

# Heaton St Barnabas' C of E (VA) Primary School

School Prospectus



Unity  
in  
Diversity



# Our Vision

Our school is an exciting, fun and friendly place where everyone is safe, valued and encouraged to be world class learners, developing confidence and a thirst for knowledge, trusting in God and realising our talents to create our future.



# Welcome

Heaton St Barnabas' CE Primary School strives to create an atmosphere where all children and adults feel safe, valued and included. The kind of place that is vibrant and happy and where every child can arrive and leave with a smile on their face. A place where children and staff work really hard and enjoy coming to school. We believe that all children have a voice to be heard and that their care and education must lie at the heart of everything we do.

We believe in lifelong learning, and that adults can learn from children and children from adults. We share experiences and together discover the excitement and enjoyment of acquiring new knowledge. We strongly believe that achievements are there to be celebrated, ideas to be shared and that respect for each other should be evident in all we do.

Our school is a place where children start on the road to achieve their dreams and where adults can smile and say that our children are doing well. Every member of our staff cares deeply about the children, our families and the community we work with.

In addition to supporting the children's academic achievements and providing a broad curriculum, we strive to create a wide variety of opportunities for our children to discover their special talents.

We believe that parents play a key role in supporting our school and, in working in close partnership, we can create a community in school where all our children, families and staff support and engage with each other successfully.

As a church school, it is vitally important to us that children of all faiths are able to develop their own understanding of God and we are proud that our inclusive daily worship allows children of all faiths to worship together as one community.



Mrs Diane Smith - Headteacher

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# Working Together - Families and Community

It is a well known fact that children make better progress and achieve better outcomes when their parents/carers are actively involved in their learning. At this school, we do our best to encourage parents to be fully involved, to seek their views and to address concerns.

We were the first school in Bradford, and amongst the first few schools nationally, to achieve the 'Leading Parent Partnership' Award.

Our Positive Parents group meets every half term. Parents set the main agenda of this meeting and it includes a parents' forum where questions about school are welcomed. Parents also meet weekly for a coffee morning where they chat socially and engage in various crafts or projects to support school. This often includes parents organising and supporting events outside the school day to raise money for different causes. Parents are encouraged to volunteer to come in to school to help wherever possible and share their many skills.

Each term we have an open morning for parents to come into school to visit classrooms and see their child's work. Soon after this there is an opportunity to meet with the teacher to discuss progress. Classes and workshops are provided regularly for parents to learn more about the curriculum, how to support their child's learning at home and how to improve their own skills.

Our Parental Engagement Manager is in the school playground at the beginning and end of each day and readily available via the office at other times. She is always eager to receive ideas and requests from parents.

## Engaging Families Award

In recognition of all the work we do as a school to foster positive relationships with parents, we were awarded the 'Engaging Families Award'. Partnerships with our parents are vital in improving the outcomes for our pupils. We appreciate the impact positive relationships have both academically and more so emotionally for their well-being. We encourage our parents to attend regular timetabled events and become involved in supporting these through our Positive Parents group. Coming together as a school community to share opinions and support each other is vitally important as we work collectively to create a culture of mutual respect, trust and understanding.





'A friendly, inclusive school, where children become part of a community of care and respect'  
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# Broadening Horizons - Global Awareness and Sustainability

We believe that it is important to provide our children with a broad range of experiences within and outside school. This helps children to learn new skills, forge new relationships and discover their talents. Theatre groups, dance groups, musicians, authors and poets visit the school at different times in the year to work with the children. All children learn to play at least one musical instrument in Key Stage 2. Where children show an interest or talent, they have the opportunity to develop their skills further and may sign up with the 'Rock Steady' music tuition school. From the age of 7 all children are offered at least one residential visit each year. These include outdoor adventure activities such as orienteering, caving, climbing and ghyll scrambling. Pupils have participated in trips to Europe and communicated with other international schools remotely in order to share cultural experiences. Through our active School Parliament, pupils are encouraged to share their voice on climate change and sustainability in order to raise awareness and promote positive change. Sustainability and climate change is also upheld strongly throughout the wider curriculum.

# Spiritual and Emotional Wellbeing

As a Church school we are distinct from other types of school in that God's presence in our daily lives is recognised, encouraged and nurtured through everyday activities. The common values shared by the different faiths represented in our school community are made explicit and children, staff and parents are encouraged to uphold these values and demonstrate them in their relationships with each other and attitudes to the environment and the world. A time is set aside each day for children and staff to gather to worship God together as a community and this is an important part of our day. We work hard to ensure that this time of worship is accessible to children and staff of all faiths and that all children are able to maintain the integrity of their own faith. Children are encouraged to reflect on their own understanding of God, caring for each other and the wider world. In Religious Education, children learn about all major faiths and this may include visits to places of worship within the local area. Shared values are embedded as lifelong characteristics and are at the heart of the school in developing pupils in the present and for the future. Our children are able to grow and flourish, letting their God given talent shine.

'Pupils have a well developed knowledge of diverse cultures and faiths'

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Dear God,

**Thank you** for all we have - a school filled with **happiness** and **friendship**.

**Make** our playtimes **peaceful** and **calm** and help us to be the first to say **sorry**.

**Guide us** on our **journey** through school.

**Help us** to always be your **light** and **shine brightly**.

Amen.



# The School Day

In order to make good progress and achieve the outcomes they are capable of, children need to come to school every day on time. Our school day begins at 8.45 a.m. for all children. Children are encouraged to come into school from 8.35 a.m. so that they are in the classroom for registration and the morning circle time where they greet each other and share thought provoking questions. Morning playtimes and lunchtimes take place at different times for different ages of children. This allows the children more space to play and greater access to the play equipment which is available in the grounds. The school day finishes at 3.15 p.m. for all children.

There is a popular morning and after school club available (until 4.30pm) for working parents.



‘Exemplary behaviour  
from many pupils in  
lessons and around the  
school site’  
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# Building Learning Power

We are passionate about encouraging all our children to become confident, independent and avid learners, whose thirst for learning then continues throughout their lives. From the start of school in our Reception classes, we begin to encourage the children to take personal responsibility for becoming a good learner. Children who demonstrate that they are becoming good learners are rewarded with certificates at our weekly achievement assemblies, in recognition of their positive learning attitudes.

Pupils use these positive learning attitudes across the curriculum to be resilient, responsive and reflective, therefore capitalising on their 'learning power'. All these elements and characteristics along with the school's core values, drive pupils to become determined and valued members of their learning school community.

'Pupils' attitudes to learning are very positive because of the strong learning culture'  
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# Restorative Practice

In this school we use a strategy known as Restorative Practice to solve problems between children, staff or parents. This approach brings together people who have been harmed with those who are perceived to have caused the harm to talk about the incident and decide together what needs to happen to put things right and restore relationships and friendships. Restorative Practice encourages those involved to take personal responsibility for the mistakes that they make and enables forgiveness and reconciliation to take place. Where children have experienced serious problems, parents may be invited to a restorative conference with other parents and children to address the issue.

All school staff have been trained in Restorative Practice. A number of children in Key Stage 2 have also been trained in Restorative Practice; these children act as Peer Mediators. Their role is to help other children to resolve minor conflicts and disagreements which happen in school. These children play an important role and can be distinguished by their royal blue sweatshirts.

‘Pupils’ good behaviour and the way they learn to respect diversity make a positive contribution to their feeling safe’  
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# Information and Communication Technology

We are aware that technology moves at a fast pace and it is important for us to ensure that our pupils are fully enabled and versed in technological equipment and language. We invest significantly in ensuring our pupils have access to the latest software and equipment in order to support and maximise their learning across the curriculum. All classrooms are fully equipped with the latest interactive whiteboards and various mobile devices such as iPads, laptops and Chromebooks are accessible from the ICT hub.

Most importantly, we ensure our pupils are fully equipped with the knowledge and understanding of how to stay safe whilst using ICT and appreciate the amazing opportunities that online learning offers. We also ensure that children know when and how to make positive choices to stay safe.

‘When working independently, and in pairs or groups, pupils are conscientious and complete their tasks.’

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# Curriculum and Standards

In addition to the statutory curriculum we provide many opportunities for sports and the arts both within and outside the school day. Much of the curriculum is taught through topics or themes and we try to make these exciting, interesting and memorable. Children are taken out of school on visits wherever possible to enrich their learning. Parents with a particular interest or skill are strongly encouraged and invited to share these with us.

As part of preparation for life in the global community, children begin to learn to speak Spanish from year 3 and continue with this through to year 6. This very much supports development of their English and has led to standards in writing which are above the national average.

Over the course of the year children are able to participate in a range of sports clubs after school including football, basketball, cricket, rounders, netball, orienteering, dance and multi-skills. Other clubs include cookery, art and crafts. We have a large school garden which enables children to grow food and plants and learn about the natural environment.



# Pupil Voice and the School Parliament

Our Pupil Council is well established and works hard to ensure that the children are fully involved in decision making in school. We have trained peer mediators who are a group of children who have undergone special training to help to resolve problems between children in the playground. Our Eco Team helps to ensure that we are doing our best to take care of the environment in school and in the wider world. We are particularly proud of our Fair Trade Team who ensure that we continually do our best to support communities who are not as fortunate as ourselves.

As a Church school, our active Worship Team plan and deliver acts of worship and seasonal services in Church. We also have various after school clubs such as sports, debate, SATs workshops and access to the school library.



'Pupils' spiritual, moral, social and cultural development is very strong'  
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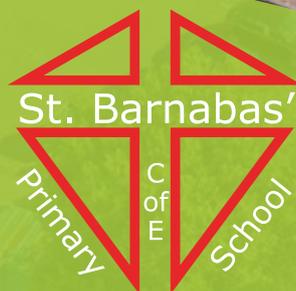
# Stories - Where Adventures Begin and Dreams are Made...

The biggest gift we can give our children is the gift of reading, the second is to open the door to an amazing adventure through stories and text.

We instil a love of reading into our children in our purpose and imaginatively developed Library where children can find themselves lost in a different world, space or time. Hidden hubs, arches and soft seating enable children to find the comfort and space to really feel at ease when enjoying their favourite text. Inviting authors and poets into school to share those experiences have proven to have positive impact on pupil's engagement with books and reading.

'The more that you read, the more things you will know. The more that you learn, the more places you'll go!' Dr Seuss

'Pupils are developing attitudes towards reading that are more positive'  
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## Heaton St Barnabas' C of E (VA) Primary School

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