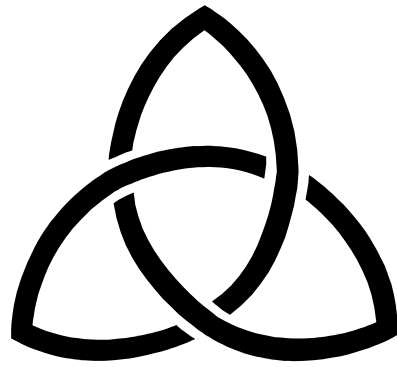


**HOLY TRINITY C of E VA
PRIMARY SCHOOL**

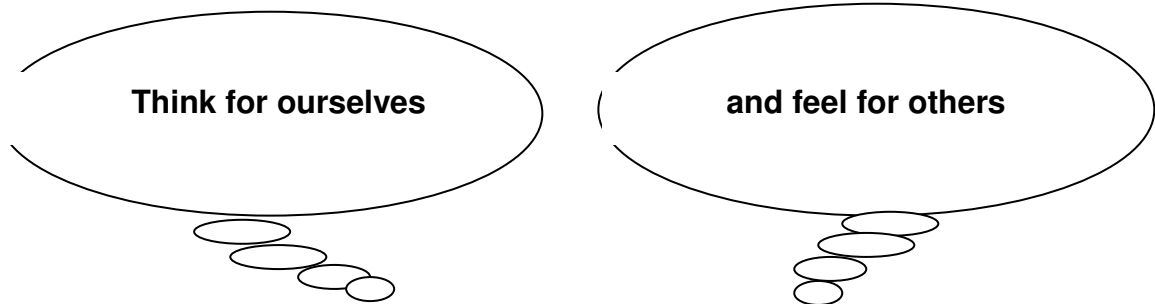


Taunton, Somerset

**INFORMATION FOR
PARENTS AND PUPILS**

Welcome to HOLY TRINITY C of E VA PRIMARY SCHOOL Taunton

Where we:



Within a Christian framework the aim of the school is to educate the children to the best of their ability and to provide a happy, caring and secure environment.

The children are our future - what they experience today they take into tomorrow.

Let this be: hope, enthusiasm, knowledge and understanding, confidence, self-respect, positive relationships, kindness and consideration for others, tolerance and a zest for living.

TRINITY SCHOOL HYMN - to the tune of "Lord of the Dance"

There's a big bright building in the middle of town
With trees and grass, and a bank for running down.
There's a little bit of old, and a lot of new
And the doors are open to welcome you.

CHORUS:

*God's love is working in our school
"Just do your best" is the Golden Rule.
And we'll tell you all, whoever you may be
That we're glad to belong here at Trinity!*

We've got paper and pencils, we've got paint and glue;
In our school there are lots of things to do.
There is sand and water, there is chalk and clay;
And friends beside you to work and play.

CHORUS:

You can sing in a choir, you can act in a play
And run cross-country, nearly every day.
You can skip in the playground, you can kick a ball;
Or climb up the ropes in the big school hall.

CHORUS:

We will watch and listen so our minds will grow
Finding out all the things we want to know.
And we'll do our best with every passing day,
To try to live in the Christian way.

CHORUS:

Welcome to Trinity C of E VA Primary School

Our school is a Voluntary Aided School. We are a school with a warm and welcoming community. We have strong church links and a teaching staff who are in sympathy with the Christian faith as expressed by the Church of England.

Holy Trinity C of E VA Primary School was established in 1846 and is a co-educational day school for pupils aged between 4+ and 11 years. The school has over three hundred pupils on roll.

The original buildings of our school date from 1911, and an extensive re-modelling and re-building programme was completed in 1990 and extended in 2003. The accommodation provides ten classrooms, hall, dining area, library, resources, cloakrooms, general office, staff and Headteachers rooms. A computer suite was opened in Easter 2004. There is a purpose built Hearing Resource Centre, known as the Cleary Centre, for hearing impaired pupils, who are included as an integral part of the school.

AIMS AND OBJECTIVES, as a Church of England V.A. School.

Mission Statement: To think for ourselves and feel for others.

Aims

- Our aim is to create a positive, encouraging and caring environment, ensuring that all members of the school community feel valued and respected.
- To enable children to develop independent learning skills and encourage a lifelong love of learning.
- To encourage the pursuit of quality in all that children do and to work with parents and carers as partners in their children's education.
- To promote and to encourage good standards of behaviour at all times.

Objectives

We believe that children should be able to:

- show achievement in all areas of the school's curriculum to the best of their ability.
- widen their understanding and develop skills and interests in Literacy, Numeracy, Science and Information Communications Technology.
- develop skills and appreciation of music, drama and the arts.
- be aware of their heritage and the environment in which they live.
- develop their physical skills and well being individually and as part of a team in order to inspire confidence.
- know and accept religious and moral values as well as to be sympathetic to other cultures, religions and ways of life.

THE SCHOOL DAY

Our school day starts at 9.00 a.m. and finishes at 3.15 p.m. The lunch break is from 12 noon to 1.15 p.m. for infants, (Key Stage 1) and 12.15 p.m. to 1.15 p.m. for juniors, (Key Stage 2).

The playground is supervised from 8.50 to 9.00 a.m. Children should not arrive at school before 8.45 a.m. and they should leave the premises by 3.25 p.m. unless remaining, with permission, for a recognised after-school activity.

Although we recognise that parking is a problem outside our school gates, ***we regret that we cannot allow parents' cars into the school grounds.*** The available space must be reserved for taxis bringing children into our Hearing Impaired Resource Centre.

LUNCHTIME ARRANGEMENTS

All children bring a packed lunch from home. This must not include any glass bottles, canned or fizzy drinks or sweets. If you are in receipt of Family Income Support or Job Seekers Allowance (Income Based) you will be entitled to free packed lunches. Please enquire at the school office for details.

If you wish your child to go home for lunch we will require written consent.

We encourage children to play outside if the weather is at all suitable, so appropriate outdoor clothing is needed everyday.

SCHOOL RULES

1. Care for everyone and everything in our school
2. Be polite at all times
3. Always work as well as you can
4. Make school fun for everyone

Punishments and sanctions are lightly used. Disapproval in the eyes of the teacher is often sufficient. Where firmer action is needed we endeavour to let the punishment fit the crime and to ensure that the child fully understands the reasons for our disapproval.

CODE OF CONDUCT

Children are encouraged in self-discipline and awareness of the outcome of their actions. We aim for a good rapport between teacher and child demanding the development of conscience. Good manners and an acceptable code of conduct are expected. The school has drawn up a Behaviour Policy and it is school policy that parents will be involved in all serious matters. We believe it to be both a parent's right and responsibility to know how a child is behaving at school. The school has a Home/School Agreement and a Statement on Bullying.

THE CONTENT AND ORGANISATION OF THE CURRICULUM

The National Curriculum provides a framework which ensures the development of a child as he/she moves through the school.

The basic requirements under the National Curriculum include: Religious Education and the core subjects of Mathematics, English, Science and I.C.T.

The foundation subjects are: Art, History, Geography, Music, Physical Education, Design and Technology,

The National Curriculum contains attainment targets, which will provide standards against which children's progress will be assessed. The school will communicate the results of these assessments to parents at the end of Key Stage 1 and Key Stage 2.

In addition to the subjects specified in the National Curriculum, the school curriculum also addresses cross-curricular issues such as personal and social education, Citizenship, health, equal opportunities and multi-cultural education. The manner in which the curriculum as a whole is delivered will reflect the needs of each individual child, and so the organisation of teaching groups will, of course, be flexible.

During the primary years a pupil's progress will be regularly assessed and monitored. The school will communicate the results of National Tests to parents at various stages of their child's development, for example at age 4 to 5 years (Foundation Stage), at age 7 (the end of Key Stage 1) and at age 11 (the end of key Stage 2). SAT's results tables are included in this brochure pack.

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

The school's Religious Education Policy has been drawn up in accordance with the Diocesan adopted syllabus, and the daily act of worship reflects our Christian foundation. There is a mixture of whole school Collective Worship each week and every class takes part in a "Class Assembly" during the year.

We also have Achievement Assemblies every term. Examples of Achievement Award categories are as follows:

Friendship, Music, Book Reviews, Art, P.E., Health, R.E., Maths, Science, D.T., Politeness, Geography & History, Kindness, Most Improved Work, ICT and writing.

All the pupils attend special services at Holy Trinity Church to mark important events in the life of the school or Church.

We consider it reasonable to assume that parents who send their children to our school are sympathetic to the Christian character of the school. Details of arrangements for the withdrawal of children from Collective Worship/RE lessons are available from the Headteacher.

HEALTH EDUCATION

Our work in Health Education is designed to encourage our pupils towards a healthy and active life style.

Sex Education is included as part of the teaching of our health, personal and social education and in the Science element of the National Curriculum.

PASTORAL CARE

Any child or parent with a worry or problem should approach his/her class teacher. If this is impossible, any other member of staff will be pleased to assist. Parents wishing to see the Head are requested to make an appointment wherever possible, this can usually be arranged at very short notice.

SPECIAL EDUCATION

Trinity School seeks to enable all pupils to reach full potential as individuals and as valued members of the school community. We work hard to ensure that children with Special Educational Needs have access to a balanced and broadly based curriculum.

Wherever possible children with Special Educational Needs receive help within the normal classroom situation, either from the class teacher or from a member of the school's Learning Support Team. In accordance with the Code of Practice we continually update our provision by consulting external support services. We firmly believe in the importance of establishing close working partnerships with parents of Special Needs children.

PARENT CONSULTATIONS AND REPORTS

We provide opportunities throughout the year for you to make an appointment to discuss your child's progress with the classteacher. All children receive a written report in July. Parents may also contact the classteacher, or speak to the Headteacher direct, on more personal matters.

LUNCHTIME AND EXTRA CURRICULAR ACTIVITIES

There are a variety of school clubs and activities for junior children, according to season and demand, these might typically include:

Football, Rugby and Netball training and inter-school competitions
Cricket, Table Tennis, Tennis coaching and inter-school competitions

Clubs/Activities

Gardening Kwik Cricket Basketball Table Tennis Country Dancing
School Choir Music Tuition Cycle Training Scheme Cross Country Running

A letter detailing all of the above is sent to you throughout the school year.

Parents are asked to contribute towards the expenses or tuition fees for a few extra curricular activities.

We are most anxious that no child is ever excluded from any school activity due to financial problems at home. If you have any difficulty please have a private word with the Headteacher or the Deputy Headteacher.

CHARGING POLICY

The Education Reform Act 1988 introduced new provisions on charging for school activities.

Under the 1988 Act schools are unable to charge for the following:

- a) education wholly or mainly during school hours
- b) materials and ingredients for things made in school which pupils or parents do not want to keep
- c) visits in or outside school hours, which are necessary for an examination
Charges may be made for the following:
- d) individual music tuition which is not part of the syllabus for an examination
- e) excursions where a third party is involved (sometimes)
- f) board and lodging where a school activity involves a residential element
- g) the exact cost of "optional extras" i.e. not connected directly with the National Curriculum.

SCHOOL CLOTHING

Please ensure all clothing and personal equipment is named.

Parents are asked to send their children to school in uniform, as this will help to develop their sense of identity with the school.

Boys: grey trousers, short or long
white school shirt
school sweatshirt/navy blue pullover
grey/navy blue or white socks
sensible shoes

Girls: grey or navy skirt/pinafore dress/ tailored trousers
white blouse
school sweatshirt/navy blue jumper or cardigan
blue and white dress for summer
grey/navy blue or white socks/tights
sensible shoes

Navy blue sweatshirts, and sky blue T-shirts, all printed with the school logo, book bags and a school tie are on sale from the TSA school shop, which opens weekly at the end of the school day, please check with the school office for details of opening times.

JEWELLERY

Jewellery is not part of the school dress, but more importantly it is a safety hazard during many school activities. Watches are allowed for junior children only. If ears are pierced stud earrings only may be worn, only one stud for each ear is permitted.

FOOTWEAR

Children must of necessity go out of doors on many occasions during the school day. Please ensure that they have well fitting, waterproof shoes. Shoes with high heels of any kind, or sling backs, are uncomfortable for a long school day, and potentially dangerous. Trainers are not part of the school uniform. In the summer months children must continue to wear socks, in the interest of hygiene and comfort.

PHYSICAL EDUCATION

Changes of clothing for games, PE and swimming are essential in the interest of safety, hygiene and comfort. This should include daps or plimsolls, plain light blue tee shirts, and navy shorts, no fashion items. Junior children will also need appropriate kit for outdoor games. In the winter months jogging bottoms in navy or grey would be useful.

MEDICAL

The name of every child admitted into school is included on the County medical records. From time to time there are dental inspections and vision testing carried out by the County Council's team of school nurses. You will be informed when these are taking place.

If your child is taking medication which needs to be administered during school hours, we ask that either you come into school and give the medicine to your child yourself, or you must fill in a form from the school office giving your consent for either of our school office staff, or the Headteacher, to act on your behalf.

ABSENCE

The school is legally required to notify the DfEE about any unexplained absences. It is vital that parents inform the school on the first day of their child's absence. A written note to school explaining a prolonged absence, when he/she returns, is much appreciated.

All Headteachers in the Taunton area have agreed to discourage term time holidays, a letter to this effect is included in this brochure pack. If it is due to exceptional circumstances that the family annual holiday must be taken during the school term, then a form requesting authorisation by the Headteacher should be obtained from the school office, and when completed, returned to the school. It is also a requirement to fill in a form for occasional absences, which can be provided by the school office.

TRINITY SCHOOL ASSOCIATION (TSA)

All parents of pupils, members of staff and Governors are automatically members of the Association, which was formed in 1984 to support the work of the school. The TSA has Charitable status.

A hard working committee organises social and interesting fund-raising events throughout the year. The emphasis is usually on family participation and we do urge every school family to become involved.

Items such as computers and video recorders, outside benches and our adventure play area have all been provided from funds raised by generations of parents. During the last few years the TSA have provided ICT, sports and other equipment for our pupils and have also supported a large fundraising appeal for the building of two new classrooms and a computer suite in 2003/2004.

AVAILABILITY OF INFORMATION

DfEE regulations require a school to make certain items of information available at the school to parents and the public.

The school holds information on the following:

- a) the LEA's statement of curriculum policy
- b) any Statutory Instruments, including those for National Curriculum subjects, circulars and administrative memoranda relating to powers and duties under the "Curriculum" Section of the Education Reform Act
- c) the most recent OFSTED report or any published HMI reports which refer explicitly to the school
- d) any schemes of work currently used by teachers in the school
- e) any syllabuses followed, including those for public examinations
- f) full copy of the arrangements for the consideration of complaints about the school curriculum made by the LEA
- g) the LEA's agreed syllabus for Religious Education
- h) the case of voluntary schools, a copy of that part of the Trust Deed which deals with the provision of RE, and any other written statement dealing with Religious Education, including any syllabus in use in the school
- i) the school also holds copies of the prospectus, and of the Governing Body's annual report to parents, which are available free to parents on request at the school
- j) copies of minutes of the Governors meetings and TSA meetings are always available on the display shelves in the main school entrance hall.

YOUR CHILD'S NEXT SCHOOL

At the age of eleven children will transfer to secondary education. In the Autumn term before a child is due to transfer, the LEA will send to parents particulars of all the schools available. To ensure that the transfer from primary to secondary education is an easy one, each child's abilities and likely progress are discussed with the secondary schools concerned. Secondary school teachers will talk to the leavers and their class teachers, and the children will visit their new school in the summer term before the transfer takes place.

HOLY TRINITY CHURCH

As Trinity School has Voluntary Aided status there are close links with the parish church. The church stands on the corner of Trinity Street and Church Street, some five minutes walk from the school, and its distinctive white tower can be seen from the school playground.

The parish priest is a Governor and the Parochial Church Council appoints eight Foundation Governors. Some of the school's expenses are met by the Church of England; partly through the parish Church and the school Governors' funds.

Father Julian takes collective worship at school every week; once a term there is a Eucharist in the church for junior pupils, which is specially organised for young people. At the service, children and staff play an important part by leading music, prayers and readings. There are other services on special occasions including a Leavers' Service at the end of the summer term as well as a Harvest and Christmas service.

The church family meets every Sunday for the 10.00 a.m. Eucharist, and children and parents are always welcome, and to stay for coffee afterwards. A junior church for the under-11s meets in the Church Hall at 10.00 a.m., with the children joining their families in church halfway through the service. Boys and girls play their part in worship each Sunday, either in the choir or as servers at the altar. Children and adults also share in the wider social side of the church family's life; barbecues, concerts, trips and fairs.

If ever you want to know more, please contact Father Julian. He is always available after church services, and is often at the school, or you can telephone him on 01823 337890. There is a Parish office, telephone 354800, which is usually staffed on Wednesday mornings, or you can visit the parish website - www.holytrinity.org.uk