



**Welcome to
Welton St Mary's
Church of
England
Primary Academy**

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Starting school is an exciting and important milestone for both children and their families. At Welton St Mary's, we are proud to offer a nurturing, ambitious and inclusive start to school life, where every child is known, valued and supported to flourish.

As a Church of England school, our work is rooted in Christian values and guided by a strong vision that places children at the heart of everything we do.



Our Vision

As an inclusive Christian community, we value each person, seeking to release everyone's full potential as promised by Jesus Christ. We aim to provide a safe, inspiring and creative learning environment, offering opportunities for all to flourish.

Through challenge, support and care, we strive for excellence in all that we do, always building on shared values and maintaining consistently high expectations rooted in God's love. Together, we are encouraged to be agents of positive change in the world.



The Early Years Foundation Stage (EYFS)

Children begin their learning journey at Welton St Mary's in our EYFS unit. EYFS is a vital stage of education that lays the foundations for children's academic success, emotional wellbeing and lifelong love of learning.

Learning in EYFS takes place through teacher led sessions, carefully planned play, exploration and meaningful experiences, supported by high-quality adult interactions. Our Foundation Stage environment is designed to be welcoming, stimulating and inclusive, ensuring children feel safe, confident and excited to learn.

EYFS is of the most significant stages of a child's development. The experiences children have during this time shape how they view themselves as learners and as individuals.

At Welton St Mary's, we support children to:

- Develop confidence, curiosity and resilience
- Build secure relationships with adults and peers
- Establish strong foundations in reading, writing and mathematics
- Learn how to concentrate, listen and persevere
- Develop positive attitudes towards learning and school

By prioritising EYFS, we ensure children are well prepared for the next stage of their education while enjoying a rich, joyful and meaningful childhood.

Areas of Learning in EYFS

The EYFS curriculum is made up of seven areas of learning, all of which are carefully planned and interwoven throughout the school day.

Prime Areas

These areas underpin all learning:

- Personal, Social and Emotional Development
- Communication and Language
- Physical Development



Specific Areas

These build upon the prime areas:

- Literacy
- Mathematics
- Understanding the World
- Expressive Arts and Design



Learning is purposeful, progressive and tailored to meet the needs of every child.

Personal, Social and Emotional Development

Personal, Social and Emotional Development lies at the heart of our curriculum and school life. Guided by our Christian vision, we believe children learn best when they feel safe, valued and loved.

We place strong emphasis on:

- Building trusting, respectful relationships
- Supporting emotional regulation and wellbeing
- Developing empathy, kindness and forgiveness
- Encouraging confidence, independence and resilience

Through a nurturing approach, children develop a strong sense of belonging and learn how to care for themselves and others.



Independence and High Expectations

We believe that children are capable learners and hold high expectations from the very beginning. Independence is encouraged across all areas of school life and learning.

Children are supported to:

- Make choices and manage their own learning
- Take responsibility for personal care and belongings
- Persevere when learning becomes challenging
- Develop pride, confidence and self-belief

By balancing challenge with care and support, children learn that effort and perseverance lead to success.

Indoor and Outdoor Learning

Our children benefit from high-quality indoor and outdoor learning environments that support all areas of development. Learning flows between these spaces, enabling children to explore, investigate and apply their learning in a range of meaningful ways. Outdoor learning supports physical development, creativity, teamwork, problem-solving and wellbeing, helping children grow in confidence and independence.



Read Write Inc. Phonics

Early reading and writing is a priority at Welton St Mary's. We teach phonics through Read Write Inc. Phonics, a structured and systematic programme that provides children with a strong foundation in reading and writing.

Daily phonics sessions help children to:

Learn sounds quickly and confidently

Blend sounds to read words

Write sounds and spell words

Develop fluency and comprehension

Build confidence and enjoyment in reading

This strong start supports success across the whole curriculum.



Working in Partnership with Parents

We recognise parents as children's first and most important educators. Strong partnerships between home and school support children's learning, confidence and wellbeing.

Parents can support their child by:



- Reading regularly at home
- Encouraging independence and responsibility
- Establishing positive routines
- Talking positively about school
- Communicating openly with staff



Together, we work to ensure the very best outcomes for every child.

Reception Baseline Assessment

Within the first few weeks of starting school, children complete the Reception Baseline Assessment. This is a short, practical and child-friendly assessment carried out through familiar activities and play.

The assessment helps staff understand each child's starting point and plan appropriate learning and support.



Behaviour Rooted in Values

Our approach to behaviour is rooted in God's love and our shared Christian values. Children are supported to develop positive behaviour through strong relationships, consistency and care.

Our values are:

Trust • Respect • Responsibility • Peace • Love • Friendship • Forgiveness

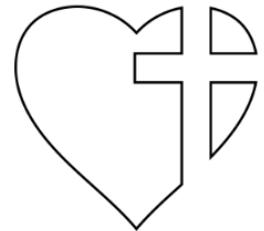


These values are reflected in our school rules:

Be kind

Be safe

Be responsible



Children are encouraged to reflect on their actions, make positive choices and understand the impact they have on others, helping them to become agents of positive change.

A Place Where Children Flourish

Welton St Mary's is a school where children are nurtured, challenged and inspired. We combine high expectations with care, strong relationships and a rich curriculum to ensure every child is supported to achieve their full potential.

We look forward to welcoming your family and beginning this exciting journey together.

