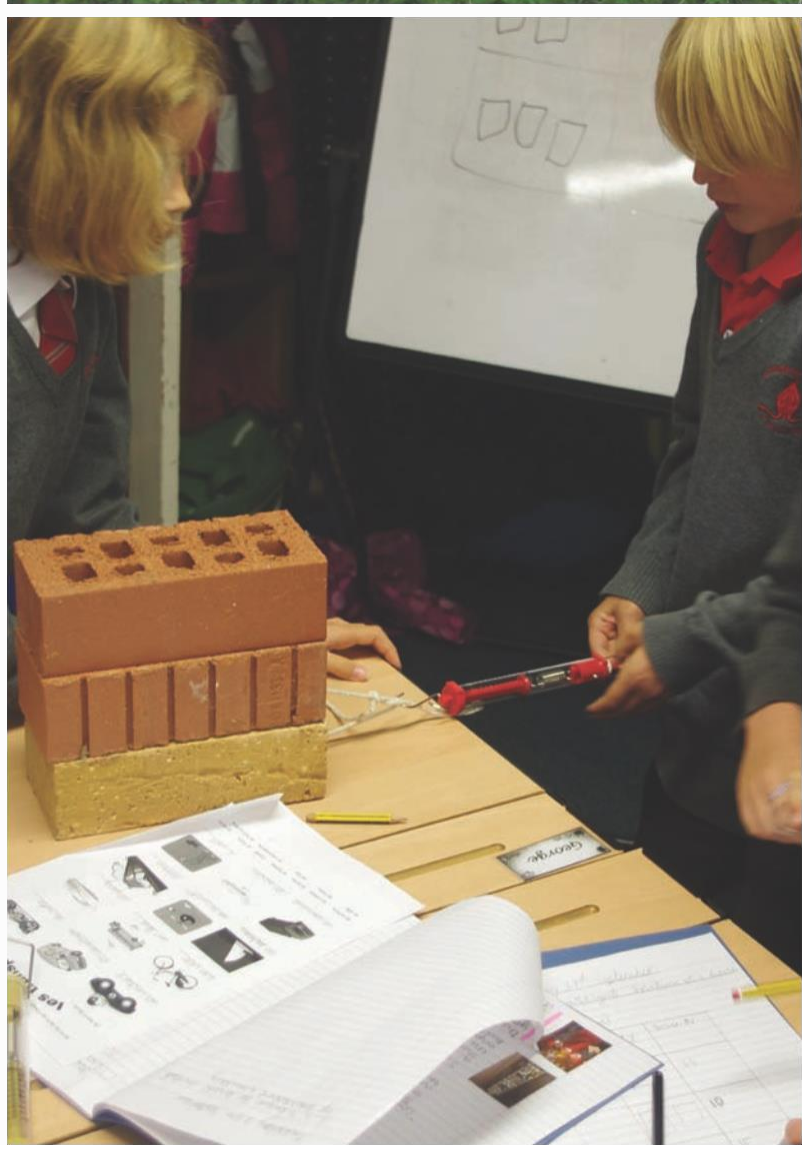


ARCHBISHOP BENSON
CHURCH OF ENGLAND
PRIMARY SCHOOL



Archbishop Benson
C of E Primary School





Archbishop Benson C of E Primary School

Introduction from the Headteacher

Archbishop Benson Church of England School became an Academy in August 2011. The school is built within a large attractive site overlooking the beautiful City of Truro. We have a Children's Centre in the grounds which provides a variety of services for children and their families.

It is a very happy and successful school. Our high standards are sustained because Staff, Governors, Parents and children work together in an atmosphere of mutual trust, care and respect - the distinguishing features of a Christian community.

In addition to our high academic achievement, we are proud that our school has a strong sporting tradition. Music and The Arts also play an important part of school life. We aim to prepare children for life in a caring, nurturing, exciting environment where we all learn whilst having fun.

Parents are always welcome, whether to discuss their child's progress, to help in school, to take part in Family Learning or to join in with our Friends of the School (FABB) activities.

You are warmly welcome to look around our school and we look forward to meeting you.

Helen Giblett

Headteacher

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The details of this prospectus are current but may be subject to change.

"Fun & Learning Hand in Hand"

"Lowen Dyscans, Lyf yn Lyf"

AIMS OF OUR ACADEMY

Archbishop Benson School is a beacon of excellence overlooking the City.

- Enable each child to achieve his or her full potential in levels of academic maturity, creativity, spirituality, physical development and independence
- Educate pupils in the principles of the Christian faith, promoting respect for moral values, differing races, religions and ways of life
- Awaken and develop every child's sense of self worth
- Develop respect, commitment and responsibility for others, to equip children to be able to make a positive contribution to the community in which they live
- Provide a wide variety of activities, visits and special events which enrich children's learning.





Curriculum

"Fun and Learning Hand in hand", Our school motto, is at the heart of the curriculum.

At Archbishop Benson we are proud of our exciting learning experience and comprehensive curriculum.

We aim to teach creatively, with cross curricular themes, providing a variety and breadth of knowledge and skills which will appeal to all children.

Children learn through first hand experiences, supported by enthusiastic adults in order to fulfil every child's potential.

We often have whole school theme weeks, which focus on a specific area of the curriculum, such as the Arts, RE, Design Technology, Science, the environment or Global Citizenship. Children find these weeks inspirational.

"Many extra-curricular activities and residential visits do much to improve the pupils' skills and add extra fun to the school." Ofsted

"The pupils really enjoy school and behave exceptionally well." Ofsted



Homework.

A child should work hard at school and play hard at home! We take the view that if a child uses time at school well then large amounts of homework will be unnecessary. However, short purposeful activities can support children's learning and the school's homework policy outlines the expectations for children as they move through the school. Tables practice, spellings and reading are given regularly – we encourage all children to record that they have read, at least 4 times per week. As the children get older, other tasks can be set. Children may be involved in occasional extended homework projects to work on with their families. Details of the homework set can be found on our Virtual Learning website.



Sport

We have an outstanding reputation in both boys and girls sports, with many individual and team successes at Area, County and at Regional level. We provide an extensive range of clubs which will give each pupil further positive sporting experiences. Children are encouraged to be fit and healthy, and PE is seen as a very important subject. Parents have an important part to play by ensuring that their children are provided with suitable kit when required. Swimming is organised from Year 3 on a weekly basis, using the pool at Truro Leisure Centre.

Music

Instrumental music lessons are provided in woodwind, saxophone, string, recorder, cello, brass and guitar. We value the importance of opportunities for children to perform to each other and to adults to build up self-esteem, confidence and social skills. The school choir and/or the children who play musical instruments regularly take part in the Truro Music Festival. Each year children of all ages perform in concerts, special services and Christmas Productions.

Clubs

We provide a wide range of extra-curricular activities. For example: Cross Country, Dance, Music, Surfing, Tag Rugby, Netball, Girls and Boys Football, Athletics, Street Surfing, Cricket, Multi-skills, Choir, Technology, Art and Environmental.

Clubs may run during lunchtimes or after school. Children from all year groups attend regularly and in large numbers. *"The impressive skills of the teachers account for the high quality of the art and design music and sporting achievements found throughout the school."* Ofsted

Religious Education/Worship

R.E lessons are given in accordance with the locally agreed syllabus with modifications recommended by the Diocese. The main focus is on Christianity (75% of syllabus) with emphasis on the practices of the Church of England. The remaining (25% of syllabus) is used for the study of other world religions. The syllabus covers 6 main areas; people, me and us, buildings, festivals, religious books and the world.

There is a collective act of worship each day in the school hall. Assemblies are planned to fit a weekly theme. This provides many points of reflection to be followed up in lessons during the week. An outside speaker leads one assembly a week. Our regular visitors include priests and ministers from many of the local churches, cathedral and national charities. Friday assembly is often a 'sharing assembly', where parents are invited to attend - a time for children to show work from the classroom. We involve the children actively in all assemblies.

The general ethos of our school, as a caring Christian community, is established in assembly time and is at the heart of our school life. We regard the daily assembly as an important part of the child's experience and development. The Eucharist is celebrated termly in school and parents are encouraged to attend.

Parents opting for their child to attend this school are normally expected to allow their child to participate fully in the Religious Education and worship in the school. Any parents who wish their child to be withdrawn from such activities should contact the Head Teacher, in order that alternative arrangements can be made.

"Pupils' personal development, including their spiritual, moral, social and cultural development is outstanding." Ofsted



Individual Needs

Children who have a special education need, either those more able pupils or those who may need a greater degree of help, are identified as early as possible by tracking their individual progress in order to support them. We can plan different styles of learning so that individual children reach their full potential.

This support may be provided by working towards individual targets, discussed with parents and the children, with the help of additional teachers, Teaching Assistants or with the Special Educational Needs Co-ordinators.

There are many short term interventions groups where children gain confidence and raise self esteem in order



that they can access the curriculum more readily and make good progress. These groups are regularly reviewed so that Parents and the school can work in partnership for the benefit of the children.

We have a Learning Mentor and are developing our own Speech and Language Centre within the school.

"The care my child has received is second to none. His progress is amazing." Parent Questionnaire

Early Years Foundation Stage

Reception Classes at Archbishop Benson School provide a stimulating environment for your child's needs in these most important formative years.

The curriculum is based on the children being at the centre of their own learning within a stimulating quality environment as outlined in the 7 areas of learning of the Early Years Foundation Stage Guidance

Outdoor Learning

We are very proud of our outside learning environment.

Learning in the fresh air with an element of safe risk is of huge benefit to our young children and good fun!



Archbishop Benson C
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"Your behaviour is fantastic, and you take good care of each other."

Ofsted

Educational Visits

We consider it very important that children should visit local places of interest. We try to arrange at least one day visit for every child each year. The location usually has a particular connection with the current class topic, although some may be of an extra-curricular nature (a visit to a theatre, for example). Full details of all visits are sent to parents well in advance, requesting written consent. Contributions towards the cost of the trip are invited when appropriate. The Local Authority provides the school with regulations for financial organisational and insurance aspects of such visits. School staff are fully acquainted with these regulations.

The Authority has no general insurance cover for the direct benefit of pupils, but it is insured in respect of



its legal liability to pupils arising from negligence or breach of statutory duty.

Sometimes it is more sensible to transport small groups of children in parents' cars. When this takes place, we ask the drivers concerned to confirm that they hold suitable insurance cover and seat belts/booster seats for all children being transported. Parents are asked to complete a DriverVolunteer form.

In recent years children have visited The Tate Gallery (St Ives), Truro Museum, Heartlands, National Trust properties, Flambards, Local beaches, walks in the city and Eden.

An annual residential journey is organised for Year 4 and Year 6 children. This involves over night stays at a more distant location with visits and activities planned during the stay.

"The care, support and guidance are outstanding providing wholehearted encouragement for pupils of all ability to do their best." Ofsted

International Links

We are an International School. Global Citizenship is an integral part of the curriculum and planned alongside crosscurricular

themes whenever possible. We have links with schools in Spain, Italy, Poland and Bristol. We support an Orphanage in Mosambique.



Be Healthy

We are a Healthy School. We have a full pastoral programme aimed at providing for the all round welfare of each individual. Outside agencies such as the Church, Police, Fire Brigade and Health Service are regularly in school to support us.

Sex and Relationship Education is taught as part of the curriculum across the school. Children are encouraged to keep themselves healthy in many ways:

- They have free access to water during the school day.
- Key Stage 1 children receive a free piece of fruit daily.
- Key Stage 2 children are strongly encouraged to choose a healthy snack at break times.
- Children are encouraged to stay active at lunchtimes through our Huff and Puff - a playground equipment scheme and our extensive PE curriculum
- Year 3 children have weekly swimming lessons.

School Meals

For those wishing for their child to have a hot midday meal, we operate a cash cafeteria. We work in Partnership with Penair and Tregolls Schools

Healthy Options are encouraged and a menu is available from the office.

Children may also order a packed lunch. For details of current charges and menus please contact the school



kitchen. Children may also bring a packed lunch from home. This should be provided in a suitable container, marked with the child's name and class. No glass bottles please! Applications for free school meals should be made to the office staff. Information can be found on Cornwall Council's website

Safety

Our children's safety is paramount and at the forefront of everything we do.

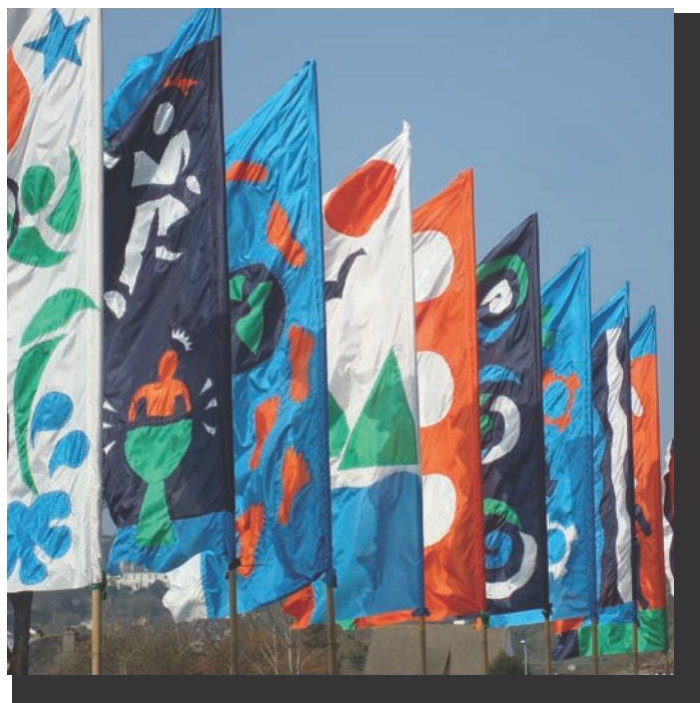
The school follows County Guidelines for Child Protection - the full policy is available on request and on our website.

Mr D Crocker is the named person responsible for Child Protection.

Personal safety is taught throughout our PSHE and ICT curriculum and children are taught the skills to ensure that they know how to keep themselves safe.

- Safety when cycling, is taught through our Cyclewise course, offered to children in Key Stage 2.
- Road Safety is promoted through our participation in 'Walk to School' week and Sustrans.

The school has a strict policy to safeguard our children from bullying and racial incidents. Our anti-bullying week also empowers children to recognise and deal with anti-social behaviour.



Equal Opportunities

Staff and children at Archbishop Benson C of E School will be treated as individuals, equally and fairly, irrespective of race, sex, family background or any other criteria. This prospectus can be made in alternative formats on request.

Attendance

It is very important that the school is notified about any absence for whatever reason as early as possible on the first day of absence. Notification may be given in one of the following ways:

1. Verbally to the child's teacher or school office.
2. By telephone (01872 273185) to the School Office.
3. By note sent into school.

A message (written or verbal) is required if a child is absent to attend the doctor, dentist, or clinic. It is in the best interest of your child's education to avoid taking holidays during term time. When there are exceptional circumstances, absence is at the discretion of the Headteacher. Holiday application forms are available from the office. We are required to keep very careful records of absences and report 'unauthorised' absences. Unauthorised absences are also recorded on your child's annual school report.

Blues Club

Our out of school clubs are named as 'The Blues Club'. The name originally came about through asking the children at St Columb Minor CP School. Their school is often known as the Blues School and they felt it would be appropriate that we call ourselves 'Blues Club'

The purpose of our Blues Club is to provide out of school care for children aged 3 to 12 years old. We open at 7.45am in the morning and offer High Quality Childcare and provide every child with a substantial breakfast before they start school. Our Qualified Staff take each child into school and ensure that they get to their classroom safely.

At 3.15pm we then collect the children from their classrooms and bring them to Blues Club for the after school session. After we having taken the register and ensured that every child has been accounted for and is safe we then offer a healthy and nutritious snack. The children then have the freedom to choose activities throughout the evening. These include:

A wide variety of sports and outdoor equipment and organised games such as football or rounders. Indoors we have arts and crafts, board games, books, computer games, snooker table and lots more.

We provide a relaxed, fun atmosphere for the children to enjoy their evening. We recognise that they have had a busy day at school and just need to relax and have some fun.

We also offer a holiday club which is open during every half term. During these weeks we often work around themes and have fun weeks such as Pirates Week, Sports Week, Chocolate Week and also themes such as "Around

the World in 30 days!" The planning ideas come from the children as we feel that this is their club and it is essential that they take responsibility for what they can do there.

We welcome you to come and view our out of school clubs and speak to our Qualified Play leaders to find out more information and availability. We now have Blues Clubs open in St Columb Minor Primary School in Newquay, Porthleven Primary School and Archbishop Bensons Cof E school in Truro.

Pupils

We believe giving our pupils a high degree of responsibility encourages our family ethos.

- We have a School Council made up of children from different classes and their decisions are implemented whenever possible.
- All children belong to one of our four house groups, providing them with the opportunities to earn team points for their house.
- All children participate in class assemblies, to which parents are invited.
- Every year the school nominates a charity, which it aims to support.
- Children regularly take part in church services and school performances.
- Year 6 pupils undertake individual challenges and Enterprise projects.





Rewards

Positive contributions are valued and success is always celebrated.

Our system of rewards includes certificates, cups and special treats. Children are regularly sent to the Headteacher for further praise. Circle Time is used to enable pupils to regularly discuss problems and issues in a safe environment.

Parents

Parents, Grandparents and Carers who can spare the time are always welcome to come into the classroom to help in various ways. If you are interested, please see the teacher concerned to arrange mutually convenient days and times. We would also like to hear from you if you are interested in running a club/helping with extra-curricular activities or administrative tasks.

Friends of Archbishop Benson (FABB)

We are continually seeking to strengthen parental links with school and FABB is an important part of this. Parents may join the FABB Committee, who meet to plan events and discuss the spending of money raised.

Of course, if you are unable to help in this way, there is always a need for parents to support events, with a whole host of jobs to be carried out. Whatever you can do will be welcomed.

In recent years FABB has paid for educational visits and purchased valuable equipment for the school and provide all new children with a Book Bag and water bottle.

General Information

School Organisation.

The school has 2 form entry.

There are: 6 Key Stage 1 Classes

8 Key Stage 2 Classes

The school day begins at 8:45am and finishes at 3:15pm for Key Stage 1 and 3:25pm for Key Stage 2.

"Children show an impressive depth of thought."

Ofsted



School Uniform

We expect children to wear the agreed uniform:

Girls' Winter Uniform

- Tartan skirt or grey school trousers
- Grey school jumper with school logo
- From Reception to Y2 - red polo-shirt with school logo
- From Y3 – Y6 - white shirts (may be short-sleeved)
- School tie is worn in the winter (Y3 – Y6)
- Red tights or white/grey sock

Black shoes (no boots, heels, trainers or open-toed footwear)

Girls' Summer Uniform

- Grey jumper with school logo
- Tartan skirt or grey school trousers
- From Reception to Y2 – red polo-shirt with school logo
- From Y3 – Y6 - white shirts (may be short-sleeved)
- School tie (Ties need not be worn from after May half-term until October half-term unless request is made by school to wear them for a specific occasion)
- Red striped dress (optional)
- White/grey socks with trousers or skirt
- White socks with summer dress (tights are not to be worn with the summer dress)

Black shoes (no heels, trainers or open-toed footwear)

Boys' Winter Uniform

- Grey shorts or grey trousers
- Grey school jumper with logo
- From Reception to Y2 – red polo-shirt with school logo
- From Y3 – Y6 - white shirts (may be short-sleeved)
- School tie is worn in the winter (Y3 – Y6)
- Grey socks
- Black Shoes (no trainers or open-toed footwear)

Boys' Summer Uniform

- Grey shorts or grey trousers
- Grey school jumper with logo
- From Reception to Y2 – red polo-shirt with school logo
- From Y3 – Y6 - white shirts (may be short-sleeved)
- School tie (Ties need not be worn from after May half-term until October half-term unless request is made by school to wear them for a specific occasion)
- Grey or black socks
- Black Shoes (no trainers or open-toed footwear)

PE Kit

- Black Shorts,
- Red T-shirt with school logo
- Swimming hats.

For field games during the winter months e.g. November - March (Y3 – 6 only)

- Black tracksuit bottoms/leggings
- Red hoody with school logo
- Training Shoes



Reporting to Parents

We hold meetings with parents each term in order to share the child's progress and to set targets for the future. In addition, interim reports in the Spring Term and annual reports are sent home.

Parents are welcome to make an appointment to meet their child's class teacher at any time if they have a concern

Charging for School Activities

We believe strongly that a child's schooling is greatly enhanced by attending organised activities both inside and outside school. Children attend trips linked to the Curriculum. Additionally, many outside bodies visit us to share their expertise. When the cost of these activities needs to be covered, partly or wholly, by the parental contributions, they will be voluntary. No pupil will miss out due to a parent's inability to pay. Of course, if funds are not sufficient to cover any trip, it may be necessary to cancel although we would do our best to avoid this.

Secondary School Transfer

The majority of our children transfer to Penair School. Occasionally, children move to Richard Lander School, Truro School (Independent) or Truro High School for Girls (Independent).

Complaints

Parents who are unhappy about anything at school should contact us at once. Usually the first point of contact will be the classteacher.

The Headteacher will always meet concerned parents in order to resolve difficulties. A parent who is still not satisfied should contact the Chair of Governors (or another member of the Governing Body). Names and addresses of Governors can be obtained from the school office.







Archbishop Benson

C of E Primary School

Headland Ltd. 01736 364694

