Horsford Church of England VA Primary School Prospectus





**Our Values** 

Responsibility

Courage

Compassion

The aim of Horsford Primary School is to create a caring, Christian community, where a lifelong love of learning is fostered and uniqueness is valued. Our aspiration is that everyone be inspired to achieve their full potential in every aspect in their lives, enabling a confident and positive response to a challenging and ever changing world.



Our school is part of the Nebula Partnership





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## Welcome

Welcome to Horsford Primary School. This prospectus has been put together by the children, staff, governors and parents of the school. We hope it gives you a picture of how our school runs and to appreciate the exciting opportunities on offer to children in our care. Horsford Primary School is a new school that opened in September 2015. It has two sites, Holt Road and Mill Lane, which are approximately a ten minute walk from each other. Holt Road cares for our younger children working in Reception (EYFS), Year One and Year Two (Key Stage One) and Mill Lane continues the children's learning journey in Years Three, Four, Five and Six (Key Stage Two).

The school welcomes up to 60 children into Reception each year and the children are either taught in single aged or mixed aged classes. Class sizes are no more than 30 and are taught by our team of qualified teachers. Learning Support Advisors also support the children in class. At lunchtime the children are under the care of our trained Midday Supervisor Assistants. If you would like further information about our admissions process, please find the admissions policy on our website.

We provide opportunities for children to visit and work together across the both sites and enjoy the use of facilities that both sites have to offer.

The best way to find out about our school is to come and visit, to see us in action and meet staff and children, just call either site to arrange a welcoming visit to our school.

### Nebula

Horsford Primary School is part of the Nebula Federation of six schools. The core purpose of the federation is to develop the very best, self-improving organisations to ensure that your children do exceptionally well and are prepared for the future. We are committed to provide each and every child with a holistic education that enables them to be successful and prepares them for the future. We are extremely proud to be part of this federation but each school are also equally passionate about wanting to respect and maintain the individuality of their school.

The federation gives all six schools strong leadership, extra sustainability, financial stability, flexibility and the capacity to support school improvement. We can build on the strong federations that already exist to raise standards as all six schools are able to share resources, work much more closely together, collaborate, share their strengths and ensure that collectively they are providing the very best education for the children and overcome some of the challenges that schools can face.

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# **Our Aims & Objectives:**





### We want all our children to:

- Enjoy school and feel safe
- Have good or excellent teaching and make good and continued progress
- Become effective learners, making informed and independent choices
- Respect themselves and others

### We aim to:

- cherish the individual; to teach and learn in a caring Christian environment.
- develop, in the children, an understanding of the benefits of a healthy lifestyle and provide them with the knowledge and skills necessary to make healthy choices and live in a safe and healthy way.
- ensure all children develop self-confidence and self-discipline to meet challenges now and in the future.
- give every child the opportunity to enjoy and achieve by providing a high quality education with equal regard and access to all pupils; delivering the National Curriculum; providing breadth and balance, in such a way to ensure all children enjoy their education and engage fully with it and are able to reach their full potential.
- enable the children to become valued members of the community; to develop social awareness and respect for others and to make a positive contribution to the society in which they live.
- help the children acquire the essential knowledge, skills and attitudes that will enable them to take full advantage of all opportunities open to them; to enable them to develop economic well-being in adult life.

### What our children say about their school:

We are a caring, kind and welcoming school.



We want to always try our best.









Our **Holt Road** site is responsible for the four to seven year olds and each class have their own special classroom where the work

and display their learning proudly. The children can also spend time in other areas of the school, such as the library, hall or outdoors.







When children move into Year Three, they transfer to our **Mill Lane** site. They remain here until the end of Year Six. There are various specialist teaching areas, including a food technology room and music room. During lunchtime, children have the opportunity to use a wide range of equipment on our field and to access the Haven craft/games club.



## **Our School Grounds**

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"I like lunch, because they do really nice dinners and you get to spend time with your friends."

"There are loads of things about school that I like, if it wasn't for school I wouldn't have met all my friends."



English lessons are built around units of work that focus on the key fiction and non fiction genres as outlined in the National Curriculum. Each unit provides the opportunity for children to become immersed in the specific genre through shared, guided and individual reading and writing experiences.



'I like maths, because you get to earn how to do tricky number sentences.

Children are encouraged to investigate mathematically, using what they know to enable them to work out what they don't. Discussions of how answers are arrived at are extremely important too, as children who are able to explain how they have answered a question will understand better. As well as discrete maths sessions, we are working as a school on giving the children opportunities to use their maths skills more and more in other subjects. Children's level of understanding is assessed throughout the year and as a result of these ongoing assessments, lessons are planned

with the children's needs in mind.

### Our School Curriculum



Math

We provide a stimulating learning environment that responds to each child's needs and one that enables them to fulfil their potential. We offer a unique curriculum that is designed to address their spiritual, moral, cultural and social development as well as the academic. We value our learning to learn culture where we place an emphasis on involving children in their learning journey. The children will be offered many opportunities to work from first hand experience. We have designed a broad, balanced curriculum, which covers all areas of experience and one that develops concepts, skills, attitudes and knowledge. We want to develop the whole child and through this we expect our children, parents and carers to have high expectations to enable us to do this. We expect to work in partnership with the home.





Nebula

As well as a range of skills taught in lessons, there are plenty of sports clubs that run throughout the year, and teams that compete in a variety of evens. We organise for highly qualified visitors from various institutions to come into school to share their skills and knowledge with the children.

Promoting Alternative Thinking Strategies underpins our curriculum both in and out of discrete lessons. Children are randomly chosen to be pupil of the day, and receive compliments from staff and peers, as well as other special treats and responsibilities.



In a rapidly changing world, children's ability to use computers in a range of situations is vital. The school has a range of computing equipment which enables the children to access the curriculum.



At Horsford, children are encouraged to ask HOW and WHY questions because we value curiosity: it furthers understanding of how the world works. There are plenty of hands-on, practical activities and the children take an increasingly active role in the planning and carrying out of this work. ICT is used in lessons where possible.



## **Our School Curriculum**



As a church school, RE is central to the ethos of Horsford Primary. We learn about a variety of religions through key questions and the children participate in daily worship. We also have visitors from the local church and community, who perform a range of religious stories called 'Open the Book'.

Geography and History



As the children progress through the school they will experience a range of musical instruments and genres. They can then develop these further in lunchtime and after school clubs. Lessons are also provided, for smaller groups of children, for specialist music teachers if they wish at an additional cost.



Throughout the year our theme based curriculum is enhanced with educational visits to allow children to have first hand experience of geography and history so that they make links to the wider world.

Children learn French, German or Spanish throughout their time at Horsford Primary School. We aim to do this in a fun, engaging way to help the children secure their learning.



From topics, pupils will explore their creativity by experimenting and developing their control with different materials and techniques including sculpture. Pupils will also look at inspirational artists and designers in history and create their own personal sketchbooks recording observations and ideas. Through a variety of creative and practical activities pupils design and make using skills, select a range of tools and equipment for their product. Materials include construction materials, mechanical systems, textiles and cooking and nutrition. Pupils evaluate their work and consider the views of others to improve their work.

## **Our School Curriculum**



What our Year 6 children think...

"Horsford Primary School is an amazing school where the teachers are kind and helpful. Because of this, the students are learning in a brilliant and cheerful atmosphere for learners. Horsford's teachers are creative and fun; always coming up with creative ways to jazz up boring lessons. Our teachers also help those who are struggling and nobody ever gets left out. However, they do have high expectations and want you to achieve all that you can and have a mature, cooperative attitude towards learning. Without our teachers, many of us wouldn't get the great education we have had and are having. In short, Horsford Primary is a great place to learn for all children."





# What Makes Our School Special

"I like Forest Schools, because it is fun and you get to learn about mini-beasts and habitats. You also get to have campfires."



**Need to Know Information** 

### Safeguarding

Horsford CE VA Primary School is committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of its pupils and encourages an open and supportive culture. We all have a duty to protect children and young people from harm. Adults working in a school are often the first to realise that the behaviour of someone is causing, or is likely to cause, harm to a child or young person. Each individual has a responsibility for raising concerns about unacceptable practice or behaviour in order to protect or reduce the risks to others, to prevent the problem worsening and to protect other staff and the school.

### **Behaviour**

We believe that to treat children positively, by praising them and offering encouragement for the things they do well, is the most successful approach to behaviour management. This does not mean that inappropriate behaviour is ignored, simply that the positive aspects of children's behaviour should be highlighted whenever possible. Praise and encouragement is vitally important in developing children's self-esteem and should be meaningful and regular. This might mean being praised for working hard, being polite or showing consideration towards others. Unacceptable behaviour is recognised when children's rights to be safe and learn are not being respected and the school rules are not being followed. This varies from low level, disruptive behaviour to physical behaviour that may affect the safety, wellbeing or learning of other people at school.

Any incidences of behaviour are shared with parents, either by telephone call or at the end of the school day. If you have any concerns about your child being involved in inappropriate behaviour, please do not hesitate

### SATs

Do you have a child in primary school in Year 2 or Year 6? If so, they will be taking the national curriculum tests (SATs) in May of that year. The tests will provide information about how your child is progressing, compared to children the same age nationally. They are not qualifications and do not affect your child's future options in school. The results are used to ensure that schools are teaching their pupils the essential knowledge and skills in the subjects that are the early building blocks. This is to ensure every child reaches their full potential.

### Ofsted

Every school is monitored by Ofsted who inspect different areas of the school, including leadership; the quality of teaching, learning and assessment; personal development, behaviour and welfare; outcomes for pupils and the effectiveness of the early years provision. Ofsted inspected our school in June 2018 and graded the school as Good in all areas. The report can be read, in full, on the school website. Ofsted also has a Parent View section to welcome any complements or concerns about our school. Parent View gives you the chance to tell Ofsted what you think about your child's school, from the quality of teaching, to dealing with bullying and poor behaviour. The survey can be completed at any time; you don't have to wait until the school is being inspected.

### Want to know more?

School offers Assertive Mentoring meetings with parents four times a year to discuss your child's progress. If you would like to speak to your child's teacher outside of these times, please make an appointment through the school office. If you require further information, our school website is regularly updated and provides links to our curriculum, policies and procedures in school.



### Checklist

#### Keep in the know...

A termly parent planner will give you dates in advance so you can plan ahead.

For any trips or clubs that require permission from the parents, we will send out a paper letter with all the information you need and a reply slip to return.

Homework is organised by the class teacher and sent home on **Friday** each week and needs to be in by the following **Friday**.

Our website will keep you updated weekly with upcoming activities including after school clubs and parent events. Please make sure we have an up to date email for other correspondence.

Holt Road and Mill Lane 8:45am	Classrooms supervised for early drop off
Holt Road and Mill Lane 8:55am	Registration and lessons begin
	Holt Road
10:30am	Playtime
10:45am	Lesson time
12:00pm	Holt Road Lunchtime
1:00pm	Lesson time
	Mill Lane
10:00am	Playtime
10:15am	Lesson time
12:15pm	Mill Lane Lunchtime
1:05pm	Lesson time
Holt Road 3:05pm	End of the school day
Mill Lane 3:20pm	End of the school day

### Your child will need:

School Uniform—Black shoes, black or grey trousers/shorts/skirt/dress, white polo shirt and purple jumper or cardigan.

Please ensure hair styles are appropriate for school and do not include slogans or logos shaved into the hair or hair dyed bright colours.

Children may only wear stud earrings, no other jewellery is permitted.

Make-up and nail varnish are not permitted.

PE kit— trainers and socks for outdoor PE. Black shorts or jogging bottoms and white t-shirt. Plain jumper for outside in cold weather.

Long hair must be tied back and stud earrings removed for PE.

Book bag or rucksack.

Tuck Money (optional) —

20p at Holt Road

35p-50p per item at Mill Lane

Also...

Year 1 and Year 2

Forest Schools kit—Long sleeved top and trousers that can get messy and wellies. Waterproofs optional.

Mill Lane (Years 3, 4, 5 and 6)

Pencil case and stationery (optional).

Children at Holt Road get free fruit and a free school dinner (provided by the government). The school dinner needs to be ordered in advance and can be done so at the school office or on an order form.

Children at Mill Lane can order a school dinner for £2.20.

They can also choose to have a home packed lunch.

Although we do not provide breakfast clubs and after school childcare on site, there are local childcare providers who can drop off and collect children from school at the start and end of the school day.