



*'Within a caring Christian community we enable every child to flourish and inspire a love of learning in all members of our community'*



## OUR SCHOOL

We are a small rural school with 103 children on roll. We have four classes, Ash, Fir, Elm and Oak (hence our school tree!) and each class is comprised of 2 year groups. We are mindful of the challenges associated with small village schools, both financial and others, but we are always oversubscribed. Below is a table from our current Head Teacher's report for Term 1 showing our class structures.

	Reception	Year 1	Year 2	Year 3	Year 4	Year 5	Year 6
Number in cohort	15	14	14	15	15	15	15
	Oak	Elm	Fir	Ash			
Number in class	20	23	30	30			
Class Teachers	Alison Macaulay Naomi Bowers	Lynne Crossland	Steve Wyatt	Alison Gillett (Mon, Tues, Wed) Gillian Pascoe (Wed, Thurs, Fri)			
Learning Support Assistants	Nicci Forster (am)	Claire Smith (am)	Vicky Parkinson (am)				
	Nicci Forster 1.15 – 3.15		Laura Kirkland (Tue, Wed, Fri)				
		Claire Smith 1 – 2pm					
Named Pupil Assistants	Sam Mould			Vickie Williams & Laura Kirkland			

Our vision and values are clear to see in all aspects of school life and our Christian faith is firmly embedded in the life of the school. A highlight of each term is a Whole School Day when the school is divided into inter-year groups all working on one aspect of the Topic of Day – this enables the older children to show leadership and supportive qualities whilst the younger children can aspire to follow the examples set by older year groups. These days show very clearly our three values – caring for each other, commitment to the group and the topic and creating ideas, displays and thoughts around the topics.



We have a full, enthusiastic and dedicated Staff Team comprising six Class Teachers, one of whom (0.6) is the Deputy Head Teacher, seven Learning Support Assistants and Mid-Day Supervisory Assistants and both an Administrative and a Finance Officer. There is a very active “Friends” association who give tremendous support to all aspects of school life. Our Governing Body is strong and we have a clear succession plan in place. Our sub-committees all work extremely hard with their responsibilities and the management of Curriculum, Standards and Resources is clear and sound. The total projected income for the current year is £450k.

The School has signed our Cluster’s (Forest Schools Collaboration) Memorandum of Understanding. This enables support and collaboration between the Head Teacher and Staff of our schools. This is something we greatly value and would expect any incoming Head Teacher to participate fully and enthusiastically within it.



Our school building consists of one block, with the main hall in the centre and all classrooms leading off it. This is so appropriate for a Church School – the majority of worship takes place centrally and then radiates out into our classrooms. We admit that space is at a premium but we have just completed a project which has seen our lovely new “Cedar Room” finished. This is a small space for quiet activities and small groups.





Our classrooms with children (and teachers) hard at work!



We have a hard playing area which adjoins our school field. This lies below our Village Hall which we are able to use for plays and whole school activity days. All our classrooms have interactive whiteboards with access to laptops and iPads.



Our school is situated right in the centre of Coombe Bissett village and ten minutes' walk to our church of St Michael and All Angels. The village boasts a pub and a shop and has a very active community who support the school in all sorts of ways. Village residents are members of the Governing Body, volunteer in school hearing readers, assisting on outings, giving talks and attending school church services.



The Church and School have a very special relationship – we have developed our school into a Eucharistic community where we have an annual Baptism, Confirmation and Communion service as well as three other communion services during the year.



The school holds its Harvest, Christingle and Leavers' services in our church. A member of the clergy leads Collective Worship most weeks and the Open the Book Team lead twelve sessions a year. We have visits from a local Christian Teaching group called The Bridge. Ash class always join villagers at the village war memorial for an Act of Remembrance followed by refreshments and conversations in the church.



But Coombe Bissett School also acts and thinks globally. We have had links with schools in France and Bangladesh (through the Valerie Taylor Trust) and we support a local charity, CRESS, which now works with South Sudanese refugees in Uganda. Our Church is part of the link with Cueibet Diocese in South Sudan and our children have donated football kit and pencils to the children there.



Coombe Bissett is 5 minutes from Salisbury and there are regular buses into town. There are some children who attend our school whilst living on the outskirts of Salisbury; others come from Coombe Bissett and surrounding villages. There are many siblings in the school adding to the sense of the school being a real family.

Coombe Bissett has an excellent village magazine and the school has a regular feature in each edition. There is also an up-to-date village website [www.coombebissett.com](http://www.coombebissett.com)

The school is situated very close to the Coombe Bissett Down Nature Reserve which ensures the school has the opportunity to participate in various events as well as visiting the reserve annually. The Early Years also attend the Forest School.



Many outside visits occur during the year. The famous Chalke Valley History Festival is held only 15 minutes away and each year the older children take part in the schools' activities. There are class visits to synagogues and mosques, concerts and plays as well as numerous sporting events. The school sports teams participate in a wide variety of sporting fixtures which include tournaments for football, high fives, cricket and rounders.



#### **OUR PRIORITIES 2018-2019**

1. To raise attainment and accelerate progress in Maths and English across all key stages with particular focus on those groups identified through the end of 2017-2018 data analysis.
2. To improve effectiveness and increase impact of leadership and management at all levels throughout the school.
3. To maximise the impact of Learning Support Assistants
4. To ensure provision in all areas of SIAMS is outstanding.

We are pleased to say that so far this academic year we have met our milestones and are well on course to achieving these aims at the very latest, by the end of the academic year.



## OUR SCHOOL COUNCIL

All the children in our school are represented by pupils who are elected by their peers to be on the School Council. Romany and Louis from Ash Class, Jack and Emily from Fir Class and Jude and Poppy from Elm Class met to discuss what they see as important in a Head Teacher. They all agreed that our School should appoint someone

- ✓ who is:      respectful of **everyone**  
  
                         kind and caring  
  
                         and it would be lovely if they were: a musician and /or an artist
- ✓ who will:    make learning fun  
  
                         continue to raise the standards of our learning  
  
                         understand our home lives  
  
                         be firm in our standards of behaviour but not too strict!
- ✓ who has:      hobbies that they really enjoy at home
- ✓ and above everything - who SMILES a lot!

