



# Great Waltham Church of England Primary School



'Let all that you do be done in love.'



# A warm welcome to Great Waltham C of E Primary School

On behalf of everyone at Great Waltham Church of England Primary, I would like to welcome you to our school.

This very special school builds upon the foundation of our Christian vision and values, which support every aspect of our school life. The warmth and care demonstrated by our children, staff and families, fosters an environment in which everyone is encouraged to give their best.

Each child is recognised as unique, and we nurture their development across all areas of their lives. Our aim is to raise aspirations through our **ASPIRE values**, an engaging curriculum and a multitude of enrichment opportunities.

Our school has a longstanding history of promoting a strong culture of engagement and learning, driven by a passion for excellence. Class teachers and senior leaders meet regularly to discuss the progress of each child in reading, writing, and mathematics. This ensures all pupils are challenged to make good progress.

Our school celebrates diversity and encourages every pupil to think of others throughout the world. We firmly believe in the principles of love and understanding, where we celebrate each other's differences.

As you explore this prospectus and consider visiting us, you will be drawn into the exciting learning and vibrant life that embodies Great Waltham C of E Primary. We look forward to welcoming you soon.

*J Brooks*

“Let all that you do be done in love.”

1 Corinthians 16:14:



**Mrs J Brooks**  
Headteacher

## Our Vision

We **ASPIRE** for all our children to be confident, happy and caring individuals, to love as Jesus shows us and to develop a love of learning, living responsibly in God's world. Our Christian vision is underpinned by Jesus' example of love for all and is summarised in 1 Corinthians 16:14:

**‘Let all that you do be done in love.’**



## Our Strategic Plan

At the end of their time at Great Waltham Primary School, we aspire for all our children to have:

- Developed a **strong work ethic** both for their own benefit and the benefit of others.
- Developed a strong set of **practical, social and emotional life skills**.
- Developed, through the teaching of our **Christian and British values, self-respect** and **respect** for others.
- Gained the skills to **work independently**, either on their own or as part of a group, and **take responsibility** for both for themselves and others.

To achieve this Great Waltham School will:

- Ensure **equal opportunities** for all.
- Work in a **partnership** with parents / carers, the local church, community and partner schools.
- Provide a **safe and secure environment** where children will **feel confident**, able to learn and **experience success**.
- Plan and deliver a **relevant curriculum** which is inclusive, challenging and creative.

To help children achieve our strategic plan we aim to provide the highest standards of education by teaching our children to:

- Love learning by developing an enquiring mind.**
- Love and celebrate differences.**
- Love and live as Jesus showed us.**
- Love ourselves and others.**
- Love and respect the world God has provided us.**

## ASPIRE Values

To help achieve our vision, we follow six core values:



**Aspiration**

We aspire to love one another as Jesus shows us and to be the best we can be.



**Strength**

We believe we can be better by being courageous enough to overcome the 'ow' moments.



**Perseverance**

We keep on trying even when we find things difficult.



**Integrity**

We are consistent, whole and honest in what we say, think and do.



**Responsibility**

We show love by taking care of ourselves, others and God's wonderful world.



**Empathy**

We see things from other perspectives which help us to be more respectful, tolerant and loving towards them.



“I wanted to take the time to write and thank you both for the brilliant work you have put into the choir at Great Waltham Primary. The Festival of Choirs evening blew us away - the children were all so confident and expressive in their performance, especially considering the fact they had to follow adult and secondary school choirs. They took it in their stride, clearly enjoyed themselves and were a credit to you and to the school!”

Parent



## The school day

School hours are from Monday to Friday, with registration commencing at 8:45am (children are welcome to arrive from 8:30am when the gate will be open). The school day concludes at 3:15pm, amounting to 32.5 teaching hours per week.

- 08:30** Children come into school and commence early morning work
- 08:45** School day starts with registration and lessons begin
- 10:25** Collective Worship
- 10:45** Break
- 11:00** Lessons
- 12:00** Lunchtime (KS1)
- 12:15** Lunchtime (KS2)
- 13:15** Afternoon Registration
- 13:20** Lessons
- 15:15** End of school day



## Breakfast Club

Breakfast Club is available Monday to Friday from 7.30am to 8.35am, with breakfast served until 8.15am. During this time, children are offered a variety of breakfast items, including branded cereals, yoghurts, fresh fruit, toast, and a selection of spreads and jams. A range of engaging activities are available for the children to choose from, such as games, arts and crafts and LEGO. For those who prefer a quieter environment, we provide a comfortable chill-out zone and reading area.

## After School Provision

In our school hall, the YMCA provide an after school club. A light tea and different activities are on offer. Their committed staff ensure a secure and nurturing environment, facilitating both relaxation and skill development.

## School Meals & Snacks

At Great Waltham, we are proud to have achieved the Healthy Schools Award, which reflects our commitment to promoting healthy eating habits among our pupils. We offer a selection of fresh, delicious meals that are not only appealing but also nutritious. Our menus are carefully planned with input from the children, ensuring that their preferences are taken into account while maintaining a balanced diet. We encourage all children, to choose a school dinner and can cater for different dietary requirements.

Children in EYFS and Key Stage 1 are provided with free fruit or vegetables at break time and we encourage Key Stage 2 children to bring in healthy fruit or vegetable snack each morning.

As a nut-free school, we prioritise the safety and well-being of all pupils. All children under the age of 5 are entitled to receive a free portion of milk during their morning break.

## School Uniform

At Great Waltham, we have adopted a school uniform, as we firmly believe it fosters a sense of belonging and encourages children to take pride in their school.

**Winter uniform** consists of grey trousers, a skirt, or pinafore dress, paired with a white school shirt (short or long-sleeved) suitable for wearing with the school tie. Children are encouraged to wear a school logo jumper, cardigan, or tank top, along with black, white, or grey plain socks or dark grey tights and black shoes.

**Summer uniform** includes a navy blue and white gingham dress with plain white socks, or grey shorts worn with a white collar short-sleeved shirt and school tie.

**PE uniform:** Navy school logo PE tracksuit, pale blue school logo PE t-shirt, navy sport shorts, white socks, and dark coloured trainers are required for physical activity. On PE days, we ask all children to come to school in their school tracksuit.

A pre-loved school uniform shop is available.





## Inspiring Curriculum

At Great Waltham C of E Primary School we have an engaging broad and balanced curriculum which enables all children to learn and develop their skills to the best of their ability.

We promote a positive attitude towards learning, so that children enjoy coming to school and acquire a solid basis for lifelong learning.

Our curriculum is taught through topic based themes and teachers plan and adapt the content accordingly so that the curriculum is always relevant and engaging.

 [CLICK HERE FOR MORE INFORMATION](#)



## Reading

Beginning in our Reception class with teaching 'Anima Phonics' we encourage a love of reading. As children progress through the school, we provide numerous opportunities to read for pleasure, including our initiative 'ERIC' - 'Everyone Reading in Class' time. Additionally, our reading shed is available during lunchtime, inviting children to explore and enjoy literature in a relaxed, welcoming environment.

## Back to nature

We are fortunate to have a wonderful wildlife area where our children can explore and engage with the natural environment. Our youngest pupils participate in Wellie Wednesday, enjoying an enriching experience that encourages learning through play and discovery.

## Music

We are pleased to have a specialist music teacher who teaches a comprehensive music curriculum across the school. Pupils can learn various instruments, including the ukulele, drums, and trumpets, nurturing individual talent and collaboration within our vibrant music programme.

**"I really like school. I like that everyone is welcome and it's a very happy place"**

Jake, Class Asia



## Assessment

Teaching staff are continually assessing the progress children are making, which in turn aids them to plan work at the appropriate level for each child. We have two formal parents' evenings and one written report each year.

The Government has set formal assessments that children have to do at some key points throughout their schooling. For EYFS pupils, they have a baseline assessment on entry to school and are assessed at the end of the year through the Foundation Stage Profile.

In Year 1, pupils are screened for phonics. In year 4, pupils undertake the statutory Multiplication Tables Test.

Year 6 pupils undertake SATs to assess their abilities and knowledge before leaving primary school. The tests are in reading, spelling, punctuation, grammar and maths.

## Enriched Curriculum

Children learn best from their own experiences, and as educators, we strive to provide them with opportunities that enhance and enrich the topics covered in the curriculum. We organise enrichment activities that deliver a deeper understanding of the subjects the children are learning about such as Roman or Stone Age Day. We also plan visits to local attractions such as Call of the Wild Zoo, Imperial War Museum Duxford, Hedingham Castle and our annual whole school trip to the pantomime.

## Music

High-quality music education should engage and inspire children to develop a profound love of music. We are pleased to offer instrumental lessons during the school day in collaboration with Essex Music Services, which provides both one-to-one and small group sessions. Additionally, we offer clubs such as choir and irock and take part in festivals and concerts including Young Voices at the O2.

## Clubs

Our extensive range of before school, lunchtime, and after school clubs provides a plethora of opportunities to ensure there is something to suit every pupils interests and preferences. These clubs include basketball, choir, netball, multi-sports, rugby, football, running club, and arts and crafts. We believe that engaging in such activities enriches the educational experience and promotes a well-rounded development for all learners.



## Inclusion - a curriculum for all

### Equality of Opportunity

At Great Waltham, we firmly believe in the principle of equality of opportunity, recognising that every child deserves the chance to achieve their full potential. Our dedicated staff and governing body work diligently to ensure that all learners, including those with special educational needs and disabilities, have equitable access to a comprehensive curriculum. We are committed to fostering an inclusive environment where each individual can thrive, demonstrating our unwavering belief in the importance of diversity and support in education. Together, we strive to empower every child to excel and realise their aspirations.

### Support for Children with SEND

In our commitment to inclusivity, we ensure that children with Special Educational Needs and Disabilities (SEND) receive tailored support from their teachers, learning support assistants and the SENDCo. We actively review and assess the progress of these children, identifying their individual needs and areas for development. Where necessary, we consult with external agencies to implement appropriate interventions and educational plans. This collaborative approach enables us to create a supportive learning environment that fosters the academic and personal growth of every child with SEND within our school.

### Safeguarding

Our top priority at Great Waltham is the safety and welfare of the children in our care. We take this responsibility very seriously and ensure that our recruitment, policies and practices underpin this commitment.

All of our staff are trained to recognise when a child may be at risk and what to do if they have concerns. The headteacher is the designated safeguarding person for the school and is available for staff to take their concerns to, and for advice relating to any safeguarding issues. To ensure correct governance in this area, there is a Safeguarding Governor appointed by the Governing Body who oversees the schools procedures and each term a Governor inspects school records to ensure that the policies and procedures are being carried out.

Safeguarding the children at the school is not only a responsibility for staff, it is a collective responsibility for the whole school community.

**“The Governors of Great Waltham C of E Primary are immensely proud of all the children and staff who together form our family.”**

Mr S Huggins, Chair of Governors

### Wellbeing

The combination of pastoral care and quality of teaching at Great Waltham C of E Primary School helps our children to thrive and prepares them for the opportunities, experiences and responsibilities of adult life. They have a wide range of opportunities to understand the importance of good mental health and wellbeing – for example, explicit teaching through our curriculum which is reinforced consistently through the supportive, positive ethos of the school.

Thanks to the charity ‘Essex Therapy Dogs’ and their volunteers, we are fortunate to have two beautiful dogs visiting the school and the children. Ella and Luna visit the school weekly and work with the children in small groups.

### Admissions

Starting a new school is a huge step for any child, whether it is their first time, or they are moving from another school. Great Waltham School prides itself on the supportive and caring attitude that both staff and pupils have towards each other and this helps new children settle quickly into school life. We aim to ensure that starting with us is as stress free as possible, for both children and their carers.

Our admissions process is handled directly by Essex County Council Admissions.

 [CLICK HERE FOR MORE INFORMATION](#)

### Friends Of Great Waltham School (FOGWS)

Friends Of Great Waltham School (FOGWS) is a group of enthusiastic and dedicated parents, ex-parents and staff who meet regularly to plan fundraising events throughout the school year. Our events include school discos, a Christmas Bazaar, nearly new uniform sales, film nights and our Summer Fete.

Working together with our school community, FOGWS raise substantial funds to help pay for additional resources and luxury items for the school. These have included new technology, a running track and a canopy, as well as smaller items like book bags for new Reception children, coaches to the pantomime at Christmas and even ice lollies on Sports Day!



# Contact us

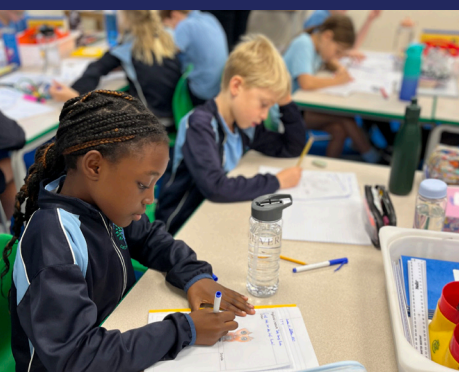
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