



Cookridge Holy Trinity Church of England (A) Primary School

The best for every child - a unique child of God



Cath Hellings, Headteacher, says:

I am proud to welcome you to our wonderful school.

Warm and welcoming

Every school has a unique character and at Cookridge Holy Trinity, we pride ourselves in providing a warm, welcoming and inclusive environment in which your child will develop as an individual and achieve their true potential. We are very much part of the local community and are recognised as a friendly and hospitable place which is popular with parents and their children.

Outdoor learning

Within our school grounds to enhance pupil learning we have:

- Timber adventure playground for playtime use.
- Large playing field for playtime and PE throughout the year.
- Early years outdoor learning zone with covered area.
- Outdoor learning area for Year 1.
- Woodland area including mud kitchen, large sandpit, orienteering trail, MUGA (multi use games area), gardening and wildlife area.

Pastoral care

Whilst academic achievements are an important part of life at our school, all our children also have the opportunity to also enjoy a wide variety of sporting and musical opportunities, as well as regular trips and residential visits. Our pastoral care is exceptional, ensuring all children are kept safe and are supported both inside and outside school.

Parent partnership

Another very important part of our school is you, the parent! As you will see, by reading the many parent and pupil stories within this prospectus, you and your child are very important to us. We champion the link between school and parent and work very hard to involve you in every step of your child's time here...and increase your child's enjoyment of learning.

Get in touch

I hope that you find the enclosed information useful. Please do not hesitate to contact us if you would like further details or would like to arrange a visit to school to see for yourself the calm and productive working environment that exists within our school. Ring on 01132253040 or email info@holytrinity.leeds.sch.uk.



Our Ethos and Values

The Best For Every Child

Governors, staff, parents and children are committed to providing the best education for each child. We feel that this statement encapsulates what Holy Trinity is about. We seek to provide the best education and experience of life for each child according to their individual needs and aspirations.

Our Mission Statement is expressed in the context of the school aims:

- To provide a happy, safe, secure, Christian environment in line with 'Every Child Matters, in which the child can develop emotionally, intellectually, physically, socially and spiritually.
- To provide a broad, balanced, interesting and challenging curriculum. To maximise each child's potential and their ability to work both independently and cooperatively. To value and promote equal opportunities.
- To foster positive relationships with both parents, the Church and the local community.

By the time the children leave our school they should be numerate, literate, caring individuals who are confident about meeting the challenges of the next stages of their lives.

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Colette's four children have all thrived at Holy Trinity C of E Primary School

Colette lives with her four children near Holy Trinity Church of England Primary School. Joseph, 15, and Niamh, 13, have now left. Emilia, 10, is in Year 6, and Henry, seven, is in Year 3. All of Colette's children have had positive experiences at the school.

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A warm welcome for newcomers

Henry started at Holy Trinity not long after the COVID pandemic, which meant he missed out on much of the usual preschool experience. Despite this, Colette was impressed with how well he was welcomed into the school community: "Henry started not long after COVID and had less preschool experience, but they really welcomed him in. Both he and Emilia are really settled and happy there."

Engaging activities and OPAL

Emilia and Henry have enjoyed the school's Outdoor Play and Learning (OPAL) programme: "One of the big things that they've loved this year is OPAL. They've been working on that recently to make playtimes child-centred and creative," Colette explains. The programme, supported by an external organisation, has transformed playtimes, making them more creative and enjoyable. The children engage in various activities, including using scooters and boxes and tyres, encouraging them to be active and imaginative in all types of weather.

The involvement of the Leeds United Foundation has further enriched their school experience. "Leeds United Foundation come in and do a lot of the sporting education and extra stuff at play times and lunch times. They all love that," Colette notes. Emilia and Henry have taken advantage of lunchtime football and individual challenges set by their teachers, which have helped them push their limits.

Supportive and approachable teachers

Colette has high praise for the teaching staff at Holy Trinity. As a school trip volunteer, she has had the opportunity to get to know many of them well: "I'm a school trip volunteer, and it's quite nice because I get called into trips that aren't even for my own children's years. But because I've been quite a few times, I know a lot of the staff quite well. They're so good and approachable," she says.

She appreciates how the teachers go above and beyond to help each child reach their full potential: "One class has been learning about the United States, and the teacher set two of the children - one had family there - the challenge of memorising all the different states and their capital cities and said they'd reward them with 200 Trinity Cards if they did. They had two days to do it, and they succeeded, and the whole class celebrated it."

Initially shy and lacking confidence, Emilia has also thrived with her teacher's encouragement: "Emilia is a happy little girl but would never put herself out there. And then, within a few weeks, she had been encouraged to be a worship counsellor. She now stands up in front of assemblies and speaks out in front of the whole school," Colette says.

A community built on values

The school's values are a cornerstone of its approach, and Colette believes they make a significant difference in how it operates: "I think that the Christian values of the school mean that they really do see each child as an individual," she says.

The school also fosters a strong sense of community among parents through initiatives like Praying Parents. Colette enjoys taking part in these sessions, which provide a chance to connect with other parents, discuss school matters, and offer prayers for the school: "On a Wednesday morning, we just have a coffee, or a cup of tea and a biscuit, and have a little chat just about life first, and then any news about the school, and we have a really short prayer about it. It's been nice getting to know the school on an even deeper level," she explains.

Children say

Emilia says: I love all the different sporting activities we get to do

Henry says: I love playing with the tyres at playtime

School day: settling in

Our school hours

The school day starts at 8.50am. Foundation stage children leave at 3.20pm and those in Key Stages 1 and 2 finish at 3.30pm.

After School and Breakfast Club

The school has a very successful Breakfast Club before school starts, and an After School Club. The Clubs are very popular, so please enquire through the school office.

Uniform

High standards of personal presentation support our positive learning ethos. Parents are asked for full support and co-operation to ensure that all children wear school uniform.

Food in school

We always encourage our children to eat healthily. Every morning children in Key Stage 1 have a piece of fruit with either a carton of milk or water. At lunchtime children who have school dinners must eat either the vegetable or salad option. Fruit is always on the menu as a dessert.

We use no salt in any of our cooking and flavour the meals with herbs and tomato purée. We only use seasonal ingredients for our school dinners. We also incorporate cultural celebrations into our meals.

Children also learn the positives and negatives of eating healthily in their PHSC and Science lessons.

Free school meals

Children in Reception and Years 1 and 2 are all entitled to a free school meal. We encourage all parents to take up this option. Older children may also be eligible for free meals. If you think you are eligible, please ask in confidence for an application form from the school office.



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Julia values the excellent communication and supportive community at Holy Trinity C of E Primary School

Julia lives in Cookridge with her two children, Sebastian (Sebbie), who is nine and in Year 5, and Violet, who is five and in Year 1.

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Starting school

Both of Julia's children had very different experiences of starting school: "Sebbie went to nursery in Harrogate, as I was working there, so he started at Holy Trinity not knowing anyone, but he settled in really well. He's quite a confident, easy-going boy," she explains.

For Violet, the transition was a little different. "Violet went to nursery just up the road, so she had lots of friends going to the same school and used to come on the school run with me every day, so we thought it would be really easy for her," says Julia. However, due to growing up during COVID, Violet's reserved nature made the first few weeks more challenging. "She can feel anxious about things, so she did struggle when she first started, but she's now settled in really well."

The supportive teachers at Holy Trinity played a crucial role in Violet's adjustment: "The teachers were really great with her, and she loved it when she was in."

Breakfast and After School Club

When it comes to what they enjoy most about school, both children have clear favourites. "Sebbie said his favourite thing is food! They like their school dinners, and it's nice for them to have a hot meal." Playtime is also a highlight for both Sebastian and Violet. "The social aspect is what they've most enjoyed about the school. They've made some really good friends."

Both children participate in the breakfast and after-school clubs, and Sebastian also takes part in extracurricular activities. "They do the breakfast and after-school club, and Sebbie has also done Lego club at school, which he enjoys." Although they miss some sports clubs due to scheduling, Julia notes the variety offered, including archery, football, and netball.

Exceptional support and communication from teachers

Julia praises the teachers for their exceptional support and appreciates the open communication channels. "They've all got an email address. If you've got any problems, you can message them or talk to them at the end of the day; you can always catch them."

In Reception especially, Julia notes that the communication has been fantastic. "They use Tapestry, which is an online platform. They provide loads of weekly information, including updates of what the children will be doing subject-wise."

Overcoming challenges

Sebastian, being left-handed, initially struggled with writing. "When he first started, he found it difficult to keep his writing neat and legible," Julia explains. Recognising this, his teachers helped him and, as a result, his writing has seen remarkable improvement: "This year, he's really got into it, and his writing has become a lot neater," Julia notes.

A strong sense of community

Julia values the strong sense of community at Holy Trinity, especially the school's Parent Teacher Association (PTA). "The PTA has been fantastic this year, organising loads of extracurricular activities like discos and dress-down days. There's always something keeping the children interested." She also appreciates the support network among parents, facilitated by a WhatsApp group for reminders and updates.

The school's OPAL (Outdoor Play and Learning) initiative has also been a valuable addition. "It's just added extra interest at playtime. They've got so much stuff now, like crafts and activities. It's good for confidence and building relationships."

Julia is pleased with the school's efforts to create a positive environment. "It's reduced the number of problems and fallouts at lunchtime because they're busier. There's a lot of interesting activities for them, so I think that's something the school has done brilliantly."

Children say

Sebastian says: I like D.T and art as I enjoy making and creating things.

Violet says: My favourite subject is phonics where I learn new sounds.

Our Curriculum: exciting learning opportunities

Creative curriculum

Whilst your child is a member of Cookridge Holy Trinity, they will experience exciting learning opportunities through our extensive creative curriculum. We have high expectations of the pupils both socially and academically.

Successful, confident and compassionate

We aim to provide young people with the experiences they need to develop into successful learners, confident individuals and compassionate citizens of God's family.

Extra-curricular activities

Clubs

We offer a wide range of enrichment clubs after school including, Lego, choir, dodgeball, football, archery, gymnastics, netball, multi sports and golf.

Educational trips

To further enrich our curriculum, all children are offered a range of visits, both locally and further afield, including, Eden Camp, Hesketh Farm and residential for years 5 and 6.

Music

Music at Cookridge Holy Trinity is an academic subject, which involves many skills learnt over a period of time at each individual's pace. Listening and appraising, collaborative music making and enjoyment of music provide pupils with a creative outlet in school. All children are encouraged to listen carefully, concentrate fully and perform elements of music effectively. Opportunities are available for children to learn a range of musical instruments.

PE and Games

At Cookridge Holy Trinity we seek to give children opportunities to develop a whole range of skills and abilities. The children participate in many inter-school sports competitions with our family of schools which has included skipping, gymnastics, football, swimming and 'wake up, shake up!'



Lucy values the inclusive and nurturing environment at Holy Trinity C of E Primary School

Lucy lives in Cookridge with her two sons, Charlie, who is in Year 5 at Holy Trinity Church of England Primary School, and Artie, who is in Year 8.

Making adjustments

Lucy recalls how Charlie started at Holy Trinity during the challenging COVID years. "Charlie started school during COVID, but Holy Trinity has been really good," she says. "Charlie has SEND needs, so he's looked after by the SENCo team. He's quite a shy boy, but the school has made many adjustments, so he feels comfortable in the school setting."

Lucy further explains how the school has facilitated Charlie's relationships with adults: "He sometimes struggles with his relationships with adults in terms of getting to know them, but he has lots of interactions with the teaching assistant. Once he gets a familiar adult he knows and works well with, they're really good at reacting to that and using that person to help support him."

Enjoying school activities

Charlie finds joy in the diverse range of activities offered at Holy Trinity. "Charlie enjoys the variety of stuff they do in terms of different topics. He likes science and music," Lucy shares. "He has guitar lessons at school, which he really enjoys. In Year 4, they do swimming lessons, and he's just finished those. Fridays were his favourite because he had both swimming lessons and guitar."

The school's engaging and interactive approach to learning has been a highlight for Charlie. "They do some quite good interactive activities around their topics. For example, they made Roman shields, and I still have a cardboard Roman shield in my living room that I haven't been able to part with yet!"

Lots of clubs

Charlie also participates in after-school clubs, which have been a positive addition to his school experience. "He enjoyed the Lego club, which was done by an outsourced provision with different themes each week. He's also tried other clubs like football and archery. There's a good variety of clubs depending on the resources available at the school."

Supportive teachers and communication

Lucy praises the teachers at Holy Trinity for their accessibility and support. "You meet the teachers before your child transitions into their class. There's a transition session where they explain what the new year will look like, what to expect, and who the teaching assistant will be," she says. "Luckily for Charlie, he has the same teacher he had in Year 4 for Year 5, but they still did a transition session. The teachers are very responsive to emails, and there are regular milestones like parents' evenings."

The school's communication and support have been exceptional for Charlie's specific needs. "Because Charlie has a formal diagnosis from a SEND perspective, I get to see the teachers a bit more to talk about what adjustments and interventions have been made."

Inclusivity and community

As a parent, Lucy values Holy Trinity's inclusive nature. "I've had to look at schools from a very inclusive angle, and Holy Trinity is very good," she says. "They also work to high standards academically."

The school's strong communication with parents and active PTA group are additional highlights. "They set clear expectations for children and parents, and there's a very active PTA group now. They do lots of things to get the parents involved. The teachers are approachable; my children have been very happy at Holy Trinity. They provide an environment where children feel nurtured and encouraged to learn."

Children say

Charlie says: I love my teachers as they are kind and help me learn. I also like break time as I get to play with all my friends.



OPAL – Outdoor Play and Learning

Here at Cookridge Holy Trinity C of E (A) Primary School, we are committed to ensuring quality play opportunities are available to all our children. We believe that play is essential for physical, emotional, social, spiritual and intellectual development of each child. Most of our best childhood memories are from playing outdoors, climbing trees and exploring the wide world around us. OPAL gives us the opportunity to give those memories to your children. OPAL (Outdoor Play and Learning) is all about using naturally and man made resources to allow children to be inspired and creative at playtime.

What does this mean for us

- Happier children
- Children coming into class ready to learn
- A fully inclusive playtime offer
- It allows children an opportunity to be creative and make decisions
- Children develop independence and resilience skills
- Increased social skills
- and most importantly fun!

Admissions and getting involved

Admissions

Because Cookridge Holy Trinity is a Voluntary Aided school, the Governing Body are the admissions authority, that is the body legally responsible for admissions. Parents who wish to apply for a school place mid-way through the school year will be asked to complete the In-Year Common Preference Form (ICPF) and the school's Supplementary Information Form and will be given a copy of the school's Admissions Policy, and the explanatory notes, 'definitions and interpretation'. A preference form is available from the school or from the Local Authority and you will be notified by the school of the outcome of the application. The Local Authority can be contacted on: Leeds County Council: www.leeds.gov.uk Tel: 0113 222 4444

Getting involved

School PTA

We are very fortunate at Cookridge Holy Trinity to have a fully committed group of parents and friends of the school who

make a significant contribution to school life by organising events for children and families. We strongly urge all parents to support the PTA who work tirelessly to augment the excellent facilities and opportunities provided at the school.

Governors

School Governors are people who wish to make a positive contribution to children's education. Together with the Headteacher they set the future direction of the school and decide how the school's budget should be spent. If you would like to be a school governor, please ask at the school office.

Volunteering

We value the contribution of parents and family and we actively encourage your help during the school day. Parents and family help with a variety of activities which include reading with our children, helping children to choose a library book, sewing and cooking as extra pair of hands in class and going on school trips. We accept all help gratefully.



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