

# A GOOD START FOR ALL



# ACHIEVE SUCCESS

LET YOUR CHILD CLIMB THE TREE OF  
KNOWLEDGE AT  
HEMINGTON PRIMARY SCHOOL

## WELCOME

We are a community school with children aged 4-11. Our school was founded in 1877 in a delightful rural setting in the Vale of Hardington. Our village is quiet and secluded well away from busy main roads and traffic pollution. The beauty within the school building extends outside to the grounds, playing field and conservation area. Our intake is not restricted to our own catchment area; we also have children attending who come from Radstock, Buckland Dinham, Frome and beyond.

Hemington Primary School provides a happy, stimulating and inclusive environment for its children and the community it serves. We are very proud of our happy, friendly school where all staff and governors work hard to provide the best possible start to your child's school life.

Hemington is a school with a proud history of 130 years of quality education. As we stand at present, we are a growing school, and are becoming known for developing one of the most inventive curriculums in the County.



We are presently the only Somerset school with the right to use the International Primary Curriculum logo - an organisation receiving universal praise from OFSTED and professional journals.

We are confident that your child's stay at our school will be a happy and successful one. If you have any matter you wish to discuss, please feel free to come and talk to us.

Children are given a safe and very happy start to education because staff are caring, considerate and welcoming. 'Whoopie!' shouted one boy as he ran into class. Routines are established quickly and children clearly feel part of the school family. OFSTED  
OCTOBER 2008



## THE AIMS OF THE SCHOOL

The school aims to:

- Help each child develop to his/her full potential in a caring, happy, secure and stimulating environment, where each child is valued as an individual.
- Care for the children's social and emotional needs, as well as their physical well-being.
- Meet the additional education needs of all the children.
- Help pupils to develop lively, enquiring minds, with the ability to question and argue rationally, to help them apply themselves to tasks and problem solving.
- Help children to acquire the knowledge, skills and attitudes relevant to life in a fast changing world.
- Help pupils understand the world in which they live and the interdependence of individuals, groups and nations.
- Instil respect for religious and moral values and tolerance of other races, religions and ways of life.
- Encourage children to respect themselves and others and to develop appropriate relationships with other children and adults in and out of school.
- Help the pupils develop self-discipline.



The pastoral and physical care on offer for pupils is outstanding. Because of this, relationships are excellent and pupils are extremely happy and ready to learn.

Staff really do know pupils well and links with parents and outside agencies are good.

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# CURRICULUM

## The Content and Organisation of the Curriculum

We believe that learning should be engaging and fun. Our teachers very skilfully and confidently blend basics teaching alongside cross-curricular issues such as Personal and Social Education, Health, Equal Opportunities, Multi-cultural Education and Citizenship. We have also adopted the



International Primary Curriculum, which provides broad trans-disciplinary units that the children find stimulating and which ensure curriculum coverage and an awareness of global issues. 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 necessity, be flexible.

## Religious Education and the Daily Act of Collective Worship

The school is not affiliated to a particular religious body. Religious education at the school is Christian based and non-denominational, in accordance with the national and local guidelines.

The Daily Assembly is intended to reflect our Christian tradition and may contain hymns, prayers, religious stories, music, drama, poetry, art and stories from real life. It is, however, intended that our pupils should also gain some awareness and understanding of other world religions and customs.



Under the provisions of the Education Reform Act 1988, all parents have a right to withdraw their child from the School's daily act of Collective Worship, or from Religious Education. Any parent wishing to withdraw a child from these elements of curriculum should make a written request to the Head Teacher.

## Extra-Curricular Activities

Throughout the school year, we run after school clubs most nights of the week. These range from Science, cricket and gardening through to art, drama and filmmaking and cooking.



## *EVERYONE IS SPECIAL HERE!*

### Special Educational Needs

Where appropriate, the school aims to give additional help to very able children and children with specific or general learning difficulties. Pupils are not streamed and all children have access to the whole of the National Curriculum. There is additional help from a learning assistant, for children who have additional educational needs. Work is set to match individual needs and abilities. Pupils with severe learning difficulties receive appropriate tuition. Children with particularly severe learning and/or behavioural difficulties may, with parental consent, be referred to the Educational Psychologist and/or Behaviour Support Team under the SEN Code of Practice.

### Attainment Targets and Assessment

Children are assessed during Foundation Stage in the following areas:

- Language and Literacy
- Mathematics
- Personal, Social and Emotional Development
- Creative Development
- Physical Development
- Knowledge and Understanding of the World

This information is shared with Parents through the annual report and parental consultation meetings.

The National Curriculum provides attainment targets that will provide standards against which children's progress will be assessed. These assessments take place when the children are aged seven and eleven. Ongoing assessments will also be carried out by the teachers throughout each child's school career using optional S.A.T.s in KS2.

The overall purpose of this assessment is to monitor progress, diagnose weaknesses and to give staff and indicator for a pupil's future work. A

written report will be provided for each child at the end of each academic year. Formal and informal feedback to parents takes place on a regular basis.



REPORT CARD				
GRADING PERIOD	1	2	3	4
READING	A			
WRITTEN COMMUNICATION	A			
MATHEMATICS	C			
SCIENCE/HEALTH	B			
SOCIAL STUDIES	B			
ART	A			
MUSIC	A			
PHYSICAL EDUCATION	C			
Grade Average	B			
Attendance:	Present	46		
	Absent	0		
	Tardy	1		
<small>A = Excellent • B = Good • C = Satisfactory • N = Needs Improvement                      U = Unsatisfactory • I = Insufficient / Incomplete</small>				
Student:	Grade:	Year:		

## PARTNERSHIP WITH PARENTS

"The school has more than lived up to my expectations"  
quote from parent in OFSTED report Oct 2008

### Pre-School

Parents will be eager to help their children to prepare for school. We run an induction programme for our new Foundation Stage children and their parents. This may include home visits, meetings in school, nursery visits for children who do not attend our own Hornbeam Pre-school and opportunities for children to join us for "Taster Sessions".



### At School

We depend on you, as partners with us in your child's education, to support us in all that we do at school. There are many ways in which parents can help their child's learning, particularly by showing that they are interested in what happens during the day. Please inform the Head Teacher of circumstances at home which may influence your child's behaviour and learning ability e.g. absent parent, death of relative or pet etc.



We have an "open door" policy and parents are welcome to visit the school any time. If you feel that a longer discussion is needed, it might be a good idea to make an appointment.

There are frequent opportunities for the parents to be involved in the life of the school, including Curriculum Focus evenings, Health Weeks, Science Fairs and of course, Parent's Evenings, giving parents and teachers the chance to discuss children's progress. Parents are also welcome to volunteer to help in the class as assistants and readers—don't wait to be asked

### Homework

The school has a homework policy. It is anticipated that parents will co-operate in the enforcement of this and support their children in fulfilling their tasks. Homework should always include sharing of reading books for at least 10 minutes per night.

Pupils' outstanding personal development is strength of the school. 'We love it here!' was the collective comment of all seven Year 6 pupils. They speak for the rest of the school. Pupils clearly thoroughly enjoy being at school and flourish in the extremely caring family atmosphere. They show initiative and are keen to take responsibility OFSTED OCTOBER 2008

## Equal Opportunities

Equal Opportunities is the responsibility of the whole school community and must be reflected throughout the organisation of the school and be addressed in the taught and hidden curriculum.

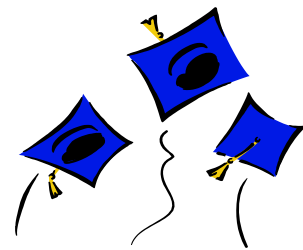
All staff, governors, parents/guardians and pupils regardless of race, ethnicity, disability, gender and socio-economic background, are welcome and will be encouraged to participate in the life of the school.

The school recognises its responsibilities under the Race Relations Act, Sex Discrimination Act and Disability Discrimination Act to eliminate discrimination and to promote good race relations.

## TIME TO SAY GOODBYE

### Your Child's Next School

At the age of eleven, your children leave the Hemington School Family and transfer to secondary education. Most of our pupils go to Writhlington School in B.A.N.E.S., but this need not be the case with your child. In the autumn before your child is due to transfer, the LEA will give you the opportunity to state which school you wish your child to attend. As many of our children are transferring from a Somerset school to a B.A.N.E.S. school, it is very important that transfer documents are returned promptly.



To ensure that the transfer from primary to secondary education is made easier, each child's abilities and likely progress is discussed with the secondary school concerned. Secondary school teachers will interview leavers and their teachers, and parents and children will be able to visit their new school in the summer term before the transfer takes place.

•Pupils justifiably feel  
that they are  
appropriately prepared  
for secondary school  
"OFSTED October  
2008"



## ESSENTIAL INFORMATION

### School Facts

Morning Session 09.00 - 12.10 (12.20 for Brunel Class)  
Afternoon Session 13.10 - 15.10  
Children can arrive from 08.45 but are not supervised until 09.00

### School Meals and Snacks



We endeavour to be a Healthy School. We therefore ask you to support us in our drive to promote a healthy lifestyle. If you wish, your child may return home for lunch. Alternatively, children can bring in a packed lunch, including a drink. Please do not

include sweets, chocolate, glass bottles, tins or fizzy drinks. If you would like your child to have a hot drink, please send this in a vacuum flask (not glass). Your child may also bring in a piece of fruit for a break time snack. Most of our children have hot food at lunchtime provided by BANES Caterers at a cost of only £2.50; this includes a main meal and dessert, which is chosen one week in advance. We are also involved with the Schools' Fruit and Vegetable Scheme, which provides free break time snacks for Nightingale Class.

School wins health award



### Discipline

Behaviour is excellent in and out of class.  
OFSTED October 2008

Discipline within the school is maintained through a kind and caring but firm approach.



The children are encouraged to:

- ✓ Show courtesy and consideration for the feelings of others
- ✓ Have responsible attitudes to property and equipment
- ✓ Be willing to accept the authority of all school staff
- ✓ Develop self-discipline

The children help to construct Golden Rules to be followed during the school day.



These are based on the principles listed above. The children work together to achieve a target for their good work and behaviour. Dragon tokens are rewarded at the end of the week if this is achieved. Sanctions for breaking any of the Golden Rules include time taken from Golden Time (free choice activities).

We hope that parents will be concerned about their child's behaviour, supporting the school in maintaining an acceptable standard and taking an active part in solving more severe problems, if these should arise.



## ESSENTIAL INFORMATION

A wonderful, safe and  
nurturing environment.  
OFSTED October 2008

### Pupil Welfare

The school nurse visits regularly and keeps a record of all the children's health. On entry, parents are given the opportunity to record any significant medical problems that may be followed up by the School Doctor.



During the first year at school, a special hearing test is carried out to make sure that your child is not suffering from hearing loss. Regular vision tests are made by the school nurse. She will let you know if your child's eyes need further tests.



### Routine Checks



Please check your child's hair at regular intervals. If your child has head lice, please keep them at home until treatment has taken effect. If your child is found to have head lice during the school day, you will be notified. Children's hair should be treated before they return to school.

### Absence

If your child is unable to attend school due to ill health or for any other reason, please telephone the school by 09.30 on the first day of absence and confirm the reason in writing on your child's first day back. If your child is likely to be off school for a lengthy period, please notify the school as soon as possible. If you intend to take your child on holiday during term-time, please ask for a holiday form beforehand. We would like to point out that time away from school can disadvantage your child and we do have very strict guidelines about the types of holiday that can be authorised.



### Emergency Closure Procedure

In the event of severe weather conditions or power cuts, etc. the school may have to close. If this were to happen, we would contact you to arrange for your child to be taken home. At the start of each school year, you will be given a contact name and number. We cascade information through these contacts. Please phone your contact number, who will have been informed about closure by 07.45.



## ESSENTIAL INFORMATION

### Illness at school

Although we do the best we can, there is no comfortable, quiet place for children to rest in school. In cases where we suspect illness, parents are contacted by telephone to arrange collection of their child.



### Medicines



For legal reasons, teaching staff are advised not to administer medications; however, if your child needs to take tablets or medicine at school, please contact the class teacher and label the container clearly with your child's name and the directions for use.

### Infectious Diseases

#### Infections transmitted by inhalation via nose and throat:

<u>Disease</u>	<u>Incubation Period</u>	<u>Exclusion of cases Minimum Period</u>
Chicken Pox	14 - 21 days	6 days from onset of rash
German Measles	14 - 21 days	4 days from onset of rash
Measles	10 - 15 days	7 days from onset of rash
Mumps	12 - 26 days	Until swelling subsides (7 days minimum)
Streptococcal throat or Scarlet Fever	1 - 3 days	Until clinical recovery
Whooping Cough	7 - 10 days	21 days from onset of paroxysmal cough or until case has received at least 5 days of a 14 day course of antibiotics

#### Infections transmitted by direct contact

Impetigo	-	excluded until skin is healed
Ringworm	-	excluded until treatment has been received
Conjunctivitis	-	excluded until after acute phase

Both impetigo and conjunctivitis are **highly contagious** and spread rapidly through classes. We would ask parents to do their best to ensure that their children do not come to school whilst suffering from these conditions.

**Hay Fever:** If your child suffers from hay fever please let the school know. The red, sore eyes sometimes caused by hay fever are easily confused with conjunctivitis and it is helpful for us to know if a child is prone to hay fever.

**Asthma:** Children involved with swimming sessions will be required to take their medication to the pool and on all other excursions.

### School Uniform/P.E. Kit

The school has a uniform policy. Sweatshirts and P.E. kits can be ordered online at [schoolwearforless@schooltrends.co.uk](mailto:schoolwearforless@schooltrends.co.uk) or through the school.

#### Uniform List

<b>Winter</b>	Girls	Navy, grey or black pinafore dress, pleated skirt or trousers. *school sweatshirt
	Boys	Navy, grey or black trousers and *school sweatshirt. Plain navy or grey socks.
<b>Summer</b>	Girls	Blue or green striped or check cotton mix dress, navy or green shorts. White, navy or green socks. *School polo shirt or plain white, navy or green t-shirt.
	Boys	As winter, or navy, grey or green shorts and *school polo shirt.
<b>Shoes</b>	Boys & Girls	Black or navy leather-type, sensible, safe low heeled shoes.
<b>P.E.</b>	Boys & Girls	*Navy shorts and *school t-shirt. Black <u>slip-on</u> daps. Dark tracksuits during winter months. One piece swimming costume/trunks and towel - Yr 1 and over.

\* = only available from the school or direct from our uniform suppliers

Trainers may be worn for P.E. only. Children may be asked to bring in wellington boots for certain activities.

## ESSENTIAL INFORMATION

### Jewellery and Valuable Items



The school takes no responsibility for valuable items worn or brought into school. For safety reasons, we ask that children do not wear jewellery of any sort to school. If your child has pierced ears, we would recommend that studs be worn. It is essential that shoes and items of school uniform be clearly marked with the child's name. Children are discouraged from bringing items from home unless asked to do so in support of their studies.



### 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:

- education wholly or mainly during school hours,
- materials and ingredients for things made in school which pupils or parents do not wish to keep,
- visits in or outside school hours which are necessary for an examination.

Charges *MAY* be made for the following:

- individual music tuition which is not part of the syllabus for an examination,

- excursions where a third party is involved (sometimes),
- board and lodging where a school activity involves a residential element,
- the exact cost of 'optional extras', i.e. not connected directly with the National Curriculum.

Some school activities will only be possible if parents make a voluntary contribution, and where this is the case, parents will always be informed at the outset.

This represents a brief summary of complex issues, and the school will always guarantee that parents are fully informed of the conditions relating to requests for payments in individual cases.

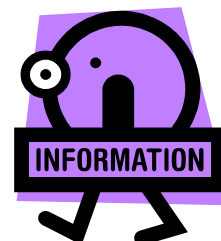
Please be sure to let us know if you are receiving Income Support or Family Credit as this will affect your voluntary contributions.



### Complaints Procedure

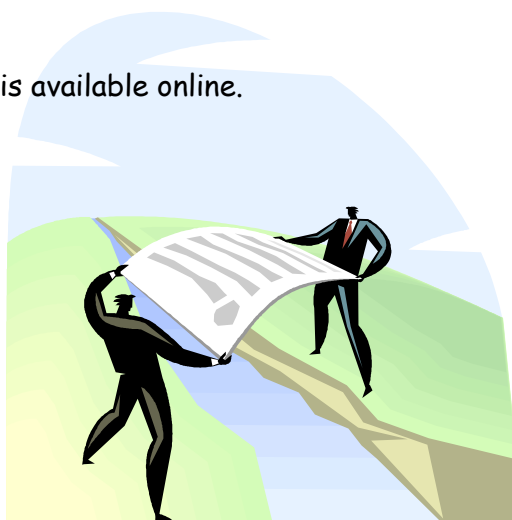
We hope that any complaints that parents may have can be resolved by the school. Therefore, any complaints, in the first instance, should normally be made to the Head Teacher, and it is hoped that in most cases, complaints will be dealt with at this level. If the complaint cannot be resolved at this local level, (i.e. with the Head Teacher) then the parent should submit his/her complaint in writing to the Clerk of the Governors (who will acknowledge receipt of the complaint) If the matter cannot be resolved, it can be referred in writing to the Education Secretary, who will arrange for an investigation to take place. We hope that any complaints can be resolved by the parent concerned discussing the matter with an appropriate member of staff. If you require any detailed information on the Complaints Procedure, full details are available on request from the school office.

## Freedom of Information Statement



DfE regulations require the school to make certain items of information available at the school to parents and the public. The school holds information on the following:

- the LEA's statement of curriculum policy and the governing body's statement of curriculum aims;
- any Statutory Instruments (including those for National Curriculum subjects), circular and administrative memoranda relating to powers and duties under the "Curriculum" Section of the Educational Reform Act;
- any published OFSTED Reports about the school;
- any schemes of work currently used by teachers in the school;
- any syllabuses followed, including those for public examinations;
- a full copy of the arrangements for the consideration of complaints about the school curriculum made by the LEA;
- the LEA's agreed syllabus for Religious Education;
- the school profile is available online.



## STAFF

Head Teacher

Miss N de Chastelain



Teachers

Mrs J L Finch  
Mrs L Dixon  
Mrs C Hurley



SENCO

Ms R Ashton-Butler

Forest School

Mrs N Brixey

Business Manager

Mrs C J Shearn



Clerical Assistant

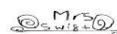
Mrs S Golay

School Assistants

Mrs B Moor



Mrs S Swift



Ms T Ayres



Mrs W Shillabeer

Miss C Howells

Lunchtime Supervisors

Ms T Ayres  
Mrs J Edgell

Caretaker/cleaner

Mr R Carter

## *GOVERNORS*

Chairman

Mrs J Merrick (Parent)

Miss N de Chastelain (Headteacher)

Mr R Clark (Community)

Mrs J Robinson (Parent)

Mr P Schroeder (Community)

Mrs C Shearn (Staff)

Mr I Wakeling (LA)

Clerk to the Governors

Mrs S Golay

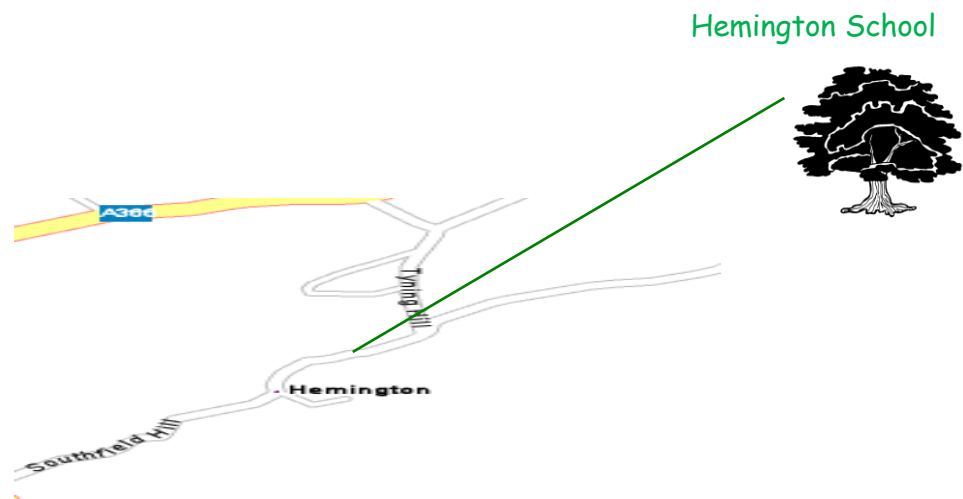
Minutes of the Governors' Meetings are displayed in the School Entrance Hall



## HOW TO CONTACT US

Hemington Primary School  
Hemington  
Radstock  
Somerset  
BA3 5XU

Telephone: 01373 834320  
Fax: 01373 834320  
Email: [office@hemington.somerset.sch.uk](mailto:office@hemington.somerset.sch.uk)  
Website: [www.hemington.ik.org](http://www.hemington.ik.org)



### A Good Reason to contact us?

There is a very strong ethos, securely based on showing consideration and being considerate. Pupils play an important role in the school as a community and are eager to raise money for charity and support village events. Pupils know how to keep fit and healthy. They feel safe and secure and this helps them grow in confidence and learn from 'mistakes' without fear of failure. Spiritual, moral, social and cultural development is excellent and this underpins first-rate behaviour in and out of classrooms.

OFSTED OCTOBER 2008