

High Hesket Church of England School



2022 - 2023



Welcome to High Hesket C of E School



Our vision statement is: “At High Hesket CE School we prepare our children for the exciting world around them by ensuring that they are ready for “life in all its fullness” (John 10:10). Our community places outdoor learning at the centre and enables children to feel confident, happy, safe and supported whilst encouraging respect for all others. Through our curriculum we foster creativity, kindness and friendship in order to allow all children to flourish and grow.”

I am delighted to welcome you to the prospectus of High Hesket CE Primary School. We are a vibrant, forward thinking Church of England primary school located in a village setting with strong links to our wider school, church and global community.

We feel privileged to play such a key role in our pupil's academic, spiritual and personal development and we strongly believe in preparing pupils for all aspects of life in order to develop confident, active and resilient citizens. We pride ourselves on offering an exciting curriculum that engages our pupils and which places their individual needs and interests at the very heart of what we do. We use our extensive grounds to offer outdoor learning opportunities and encourage our children to be inquisitive learners who feel safe and supported in our friendly, welcoming environment.

If you are considering sending your child to our school, please come and have a look round to see our wonderful school in action – you will be made very welcome!

Mrs A Harvey

Headteacher



History

The oldest part of the school dates back to **1853** and in appearance is a typical village design built of local sandstone. A brick extension, consisting of classrooms, staffroom, toilets and office was added in the early 1970s. Other building work has taken place in more recent years and accommodation now comprises the school hall, used for physical education and dining, a purpose built Foundation classroom, two Key Stage 1 classrooms, junior classrooms with adjoining technology / resource room and library. The school has disabled access and disabled toilets and shower room. The school caters for children from age 3 to 11 years and is a well established Church of England primary school.

We are very fortunate to have a large school playing field as well as hard play areas and an adventure trail. Additionally our Foundation Unit benefits from an exciting outdoor play area with stimulating equipment. Part of the grounds were developed as a conservation area featuring a pond, meadow and copse with indigenous trees. There is also a vegetable garden and a new outdoor learning area.



These developments were made possible by the support of parents and the local community.



Ofsted (2014) said: 'Outstanding' - September 2014



'Outstanding teaching stimulates and supports pupils. Teachers and teaching assistants ensure that pupils are enthused and excited by wide-ranging activities'
Ofsted September 2014

High Hesket inspires pupils to thrive in their personal development and academic achievement.'
Ofsted September 2014



Pupils' spiritual, moral, social and cultural development is outstanding. They show a great deal of understanding and respect for those who have different beliefs to their own.
Ofsted September 2014

School governors

Term of office

Foundation	Vacant	
Foundation	Reverend M Houston	Ex-officio
Co-opted	Mrs E Massey	28 November 2022
Co-opted	Mrs S Bannister	1 September 2023
Parent	Mr M Shepherd	4 March 2023
Parent	Vacant	
Parent	Mrs G Dixon	6 January 2024
LA	Vacant	
Teacher	Miss L McDermott	1 September 2022
Headteacher	Mrs A Harvey	
Clerk	Mrs E McCullough	



The Staff

Headteacher	Mrs A Harvey
Assistant Headteacher /Key Stage 1 Leader	Mrs J Ager
Assistant Headteacher /Key Stage 1 Leader	Mrs L Day
Class Teacher	Miss T Digedan
Class Teacher/ Key Stage 2 Leader	Mr L Andrews
Class Teacher	Miss L McDermott
Class Teacher/ Early Years Lead	Miss J Rennie
Class Teacher	Miss J Blenkharn
Class Teacher	Miss J Carruthers
Class Teacher	Miss R Little
SENCO	Miss J Blenkharn
Higher Level Teaching Assistants	Mrs G Winspear Mrs B Graves Mrs Whitehead Miss G Baird
Senior Teaching Assistants	Mrs B Graves Mrs G Winspear Mrs M Pike Mrs L Marley Mrs L Whitehead Miss G Baird Miss H Ghorst Miss T Jordan Miss S Dent
Office Manager	Mrs E McCullough
Mid-day Supervisors	Mrs G Winspear Miss T Jordan Mrs B Graves Mrs R Fletcher Mrs L Marley Miss H Ghorst
School Cooks	Mrs S Proud Mrs L Watson
Kitchen Assistants	Mrs L Watson Mrs G Little Ms L Horrabin



Organisation of the school

There are 151 full time and 9 part time children on the school roll.
Classes are organised on the following basis:

Foundation Class	Miss Rennie and Miss Carruthers	Nursery and Reception
Class 1	Miss Digedan	Year 1
Class 2	Miss Blenkharn	Year 2
Class 3	Miss Little	Year 3
Class 4	Mr Andrews	Year 4
Class 5	Miss McDermott	Year 5
Class 6	Mrs Ager and Mrs Day	Year 6

Our Ethos at High Hesket Church of England School

Primary education plays a critical role in a child's development. It is the basis of all future learning and is also the time when attitudes and values, which remain throughout life, are formed. As well as giving them the essential tools for learning, primary education is about children experiencing the joy of discovery, solving problems, being creative in writing, art and music as well as developing their self confidence as learners and maturing socially and emotionally. Our values are at the heart of our ethos and underpin our learning. They are:

At High Hesket we wish everyone, children and adults alike, to have a sense of belonging to a community and to take a pride in, and be proud of our school. We want individuals to value each other and to treat others as they would wish to be treated themselves.

All stakeholders are aware of and are committed to our aims and ethos, most importantly we have

involved all children in developing these.

Below are some examples of what the children think about our school.

'High Hesket C of E School is fantastic because everybody looks after you and when you are hurt other people are always there to help you. The teachers are nice and make learning a joy.'

'Class 4 enjoy coming to school because the teachers are friendly and so are the children. The classrooms are bright and colourful where we have fun lessons and lots more! The school grounds are massive and have lots to offer. In class we celebrate birthdays and other special occasions because everyone is important.'

'Class 4 is very friendly, fun and colourful. The teachers are friendly and good at giving advice. The lessons are fun and challenging.'

'The class is a warm and welcoming place to be. It's cosy and every single person feels like a part of your family. Everyone is kind and caring and helpful. Everything is bright and cheerful. It's safe and nobody gets hurt.'

'At High Hesket there are lots of fun things to enjoy. Like a football field and a huge playground. The children are very friendly and they help each other.'

'The school will always provide you with a healthy meal and if you have any problems you can always tell someone about it because there's friendly teachers and friendly children. You are sure to find a friend whoever you are.'



Our School



**Foundation Unit Opening
Ceremony - September 2009**



The Early Years is extremely well led and managed with a strong team approach by staff who quickly get to know the children and build activities around their interests. As a result, all children are well prepared for learning in Key Stage 1.

Ofsted September 2014



Our Curriculum

We are delighted to have a purpose built Foundation Unit. We feel that this stimulating learning environment offers the children the very best start to their learning life.

In the Foundation Stage, we pride ourselves in offering the children a rich and exciting learning experience based on the needs and interests of individuals. We carefully plan a broad and balanced play based curriculum, with an appropriate mix of adult led and child initiated activities. We always ensure that there is a balance of indoor and outdoor activities to ensure we meet the requirements of the Early Years Foundation Stage Framework with both fun and challenge.

Links with parents are very strong. They are very appreciative of the highly personalised attention their children receive.

Ofsted September 2014

We now offer flexible hours for nursery age children. Parents may choose to take their free hours entitlement in a variety of ways which suit their needs. A lunchtime session is also available where we can provide a cooked meal if required. This is a supervised session in the Foundation Classroom. There is a charge for lunchtime sessions and also any hours over the 15 hours free entitlement. Additionally, we can provide the current extra 15 free nursery hours for those parents who are eligible to claim. (30 hours per week from September 2017).



This curriculum focuses on 7 main areas

Prime Areas

- Physical development
- Personal, Social & Emotional development
- Communication & Language

Specific Areas

- Literacy
- Mathematics
- Understanding the World
- Expressive Arts & Design

Each of these are equally important and our thematic approach to learning allows children to understand the genuine links between all areas.

As children move from Foundation Stage into Key Stage 1 (years 1 and 2) they follow the National Curriculum subjects of: English, mathematics, science, design technology, computing, history, geography, music, religious education, art and design and physical education, physical, social, health, emotional and citizenship education and French.

We recognise that children learn best when lessons are meaningful and stimulating. To achieve this, many subjects are linked together thematically. We have extensive grounds and use the outdoors to enhance learning at every opportunity. We have recently extended our facilities with the addition of an outdoor classroom and 'High Hopes' learning area which means we are not restricted by the weather conditions.

High Hesket C of E School gained Healthy Schools status. We are committed to the aims of this programme and encourage all members of the school community to follow a healthy lifestyle. We offer the following:

- Healthy tasty dinners cooked on the premises
- Water coolers which all children have free access to throughout the day
- We are part of the National Fruit Scheme which provides all infant children with a free piece of fruit daily.
- We also offer all children the opportunity to purchase daily milk. This is free to under fives.



We were proud to be awarded Fairtrade School Status in July 2008 and have had this renewed again in 2019. We have embedded Fairtrade topics throughout our curriculum, have a Fairtrade committee and hold regular events to raise awareness in a fun and meaningful way.

'The behaviour of pupils is outstanding.'
Ofsted September 2014



High Hesket School offers a broad, balanced and enjoyable PE curriculum for all pupils, working closely with specialist coaches from our School Sports Partnership.

We aim to give all pupils opportunities to:

- Acquire and develop skills, knowledge and understanding across a wide range of physical activities.
- Engage in an active and healthy lifestyle.
- Work in a safe, positive, co-operative environment that fosters respect and understanding of themselves and others.
- Most importantly, have fun whilst being active!

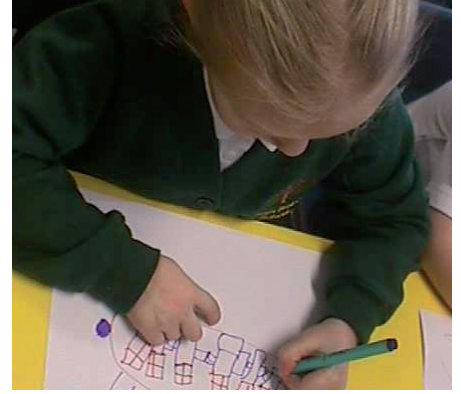
All pupils have two sessions of PE a week, and many classes take part in a daily mile challenge. We are very proud of our sporting achievements at High Hesket and the children are given regular opportunities to partake in competitive inter school competitions within the county. We also have accreditation for Mini Me Yoga.



We regularly have specialised sports coaches in school, providing excellent and enjoyable sessions. Pupils in Years 3, 4, 5 and 6 participate in swimming and water safety lessons at our local swimming pool. In years 4 and 5, children have the opportunity to visit a Residential Outdoor Education Centre to experience some outdoor and adventurous activities. These trips are always hugely enjoyable and give children access to a unique cross curricular experience.

Extra support for learners

At some point in their education some children may need extra support in order to make expected progress. Whilst others children may also need extra provision in order to extend them. High quality provision for these children is essential.



'From an early age, the school nurtures a hunger for learning new things. This leads to pupils developing a love of learning which continues throughout their time at school. Pupils are clearly happy at school and this is reflected in their above average attendance'.

Ofsted September 2014

Children are monitored carefully and support given in the appropriate form at the appropriate time. This may be individual or in small group sessions delivered by class teachers, specialist support staff or specialist advisory teachers. All children with special needs have an individual education plan which is agreed with parents and reviewed termly. Outside agencies may be called in to give specialist assessments and/or advice. Opportunities are available to children throughout the school to help them make the progress we know they are capable of. As with all other areas we strive to work in partnership with parents and involve them as much as possible.

Work has now been completed to enable wheelchair access and all areas of the school are now accessible to the disabled. This includes new disabled toilet and shower facilities.

How can I support my child?

The importance of good support and encouragement at home should not be underestimated. All children benefit from the active interest of an adult in what they are learning. We are committed to building strong links between home and school.

We encourage children to read regularly at home and also send home work relating to phonics or spelling. Children in Y2-6 also have access to our personalised learning platforms

The most important way you can support your child is to share books with them and to foster a love of reading.

How will I know how well my child is progressing?

We hold a parents evenings in the Autumn and Spring.

Reports are issued at the end of the academic year in July along with results of any standardised tests which have been taken.

Of course we encourage you to make an appointment with your child's teacher at any time after school if you have any concerns. The school administrator is in the office every morning should you wish to phone to make an appointment.

'The school's work to keep pupils safe and secure is outstanding'.

Ofsted September 2014

Enriching our curriculum

We are proud of our enrichment programme. We aim to enrich the curriculum and provide the children with a range of opportunities.

We draw on experts from within our own community as well as further afield, by, for example welcoming visiting theatre groups and musicians. We also take the children out to places of interest in order to make their learning more meaningful. Each year there is an opportunity to take part in a residential trip. We alternate between an outdoor experience at an outdoor centre and a city experience in Edinburgh.

Community Links

We are proud to have the highest level of accreditation with the British Council's International Schools Award and are keen to contribute to our global community. We have strong links with a school in Tanzania, Mrawi Primary School, and staff from our school have visited Tanzania recently. We have supported Mrawi Primary School in developing their environment and have contributed towards a new kitchen, electric lighting and a new toilet block, as well as other projects. Children regularly exchange letters with their peers in Tanzania and we continue to develop and build our mutual partnership.

Extra Working

We have extensive outdoor grounds within the school boundaries. These include our large field, wildlife garden with pond, outdoor classroom, adventure trail and a recently installed outdoor learning area called "High Hopes". These facilities provide wonderful teaching environments where learning can be enhanced in natural surroundings.

Wigglebugs - Out of School Club

We offer Breakfast Club and After School Club called Wigglebugs. These provide quality care, snacks or breakfast and activities.

After School Club runs from 3.20 – 6pm and offers a range of activities including, film night, arts and crafts, sport and baking. Breakfast club opens from 7.45am with breakfast served until 8.15am.

School uniform

In having a school uniform we are keen that it reflects and helps to establish a school identity. We have made every effort to ensure that arrangements are manageable and give good value for money. Uniform is optional for Nursery children.

The uniform is based on a bottle green sweatshirt and white polo and T-shirts, which carry the school logo. These are available from a local supplier, please enquire in school for the name and address.

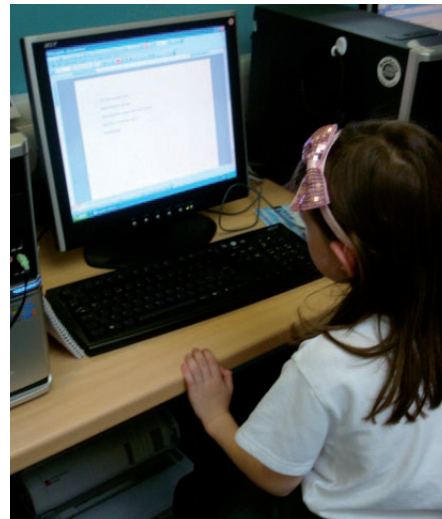
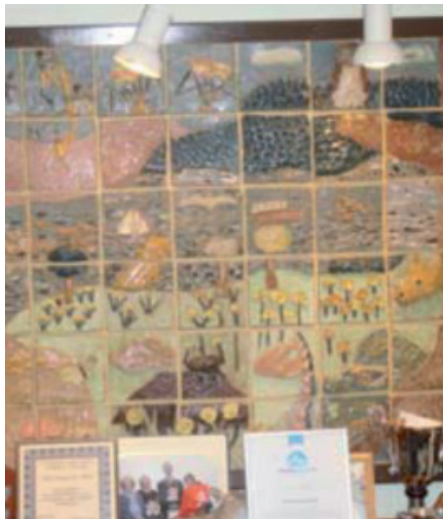
Trousers and skirts may be grey or black and purchased at any store. The majority of children wear grey. We do ask that children do not wear sports type trousers with obvious logos, patterns etc. During the summer months children may wear sensible black or grey shorts and girls any green stripe or check 'school type' dress available from local stores. We do ask that sensible shoes, not trainers or fashion shoes, appropriate to the classroom and the playground, be worn.

Occasionally second hand garments are available through school.

Dress and Equipment

A change of clothes is required for physical education and children will need black shorts, a white T-shirt with the school logo, and a pair of trainers for outdoors. For football the children may use proper football boots or robust trainers with a good "tread" on the sole. P.E. kit should be left in school in a draw string bag. As cloakroom space is limited we do ask parents not to send large sports bags to school.

All garments and footwear should be clearly marked with your child's name, particularly items of uniform. Under rules of Health and Safety, pupils are asked not to wear jewellery.



Headteacher

Mrs A Harvey

School Address

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School Classification

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