT GOVERNORS

**Mr Mason-Bond
Ms M Phillips**

LA REPRESENTATIVE

Mr D Tate

CLERK TO GOVERNORS

Mrs H Kelly

The Governing Body is divided into three sub committees: facilities and Finance, Educations and standards, and the Ethos committee. These committees meet every six weeks and their respective reports feed into the full Governing Body meeting which is also held every six weeks. You can find out more about our Governors and their roles on the school website.



Pastoral Care

The pastoral care and safety of our pupil is the most important part of what we do. One of our key aims is that each child feels safe, secure and happy and we work hard to make sure this happens. We recognise that there will be times when children will need additional emotional or academic support and we have trained staff who can help.

The school has Parent Support Advisor (PSA) who is available every weekly to support parents and who can signpost parents to the many agencies who can help with a wide range of issues.

Special Educational Needs & Disabilities

The 2014 Code of Practice says that a person has SEND if they have a learning difficulty or disability which calls for special educational provision to be made for him or her. At compulsory school age this means he or she has a significantly greater difficulty in learning than the majority of others the same age, or, has a disability which prevents or hinders him or her from making use of facilities of a kind generally provided for others of the same age in mainstream schools. At Brimscombe we aim to identify, at the earliest possible opportunity, barriers to learning and participation for pupils with SEND and ensure that every child experiences success in their learning and achieves to the highest possible standards.

Please see our website for details of our provision (local offer) as well as that of the Local Authority.

Mrs Singh is our SENCO. Mrs F Short is the Governor responsible for SEND



Inclusivity

Brimscombe is an inclusive Primary School and we recognise that all children are different and have different needs. Our teachers are happy to talk to parents about meeting their child's needs and our SENCO is available to discuss the provision we offer

Guideline for parents

Uniform

School uniform is important. We believe this gives all children a shared identity and helps to keep them safe. We actively encourage parents and careers to support this. The uniform is a grey or black skirt or trousers, a school polo shirt and school sweatshirt. All sweatshirts must have the Brimscombe logo.

Please name all items and periodically check that names have not washed away. Strong sensible and appropriate black shoes must be worn, no crocs flip flops please or trainers.

In summer, short sleeved pale blue gingham dresses or tailored shorts in black or grey may be worn.

All school uniform is available from Batemans Sports in the centre of Stroud

P.E. kit

Children should wear the school round neck T-shirt with black or navy shorts indoors. They may wear legging or joggers outdoors in the colder months only with a school sweatshirt and trainers.

Please can all P.E. kit be kept in a NAMED drawstring bag rather than a rucksack. No canvas daps please.

Jewellery & Hair

The wearing of bracelets, necklaces and rings is not allowed as they can be dangerous. If your child has pierced ears they must wear studs whilst at school. These must be removed for swimming or PE and this is the responsibility of the child. We ask that hair longer than shoulder length is tied back with an elastic.

Mobile Phones

Mobile phones & electronic gadgets are not allowed in school.

Lost Property

Unfortunately clothes do seem to get lost, sometimes the most amazing items go astray! It does help if clothing is CLEARLY marked. A lost property bin is kept in the foyer in which parents and children can search. At the end of each term the remaining property is displayed in the hall or

Communication and after school

After School Clubs

The running of clubs depend on the experience, availability and goodwill of staff and parents and varies from term to term. We currently run successful after school clubs in football, drama, ballet, chess, coding , bike club, Science, as well as fitness and maths. Some clubs carry a small charge.

Parents and Volunteers

There are many areas of school life which benefit from parental help; reading, art and craft, sport, I.T. cooking etc. Some parents are able to help on a regular basis, others help occasionally and others come to give talks on their jobs, hobbies or places they have visited. All help is most welcome. If you would like to work with us please contact Mr Roberts or the class teacher. Your support and interest in your child's education is a major factor in his or her progress. Volunteers working in school are DSB checked and work according to the school safeguarding practices.

Friends of Brimscombe School (F.O.B.S)

All parents are automatically members of the association and we are affiliated to the national organisation of PTFAs. It exists to forge closer links between school, parents and the community. The association holds fund raising events, educational meetings and social evenings. It welcomes and needs your active support. Please see FOBS facebook page or ask in the school office for further information.

Newsletters

Not everyone can come into school, so we keep in touch with weekly bulletins on a Friday. These are sent via email but are also posted on the school website. Where families are not living together, both natural parents are entitled to receive information from school and we would appreciate it if parents would notify us of addresses in such circumstances.

Charging Policy

The school wishes to provide all pupils with the best possible educational opportunities available within the funds allocated by the Government and Local Authority . The law states very clearly that education during normal school hours is to be free of any compulsory charge to parents and the school warmly endorses that principle and is committed to upholding the legal requirements. We do however ask for contribution from time to time, to extend learning opportunities for your children. Please see our website for our policy.

Admissions

You are very welcome to visit Brimscombe school at any time to have a look at the school, meet the Headteacher and staff and ask any questions you may have. Please make contact either by e-mail admin@brimscombe.gloucs.sch.uk or telephone 01453 882474.

As with all state schools in Gloucestershire, Reception admissions are handled directly by the Local Education Authority. Should the school be over subscribed, places would be offered in the first instance to children in public care, then children who have an older brother or sister already in attendance, and then those who live in the ecclesiastical parish of Brimscombe whose parents have active connections with Holy Trinity Church, or Brimscombe Methodist Church. Please take a look at our admissions policy on the website.

At present children are admitted to school in the September following their fourth birthday. Part time attendance is encouraged at first to enable children to settle happily. Full time attendance is introduced when both the teacher and parent feel that the child is ready – for most children this will be after a week or two. For admissions to any other year group, please call or write to ascertain whether a place is available. If the year group is full, then parents' have the right of appeal to the Local Authority.

The children remain with us until they are eleven years old, when they transfer to either a Stroud grammar school, a local comprehensive school or into the private sector

Registration

The office staff will take you through the process and give you the forms you need to complete.

Children registered to start in Reception are invited to make several visits in the two terms prior to starting. Children who are registered for the pre school often join us for 'Welly Wednesday' afternoons for outdoor adventures and fun!

We have established links with other local pre-school settings who are also invited to visit us. Special arrangements will be made for all children joining us mid-schooling.

