



Meriden Church of England Primary School 2023/24

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Welcome! Choosing the right school for your child is of the greatest importance. Meriden has a warm, nurturing environment in which Christian Values are truly demonstrated. This allows our children to work in a happy productive atmosphere in which all children make the best progress possible. Standards of both work and behaviour are high, with staff and home working together to help all children to achieve their full potential. Parents are encouraged to support the education of their children, both in school and outside. No booklet however can capture the warm family atmosphere and sense of purpose that makes

An inspiring education centred on
Friends, Faith and Lifelong Learning.

Friends, Faith and Lifelong Learning



Friends...

- ◆ To encourage positive relationships that are characterised by care and empathy, building respect for themselves and others in a diverse society
- ◆ To help build a happy, safe and interconnected community that celebrates life within the school family and the wider village context

Faith...

- ◆ To value all as a gift from God where each individual, within the school family, has the opportunity to explore their own potential and purpose
- ◆ To offer an education that has its foundations in the Christian faith that seeks to bring life to all we do

Life-long learning

- ◆ To encourage a love of learning through a vibrant and inclusive curriculum which actively enables all children to reach their full potential
- ◆ To equip all pupils with the skills required to succeed in life

“My children thoroughly enjoy coming to school which is such a great reflection of how fabulous the school is!” Parent



“The difference it has made coming to Meriden school has been fantastic! The pupils, teachers and parents are extremely supportive and welcoming. I would recommend the school to anyone.” Parent

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Teaching and Learning



At Meriden Church of England Primary School, through an ethos underpinned by the Christian faith and values, we provide the children with a curriculum which is broad and well balanced, encouraging all pupils to live safe, active and healthy lives. Through practical and appropriate learning experiences, we nurture pupils' sense of curiosity, enquiry, awe and wonder. We promote high expectations and expect pupils to have pride in themselves as learners.

Throughout their time at Meriden, pupils' literacy and numeracy skills are developed across the curriculum, as well as vocabulary, communication and social skills. Pupils' artistic and creative talents are valued and promoted alongside design and IT skills; key to life in a fast paced technological society.

By the end of year 6, our pupils, regardless of gender, ability, social background or ethnicity, will have had the experiences needed to develop the academic skills, social, moral and cultural awareness that will enable them be successful lifelong learners, both in secondary school and further into adult life.



“The school goes over and above what is expected. The fantastic approach towards special needs and inclusion is embedded across the whole school.” Parent

Inclusion

We are totally committed to providing high quality provision and support for all pupils. We recognise that all children are individuals with their own specific needs, gifts and talents.

Special Educational Needs and Disabilities

We are a very inclusive school and modify tasks where needed to ensure that all children can access the curriculum and achieve their full potential. Children may be included on the Special Educational Needs and Disabilities register and may have a Needs Based Plan which sets targets and outlines actions to support them. Where appropriate, a referral to an external support agency may be made. We support children and parents in addressing behaviour issues and will put strategies in place to support children in gaining the skills to

manage and be responsible for their own behaviour. Above all, we want to raise the self-esteem of all our children and give them the skills to enjoy life in and out of school.

More Able Children

Children who are identified as being exceptionally able or talented are supported in various ways. They are challenged academically and provided with stimulating and enriching lessons appropriate for their need. Themed weeks enable children to develop a wider knowledge in subject areas such as Science and Technology and participation in intra school and inter school competitions showcases individual sporting talents. Our pupils also have the opportunity to work alongside talented pupils from other schools as part of our curriculum provision.

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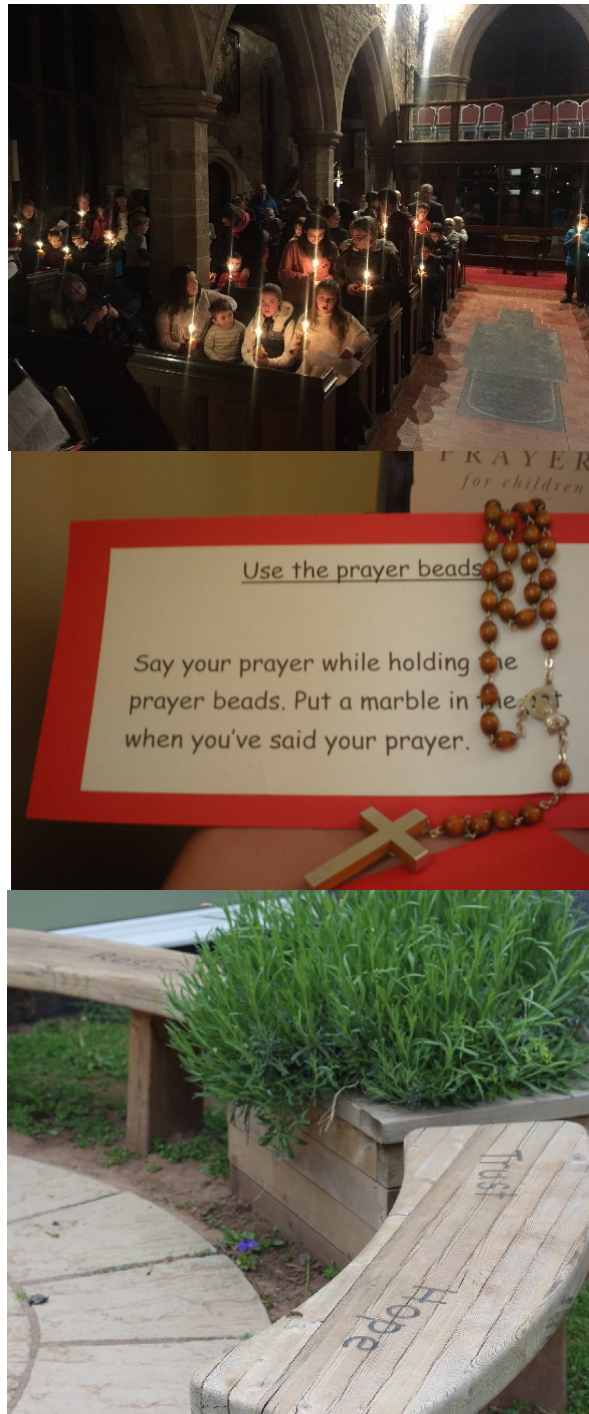
Our Christian Values

We are incredibly proud to have been graded as GOOD in our church school inspection (SIAMS) March 2023.

Meriden school strives to be a family community that seeks to develop all children spiritually and morally through mutual respect and understanding.

We have close links with the local community, inviting parents, Church and village groups and relevant organisations to join and lead Worship with us.

Collective Worship is at the heart of our life as a Church of England School. It is an engaging and fulfilling part of school life. Recognising the innate spirituality that all children possess, we seek to support our children in their own capacities for, and sense of, true awe and wonder. We seek to encourage them to contemplate the existence of God in order to respond, from their own level of understanding and belief, to any offering, be it through prayer, song or drama.



“The children are a real credit to the school. They show respect for everyone!”

Visitor

Our Christian Values are at the very centre of all that we do at Meriden CE Primary School. Each Friday, in our celebration assembly, the children from each class offer their thoughts and reflections on the value for the half term through story, role-play, song and prayer.



“A special place for learning has been successfully established at Meriden resulting in pupils, staff and parents being proud of their school which is rooted within a thriving Christian ethos.” SIAMS inspection , June 2015

“School supports everyone and cares for them.” Pupil

Religious Education is a stimulating and an important part of the curriculum at Meriden CE Primary School where it has a particularly significant part to play in the social, moral, spiritual and cultural development of our children.

Although Christianity has a central place in the curriculum, in keeping with our historic foundation and strong Christian ethos, it is important in our changing society that children learn to understand, appreciate and respect the traditions, beliefs and practices of other faiths; and to respect the rights of others who hold different beliefs from their own. Our children are

encouraged to share their own experiences with others and to develop their understanding of and sensitivity towards those of other faiths and those of no faith.

Typical lessons are engaging and stimulating where teachers endeavour to cater for the range of learning styles. The school has active links with the Diocese of Coventry and our Meriden Parish Church of St. Laurence where a number of school services and learning experiences take place during the year, including, the annual End of Year Leavers Service, Christingle, Harvest and Easter.



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Partnerships



“With parents and the school working together, sometimes the unachievable is indeed achievable.” Parent

We believe that a good partnership between school and home is essential and have an ‘open door’ policy where parents can speak to staff before or after school or arrange an appointment if necessary. Parents are encouraged to comment in their child’s reading record or homework diary.

Parents and other family members are welcomed into school every half term to work alongside their child and see what it is like to be a pupil at Meriden!

Parents are welcome to volunteer in school either as a regular commitment or supporting specific activities.

We have two parents’ evenings throughout the year and regular open sessions where children can share their work with parents. Written reports are sent home at the end of each term and parents are welcome to come and discuss these.

The newsletter comes out every Friday and is available on our website. It contains updates, reports about events in school and information about trips, visitors and events in school.

Parents are also welcome to attend our Friday Celebration Assembly where certificates are awarded for good behaviour and hard work and birthdays are celebrated.

Fundraising

The school organises regular social and fund raising events for both children and families. Events have included quizzes and highly successful fairs.

Recently, donations from parents have helped us to purchase 40 iPads and 40 laptops for the children to use across the whole school as well as the trim trail.



Governors

The Governing Body consists of representatives of parents, teachers, members of the local community including the church and the Local Authority. They work closely with the staff and Senior Leadership Team to support the school and plan strategic developments. Our Governing Body is very actively involved in all aspects of school life.



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Clubs and Activities

We have a spacious hall and grounds which are used for PE activities within the curriculum and after school clubs and activities.

Clubs

There are a wide variety of clubs that children can join during lunchtime and after school. These do vary but options include:

- ◆ Choir
- ◆ Netball
- ◆ Basketball
- ◆ Art
- ◆ Football
- ◆ Gymnastics
- ◆ Dance

Music Lessons

Pupils have the opportunity to take peripatetic music lessons during the school day. These include brass, string, piano and woodwind.



Pupil Voice

School Council

Each Year the children elect representatives for the School Council. The School Council is actively involved in developing different aspects of school life. Amongst other things, the School Council has been responsible for changing from trays to plates and bowls at dinnertimes, choosing playground equipment, introducing girls football and fund raising for charities and playground markings in school as well as having an input into the Behaviour and Anti-Bullying policies.



Eco Club

Pupils are the driving force behind Eco-Schools – they lead an Eco-Committee and help to audit the environmental performance of the school. In conjunction with the rest of the school and the wider community, it's the pupils that decide the environmental themes they want to address and how they're going to do it. Eco team get involved in the community by planting in the village, entering national competitions; we recently won Gold for our Hanging Basket in the Gardener's World Show!



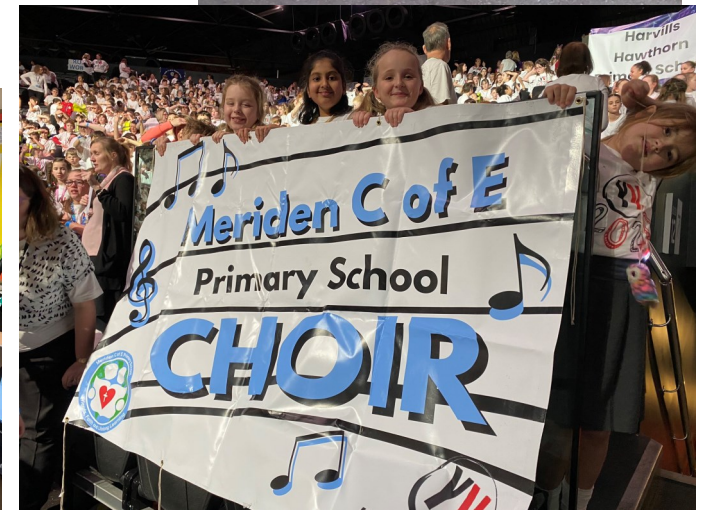


We adopt a topic based approach to learning. Topics are usually taught for a half term or term and they are built around the interests of the class – in fact the children help plan and shape their learning so they are always keen to work! They cover a number of curriculum areas and often involve trips and visitors. In addition we hold specific themed days and weeks such as Health & Safety, Creative, Anti-Bullying and Faith weeks where the whole school is involved.

“Teachers put a smile on our faces”. Pupil



“The teachers are brilliant. They always make learning fun!” Pupil



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Frequently Asked Questions

Here are our answers, to what we find are the most frequently asked questions. If you have any questions that are not answered here, please contact the school office on 01676 522488 and we will be happy to help!

Health at school

The school is always willing to discuss any concerns a parent may have about a child's health and assist in arranging for a visit by the school nurse. At times, the school will give information to parents regarding health issues.

Illness in school

If a child becomes ill or injured during the day, the parents/carers will be contacted immediately and given details. The parents will be expected to make arrangements for the child to be collected as soon as possible. A child who has vomited or had a bout of diarrhoea, must not return to school for at least 48 hours, to ensure the illness has passed, before coming into contact with other children.

Medicines at school

We can only administer medicines that have been prescribed by a doctor. Children are expected to self-administer daily medication for medical conditions such as inhalers for asthma. All medicine must be clearly labelled with the child's name, dosage and clear instructions. All inhalers are stored in an accessible asthma box and parents/carers must notify the school if their child needs to use one.

Child too ill to attend?

If your child is unwell, contact the school absence line by 9.00 am stating the

child's name, class and the reason for absence. The absence line is 01676 522488 and is open for 24 hours.

Attendance and punctuality

It is very important that children attend school and are on the premises before 9:00 am. Latecomers miss instructions and disturb other children who are settled into their work. Likewise, it is essential that children are collected promptly and that you contact the school if there is any unexpected change to the arrangements. It is the parents' responsibility to ensure their child attends school every day, unless the child is unwell. We monitor each child's attendance closely and the Education Welfare Officer will be informed if punctuality or attendance is not satisfactory and further action may be taken.

Authorised absence

Authorisation of absence will not be given for outings, holidays or family visits. Holidays must be taken during school holidays.

Jewellery

Children are permitted to wear stud earrings, however in P.E. lessons these must be taken out or tape placed over them.

Hair

Please ensure that long hair is tied back.

Uniform

Foundation Stage children only

School sweatshirt (with logo)
School navy polo shirt (with logo)

FS1—Navy joggers or shorts

FS2—Plain grey school trousers,
shorts, skirt or pinafore dress

Children in Years 1 - 6

Plain navy v-neck jumper, sweatshirt,
cardigan or tank top
White shirt (long or short sleeved)
School tie (elasticated ties may be
worn by children in year 1 and 2 only)
Plain grey school trousers, skirt or
pinafore dress

All children

Grey or white socks / white, grey or
navy tights
Black or navy shoes – NOT boots (no
high heels)
In summer - blue & white checked
dress
Sensible sandals (no high heels)
Any coloured plain hair ornaments.
Outdoors; Sensible warm coat

PE kit – all children (FS2-Year 6)

Plain T-shirt in house colour
Plain navy shorts (NOT Lycra/ cycling
shorts) or skirt or skort
Black plimsolls (indoors) or trainers
(outdoors)

During cold weather pupils may wear
track suits, preferably in navy or black



Phones and iPods

We do not encourage children to bring phones to school. However if a phone is essential and the Headteacher has given permission for it to be brought to school, it must be left at the school office. iPods and other expensive items are not permitted in school as we cannot ensure their safety.

Pencil cases

Pencil cases are allowed in Key Stage 1 and 2 as we encourage children to become independent.

Parent communications

Weekly newsletters keep you informed of events at the school, and any changes to procedures or policies. At the beginning of the school day it is hard for teachers to talk to parents when they have their whole class so please leave messages for teachers at the school office either in person or by telephone. Appointments can be made to meet with teachers and the senior staff after school. There is an opportunity to meet formally with teachers during open evening to discuss your child's progress and wellbeing. Examples of how we communicate with parents are: weekly newsletters, a school-home text service, a detailed website www.meridenceprimaryschool.co.uk, a home-school agreement, termly curriculum overviews, regular parent workshops, communication between home and school via the reading record book or planner (KS2), a full report of progress for parents about their child at the end of each term.

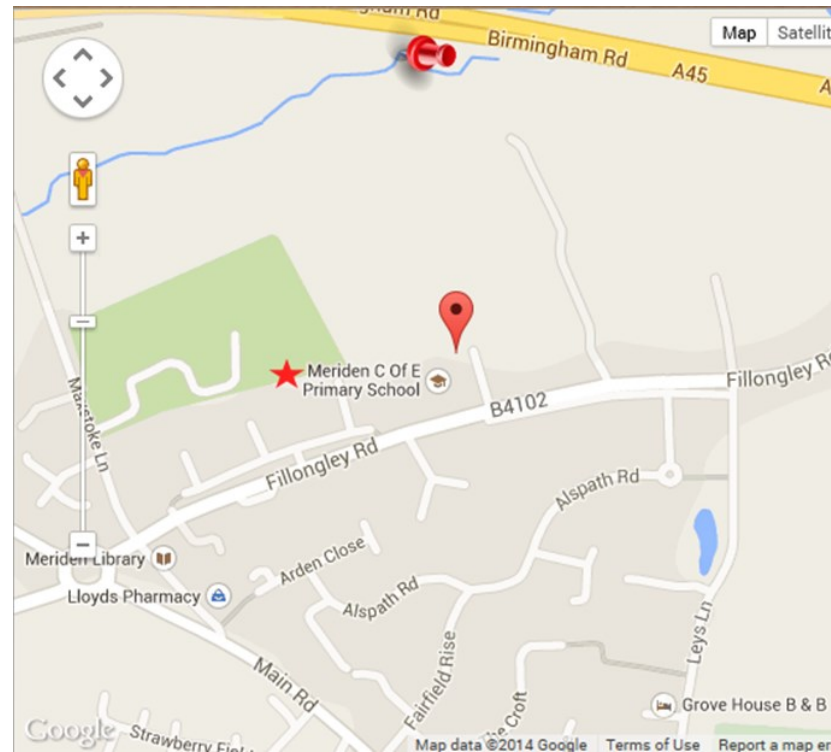


Talk to us!

When parents, students and visitors offer praise, or criticism, we listen carefully. We review all the comments you make and we use that information to improve our services even further. We aim to always pass on any praise to the people concerned, handle complaints in complete confidence, investigate impartially, and offer a clear and complete explanation. Please talk to your child's teacher or teaching assistant if you have a concern about your child and they will act on it. You could also talk to Miss Parker or Mrs Smith in reception and they will help you to raise the issue with the appropriate member of staff as complaints are usually best resolved informally with those responsible.

If you are not satisfied with how your complaint or concern has been dealt with, you should put it in writing and send it to the school. We will then investigate the situation so that we can explain our actions or, apologise and take positive action if necessary. We take all comments and complaints seriously.

**Meriden Church of England
Primary School
Fillongley Road,
Meriden,
Coventry
CV7 7LW**



01676 522488

office@meriden.solihull.sch.uk

Headteacher

Mrs Lucy Anderton

Deputy Headteacher

Mrs Rebecca Massey

Office Manager

Mrs Melanie Smith

Admin or Admission queries:

Mrs Smith /Mrs Willis (school office)

Concerns about your child:

Class teacher (in the first instance)/ Mrs Anderton

Child Protection concerns:

**Mrs Becki Yeomans , Mrs Lucy Anderton,
Mrs Rebecca Massey**