



Ilam CE (VA) Primary School
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a place to grow



Ilam Church of England (Voluntary Aided) Primary School

Dear Parents,

Welcome to Ilam Primary School

Our school caters for children from three years of age in our Foundation Stage through to learners of eleven. This prospectus provides an introduction to Ilam School which we hope you will find useful.

MISSION STATEMENT

Within the Christian ethos, we promote thoughtfulness, learning and curiosity.

Statement of Aims:-

To educate pupils intellectually, socially, morally, aesthetically, physically and spiritually within an ethos firmly based on Christian values, as exemplified by the life of Christ.

To stimulate in the children a sense of curiosity and excitement about the world and to encourage them to search for truth, meaning and purpose in life; to provide an opportunity to search for a faith by which to live.

To enable pupils to grow and achieve fullness of life through discovering and developing their talents.

INTRODUCTION

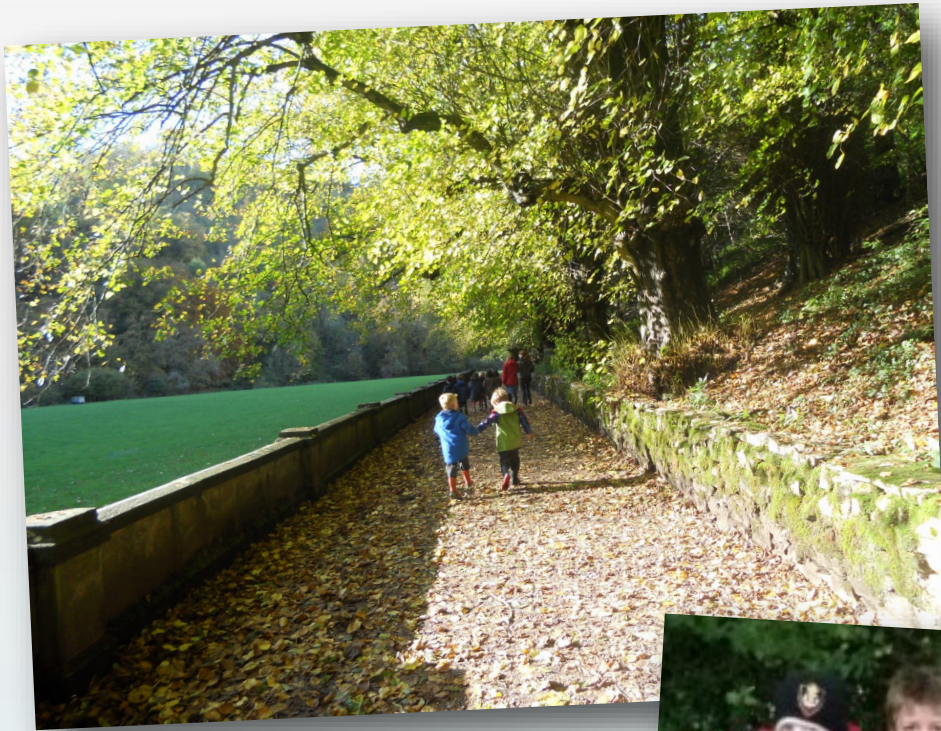
Set at the southern tip of the Peak District, just in Staffordshire, Ilam School offers a very special combination of all the benefits of a small village school, together with the advantages that a developing educational system of today can offer through the National Curriculum 2014, set within the school's own broad and balanced curriculum.

Ilam School is a focal point of the village and fosters a caring, family atmosphere, where each individual child is valued and appreciated. There is an emphasis on Christian teaching and moral standards, which encourages good behaviour, self-discipline and respect for each other.

The pastoral care of the children is of a very high standard as staff and children get to know each other very easily. The school is committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children and young people and expects all staff and volunteers to share this commitment.

The teaching and learning allows children to experience the world also, through curriculum topics, visits and our school link with St Edward's Catholic Primary School. They gain an understanding of how diverse the UK is, and some of the social and environmental issues in the wider world, as they become able to. Children are supported to develop their values and understand their rights through critical skills and activities in the older class.

A place to nurture...



INFORMATION ABOUT THE SCHOOL

Ilam School has been on its present site since 1854. The school has four classrooms, two of which are used as a hall and the serving of dinners. School meals are provided by County Catering and are cooked on the premises. Toast and milk is made available to all children at morning break time.

All children stay for their midday meal and are supervised by two/three lunchtime supervisors, who also supervise playground activities. Outdoors, we have three playgrounds and an adjacent sports field. A chequerboard garden, wild area and outdoor classroom offer on-site environmental studies which are often extended into the beautiful surroundings of Ilam Hall and the Manifold/Dove Valley.

Transport is provided for children from the Swinscoe and Alstonefield areas. Children from Derbyshire are admitted under a reciprocal arrangement with Derbyshire County Council Education Committee.

ADMISSIONS

Parents considering sending their children to the school are welcome to visit the school at any time by arrangement with the Headteacher.

Children are admitted to the school in the academic year in which they attain the age of five or can be admitted into our nursery the term after they are aged three.

PROCEDURE FOR ADMISSION TO RECEPTION

Parents with a child whose fifth birthday falls between 1st September and 31st August should contact the Headteacher in order to receive the appropriate information and application forms. Applications may also be made on-line but please ensure that whichever method is used the application should be submitted no later than the date stated on the form.

PROCEDURE FOR ADMISSION TO NURSERY

Collect and complete an admissions form available from Mrs Stone or Mrs Goldstraw at the School Office.

PARENTS

We greatly appreciate parental interest in the children's education and particularly encourage parents to help with reading.

All parents and carers who offer to help in the school must be subject to a DBS check as part of the Safeguarding Children legislation. Parents are welcome to visit the school by appointment but are asked to report to reception where they will be issued with a visitor's badge.

A place to



learn...

EYFS CURRICULUM

Reception children follow the Early Years Foundation Stage Framework and the children work toward the Early Learning Goals. They learn through structured play and focus sessions with the teaching staff that revolve around seven areas of learning. There 3 Prime and 4 Specific Areas, the Prime Areas are Personal, Social and Emotional development, Communication and Language and Physical Development. The Specific Areas are Literacy, Mathematics, Understanding the World and Expressive Arts and Design. All of these areas are present in the classroom on a daily basis for the children to access via play based provision and the teachers will also deliver more specific learning.

Soon after starting school the children will have a baseline assessment. This is done discreetly and is designed to highlight the strengths and areas of development for each individual. It enables staff to give targeted learning to each child dependent on their needs. After the baseline assessment children continue to be assessed throughout the year on the Early Learning Goals and are tracked using the Development Matters document. The outcomes of the assessment and tracking are shared with parents and collated into a learning journey that evidences the children's achievements throughout the year.

KEY STAGE 1 AND 2 CURRICULUM

It is a statutory requirement that we follow Curriculum 2014. (Further details can be found on the DFE website). We do not follow the non-statutory guidance from National Curriculum 2014 but have replaced that with our own local creative curriculum. Mathematics, English, PE, Science and Religious Education are taught as separate subjects. However, we do teach these in topics too when it is relevant to do so.

Assessment of pupils happens on a daily basis and informs our lesson planning so that we can accurately match the learning to every child.

We use the Oxford Reading Tree and Project X reading schemes followed by free reading. Every child has a reading record booklet and we expect them to read at home every day.

To teach phonics we use Phonic Bug in Key Stage 1.

We have a broad, relevant and rich curriculum that is supported by many visits and visitors. We aim to create memorable learning experiences and use the beautiful outdoor environment for the benefit of the children.

SPECIAL EDUCATIONAL NEEDS AND DISABILITY

The schools Special Educational Needs and Disability policy is designed to provide a framework for meeting the needs of any child that has:

A significantly greater difficulty in learning than most other children of his/her own age.

Has a disability which prevents him/her making effective use of the facilities generally provided for children of his/her own age.

A specific requirement for particular learning programmes that relate to "giftedness" or outstanding ability.

In the vast majority of instances children identified as requiring support are catered for within class; however facility does exist for withdrawal in support of special learning difficulties. Advice is also sought from external agencies where appropriate. The SEND Policy is reviewed by the Governing Body annually as part of its programme of work



The place to
make friends...



EDUCATIONAL AIMS

It is the intention of this school to guide children in the development of positive attitudes towards learning and to enable them to realise their full potential by:

1. Communicating clearly and confidently - to read, write, listen, understand, question, respond and report.
2. Offering a variety of learning styles and situations, so children may learn through investigation, trial and experimentation.
3. Providing for the acquisition of knowledge through investigation and creative study.
4. Developing a delight in working with numbers, so promoting skills in calculating, problem solving and applying mathematical concepts to everyday life.
5. Using technological equipment with confidence.
6. Promoting aesthetic development and appreciation by stimulation of imaginative and creative activities - music, dance, writing, drama, art, craft and design.
7. Developing physical skills and understanding the need for a healthy life.
8. Promoting investigation into Christianity and an awareness and appreciation of other religions, to support children to develop their own values and beliefs.
9. Participating in the school, the community and the wider world through developing opinions and through social action.

It is our aim to help children develop a sense of self-worth and confidence, but also to be self-critical and to take increasing responsibility for their own learning.

PASTORAL CARE

If a child is absent from school, please inform the school by 9.30am of the FIRST day of absence by telephone or letter. This ensures the safety of your child.

Please tell staff of any problems or unusual circumstances relating to the children. Information will be dealt with sensitively and with discretion. If we have not been informed of the reason for a child's absence by 9.30am we will contact the parents as a matter of urgency,

If we do not know why your child is absent from school this will be marked in the register as an unauthorised absence. School has a legal requirement to monitor absence rates and regular unauthorised absence could result in the involvement of the L.A.'s Educational Welfare Officer.

After illness please do not send your child back to school until they are fully recovered. Medicines may be administered by staff only if a medical form has been completed, available from the school office. All medicines should be given to staff and will be stored safely.

HEALTH AND SAFETY

For the protection of all children the school policy is:

- No necklaces, pendants, bracelets or rings should be worn.
- Only stud earrings may be worn—no hanging earrings will be permitted.
- Shoes must have a sensible height heel so that children are able to run safely.
- Shoes should have a solid back or back strap—no slip on shoes.
- On sunny days children should cover as much skin as possible to avoid sunburn. A hat should be worn to protect heads, necks and ears. Suncream should be applied at home before coming to school. Suncream is available in school.

A place for learning to play...



ORGANISATION OF CLASSES

In this small rural primary school where a mixture of full-time and part-time teachers and classroom assistants are employed to cater for all the needs of 3-11 year olds, the main aim is to develop the child's innate potential with attention to individual differences.

Work is planned on both individual and group lines. They are given as much freedom as possible within a well-defined framework. The children are taught in four separate classes each consisting of two year groups.

SCHOOL DAY TIMES

Please ensure your child does not arrive before 8.50am and is collected by 3.25pm. The governors wish to point out that they are not responsible for the safety and welfare of the children outside of these hours. Children should remain on school premises until collected by their expected adult.

Parking can be a sensitive issue. The National Trust owns land around the school and delegates parking areas to us and residents. They are happy to accommodate the delivery and collection of children to and from school, but we ask you to park in the village if staying at school for any length of time. Please do not park on any of the area marked by the yellow zigzags at the front of school. These are for the use of the school buses only and should be left clear at all other times to ensure the safety of children crossing the road.

To help us in our aim to make children more independent we would ask that you allow your child to make their own way into school as soon as possible. We find that giving the children the opportunity to sort out their own possessions gives them a sense of responsibility and makes them feel more confident.

	EYFS and Key Stage 1	Key Stage 2
Teacher On Duty	8.50	8.50
Registration	9.00	9.00
Morning Break	10.30-10.45	10.40-10.50
Lunchtime	12.00-1.10	12.00-1.00
End of School	3.15	3.15

UNIFORM

Uniform can be purchased from Needles in Ashbourne.

School Uniform

White shirt or red or white polo shirt, red jumper, sweatshirt, or cardigan, grey or black trousers or shorts, grey or black skirts or pinafore dress, white or grey socks, black shoes, girls may wear a red and white checked, dress in summer.

PE

Black shorts, white or red t-shirts, black plimsolls, red tracksuit (optional), trainers for outdoor games, drawstring kitbag named on the outside

Swimming

Swimming trunks for boys (no shorts or long swimming shorts), one piece costume for girls, swimming cap, earrings and other jewellery must be removed. Beach type clothing is not acceptable.

A place to



thrive...

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

The school enjoys its place in the family of the Church of England and R.E. is taught with reference to Lichfield Diocesan Guidelines and Staffordshire LA agreed syllabus.

The religious education delivered is mainly Christian. In addition, we explore other faiths and cultures. Parents have the right to withdraw their children from R.E. and worship. In this case alternative provision is made in consultation with parents.

WORSHIP

There is a daily act of worship in this school in the form of whole school and class worship.

CHURCH SCHOOL LINKS

Strong links are fostered with the local church. Each term ends with an afternoon service in the Holy Cross Church, Ilam. We also have close links with Dovedale House.

CHARGING POLICY

Voluntary contributions towards the cost of some activities are occasionally requested from parents to offset educational visits, expensive materials, external tuition and after school clubs.

Such activities will take place if sufficient funds are collected to cover the costs.

COMPLIMENTS AND COMPLAINTS PROCEDURE

We are always eager to receive feedback from parents and we welcome positive feedback if you think we are doing things well. An annual questionnaire is sent out to parents which provides another opportunity for feedback. We encourage an open dialogue between home and school and we expect all our pupils, members of staff and parents to listen carefully and respectfully to each other. We encourage parents to share their views on Parentview on the Ofsted website.

If you become concerned about your child's education, it is important that you tell us: as a first step you should discuss any worries with your child's teacher. If you remain concerned after talking to the teacher, you should arrange to see the Headteacher. If this approach proves unsatisfactory in outcome, parents may address their concerns in writing to the Chair of the Governing Body or the Chief Education Officer who may conduct investigations into the complaint.

There may be occasions when parents wish to complain about matters relating to the curriculum and collective worship which are the responsibility of the governing body and/or the L.A. Special formal arrangements exist for dealing with complaints of this kind.

ILAM SCHOOL ASSOCIATION (ISA)

This Association is made up of parents and friends of the school. Its aim is to support the school as an essential part of the community and help to ensure that the very best provision is made for the children. Through its social calendar the ISA raised funds which benefit the school in many ways: for example, providing books, theatre visits, visiting speakers, play equipment and essential 'luxury' items which make learning fun. The priority is to provide the very best for our children: the spin-off is that the widespread community is offered the opportunity to meet and enjoy getting to know each other through a variety of social events. New members are always welcome.



DISCLAIMER

The information supplied in this document is in accordance with information at present available to the governors and is believed to be correct as at the date of printing. In particular, nothing herein prejudices the right of the Education Committee or any of its sub-committees, or the governors, or the head of the school, to make any decision relating to the school as it sees fit without regard to whether this will affect the accuracy of any matters contained in this publication., further, neither the governors, nor the school, nor the education authority, nor any members of the authority of the school are deemed responsible for any erroneous information in this document.