

SCHOOL CONTEXT, VALUES and ETHOS:

Holywell is a rural, primary school set in the small village of Tawstock. It is a smaller than average primary school with 104 pupils on roll, organised across 4 classes. In September 2012, the school federated with Bratton Fleming Community Primary School and had 65 pupils on roll. We are now a federation of 223 pupils, with one governing body and a Headteacher, who has shared responsibility for their federated school, Bratton Fleming. The school had a period of rapid growth, which reflects its popularity within the community. This means stability is low.

Holywell joined Ventrus a multi academy trust on August 1st 2018; the trust now comprises 15 schools; further information about Ventrus Multi-Academy Trust can be found on the Ventrus website – www.ventrus.org.uk. The Headteacher and teaching team are supported by Ventrus Executive Leadership Team (Directors of School Improvement, CEO, Head of HR, Head of Finance, Head of Premises).

The school is a listed building as it is a mixture of old thatch and an extension of 2 classrooms. Governors and staff have worked hard to provide a bright, vibrant and stimulating learning environment. Pupils have to go outside to gain access to the other classrooms. We have no hall but hire the local Village Hall throughout the week for Collective Worship, PE, and lunches.

Due to parental demand, we have a thriving Breakfast Club, After School Club and Summer Holiday Club at a local nursery school. Since September 2014, we offer the extended service of our own pre-school set within our reception class. We have a maximum of 8 pupils at each session. This is set up as a foundation stage unit as both teams collaborate, share, communicate and integrate to provide high quality effective provision across the whole unit that meets the needs and interests of the all children.

This is a school of choice. Pupils come from a wide area, and most have to be driven in. 78% of our pupils are drawn from outside our designated catchment area, and our pupils mainly come from semi-skilled, professional and farming families. We have approximately 20 families on low modest incomes, who are struggling to financially manage.

We have 8% PP pupils (5% looked after pupils) and 14% SEND, 8% of these have EHCP's.

Holywell is a Church of England School, sharing Christian values and ethos and it has very strong close links with the local church, St Peter's. We aim to be an improving, creative, learning school. We have developed a strong learning culture, where all stakeholders feel the school is stimulating, supportive, successful and fun!

The whole school community has high expectations in terms of achievement and behaviour. The staff operates as a strong and caring team. Teamwork and strong relationships between staff, pupil, parents, governors and the community are key features of the school and everybody is resolute in their determination and drive to achieve the very best.

The provision for the most vulnerable is a great strength of the school, highly praised by many agencies as examples of the best practice they see. We are a highly inclusive school and seek to identify and support pupils with special educational needs, those with disabilities, and pupils with other significant disadvantages so that they improve their progress. We make daily adjustments to help pupils overcome specific barriers to learning. In a school very restricted for space, we have made several work spaces to provide our SEND pupils with quiet work areas. For our most vulnerable, we work very hard to meet their individual needs, with personalised support, programmes and tracking. We promote mental health as well as physical health.

Our Aims and Values

Mission Statement: Our aim is to provide our children with a loving and happy school where Christian values guide moral and spiritual development for the future. To provide extensive opportunities to enable each student's light to shine and to foster the light in those around them and those who need support.

Our 9 Christian key values are:

Friendship, Respect, Peace, Truthfulness and honesty, Love and compassion, Hope, Trust, Thankfulness and appreciation and Courage

School Motto:

Our school motto is "Let your light shine".

" Let your light shine in front of others. Then they will see the good things you do." Matthew 5:v16

Vision statement:

The Holywell Community lets it light shine by:

Loving learning, loving life, loving all others and loving our world.

The needs of the local community are supported by:

- Providing an 8 place pre-school on site within the reception class
- Offering early opening allowing parents to leave pupils safely at school and get to work
- Offering wrap around care and holiday care through St Michael's Nursey
- Supporting lettings to local groups eg Cubs and Beavers
- Supporting the Village Hall through daily use for the hall and kitchen

When pupils leave Holywell the majority of our pupils choose between two secondary schools, Pilton Community College or Park School. There are good transition procedures in place, including visits to and from Holywell and meetings between SENCOs. Pupils are very familiar with both schools through sporting and other curriculum links and the secondary teachers coming into school to work with primary pupils