



ASTON & COTE CHURCH OF ENGLAND PRIMARY SCHOOL

PROSPECTUS

Foreword

Welcome to Aston and Cote Church of England Primary School, where our rich heritage, dating back to 1856, combines with a vibrant and nurturing environment to create a truly special place for your child's education. We are proud to build on our long-standing tradition of excellence, offering an outstanding education that balances academic achievement with personal growth and enrichment.

At Aston and Cote, we believe that every child deserves the opportunity to shine. Our dedicated team works tirelessly to ensure each student reaches their full potential, not only in their studies but also in their personal, social, and emotional development. We strive to prepare our pupils for the challenges of the modern world by fostering qualities of character and resilience.



Our school community is built on warmth, care, and inclusivity. We value every individual—whether a student, parent, governor, or staff member—as a unique and important part of our school family. Together, we celebrate the growth and achievements of each person, nurturing a sense of belonging and mutual respect.

Nestled in the picturesque heart of Oxfordshire, our school benefits from an idyllic setting that enhances our educational approach. Our children have the opportunity to explore the beautiful village and surrounding areas, participate in forest school and outdoor learning sessions, and engage with the wider community, fostering a deep sense of connection and belonging.

We warmly invite you to visit us and experience the special atmosphere at Aston and Cote Church of England Primary School. Come and see for yourself how our rich history and forward-thinking approach make us a unique and inspiring place for your child's educational journey. We look forward to welcoming you to our school community soon.

Mrs M Chadwick, Headteacher

Our School Vision

~ Aspiring to be the people God created us to be by growing the talents He gave us. ~






Our Core Values

LOVE * COURAGE * RESPECT * HONESTY * FORGIVENESS

Our Core Text

The Parable of the Talents

We aim to develop ASTONishing Learners who display the following characteristics:

<p style="text-align: center;">ASPIRATIONAL “I dream big.”</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • I aim high • I use my imagination • I explore possibilities • I believe I can • I know I am valued • I make the most of opportunities 	<p style="text-align: center;">TENACIOUS “I can’t do it YET!”</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • I keep trying • I embrace a challenge • I learn from mistakes • I’ll find another way 
<p style="text-align: center;">INDEPENDENT “I am self- motivated.”</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • I can think for myself • I can follow a process • I can read instructions • I can use my initiative • I notice things • I can make connections 	<p style="text-align: center;">CURIOS “I ask questions.”</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • I like finding out new things • I want to know more • I enjoy developing new skills • I’m interested in everything • I take managed risks
<p style="text-align: center;">HARDWORKING “I give my all.”</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • I always do my best • I know I can always improve • I challenge myself • I am focused • I communicate my ideas 	<p style="text-align: center;">ENGAGED “I love learning.”</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • I block out distractions • I embrace collaborative learning • I actively listen • I am aware of expectations • I care about the world around me 



Spices
NEAR OATS 1/2
1/2 tsp salt
1/2 tsp pepper
1/2 tsp onion powder
1/2 tsp garlic powder
1/2 tsp dried basil
1/2 tsp dried oregano
1/2 tsp dried thyme
1/2 tsp dried rosemary
1/2 tsp dried sage
1/2 tsp dried parsley
1/2 tsp dried chives
1/2 tsp dried dill
1/2 tsp dried fennel
1/2 tsp dried coriander
1/2 tsp dried cumin
1/2 tsp dried paprika
1/2 tsp dried ancho
1/2 tsp dried chipotle
1/2 tsp dried habanero
1/2 tsp dried jalapeno
1/2 tsp dried serrano
1/2 tsp dried arbol
1/2 tsp dried cascabel
1/2 tsp dried guajillo
1/2 tsp dried mulato
1/2 tsp dried pasilla
1/2 tsp dried ancho
1/2 tsp dried chipotle
1/2 tsp dried habanero
1/2 tsp dried jalapeno
1/2 tsp dried serrano
1/2 tsp dried arbol
1/2 tsp dried cascabel
1/2 tsp dried guajillo
1/2 tsp dried mulato
1/2 tsp dried pasilla

THE BORING SIDE
HELP!
How do I use this product???

Curriculum

At Aston School, our Early Years curriculum is where curiosity takes root and learning comes alive. We create a nurturing, play-based environment that celebrates each child’s individuality and builds the foundations for a lifelong love of discovery. Through exploration, creativity, and purposeful play, children develop confidence, communication, and a sense of wonder about the world around them. Every moment is designed to spark imagination and encourage growth — ensuring that our youngest learners feel safe, valued, and inspired to begin their educational journey with joy and excitement.

At Aston School, children in Key Stages 1 and 2 follow the National Curriculum, which includes a range of core and foundation subjects. Alongside this, they take part in Personal, Social, and Health Education (PSHE), helping them develop emotional awareness, resilience, and strong values based on our Christian ethos. You can find more details about our curriculum on our website.

We aim to make learning exciting, creative, and meaningful. Around 30% of lessons take place outdoors, with all children enjoying Forest School every fortnight and an afternoon in the garden, allowing them to explore and learn from the world around them. Our hands-on approach ensures that children gain a deeper understanding of each topic through practical experiences.

Much of our curriculum is taught through engaging, topic-based learning. In Key Stage 2, for example, ‘*Greece is the Word*’ explores Ancient Greek civilisation through art, food, storytelling, and religion, culminating in a special dress-up “wow” day. In Key Stage 1, ‘*Wok This Way*’ allows children to compare local landscapes with landscapes in China whilst learning about the culture and key features of the country. While we love linking subjects to make learning engaging, some lessons are taught independently to provide depth and focus.

We also offer parent workshops so families can engage with their child’s learning and understand the style of education we provide. Above all, everything we do is designed to give children a joyful and memorable childhood, where curiosity, creativity, and a love of learning flourish.

	Autumn 1	Autumn 2	Spring 1	Spring 2	Summer 1	Summer 2
Nursery A	Come and Sing a Rhyme	Awesome Autumn	Amazing Animals	Find a Little Seed	Tremendous Transport	At the Seaside
Nursery B	Fabulous Families	Day and Night	Wonderful Weather	On the Farm	Nursery Rhymes	People who Help Us
Reception	Marvellous Me	To Infinity and Beyond	Wonderful Winter	Six Weeks of Spring	Going on Safari	Once Upon a Time

	Autumn 1	Autumn 2	Spring 1	Spring 2	Summer 1	Summer 2
Golden Thread	We are Tour Guides	We are Historians	We are Time Travellers	We are Activists	We are Explorers	We are Heritage Hunters
Year 1	We are here!	Stomp in the Swamp	Once Upon a Castle	Paws-itively Arctic	Wok This Way	Let’s Rewind
Year 2	Bright Lights Big City!	Ice Ice Baby	Feeling Hot, Hot, Hot	Polar Opposites	G’day, Mate!	A Kingdom to Remember
Year 3	This is Home	From Flint to Forge	Walk Like an Egyptian	Water you Waiting For?	Into the Wild	When in Rome
Year 4	European Escapade	Greece is the word!	The Good, the Bad, and the Viking	Rumble in the Mountains	Greece 2!	Home Sweet Witney
Year 5	Around the World	Oh Maya God!	A Knight to Remember	Leaf It Alone!	Carnival of Colour	Keep Calm and Tudor On
Year 6	It’s a Small World After All	Can I have some more?	Born in the USA	Watt’s Up, World? Or Pauer Rangers	Stars and Stripes	We’ll meet again



Christian Character

At Aston & Cote CE Primary School, Religious Education (RE) is an integral part of the curriculum, developing pupils' knowledge and understanding of the religions and beliefs that are part of contemporary society. RE gives children an insight into the world they live in by helping them develop their own beliefs and understand the beliefs of other cultures and religions. It enables children to respond to important spiritual, moral, cultural, and social questions.

RE also contributes to our pupils' personal development and wellbeing, and to community cohesion by promoting mutual respect and tolerance in a diverse society. Our RE scheme follows the Oxfordshire Agreed Syllabus. In our Nursery and Reception classes, we focus primarily on Christianity but may also explore other religions, particularly those represented among our pupils. Throughout Key Stages 1 and 2, children study Christianity and aspects of Hinduism, Islam, and Judaism.

The school holds a daily act of collective worship, which is a valued time for us to gather as a school community or in individual classes. Each act of worship focuses on our current school value and provides an opportunity to express praise and thanksgiving to God, to sing together, to celebrate our successes, and to reflect on events in our community and the wider world.

Our vicar, Reverend Janice, leads our worship every Wednesday, focusing on different Bible stories each week. We are also delighted to welcome Alastair Barnett, the pastor from Aston Community Church, who leads our worship once a fortnight. Parents can request that their children be withdrawn from worship for religious reasons, although we encourage all children to participate.

Our close link with St James Church is valued and widely acknowledged by the school community. We hold special services at the church, such as Harvest, Christmas, and Easter. Additionally, we participate in activities like the Star Trail and Easter Trail, and with the help of community volunteers, we take part in BeSpace, a wonderful opportunity for reflection and exploration.

While the school believes that RE is beneficial for all pupils, it recognises the right of parents to withdraw their children from RE in its entirety or in part. Parents should first discuss this with the Headteacher, and then arrangements can be made.



Enrichment

While academic achievement is essential for a young person's future success, it alone does not enable them to reach their full potential.

We offer a diverse range of enriching extended learning and extra-curricular activities. Throughout the year, your child will have the opportunity to visit various places and meet people of interest. These visits are integral to the curriculum and provide first-hand experiences that are crucial to the learning process. Examples include educational trips to The Ashmolean Museum, local farms, and the beach, as well as special events such as author visits, science workshops, and a visit from a Roman Centurion.

Children also have the chance to go on residential trips. In Year 2, they stay for one night at Hill End Field Study Centre in Farmoor, near Oxford. In Key Stage 2, Year 6 children participate in a longer residential visit to Yenworthy Lodge Outdoor Education Centre in North Devon.

We offer a variety of after-school and lunchtime clubs, which have included Table Tennis, Art, STEM, Film, Choir, and sports. These clubs aim to create exciting opportunities for children to discover new talents. We also provide access to private specialist music teachers who offer individual or small group lessons in various instruments, at a small cost to parents.

Upon joining the school, children are placed into one of our four houses. This fosters a sense of belonging as they participate in activities with their peers across the school, further enhancing the family feel of our community and allowing us all to celebrate achievements.



Outdoor Learning

At Aston and Cote, every child has the opportunity to explore, play, and learn beyond the classroom through **Forest School, gardening, and orienteering**, which all take place on a **fortnightly basis**. These rich outdoor experiences allow children to connect deeply with nature, develop confidence, and experience the joy of childhood in its truest form.

Through **Forest School**, pupils build resilience, teamwork, and independence as they explore the natural world—lighting fires, building shelters, and observing wildlife. Our **gardening sessions** teach children where food comes from and foster a sense of care and responsibility for living things, encouraging sustainable habits that last a lifetime. **Orienteering** adds adventure and problem-solving, nurturing map-reading and navigation skills while promoting collaboration and perseverance.

These opportunities enable children to be curious, creative, and courageous learners—discovering the wonder of God’s creation firsthand. By learning to care for the environment and one another, our pupils grow as responsible citizens, living out our vision to *“be the people God created us to be.”*



Sport and P.E

Sport plays a key part in life at Aston and Cote School. Sport and healthy living are firmly embedded in our curriculum and our school life here at Aston and Cote. We aim to give each child a minimum of two hours of quality PE teaching per week. In addition, we offer a range of extra-curricular opportunities to develop sports skills over the year such as football, hockey and Archery: these are led by our qualified sport coach Sam Hook who also teaches each class for at least one PE session a week.

Physical Education promotes positive attitudes towards active and healthy lifestyles. Pupils learn how to think in different ways to suit a wide variety of creative, competitive and challenging activities. They learn how to plan, perform and evaluate actions, ideas and performances to improve their quality and effectiveness. Through this process, pupils discover their aptitudes, abilities and preferences as well as make choices about how to get involved in lifelong physical activity

We aim to provide experience of internal and external sports competitions and events to as many of our children as possible. Our children take part in regular sporting events and tournaments with other schools in the Witney Partnership such as football, hockey, tag rugby, cross country and athletics. We have won an array of trophies for netball, hockey and cricket.

At playtime and lunchtime, our play leaders and lunchtime supervisors further develop enrichment of our children's experience of PE by offering a variety of sporting opportunities and activities. We have been awarded the School Games Platinum kite mark for our sports provision.

Swimming lessons take place on a rota basis for Year 2-6 pupils on Friday afternoons and we have an excellent track record of pupils achieving the government target of being able to swim 25m.

Friends of Aston School- FACS

We are very fortunate to have an active Friends of Aston and Cote School (FACS) who plan and organise a wide range of fundraising activities including children's discos, music quizzes, Christmas fairs, bingo and an annual Summer Gala. The money they raise supports the life of the school in many ways e.g. paying for Athletics for the whole school; paying for interactive smartboards; contributing to the cost of class visits. We would encourage all our parents to become involved in FACS, not only to raise much-needed funds but also as a way of being involved in the social and community life of the school.

Wraparound Care

Here at Aston, we use Vicky's After School & Holiday Club to provide wraparound care for children from age 3, the wraparound care runs from 7.40-8.40 and 15.00-17.10. Vicky along with her excellent team aim to provide high-quality childcare within a warm and welcoming environment. The individuality of each child in their care is respected and nurtured. Parents book their hours and days for the term. The breakfast and after-school clubs are open every day apart from inset days and bank holidays.

The main aims are to;

Learn and develop freely in a play-centred environment.

Ensure each child feels happy, safe and secure.

An inclusive service, accessible to all children in the community.

Encourage children to develop positive attitudes.

Visit [Aston & Cote Primary School | Vicky's Clubs \(vickysafterschoolclub.co.uk\)](http://Aston & Cote Primary School | Vicky's Clubs (vickysafterschoolclub.co.uk))

Admissions

As a Church of England Voluntary Controlled Primary School, we follow the Oxfordshire County Admissions Policy.

Application for a Nursery place

Parents eligible for 30 hours nursery entitlement can register with us for free provision from 9.00 – 3.00. An application form is available from the school office.

Places are also available for 15 hours (5 mornings; Monday, Tuesday & Wednesday morning **or** Wednesday afternoon, Thursday & Friday) for 3+ year olds.

2.5 year olds can attend on mornings only.

Parents can purchase extra sessions if there is availability.

Please email Harriet Cornell the school office for all queries regarding places and additional sessions in the nursery.

Application for a Reception place

Children are eligible to start full time education at Aston & Cote CE Primary School in the September after their fourth birthday. Parents wishing to apply for their child to join the Reception Class must complete the common application form by the deadline provided by the local authority.

Applications for other year groups

For admission to year groups other than Reception, applications should be made to the local authority.

We invite you to visit us and experience first-hand the special atmosphere at Aston and Cote School. We look forward to welcoming you soon. Visits can be arranged by contacting the school office on 01993 850435 or emailing office.3120@aston-and-cote.oxon.sch