

FECKENHAM CHURCH OF ENGLAND
(CONTROLLED) FIRST SCHOOL

School Lane
Feckenham
Nr. Redditch
Worcs. B96 6QD

Telephone: (01527) 892756
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Headteacher:
Mrs. J. Little

Teaching Staff

Mrs. T. Welsh -Year 4(Mon-Thu)

Mrs. J. Little -Year 4 (Fri)

Mrs. T. Howard -Year 3

Miss F. Tyler -Year 2

Miss R. Evans -Year 1

Miss C. O'Donnell -Year R

Lunchtime Supervisors

Mrs. W. Baylis

Mrs. K. Davis

Mrs. G. Wiggins

Mrs. A. Pickering

Mr. C. Howard

School Administrator

Ms. L. Millward

Forest School Leader

Mr. I. Howard

Teaching Assistants

Mrs. M. Sealey

Mrs. V. Rutter

Mrs. K. Davis

Mrs. V. Dennis

Mrs. I. Bray

Miss R. Harrison

Mrs. S. Welsh

Mrs. S. Oliver

Mrs. D. Barker

Mrs. W. Baylis

Cleaner in Charge

Mrs. K. Davis

Cleaner

Miss L. Davis

WELCOME

Welcome to Feckenham C. of E. (Controlled) First School and the latest edition of our school brochure. We hope you will find the information useful!

Our Vision is to develop in every child:

A Passion for Learning, a Love of Life, in a School that Cares!

The Christian faith determines the ethos for which we strive. Children and parents value the caring family feel of the school as well as the close links with the local community.

This brochure should give you a feel for the school but please do come along to see the school in action and meet our wonderful children and staff!

A Passion for Learning

At Feckenham we want our children to be passionate about their learning, we aim to generate enthusiasm, excitement and a real desire to improve and get better at things. Our themed approach to teaching makes learning exciting, relevant and purposeful. In each class there is a buzz of excitement as children move along their own learning journey.

A Love of Life

At Feckenham we want children to embrace all the opportunities life has on offer - a real "can do" attitude. We offer many opportunities to try new things and get involved whether it be taking a role in a school play, attending extra-curricular clubs or making a scarecrow for the village festival, children will see what a vast array of experiences life has to offer if they are open to new ideas and challenges.

In a School that Cares

The school has an ethos of caring; caring for pupils ensuring they are happy and secure as a basis for learning; caring about parents views and their input to their child's education; caring for each other; caring for our school and the wider environment through our eco-school work and caring for people from other parts of the world with our link school in Kesole, Kenya. Caring is at the very heart of our Village Church School.

SCHOOL ORGANISATION

Feckenham C. of E. First School is a rural village school which has educated the children of Feckenham and the surrounding district since 1859.

The children are admitted to Feckenham School in accordance with current L.A. school entry policy. Parents are requested to register their children at least one year before school entry.

The children are divided into five classes (Year R, Year 1, Year 2, Year 3 and Year 4) with a maximum of 23 pupils per class. Pupils normally transfer to Middle School at the beginning of the Autumn term following their ninth birthday.

Number on roll: 124 - September 2013

School Hours: 8.45 a.m. to 12 noon
 1.00 p.m. to 3.00 p.m.

Excluding registration, collective worship, breaks and lunchtime, 22 hours 30 minutes per week for Key Stage 1 (Years 1 and 2) and 23 hours 45 minutes per week for Key Stage 2 (Years 3 and 4) are spent on teaching. This is within Government Guidelines.

If you need to take your child for an appointment, you must collect and sign out your child as children are not allowed out of school unaccompanied during school hours.

If your child is absent from school due to illness, please notify the school by telephone or letter as soon as possible. All unnotified absences are deemed "unauthorised" by the DCSF.

Percentage of $\frac{1}{2}$ day sessions missed
through Authorised absence : 3.3

Percentage of $\frac{1}{2}$ day sessions missed
through Unauthorised absence : 1.3

If you intend to take your holiday during school time, you must fill in a 'Holiday Form'. Please note that holiday absences during term time will be automatically registered as an 'unauthorised holiday absence' in line with our school attendance policy; unless there are exceptional circumstances.

ADMISSIONS

Children are admitted from September in the year they will be 5. Induction arrangements will be discussed with new parents prior to admission. PA1 forms can be completed online from September 2012 with full guidelines including closing dates for applications. Please go to www.worcestershire.gov.uk/schooladmissions or telephone 01905 766524 to request an application form.

CREATIVE THINKING and LEARNING TO LEARN

We place great emphasis on teaching the children how best to learn and develop problem solving skills, lateral and creative thinking, in order to prepare them for an ever changing world.

CURRICULUM

'Staff make sure that pupils benefit from a good balance of subjects and from interesting and exciting activities.' Ofsted 2013



We aim to provide a broad, balanced, fun and relevant curriculum, which develops a passion for life long learning, preparing children for later life and engaging their interest in the wider world.

We aim to teach children using a cross curricular topic based approach. Children in Year R follow the Foundation Stage Curriculum.

Children from Year 1 to Year 4 will study the National Curriculum. Each class teacher will provide parents with an overview of topics to be covered throughout the year.

All subjects are taught in accordance with the National Curriculum. All children are offered the same curriculum opportunities regardless of gender, ability or ethnic origin. Children are taught as a whole class, in a group or individually, as appropriate.

Curriculum records are kept in accordance with Government guidelines. All parents are sent an annual written report on their child's progress through the Curriculum.

'Consistently good teaching leads to good progress across the school.'
Ofsted 2013

Early Years - Laying the Foundations

We know that the early days of school are critical in laying firm foundations for learning and development. At Feckenham we provide a vibrant, secure and happy setting in which children settle quickly. Children have continual access to our outdoor area within our Early Years classroom. Here children access the Foundation Stage Curriculum where child initiated learning is at the heart of what we do.



The National Curriculum

Literacy

The children will take part in a wide variety of activities including speaking and listening, reading, drama, writing, handwriting, and spelling. Much of the literacy curriculum will be covered through topic work. A great deal of emphasis is placed on learning to read and enjoying books. A variety of reading schemes and books are used throughout the school. Children are taught phonic, language and writing skills. Emphasis is on verbal skills, creative writing, comprehension, spelling and grammar.

Each class has its own library area and children are encouraged to borrow books from our school library to read for information and enjoyment. Parents are encouraged to listen to their child read at home every day.



Mathematics

A secure understanding of mathematics is secured through problem solving, calculations, shape, and handling data. There is emphasis on understanding computation, reasoning, logic and mental manipulation of numbers.

Science

This includes experimental problem solving, physical processes, materials, environmental and natural sciences, with an emphasis on practical investigations.

Information and Communication Technology

We have excellent resources in this area. Each classroom is equipped with an interactive whiteboard. We also have a class set of portable laptops. The children learn to use ICT throughout the curriculum, using a wide variety of programs, and hardware such as digital cameras, equipment to record and programmable toys.

Design & Technology

Children plan, make and evaluate designs, study the environment, tackle business opportunities and experiment with textiles. We also have a bespoke cooking area for developing an understanding of food, hygiene and cooking techniques where all children will have cooking lessons during the year.



History

Pupils gain knowledge about the past and develop skills in interpreting and understanding historical events and the use of historical sources.

Geography

This includes knowledge of places and maps, as well as environmental, physical and human geography.

Music

Everyone has the opportunity to perform, listen and compose, as well as play a wide range of tuned and untuned instruments. At present children may have private music lessons from the L.A.'s 'Worcestershire Youth Music'.

Art and Design

Children learn to be creative by learning and experiencing a wide variety of Art and Craft techniques and materials, as well as developing their own Art appreciation.



Physical Education

We pride ourselves on being an 'Active School'. All children are expected to take part in physical activities, including Dance, Games, Movement, Gymnastics, and outdoor activities. Two hours per week are spent on these activities.

Some sports activities are taught by specialist coaches, e.g. football, rugby and multi-skills.

All children need plimsolls, a shoe bag, a white T-shirt (not a polo shirt) and navy shorts. All items should be clearly marked with your child's name.

The school has a hall, playground, and playing field for sports activities. Some sporting activities and clubs are held after school.

Children in Year3 have the opportunity to go swimming as part of their P.E. sessions. Parents are asked to contribute towards the cost of the coach. Children have the opportunity of gaining awards and certificates from the National Swimming Plan.

Swimming bags are available from school.

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

Feckenham First School is a Church of England Controlled School. There is whole school collective worship every day. This includes Christian, religious and moral education, and multicultural themes. We have a weekly visit from members of the local Parish who perform 'Open the Book' and every Friday families are welcome to join us for our 'Celebration Assembly.' Throughout the year the whole school attends special services at St. John the Baptist Church in Feckenham Village. Families are encouraged to join us. It is hoped that all children will participate. However you have a right to withdraw your child from Collective Worship and R.E. At present no children are withdrawn; however, if you wish to exercise this right you need to make an appointment with the Headteacher. Religious Education is taught in accordance with L.A. Curriculum Guidelines.



PERSONAL, SOCIAL AND HEALTH EDUCATION (PSHE)

This subject teaches the children how to make the most of life. It covers relationships, changes, setting and meeting targets, staying safe and keeping healthy. This subject is taught both discreetly and through other activities.

Forest School



Hand in hand with the natural environment, we will inspire and develop our children.



The school has an outstanding Forest School site; an acre of land has been leased by the school from Lionel Hill, a local landowner. With the support of a National Lottery Grant, the school has developed this area to be used for both Forest School and Outdoor Learning. In this environment children learn about the world in the real world, they can work together, develop their independence, solve problems, make sense of the world around them and appreciate the beauty and wonder of nature. The site has a small stream and abundant wildlife. The school has a dedicated Forest School Leader who is trained in the safe aspects of using tools and lighting fires. In pupil questionnaires, this is cited as the most enjoyed aspect of learning. Every part of the curriculum can be taught in this area from maths to literacy, science, art, history, geography. The area has growing beds and a poly tunnel so that children can grow their own food. Future plans include a wild flower area. The site is also used by the local nursery group.

Every child visits the Forest School every week (Reception children having two visits).

'Pupils' independence in learning is further enhanced by weekly visits to the school's 'Forest School' site.' Ofsted 2013



Eco School

Linking with our Forest School, the school is currently working towards becoming an eco-school; we have already gained our bronze award and look forward to making continued progress.

OTHER ASPECTS OF THE CURRICULUM

Curriculum Enrichment

The school believes that visits outside of school and visitors to the school greatly enhance the curriculum. Visits are planned to enhance topics and this is one aspect of school life which is regularly a favourite with the children. As all visits are in curriculum time we cannot insist on payment, but the school budget does not support this additional cost and to enable a high level of enrichment activities we rely on parental contributions. We will endeavour to give you plenty of notice to aid financial planning and any parents who do have difficulty paying can always come to an arrangement after a meeting with the Headteacher.

Residential Visit



We believe the children benefit enormously from the opportunity to undertake a residential visit and it is our intention that children in Year 4 will undertake a short residential trip locally.

Extra-Curricular Activities

At Feckenham we believe very much in the importance of extra-curricular activities in developing a "have a go attitude" and therefore a "love of life." We aim to provide a wide range of activities ensuring that all children can have access to a varied programme of activities, in order to develop new interests. Clubs are run by school staff and outside agencies and change on a regular basis. We encourage all children to take part.

Other Enrichment Activities

Children are offered an extensive variety of opportunities to develop wide ranging skills and attributes. These include taking part in Key Stage productions, being involved in church services and taking on responsibilities as Class Monitors, members of the School Council and Community Club. We believe this prepares children for the wider world which they will be a part of in the future.

Making Good Progress

At Feckenham, we value all children as individuals with unique gifts and talents. We are committed to ensuring that all children make the progress they deserve. Opportunities are provided to ensure all children achieve their full potential. Each child is closely monitored and their progress tracked. Children with special gifts and talents are identified and their individual needs catered for.

SPECIAL EDUCATIONAL NEEDS

All children with special educational needs will be looked at individually. Some children may be identified for monitoring by the class teacher. This is discussed with parents and some children may be referred for further advice. If your child has a Statement prior to school entry, you are invited to discuss this with the Headteacher, SEN Co-ordinator, and Class Teacher. The school has a detailed S.E.N. Policy, which is available for parents to read.

MEDICAL

If you have any relevant medical history which may affect your child's general development or education, please inform the Headteacher.

In case of emergency, please ensure that the school has a daytime telephone number where you can be contacted. Please do not send your child to school with medication unless it is absolutely essential. Only when medicine is to be taken four times a day is it necessary to bring it to school. A consent form must be completed by the parent and discussed with our First Aider. Medicine should be

clearly marked with your child's name and only prescription medicine can be administered.

Children have regular hearing and vision checks at school. At present, children are screened by the school nurse shortly after entry. You may request a special medical with a school doctor if you are concerned about your child's health.

SCHOOL UNIFORM

The school colours are grey and navy. You are not restricted to purchasing uniform from a particular shop or outfitters; however items are available with the school name on them and can be purchased from School Days in Bromsgrove or Clive Mark in Redditch.

Boys

Grey trousers
Plain navy jumper or plain navy sweatshirt
White shirt or white polo shirt
Grey socks
Sensible black footwear
(not trainers or shoes with lights)
In Summer: Short grey trousers (optional)
Plain or School white polo-shirt

Girls

Grey pinafore dress or skirt
Plain navy cardigan or plain navy sweatshirt
White blouse
Grey or white socks
Grey or navy tights
Sensible black or navy shoes (not open-toed sandals or high heels)
Grey tailored trousers (optional)
In Summer: Navy and white gingham checked dress

**Forest School: Navy jogging suit (sweatshirt and jogging bottoms)
White or navy t-shirt
A pair of Wellington boots**

Long hair must be tied back. Ribbons and hair bands should be in school colours.

All articles of clothing must be marked with your child's name.

For health and safety reasons children are asked not to wear any form of jewellery and if they have pierced ears to wear only "stud earrings."

SCHOOL MEALS

We are proud to be a "Healthy School" and encourage the children to have a balanced, varied diet. Children may either bring a packed lunch (clearly marked with their name) or take advantage of our hot lunch service. If you think you may be entitled to free school meals, forms are available from the school office.

BEHAVIOUR

'Pupils respond well to the school's promotion of spiritual, moral, social and cultural development. They make a considerable contribution to making the school a welcoming and friendly place in which to learn.' Ofsted 2013

Ofsted grading for behaviour: Outstanding (January 2013)

This is due to their positive attitude to school, learning and behaviour. They show consideration for others and respect for adults. To continue to celebrate good behaviour the school has the following reward system:

Class Rules

Each class sets its own rules each term, agrees them and reviews them.

Teams, Smiles and Cheers!

When entering school all children will be allocated to a team: red, yellow, blue or green. Children earn 'Smiles' from all adults for good work and behaviour. When a child has 10 'Smiles' he/she achieves a 'Cheer' and is recognised in "Celebration Assembly." Each child's 'Cheers' are recorded and added up for their team on a weekly basis. The team with the most 'Cheers' is awarded the weekly 'Cheers' cup. Throughout the year all of the 'Cheers' are totalled and there is a yearly 'Cheers' cup awarded. Cups are displayed in the school hall with the winning team's colours. Parents are invited attend celebration assembly each Friday (2.30pm).

Special Mention

Each week children are identified by the class teacher as making a marked improvement in an area of the curriculum and given a 'special mention'.

Citizens of the week

Each class nominates two pupils who have demonstrated the values encouraged at Feckenham, for example, kindness to others. The school staff also nominates one child per half term to receive the citizen cup for sustained positive behaviour in and around our school.

PARENTS

'The small size of the school ensures that all pupils and families are known very well by staff. Very positive relationships with parents and carers and good links with a wide range of partners contribute well to improvements in pupils' achievement and well-being.' Ofsted 2013

At Feckenham we value the role of parents as your child's first and foremost educator, and believe in developing a partnership in order to best support your child.

All parents and new pupils are invited to visit the school before admission. All parents are issued with a copy of the 'Home/School Liaison' booklet when their child enters school.

The school operates an "open door" policy and encourages parents to speak with teachers whenever there is a concern. Teachers make themselves readily available - after school is usually less busy than before. Each teacher is willing to make an appointment to see parents at any convenient time. The Headteacher is also available for informal chats on the playground before and after school - when not teaching - or by appointment via the school office.



Our library was refurbished with funds raised

Friends Of Feckenham School

The school is lucky to have dedicated and active fund-raising group-Friends of Feckenham School (FOFS) who work hard to raise extra funds for the school. If you feel you can help the school in any way, please offer your services.

Parent Council

Our Parent Council was set up in the spring of 2012. Meetings so far have helped to review several safeguarding policies. All parents are welcome to all meetings; the agenda is led by parents with a staff representative (usually the Headteacher) present.

Parents' Evenings

Three Parents' Evenings are offered in accordance with National Curriculum Guidelines. If you wish to discuss your child's progress at any other time, please do not hesitate to make an appointment after school.

SUPPORT YOUR CHILD'S LEARNING AT HOME

The school recognises the importance of parental support at home; we therefore encourage parents to support their children's learning at home. Activities carried out at home include daily reading, support with phonics work and spellings, maths games which are sent home weekly, supporting the children in practicing mental maths skills in order that they can achieve a level in their "mental maths passports" as well as topic work and activities available through the internet using our web site.

We support parents by providing information evenings as to how you can best support your child's learning.

SCHOOLS' LIAISON

Feckenham First School is associated with an Early Years Partnership comprising of local schools, Nurseries and Playgroups. We also belong to a Small Schools' Cluster group in conjunction with four other local, small schools. We are part of the Ridgeway Middle School's Pyramid.

STAYING SAFE

At Feckenham, we are committed to keeping your child safe. We comply with all safeguarding procedures. The Designated Senior Member of Staff for Safeguarding is Mrs. Little, the Headteacher. Any concerns can be referred to her. We employ safer recruiting procedures. Parent's supporting children in school are asked to undergo an enhanced DBS disclosure.

Children think carefully about their own safety and what they can do to help keep themselves safe; they contribute to risk assessments for activities in school and when going on school trips.

The school has an ethos of caring for each other. We therefore work hard to encourage children to be good and kind friends, however we recognise that procedures and policies need to be in place for when children are experiencing problems. The school does not tolerate bullying and any incidents are dealt with

seriously. Parents and children should report any problems to the Class Teacher whereby the Anti-bullying Policy will be followed.

Parents may access policies through the school office or via the website.

CONCERNS AND COMPLAINTS

Concerns about your child should be discussed with your child's Class Teacher. Other complaints and concerns should be discussed with the Headteacher. If the situation is unresolved, parents should make an appointment with the Chair of Governors - the school's Complaints Policy is available to parents via the school office.

FECKENHAM EDUCATIONAL ENDOWMENT

A grant is paid by this Endowment to children leaving for Middle School at age 9, provided they are registered at Feckenham C. of E. First School on 1st January of that year, and are resident in the Borough of Redditch.

Parents may view any of the following documents at a mutually convenient time:

1. School Profile - accessed via the Internet:
<http://www.parentscentre.gov.uk/schoolprofile>
2. The Governors' Statement of Policy
3. The School's Curriculum Plans and Policy Statements
4. The L.A.'s Statement of Curricular Policy
5. DCSF Documents relating to the National Curriculum
6. The National Curriculum Guidelines in English, Mathematics, Science, Design & Technology, Music, History, Information Technology, Geography, Art, and Physical Education
7. The L.A.'s arrangements for the consideration of complaints about the School Curriculum
8. Information on the Education Service. L.A. publications
9. Ofsted Report - January 2013

We look forward to welcoming you to Feckenham Church of England First School and hope that your child will greatly enjoy their time here. All prospective parents are asked to telephone for an appointment to view the school.

Further information is available from Feckenham C. of E. First School:

Telephone/Fax: (01527) 892756

E mail: office@feckenhamfirst.worcs.sch.uk

Or on our website: www.feckenhamfirst.com

GOVERNING BODY

		Term of Office Ends:
<u>Chair:</u> Mr. M. Leake	Parent Governor	09.10.2013
<u>Vice Chair:</u> Mr. C. Forgaard	Local Authority Governor	10.09.2017
Miss K. Moran	D.B.E. Foundation Governor	03.05.2017
Miss R Evans	Staff Governor	
Mr. N. Potter	Community Governor	01.09.2017
Mrs. S. Simpson	Community Governor	26.09.2016
Miss S. Eost	D.B.E. Foundation Governor	16.06.2014
Mr. J. David	Parent Governor	11.10.2017
Mrs.Henderson-McCoy	Parent Governor	30.03.2014
Mrs. D. Joyce	Parent Governor	30.04.2014
Reverend Beynon	Rector of Bowbrook North and South	(Ex Officio)
Mr. A. Wood	Local Authority Governor	14.09.2015
Mrs. J. Little	Headteacher	
Ms. L. Millward	Clerk to Governors	

Any correspondence should be sent to Ms. Millward via the school.

(Information in this booklet may change at any time)

FECKENHAM C. OF. E. FIRST SCHOOL

SCHOOL HOLIDAYS

SEPTEMBER 2013 TO JULY 2014

Holiday	School closes after afternoon session on:	School re-opens:
Autumn Half Term 2013	Friday 25 th October	Wednesday 4 th September
Christmas 2013	Friday 20 th December	Monday 4 th November 2013
Spring Half Term 2014	Friday 14 th February	Tuesday 7 th January 2014
Easter 2014	Friday 11 th April	Monday 24 th February
May Day 2014	Friday 2 nd May	Monday 28 th April
Summer Half Term 2014	Friday 23 rd May	Tuesday 6 th May
Summer 2014	Tuesday 22 nd July	Monday 2 nd June
		To be advised
<u>Teacher Training Days:</u>		
Monday 3 rd September	Monday 3 rd June	
Tuesday 4 th September	Wednesday 24 th July	
Monday 7 th January 2013		