Thornford CE Primary School

2018/2019



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THORNFORD CE PRIMARY SCHOOL



Welcome to our new prospectus. We hope you enjoy reading it and find the information useful.

Thornford is a small rural school set in beautiful grounds in a small village, close to the market town of Sherborne. We are, very much, a family school, where our golden thread: "**Treat others as you would like to be treated yourself**," is used to promote positive attitudes and behaviours amongst our pupils.

From their first day in Reception, our children come into a safe, happy learning environment, where they are nurtured. Hard work and a growth mindset are encouraged and we provide for the individual needs of each child, to enable them to achieve their potential. They are well prepared socially and academically for the next stage of their education by our dedicated staff.

We teach a creative curriculum based on the 2014 National Curriculum. All the staff have a shared ethos about child-centred education and, despite the emphasis on Maths and English, understand the importance of Science, the Arts, Drama, ICT, RE and Humanities. Music and Sport are also high on our agenda.

I am proud to say that Thornford School has been judged as, '**Outstanding**' in its last two Ofsted inspections (May 2007 and 2014) and also in our SIAMS Church Schools' Inspection (July 2017).

We know the importance of a close partnership between home and school, based on trust, confidence and honesty. The governors, staff and I look forward to meeting you and welcoming your child to our caring, high achieving school.

Neela Brooking, Headteacher

Welcome to our School



Dear Parents and Carers

Thornford CE Primary School is proud of its position at the very heart of our rural community. It has a well-deserved reputation for nurturing its children and providing a great education both inside and outside the classroom. It is a significant tribute to its success that the school will be full again next September with a roll of 108 pupils expected.

The school has continued to ensure that the physical environment supports the children's learning, wellbeing and happiness.

The school has:

- *four classrooms*
- *a large hall used for collective worship, PE, breakfast club etc*
- *DT & library area*
- *IT suite*
- *kitchen*

Outside there are:

- *teaching facilities*
- *playgrounds*
- *a large sports' field*
- *an award-winning vegetable garden*
- *a Spiritual Garden*
- *other recreation and conservation areas*

Our last OFSTED rated the school as ***outstanding,*** *as indeed did the Church of England's Education Department inspection. Our school has enabled the children to make exceptional progress during their time with us.*

Across all areas of the curriculum, academic results are generally well above the national average at the end of Key Stage 2, and above national expectations at the end of Key Stage 1. Sports, music, drama and public speaking remain high on the agenda.

None of the achievements would be possible without a very hard working and dedicated staff and the church, playgroup and Friends of Thornford School.

You are most welcome to visit us and see for yourself and we look forward to meeting you.

Rev. Tony Gilbert,
Chair of Governors

The school has creatively woven Christian values, its vision and spirituality so well into daily life that children are immersed in a community where this language is readily understood and which children recognise as significantly shaping their relationships and achievements. SIAMS report 2017

OUR MISSION STATEMENT & AIMS

Our Mission Statement

The children are valued as individuals and encouraged to develop their full potential through a range of outstanding quality educational experiences.



Aims of our school

- We work to develop the whole child in a secure and happy atmosphere
- We encourage children to develop lively, enquiring minds, question and argue rationally, apply themselves and therefore learn effectively
- We help children to become responsible, caring individuals and still respect the values of others
- We foster a positive attitude towards the community and help the children to develop a sense of place within it
- We help the children to explore the spiritual values at the heart of the Christian faith through worship at school and in church

The teaching support staff are amazing and the support that my daughter has had has been fantastic! Parent Survey

We have one School Golden Thread

"Treat others as you would like to be treated yourself"

MEET OUR STAFF

Teaching Staff

Caroline Norris
Deputy Headteacher & Beech Class

Karen Frost Lewis
Oak Class

Rachel Saunders & Emma Lewis (SENCO) Elm Class

Gemma Cheyne & Sophie Pink Acorn Class



Non-teaching Staff

Learning Support Assistants
Elaine Young
Kim Davies
Tracey Thompson
Tara Butcher
Jo Jeffrey (ELSA)
Bridget Dennett
Tom Cuff
Zoe Dycer (ELSA)

Breakfast Club Leader
Zoe Dycer

Admin Officer
Louise Heath

Finance Officer
Sathya Caddick

Lunchtime Supervisors
Debbie Kerrigan
Sarah Burt
Christine Wendell
Fahima Hassan
Hollie Barber
Sarah Williams
Sian Roberts

Head Cook
Helen Burroughs

Assistant Head Cook
Helen Baldwin

Kitchen Staff
Lynne Helyar
Hazel Sims

I think the teaching at the school is outstanding
Parent Survey

SAST, PYRAMID & CLUSTER

SHERBORNE AREA SCHOOLS' TRUST

Since June 2017 Thornford Primary School has been part of a multi-academy trust, **SAST**, consisting of one secondary school - the Gryphon School, Sherborne, and six Primary Schools - **Sherborne Abbey, Sherborne Primary, St Andrew's Yetminster, St Mary's Bradford Abbas, Buckland Newton and Thornford.**

As a member of SAST we are intending to develop our provision, share resources, enable further training of our teachers/staff and take collective responsibility for all of the children's development and progress. A focus will be on securing and managing the budgets and facilities to sustain high quality provision in the Sherborne area.

Our Pyramid & Cluster - eight schools feeding the Gryphon Secondary School, Sherborne.

Thornford CE Primary School is also part of a wider network of eight pyramid schools which benefit from the points noted above as well as the following:

1. Smooth transition through liaison to secondary school

2. Gifted and Talented workshops hosted by various schools including the secondary feeder

3. An excellent PE and sport link with other local schools and the Gryphon which networks for sporting progression

4. A network for **pupil voice** with **Partnership Council** linked to each School's Council

5. Shared expertise between staff



The Pyramid includes all the "**Cluster Schools**" as well as Sherborne Abbey CE Primary School, Sherborne Primary School and Yetminster CE Primary School.

OUR SCHOOL ENVIRONMENT

Thornford is a small rural village with a deep sense of community. The village is set within the beautiful countryside of West Dorset between the larger historic town of Sherborne and the much larger industrial town of Yeovil. The village and school are closely linked with the local church, St Mary Magdalene, and the village amenities include a post office, shop and pub.

Thornford CE Primary School was founded in 1874 and moved to its present location in 1975. We are a Church of England academy school and supported by the Salisbury Diocesan Board of Education.

Please continue to read below for information regarding our school



but if you require any further information, do come and visit us:

- contact the school office 01935 872706
- email the office at **office@thornford.dorset.sch.uk**
- or visit our website www.thornford.dorset.sch.uk.

Our school was built in 1975 and has been extended many times for educational purposes.



The entrance is to the right of the large double doors.


The dining hall


Elm Class


Acorn Class



Beech Class



Oak Class

The school has a learning resource area which includes Ipads and desktop computers, a non-fiction library, an Art and DT area as well as more space for groups to extend their learning.



Our kitchen has supplied hot school meals for nearly 40 years. We also supply hot meals to other schools and our community..



We are very lucky to have beautiful grounds of which we are very proud. Our outside space includes a gazebo, pavilion, play grounds, climbing areas, sports field, nature and growing area and a tranquil spiritual garden.





MEET OUR GOVERNORS

Chairperson
Reverend Tony Gilbert

Vice Chair & Foundation
Binny Bennett

Foundation Governors
Alice Johnsen
John Newton
Marianne Mangham
Kris Mountain

Coopted Governor
Kim Davies

Headteacher
Neela Brooking

Parent Governors
Sarah Weale
Jerry Ridout

Parish Council Representative
Jane Rogers

Staff Governor
Karen Frost Lewis

Clerk to the Governors
Louise Heath

The Role of School Governors

The Governors would like to take the opportunity to welcome you and your child/ren to Thornford Church Primary School.

Our school is a Church of England school which means we have ties with the Salisbury Diocesan Board of Education. We work very closely with St Mary Magdalene, our village church. We have representatives from both the Church and from the Thornhackett Parish Council.

The role of the governors is to ensure that the school is run effectively, meets its legal obligations with regard to such things as the national curriculum and provides an environment within which your child can thrive.



A DAY IN THE LIFE OF THORNFORD CE PRIMARY SCHOOL



START OF THE DAY

Some children arrive early for **Breakfast Club** at 8am where they enjoy an unhurried breakfast and friendly chat before the other children arrive. At 8.50am, a member of staff will be on duty in the playground to supervise the other children's arrival. Years 5 & 6 are welcome to cycle to school as part of our commitment to being an **Eco Green Flag School.** The whistle goes at 8.55am signalling the doors are open and children can line up.

Monday Mile and Wake & Shake

The Monday Mile involves walking round the outside of the school to help get their minds and bodies ready for learning after their busy weekends. For the rest of the week, the KS2 children do Wake & Shake which is a fun five minutes aerobics session led by the older children which ensures everyone is wide awake!

Article 3: The best interests of children must be the primary concern in making decisions that may affect them. All adults should do what is best for children.

DAILY TIMETABLE

First Learning Session
8.55am - 10.30am

Morning Break
10.30am - 10.50am

Second Learning Session
10.50am - 12 noon

Lunch
12 noon - 1pm

Third Learning Session
1pm - 3.20pm

Children are to be collected at 3.20pm

RECEPTION PUPILS

Reception children can be taken to their play area to the left of the main doors, where their teacher will be available to discuss any important issues about your child.

Reception have the opportunity to play on their separate play area but, at times, are encouraged to interact with the rest of the school under adult supervision.

Excellent parent/teacher communication. Parent Survey

THE MORNING & LUNCH

Classes have two sessions with a 20 minute break, a chance to have a healthy snack of fruit, a drink of milk or water and time to play outside in our well-equipped play areas.



Lunchtime is a chance for the children to chat with others of different ages and to try new food which occasionally includes vegetables grown by the children. We encourage the older children to look after the younger.



THE AFTERNOON After lunch there is more time to play outside in our lovely grounds until 1pm. If it is dry, children use the grass areas for football, cricket and running. They can chat quietly in Josie's Spiritual Garden or play on the climbing equipment.

After lunch we have our afternoon lessons followed by our whole school Collective Worship. This may be led by the Headteacher, a class teacher, a class of children or a visitor. We believe it is an important part of the day as it helps us share common values, reflection or worship. As a Church School our Collective Worship is broadly Christian.

THE END OF THE DAY

School finishes at 3.20pm. Many clubs are offered after school. Please see our website for more details and an up to date timetable.

Children are collected from the playground at 3.20pm by a known adult - Thornford is a safeguarding school. Older pupils are allowed to walk or cycle home on their own if written consent is given to the School Office.



Expected Behaviour

SCHOOL GOLDEN THREAD

"Treat Others as You Would Like To Be Treated Yourself"

Behavioural expectations are based upon the **School Golden Thread** and UNICEF's '**Rights and Responsibilities**'. Excellent Behaviour Is expected from pupils at all times, both in and out of the class. Children are to have respect for each other, for all the adults within the school and for any visitors to the school. They are encouraged to be welcoming and polite. In a small school it is easier to get to know the children well. This can be valuable in developing their self-esteem through praising good behaviour and valuing their contributions. They are encouraged to support each other and to be sensitive to each others' needs.

Our school operates many reward systems for positive behaviour reinforcement including **Senior Pupil Programme, Achievement Assemblies, Certificates, House Points, Role Model Awards** and saying '**Thank You**' on a regular basis.

We also have two trained ELSAs (Emotional Literacy Support Assistant), TAs who deal with emotional problems to support positive behaviour.

Minor problems are dealt with immediately by discussing it with the child concerned. Some issues are raised during '**Circle Time**' in class, so that children can discuss the implications of their behaviour together and work out solutions using techniques such as '**Role Play**'.

If a child has a problem at school, parents can be involved at an early stage. If necessary a meeting is arranged to discuss the problems and to work out a solution involving parents, the school and your child.

OUR CREATIVE CURRICULUM

The curriculum is the total range of all the work that children learn and experience at school. It covers the vital skills of English and Maths, Science and Technology and other enriching experiences of the creative and expressive arts. All these subjects and skills involved are integrated for a life-long enjoyment of independent learning.

ENGLISH

To be able to use language as a powerful means of communicating thoughts, plans and decisions and to become an enthusiastic and fluent reader.





MATHS

To be able to use Maths as a way of studying pattern, number, space and as a way of ordering and understanding our complex world.

SCIENCE

To think creatively and to try to explain how living and non-living things work and to establish links between cause and effect.





ART & DESIGN

To become visually aware of colour, pattern, line, texture and form and to have the confidence and skills to explore and express own creativity.

DESIGN & TECHNOLOGY

To be able to explore, plan, design and test ideas for making things that will meet a specific design challenge.





COMPUTING

To be able to create programs, use coding and systems with a range of content. Investigate the future workplace.

GEOGRAPHY

To be able to make sense of the environment and the wider world through the study of formation of landscape, places and man's effect on the environment.





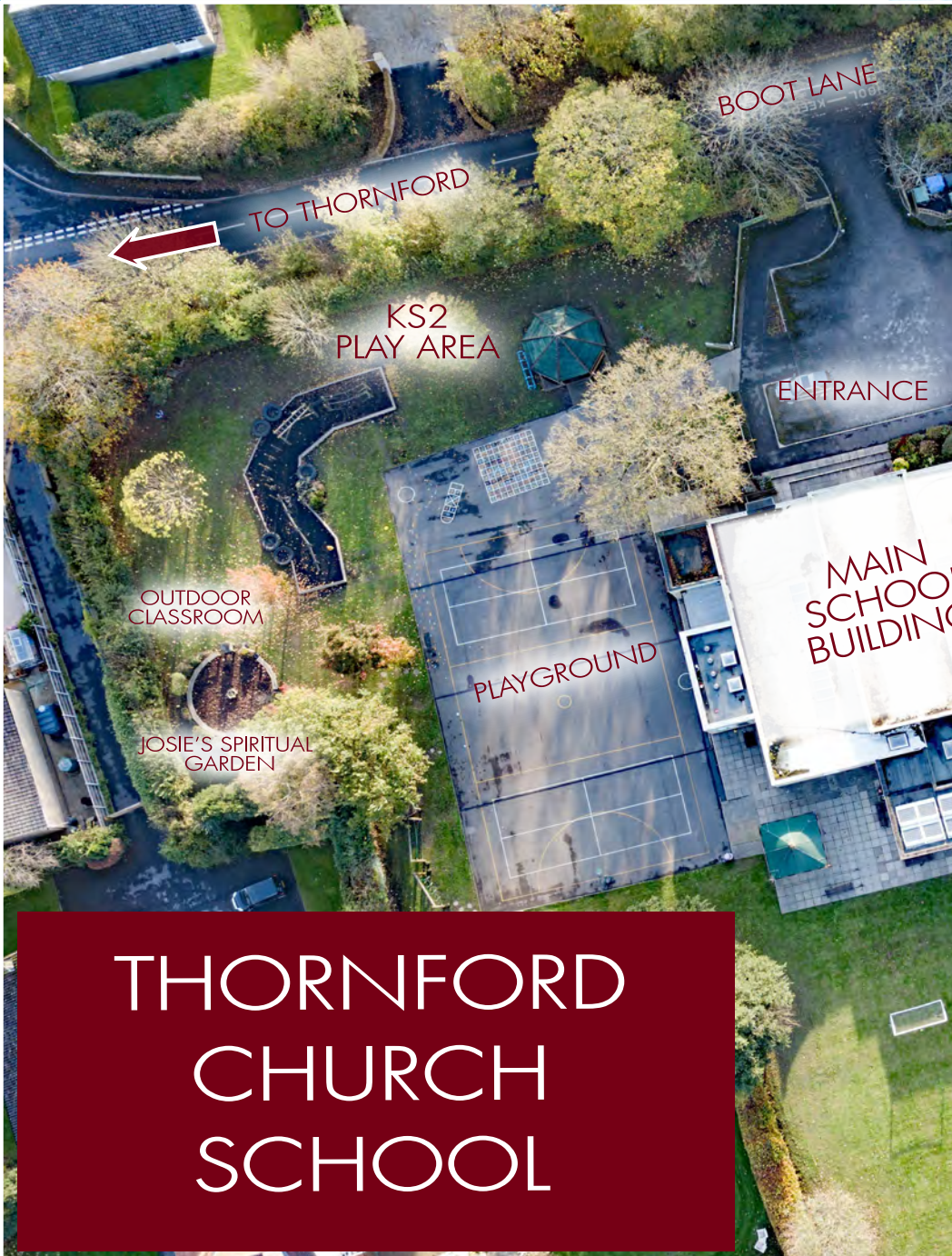
HISTORY

To develop a sense of past, sequencing of events, changes and their causes, and to be able to find information through stories, artefacts, places of interest and other sources.

MUSIC

To develop an interest and enthusiasm for music that involves listening, appreciating, participating and composing through singing, percussion and instrumental music.





THORNFORD CHURCH SCHOOL


CHILDREN'S GARDEN
KS1 & EYFS PLAY AREA
EYFS
NEW HALL
PLAYING FIELD

OUR CREATIVE CURRICULUM cont'd

PHYSICAL EDUCATION
To develop a positive attitude to health and fitness and to acquire the physical skills necessary to participate in and enjoy a range of sports.





PHSCE To enable children to learn about themselves as individuals and members of their communities, both local and global. To discuss individual and group feelings and emotions and help them to cope with a variety of social situations.

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION
To encourage the children to be reflective, sensitive and thoughtful; to consider the beliefs of the Christian faith and other world faiths; to be considerate of the beliefs of others and to develop spiritual and ethical awareness.



COLLECTIVE WORSHIP A daily act of worship is held. It is time to focus the children's mind, to explore the meaning of worship and experience time for reflection and prayer. It is an important time of sharing for the school and helps to bind the school together for the community, giving the children a greater sense of identity. It gives an opportunity to celebrate achievements and share them with the rest of the school, parents and carers.
As a Church of England school, our worship is in accordance with the beliefs and practices of the Church of England. Our school has good links with the Parish Church in Thornford; we are glad to have the rector Rev. Tony Gilbert to lead our collective worship on a regular basis. Parents have the right to withdraw their children from acts of worship.

CURRICULUM STATEMENT

Our curriculum is delivered from the National Curriculum 2014

The school and the governors meet their legal requirements to teach the National Curriculum for Key Stages 1 and 2, Religious Education and provide a daily act of worship.

They provide a written statement on Sex and Relationships. Parents can choose to withdraw their their children from all or part of sex education. All National Curriculum subjects provide opportunities to promote pupils' spiritual, moral, social and cultural development. Explicit opportunities to promote pupils' development in these areas are provided in Religious Education and the non-statutory framework for personal, social and health education (PHSCE) and citizenship at key stages 1 and 2. At both key stages pupils learn to practice, combine, develop and refine a wide range of skills in their work across the National Curriculum.

These key skills are:

- communication
- application of number
- information technology
- working with others
- improving own learning and performance
- problem solving

The school aims to honour the three principles that are essential to a more inclusive curriculum:

- setting suitable learning challenges
- responding to pupils' diverse learning needs



Article 13" Your right to have information"

CURRICULUM STATEMENT cont'd

- overcoming potential barriers to learning for individuals and groups of pupils.

The school makes specialist support and provision available for pupils with **Special Education Needs & Disabilities, (SEND).** Programmes of study also meet the requirements of the Early Years Foundation Stage EYFS. The school exercise the duty to report outcomes of National Testing Frameworks at the end of Key Stages 1 and 2 and provide a combination of **Parental Information Evening and Annual Reports** to parents and carers within all classes.

The programmes of study are designed to match the pupils' abilities, to further their progress and be relevant to their needs and interests. The school curriculum is broad and introduces every pupil to a wide range of experiences.

The lessons are planned from a skills based Creative Curriculum which are revised through a cyclic programme. They embrace activities which promote the intellectual, personal, social, emotional, spiritual, moral and healthy well-being of the pupils. The curriculum is designed to focus on the challenges found in the



local community and upon national and international issues. Central to all activities are the core values of spiritual development and care and concern for each other that permeates into adult as well as child relationships within the school.

The school seeks to develop in every pupil a sense of self-worth. It provides access to understanding, knowledge and skill and lays the foundation for a life long enjoyment of learning. It supports pupils in their efforts to make the most of their abilities and encourages them to develop an enquiring attitude and a confident and creative approach to life. Our school values pupils' initiative, self discipline and sense of

responsibility and actively encourages cooperation between learners.

Throughout their time at school, pupils acquire skills to enable life-long learning including self-assessment to promote learning - Assessment for Learning, AFL. The principles of AFL are embedded throughout our school and used in a variety of forms to enable pupils to fully understand their own, individual abilities. These skills involve self assessment, peer marking, talking with peers to find ways forward and modelling excellent work.

Through the careful construction of the curriculum, pupils are made aware of their responsibility towards each other, the contribution which they can make to the school society, the local community and the wider world.

Teachers have the responsibility to make each child aware of the objectives they are working towards self-assessment. This encourages them to set their own targets to be motivated to enhance their own rate of learning.



Complaints against the Curriculum/General Complaints

Should you have any concerns, please feel free to discuss them with your child's teacher or make an appointment with the Headteacher. As mentioned above, it is helpful if you can make a brief outline of your concerns when you make an appointment so that we can prepare any relevant material.

If you continue to be concerned and either the staff or governors are unable to help, there is a procedure to follow, the details of which can be obtained from our website.

EXTRA CURRICULAR ACTIVITIES



Thornford CE Primary School believes in giving all children an opportunity to take part in and enjoy a broad range of extra-curricular activities such as sporting, musical, artistic, religious, technological and fun opportunities.

MUSIC



Our school enables pupils to broaden their musical experience in a range of areas. We have our own recorder group and school choir ably run by Christine Wendell. Further opportunities include individual tuition in woodwind, beginner and more advanced recorder playing, as well as many strong connections with local organisations.

Every child in KS2 has the opportunity to play a musical instrument and learn the rudiments of percussive playing. Our pupils have the opportunity to perform on occasions, including for parents and in church recital and local concerts.



FESTIVALS & OTHER OPPORTUNITIES

Additional festivals and opportunities are added to our curriculum and extra-curricular programme depending on opportunities, for example, this year a dance workshop was available to the pupils throughout KS1 & KS2.

SPORT & OUR OUTSIDE ENVIRONMENT



Our school is well resourced for a wide range of sporting activities. A secure large grassed field area is within the boundary of the school grounds and used for invasion games, such as football and tag rugby, as well as summer sports such as athletics, rounders and cricket.

The play areas are also appropriate for the size of the school with a netball court and a specialised Foundation Stage play area. Our sporting equipment is conveniently kept within a storage shed on the edge of the playground. A well designed outdoor classroom, a pavilion and a covered pavilion are also available for summer shade and shelter for a watching sporting crowd.

Our comprehensive sporting programme encompasses full access to the PE National Curriculum as well as inter-school, intra-school and opportunities for all. We offer a full range of competitive sport including boys' and girls' football, netball, tag rugby, swimming athletics, cricket, rounders, tennis, basketball and cross country.

SCHOOL COUNCIL



Thornford CE School is very proud of its pro-active School Council which includes pupils from Years 1 to 6. Their activities include weekly meetings alongside senior teachers to discuss and organise the management of the school. They also independently organise charitable fund-raising events and listen their peers and friends to relate pupils views on a host of topics.

CLUBS



Our children are offered a wide range of after-school clubs and we would like to thank the staff who kindly organise or help with these.

GARDENING CLUB



Thornford Primary Garden Club is a very special club which has achieved amazing success over the last few years. The club is organised by Jo Newton and Louise Heath.

The club has helped the school achieve national awards including Young Gardener Initiative of the Year, Award Winner - Dorset Wildlife Garden Competition and part of a Gold Award at the Royal Chelsea Flower Show for Dorset Cereals Edible Gardens.

Alongside these incredible results, the Club also grows produce sometimes used for the pupils' lunches and gives great pleasure to all pupils, staff and parents.

BREAKFAST CLUB

This is open every morning from 8am – no need to book, just turn up on the day!

For a small daily charge your child will be given breakfast and then supervised during activities, ready for the school day.

A selection of cereals and toast are offered every morning, and water.

The cost is £3.75 per child . If you receive Working Tax Credit you may be able to claim the cost from the Inland Revenue.

SPORTING CLUBS



A range of clubs are available to pupils at different yet appropriate levels. These include lunchtime and after school activities such as netball, football, multi-skills etc. For a small fee pupils can also access Footie 4 Dorset and other additional activities.

There is also a whole host of interschool competitions, matches & tournaments at various levels throughout the year.

NETBALL CLUB takes place throughout the Autumn & Spring terms and allows the upper school to practise skills in preparation competitions such as Area and District Competitions and Festivals.

ROUNDERS/CRICKET/ATHLETICS CLUBS all operate during the Summer term and are great fun for all. They can also lead the pupils in training for tournaments and competitions.

OTHER CLUBS

ART & DESIGN CLUB - includes art & craft and organised activities

CHESS CLUB teaches the excellent strategic game of chess and develops thinking skills.

ECO CLUB encompasses many eco-activities as part of our Eco-award Scheme including bird watching, energy conservation and nature awareness.



PARENTAL INFORMATION

Absences

Absence notes are required for all absences when a child returns to school. Schools are required by law to keep a careful record of attendance. For safety reasons, notify the school either by email or phone as soon as your child is absent. We hope that parents will arrange to have their annual holiday during the usual school holidays. No holiday is permitted during term time unless there are exceptional circumstances. Please discuss this with the Headteacher via the office. A heavy fine could result from an unauthorised holiday or absence from school.

Emergency Closures

Very occasionally, due to severe weather eg. snow, heating or power failure, we may have to close the school. If this situation does happen you will be contacted immediately via text message. The school website will give up to date information about any school closure.

Medicines in School

Our school follows the Dorset County Council's medical advice for staff.

If a child is on long time medication and requires this in school hours, then parents need to request this in writing. A **Medical Advice Form (MRF)** is available from the school office.

If a child has asthma, unlimited access to inhalers is permitted at all times provided that the inhaler brought to school is clearly labelled with your child's name, dosage and written guidance given via the MFR.

Doctors can prescribe medicines and antibiotics that only need to be taken two or three times a day. The school day is usually short enough for the medication to be given before and after school and at bedtime. If this is not possible please complete a MRF - without this form, no medicines will be given.

A MRF is also required for non-prescription medications such as eczema emollient.

No analgesics (painkillers) will be given at all.

School Uniform

GIRLS:

- grey skirt
- pinafore dress or trousers
- white polo shirt
- Thornford CE Primary School maroon cardigan or sweat shirt
- socks or tights
- black school shoes - no open-toed sandals for health & safety reasons
- summer uniform, red & white checked summer dress



BOYS

- grey shorts or trousers
- white polo shirt or long sleeved shirt
- Thornford CE Primary School maroon sweatshirt
- dark socks
- black school shoes - no trainers

PE

- Thornford CE Primary School maroon PE t-shirt
- black or navy PE shorts
- socks
- trainers (with Velcro for the youngest children) with a drawstring PE bag.

- All clothing should be clearly named in a permanent way.
- No jewellery is permitted in school apart from stud earrings for those with pierced ears.
- Long hair should be tied back.
- Uniform items with the school logo are currently on sale in **Sporting Classics** in Sherborne. The shop also stocks Thornford CE Primary School reading bags in which they carry reading books and sometimes communication letters.

ASSESSMENT

PAINTING A PICTURE OF YOUR CHILD

To create an accurate picture of your child, Thornford CE Primary school assesses your child's progress in a number of ways. You are welcome to discuss your child's progress at any stage with their child's class teacher.

At the end of each term every child reflects on the work they have undertaken with their class and then individual targets are set for future progress.

TEACHER/TEACHING ASSISTANT CONSULTATION EVENING

These take place in the Autumn and Spring terms. At these evenings, parents receive an English and Maths target and then get a longer, more detailed report at the end of the Summer Term.

EYFS (Reception Year) Pupils are assessed on entry and as they progress across their first year in school via the Early Years Foundation Profile (EYFS). This journey is recorded in their Online Learning Journal.

YEAR 1 Pupils participate in the National Phonic Assessment Tests, in line with government policy.



YEAR 2 Children complete formal teacher-assessed activities, which are externally moderated, as they complete Key Stage 1 of the National Curriculum.

YEAR 6 Children complete Standard Assessment Tests (SATs), which are externally moderated, as they complete KS2 of the National Curriculum.

Other forms of assessment are undertaken to help with your child's progress at their individual level. If you have questions concerning any of the assessments undertaken at the school, please contact your child's teacher or the Headteacher, with an appointment via the School Office.

An amazing school - we couldn't be happier! Parent Survey

SEND & INCLUSION

At Thornford CE Primary School, we are committed to offering an inclusive curriculum to ensure the best possible progress for all pupils, whatever their needs or abilities. Children may have a wide variety of needs for example English, Maths, perception, motor skills, sight, hearing or behaviour.

We aim to:

- identify students with special educational needs and disabilities (SEND) and ensure that their needs are met
- ensure the students with SEND join in with all possible activities in the school
- ensure that all learners make the best progress
- ensure that parents are informed of their child's special needs
- ensure that learners express their views and are fully involved in decisions that affect their education
- promote effective partnership and involve outside agencies when appropriate.

Thornford CE Primary School is committed to providing personalised learning for all pupils through assessment for learning, target setting, differentiated work, including individual and group support from teaching assistants.

If children fail to make expected progress after intervention within the school, extra interventions such as a dyslexia tutor, Education Psychologist, outreach worker, Speech and Language Therapist or Behaviour Support may be asked for advice. In this case the child will have a Learning Support Plan which is prepared by the class teacher and the SENCO and shared with parents every term. This outlines targets and provision for individual children. For further details see the SEND Policy and the Accessibility Action Plan to view on request.

Able Pupils

Through assessment and tracking we also identify children who are particularly able in a whole range of subjects including science, design, computing, art, sport and music. These children are offered enrichment activities such as extra coaching, workshops and residential visits; recent examples have been an Able Writers' Day, a Maths Day, Sport Coaching at theGryphon School and a Poetry Workshop. Able children are stretched and stimulated by meeting other able children from local primary schools.

FULL CORE CHILD CARE 8am - 6pm



Thornford CE Primary School offers a wide range of child care and amenities for pupils and parents/carers. The school was awarded the "**Full Core Status**" by the local authority and the Government for its commitment to all round childcare. This ranges from our **Breakfast Club** and **after-school clubs** (childcare from 8am - 6pm) and signposting parents to extra advice, to linking with other agencies such as Healthcare.

We hope that you will utilise some of the facilities available. We are always pleased to receive any comments concerning our commitment to your child. Please contact a member of the governing body or the school office.

DELICIOUS & NUTRITIOUS
THORNFORD SCHOOL MEALS CLUB

For 40 years, we have provided hot school meals for pupils. This service is available for all our children, including the new Reception children. The meals are freshly cooked on the premises and all food complies with the appropriate health guidelines and at times includes produce grown within our school garden! School also provides a packed lunch as an option. Some parents may be eligible for free school meals and a claim form can be obtained from the school office.



AFTER SCHOOL CARE via LOWER COVEY, YETMINSTER



After school, we host a variety of after school clubs for pupils. However the school has links with Lower Covey to provide child care from 3.20pm to 6pm. If required, a minibus will take the pupils to Lower Covey in Yetminster. Please contact the school for further details.

OTHER OUTSIDE AGENCIES

The school regularly liaises with other outside agencies for the welfare and education of our pupils such as the **Life Education Van** provides health, drugs and social education for the pupils.

All are welcome to drop-in sessions with our school nurse whose regularly offers health checks in certain year groups. The school can easily help you contact a range of outside agencies, health advice, religious instruction, social care and child development.

STARTING THORNFORD..

STARTING SCHOOL can seem a huge step into the unknown for both parents and children. We try to make the change as smooth as possible by arranging for the Early Year's teacher to visit the children in their pre-school before they start school. The pre-school children are invited to several introductory sessions to help familiarise them.



BEING READY FOR SCHOOL It is very helpful if children can be ready to be as independent as possible by the time they start school. Simple routines like getting changed for PE, going to the toilet, putting their coats and shoes on for themselves can be quite a challenge to a four year old, so anything parents can do to help children be ready for this, would be greatly appreciated. There are also introductory meetings for new parents before the start of term and a few weeks after pupils start school, where the school routine, approach to teaching reading and many other issues can be shared and parents can raise questions.



PRE-SCHOOL LINKS Thornford Village has an excellent pre-school located within the large and safe Village Hall. Please contact the School Office for contact details and further information.



… CE PRIMARY SCHOOL

ADMISSIONS POLICY Children living in the Parish of Thornford and Beer Hackett, known as Thornhackett, are in the catchment area of Thornford CE Primary School. The planned admission limit for our school is about 15 pupils. Any family wishing to apply to the school should do so by first visiting the school and then applying to:

www.dorsetforyou.com/schooladmissions

ADMISSION TO SCHOOL Since September 1997 there has been one admission date when the children come to school. Children aged five between the 1st September and the following 31stAugust all start in September. All children will be encouraged to attend full-time straight away. Please talk with the teachers to discuss any concerns you may have with this.

TRANSFER TO SECONDARY SCHOOL Our school is one of eight primary schools feeding into the Gryphon School in Sherborne. The Gryphon School is part of the SAST and is an established comprehensive, business enterprise school and pupils move there at eleven years old at the start of Year 7.

Acorn Class Yr/1 An outstanding beginning to my child's schooling experience. Thank you.

Parent Survey

FTS FRIENDS OF THORNFORD SCHOOL


FTS Chair, Nicola Walsh

Our school has an exceptionally strong **Parent, Teacher & Friends Association, the FTS** which is very proactive throughout the year. They kindly arrange a multitude of events including the Summer Fete and Christmas Fair, carol singing around the village and many other exciting activities.

Using funds from these events, they help support the school in many ways, including transport for school trips, visiting drama groups and a whole host of equipment for the school.

If you wish to be part of this socially active group, please contact the school office for details.


FTS Art & Craft morning Oak class making wooden reindeer


FTS Christmas Fair and Santa's grotto


Monster disco



OUR NEW HALL

We were very fortunate at Thornford School to have a new School Hall built four years ago. The hall is used by the school for breakfast club, PE Lessons, daily assemblies, school productions and after school clubs.

The hall is available for hire out of school hours by the community and is fully equipped with a kitchen, 100 chairs, tables, stage, lighting and sound equipment.
There is some car parking available. The charge for a one off booking is £15.00 per hour and for regular bookings the charge is £12.50 per hour.





Oak class' outdoor adventure

We look forward to welcoming you to our lovely school

Your Child's Welfare

Our first priority is your child's welfare and we will usually discuss any concerns we might have about your child with you. There might be occasions, however, when we have to provide information to or consult other agencies such as Children's Services Social Care before we contact you. Our responsibility to do so is determined by Bournemouth, Dorset & Poole Inter-Agency Child Protection Procedures, 2006. If you want to know more about these procedures, please speak to our:

Headteacher & Designated Safeguarding Lead Neela Brooking

THORNFORD CHURCH OF ENGLAND PRIMARY SCHOOL

Headteacher: Neela Brooking 01935 872706

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