

# Welcome to the Kingsnorth Family

**With Faith, Endeavour to Achieve**

## About us

Kingsnorth is a Church of England (Controlled) Primary School, for children aged 4 to 11. It is a co-educational day school. This means that, although it is controlled by Kent Education Authority, the acts of worship reflect Anglican beliefs, practices and values.

The teaching staff currently comprises 17 teachers in addition to the Headteacher, Deputy Headteacher and Assistant Headteacher. There is also an experienced team of learning support assistants working alongside the teachers, including several Higher Level teaching assistants. Our maximum number of children on roll is 420.

There are two classes in each year group. Children remain in the school until they are 11. After this, the majority transfer to one of the local Secondary schools for their secondary education. The school actively works with parents to ensure the smoothest possible transition to secondary education. Parents are offered information sessions with the Headteacher and Pupil Progress Leader to assist in their choice of secondary education. 🏰

## How we have grown

To the south of the ancient market town of Ashford lies the village of Kingsnorth, just off the A2070 and close to junction 10 of the M20. The school sits in the heart of the old village, next to the church.

The old school was originally built in 1866, and following extensive housing development in the area, the first phase of the new school building was completed in 1997, with an extension following in 2001. There has been an addition of a new front entrance in Autumn 2011.

The building now comprises fourteen classrooms, an administrative area, assembly hall, medical room, staff room and library. The original Victorian school building has been incorporated into the complex via a covered walkway and is used as a second hall and a music room. The grounds contain two netball courts, a pond and wild area, climbing apparatus, and a separate Foundation Stage play area. Additionally, during weekdays we have the use of the adjacent playing fields. 🏰



*"I am proud to be able to contribute to the family feeling at Kingsnorth."* Staff Member

**Kingsnorth...a journey of life, first class learning and fun!**

## The Aims of Kingsnorth CE Primary School

This is underpinned by a commitment to guiding our children to an understanding of the Christian Faith. We aim for them to leave us, having started on a spiritual journey which will enrich and deepen their adult lives.

### **We Aim to...** *achieve this by providing:*

- A context in which children and adults can share in a school family.
- A happy, healthy and safe environment.
- A community that values and respects all its members and provides equality of opportunity for all, regardless of race, gender or ability.
- Consistent expectations of behavior and standards.
- A quality curriculum which aims to meet individual needs, abilities and learning styles, within the context of extended schools.
- Effective teaching that supports, challenges and encourages success and also to have the courage to overcome difficult learning.
- An awareness and use of the latest technology available to us.

### **Our Aim is...** *to enable every child to:*

- Grow in spiritual awareness and develop an understanding of a Christian faith in a multi-faith society.
- Realise their potential and develop a desire to continue life-long learning both independently and collaboratively.
- Be thoughtful, socially confident, sensitive to and concerned for the needs of others.
- Be resilient and resourceful, be healthy and able to make good decisions about relationships.
- Be sure of their self-worth and confident.
- Develop a sense of responsibility towards learning, other people and the environment.
- Become skilled in accessing information and develop their skills to make right choices in an ever-changing society.

### **We Aim to...** *demonstrate our commitment to learning together within our school and the wider community by:*

- Holding in the highest esteem our unique ethos, whilst embracing and sharing best practice.
- Encouraging collaboration and trust.
- Involving children in decision making.
- Engendering a strong sense of belonging in each member of our school family.
- Valuing highly the strong, positive and developing links with parents, church, our local community and those beyond.
- Continually self reviewing, consulting and evaluating our practice.





## Importance of being a Church School

Kingsnorth Church of England Primary School has a strong Christian commitment. We believe through Christian teaching and example children will benefit and be enriched.

We aim to educate children with a firm foundation of Christian knowledge and experience in order to encourage their spiritual development. This means respecting the beliefs and values of other people whether they have a religious background or not.

All the children participate in a daily act of Collective Worship. These reflect the Christian foundation and character of our school. There are weekly services in the local church and we have a Eucharist service in school every other term (3 times a year). All the children are taught Religious Education (RE). We follow the Canterbury Diocesan RE scheme.

Any parent has the right to withdraw their child from Collective Worship and Religious Education. Please speak to the Headteacher if you have any questions about this. 👑



*“Teaching at Kingsnorth is an experience like no other. I wake up every morning, excited to see the children in my class; wanting to hear what they have got up to at the weekend. The friendly and caring attitude of staff, and a supportive parent base, is what attracted me to teaching here.”*

Teacher

### Kingsnorth School Prayer

#### Thank you God for this school

We see friends who care  
And playing fields to run in,  
A building that helps us learn,  
House colours that make us win.

The taste of packed lunch on a school trip,  
The smell of dinners in the kitchen.  
The sound of music lessons or clubs,  
The singing of the choir or kind words of a teacher.

The feel of play equipment in our hands,  
The touch of netbooks as our fingers tap.  
Please guide those who make it like this,  
The School Council, staff, Governors and our Head teacher.

We pray for children in other countries  
Who do not have a school like ours.  
With faith in You, help us to be thankful  
And to achieve our best today.

In Jesus' name,  
**Amen**



## Ofsted Report September 2012

*"The Headteacher has clearly demonstrated a strong commitment to excellence and a vision to create an outstanding school."*

*"The majority of pupils make good progress and learn well."*

*"Attainment in all year-groups is above age-related expectations in all subjects and particularly in mathematics and reading."*

*"Teaching and learning are good overall and some teaching is outstanding."*

*"Teachers have high expectations."*

*"Pupils enjoy being in the school and express a great pride in their school."*

*"All groups of pupils are helpful, tolerant and thoughtful towards each other."*

*"Relationships between adults and pupils are exceptionally positive because the pupils feel safe and well looked after and their views are respected."*

*"In pursuit of their drive for excellence, the governors have taken decisive action to strengthen leadership."*

*"A large majority of parents and carers agree that their children make good progress in their learning while in school."*

*"A warm welcome and all my questions answered."*

Parent



## School Day

The day		8.45am – 3.15pm
Break		10.15am – 10.30am
Lunch – There are three sittings.		11.45am – 1.15pm
Year R 11.45am	Years 1, 2, 3 12.00pm	Years 4, 5, 6 12.15pm
Break (KS1 only)		2.15pm – 2.30pm

Children should not arrive before 8.40am (unless attending a before school club) as there is no adult supervision until then.

The school seeks to promote the good habit of punctuality and parents are asked to support us with this as it can be difficult to make up missed time. 🏰

## School Organisation

A child's school career is broken down into stages through which they progress:

Foundation Stage	4-5 Year olds (Year R)
Key Stage 1	6-7 Years (Years 1 & 2)
Key Stage 2	8-11 years (Year 3, 4, 5+6)
Key Stage 3+4	Secondary school age children

Children at the Foundation Stage and Key Stage 1 may be referred to as Infants, and children at Key Stage 2 as Juniors.

At Kingsnorth the school is organised into year groups of mixed ability. We work as three mini schools (Teams) within the main school set up. The Lower School consists of Year R and 1. The Middle School is made up of Year 2, 3 and 4. Year 5 and 6 work together as the Upper School. Each mini school has its own Team Leader, team of Teaching Assistants and shared resources, which includes net books and photocopiers. 🏰

## Starting School

Parents are very welcome to visit the school to meet the Headteacher and Staff and to see the school at work.

Meetings are also arranged for parents to find out more about how they can be involved when children start school. They will also be able to hear from the class teacher how the children's day will be organised. The school undertakes the Early Years Foundation Stage curriculum in accordance with National and County guidelines. 🏰

## Admissions and Attendance

The School admission process is handled by the Local Authority Admissions team. Applications for new entrants are usually made during the winter, prior to their entry.

Admission is according to the Local Education Authority's criteria, i.e. Looked After Children, siblings, and distance from school. We have been heavily oversubscribed for Reception class places in the last few years, but are only able to offer places to 60 pupils in each year group. New entrants are normally admitted to school in the September of the school year in which they become five years of age. When Reception children join the school it is usually on a part-time basis for the first 1-2 weeks and we conduct Home Visits early in the year to enable children to settle quickly and enable their teachers to have a full understanding of each child's learning needs.

Children who are above the statutory age and are seeking a place in the school may be admitted at any time provided a place exists within the appropriate year group.

If your child is absent from school you must telephone the school by 9.00am on the first day of absence explaining the reasons. Unauthorised absences are entered on the child's report to parents at the end of the year.

The government have instructed schools to remind all families that, only in **exceptional** circumstances should children be taken out of school for a holiday. Full details are available in our Attendance Policy. Requests for permission should be addressed to the Headteacher. 🏰





## Child Protection and Safeguarding

The school is committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children and young people and expects that all staff and volunteers share this commitment.

We have a designated Child Protection Co-ordinator in school, who is contactable via the school office should you have any concerns that you feel you should share.

For security reasons all adults visiting the school site must first visit the school office to sign in. Any adult not wearing a visitors badge will be challenged by a member of staff. 🏰

## School Council

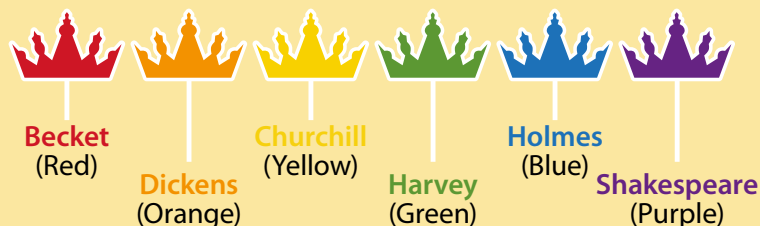
We have a School Council in school which allows the children to have a voice.

The council discusses changes and developments on behalf of the body of pupils. 🏰

## Houses

All children are allocated to one of six houses.

These are as follows:



## The Buddy System

Every child who starts in Reception is given a Year 6 buddy who will endeavour to be a special friend to the entrant.

During the June and July taster sessions, the children are introduced to their older buddy. This will be a relaxed introduction when the older children can meet with their younger school friend. 🏰





## Curriculum Matters

We follow the National Curriculum, and children's progress is measured against National Curriculum levels. Assessment is made through formal testing and teacher assessment.

National testing takes place at the end of Key Stage 1 (age 7) and Key Stage 2 (age 11). At the end of Year 6, children are measured against the Early Years Profile. Children's levels are reported to parents through end of year reports. 🏰

The following table outlines expected attainment:

National Curriculum Level			
Level 8			Exceptional
Level 7			Beyond
Level 6		Exceptional	Expected
Level 5		Beyond	Below
Level 4	Exceptional	Expected	Below
Level 3	Beyond	Below	
Level 2	Expected	Below	
Level 1	Below		
	Age 7	Age 11	Age 14

*“Kingsnorth is a lovely, friendly school that has a good relationship between it's pupils and teachers and parents and teachers. Pupils seem happy and are very polite in school.”* (PFA Committee Member)



## Governing Body

The school's Governing Body is comprised of 16 elected members from the community; this includes staff and parents, along with church, Local Authority and community appointments.

The governors are responsible for all aspects of education and leadership of the school, ensuring that it fulfils statutory legal duties. There are two committees Resources and Learning and Development. These groups closely monitor the curriculum, standards, staffing, resources and finance.

The Headteacher makes a formal report to the Governors at each Full Governing Body meeting. Parents/Carers may request to see the minutes or ask for a meeting with a school governor. This can be arranged by emailing the Chair of Governors at [governors@kingsnorth.kent.sch.uk](mailto:governors@kingsnorth.kent.sch.uk) or contacting the school office. 🏰

## Disclaimer

The information contained in this Prospectus is intended for the parents of children who will be starting school during this academic year. It was correct at the time of going to press but Government legislation, County Council policy and particular circumstances of the school might create the need for some organisational changes and adjustment of policy. Further details of School Policies, Governors Meeting Minutes and other information available under the 'Freedom of Information Act' can be obtained on request.

The school would be grateful to receive any feedback from parents on the content and format of this Prospectus. 🏰

## Supporting the PFA

A thriving Parents' and Friends' Association operates to encourage social links between children and parents connected with the school and to raise funds to assist with the financing of special events and the purchase of much needed equipment.

They currently help support transport for school trips and extra enrichment activities. In the past they have contributed to the purchase of a new reading system for use across the whole school.

Membership is open to every parent without obligation or subscription. Please contact the Chairman of the PFA via the school office if you can spare some time to help them. Watch out for their monthly meetings and details of the many events they arrange for us. 🏰







# Kingsnorth

Church of England Primary School