



**Wimbotsham & Stow Community School**  
**Prospectus 2017**  
*Working together for success*



## Welcome from the Headteacher



Alison Hughes  
Executive Head Teacher

I am delighted to welcome you to the brochure of The Bridges Federation. Our federation comprises of three small, rural primary schools; Wimbotsham and Stow Community School, St Germans Primary School and Magdalen Village School. Our schools are situated within nine miles of each other on the banks of the River Ouse in West Norfolk - an enviable environment within which to learn.

The schools within our federation have long and proud histories of serving their three beautiful, rural communities and each has its own unique identity. Now operating together as one organisation, with one Governing Body and Leadership Team, we are best placed to offer our children the highest possible standard of 21st Century teaching and learning.

Our federation prides itself on providing a friendly, caring, family environment within which children can flourish. We seek to stimulate the love of learning in our children so that they want to learn for themselves and achieve to the very best of their abilities. Every child is valued as an individual and encouraged to find their best-selves within a setting where they are happy, well cared for and, most importantly, where they care for each other.

I look forward to welcoming you to our federation. Our children are our best ambassadors. Come and meet them!

## Admissions

Starting or moving primary school is a very important step for children. It is essential that the experience is a happy and exciting one and we work hard to achieve this. We welcome the opportunity to meet you and your child long before admission time and invite you to contact the school as soon as you feel your child would benefit from a visit.

We follow the Norfolk admissions policy:

Children starting school in the September before their 5th birthday are offered a full-time place in Reception. In Exceptional circumstances this place can be deferred.

All applications to start school in Reception or any other year group should be made through Norfolk County council.

Apply online at [www.admissionsonline.norfolk.gov.uk](http://www.admissionsonline.norfolk.gov.uk)

You are welcome to contact the school for advice and support on this process.

**Pre-school provision**, children aged 3 years.

For more information on the admission to our preschool, please contact the school direct.



# Bridges Federation Pledge

At The Bridges Federation, we believe that it is important for children to have a wide variety of experiences.

We will therefore do our best to guarantee that, during their 7 years at our school, the children will have the following experiences;

Each child will:

- Visit a theatre to watch a play being performed
- Perform a play to an audience
- Be given the opportunity to learn to play a musical instrument
- Work with professional musicians
- Hear an orchestra play
- Take part in a residential trip
- Visit a museum and art gallery
- Visit the seaside
- Visit London
- Work with a professional artist
- Visit a place of worship for major faith groups



The Child's Learning Journey at

# Wimbotsham & Stow Community School



At Wimbotsham & Stow Community School our approach to learning is simple. Our children study the National Curriculum through a variety of exciting and stimulating activities. English, Maths, Computer Science and Science are taught in discrete areas of learning as well as through topics through our skills based curriculum. We believe that HOW and WHY we learn is as important as WHAT we learn.

## Making a positive contribution

Our school has a School Council with members elected each year to meet, identify and work with school leaders to develop our schools.

Children are given roles of responsibility both in class and around the school – lead learners are identified in class to identify and provide examples for their classes of 'good' learning; Playleaders provide playtime activities and ensure equipment is well used. Children from older year groups 'buddy' with their younger friends for reading and other activities

The Green Team hold staff and children to account for maintaining a sustainable world. They monitor recycling and lead energy saving initiatives.



## Restorative Practices

Restorative Approaches are an understanding that we learn best when part of a community.

To do so we need an understanding of how a community works, self-awareness of our responsibilities to that community and shared communication skills.

Ways we do this include:

- Check in and Check out - Develop circle skills, taking turns, listening to other
- Icebreakers - Focus attention, enjoy learning, practice social skills
- Aims for the day - Develop aspirations, identify skills, achieving goals
- Restorative 'conference' – to resolve issues as they arise

## Visits and Visitors

Our curriculum incorporates a wealth of learning opportunities through various trips and expert visitors. These include: a trip to the seaside, local museums and galleries; artists and historical drama companies, musicians and visiting theatres, planetarium all of which provide children with valuable experience and inspiration, to support their learning.



## Extended Schools

We have an established program of before and after school activity clubs. Afterschool activities are led by a combination of specialist leaders and our own staff. Popular clubs include Archery; cookery; badminton; football; hockey; IT; Art and craft. Clubs change every half term to ensure the wide variety can be available.

We are members of the Childrens University - children attending our clubs can earn their credits towards Graduation!

## Celebrating Success

We value the opportunity to celebrate success for achievements in school and beyond. Weekly 'Celebration Assemblies' and end of term awards give us a platform to recognize progress including; learning; sports; attendance.

Children are encouraged to accumulate awards through team points and zone board – 'getting to gold'.

## Federation

Children enjoy enrichment events and activities including shared trips and visits with our partner schools often visiting each other's Classes to share learning experiences. The Federation Olympics is an annual event based at our local Athletics sports stadium enabling children from small year groups to attend and compete at this shared event.

By sharing staff expertise children access a richer curriculum.

## Keeping children safe

Our school recognises our moral and statutory responsibility to safeguard and promote the welfare of pupils. We will endeavour to provide a safe and welcoming environment where children are respected and valued. We will be alert to the signs of abuse and neglect and will follow our procedures to ensure that the children receive effective support, protection and justice'

Our Designated Safeguarding professional is Mrs Alison Hughes

Please see our website for further information.



## Our School

There are around 100 children on roll at present and numbers are expected to remain stable over the next few years. We organise the school around 4 classes. Ages within the classes can vary, most classes have children from two year groups depending on the number of children in each year group.

### Early Years Foundation Stage (EYFS) Preschool & Ducklings

This is the first class children will encounter when joining the school in Reception. We offer an exciting play based curriculum building on childrens interests gradually widening their learning experience



## The School Day

The school day begins at 8.55 a.m. and ends at 3.15pm

During the day children have a morning break time where a 'fruit tuck shop' is run by the older children. A complimentary piece of fruit is offered to every child in KS1 and EYFS.

Lunchtime begins at 12.10.

Delicious hot and cold meals are served daily

(Menus change each season and are available from the school office and on the website)

Children in KS1 & EYFS are entitled to receive a meal at school under the Universal Free School Meal entitlement. (UFSM)

If your family is in receipt of benefits then your child may be entitled to receive a free meal at school please complete the application form available from the office or website.

## School Uniform

Our school uniform consists of white polo shirts, grey/black trousers or skirt (or shorts/chequered dress in the Summer term). School fleeces, Navy blue sweatshirts, polo shirts, PE shirts and cardigans, book bags with school badges are available to order from the school office or online. Each child also requires a PE kit, consisting of a plain white tee shirt, navy/black shorts, black tracksuit bottoms, indoor pumps and outdoor trainers.

### Key Stage One (KS1) – Kingfishers

By the end of Kingfishers children will be competent in all the basic skills of reading writing and maths with a lively enthusiasm for learning about the world.

### Lower and Upper Key Stage Two (KS2) – Swans and Herons

Learning is planned to accelerate progress to meet the demands of the National curriculum. Children are encouraged to develop independence and make supported choices about their learning – choosing appropriate levels of challenge and knowing their next steps to develop further. Children work with staff and their classmates to develop their knowledge understanding and skills.

For all other children there is a subsidised charge for their meal. Children may bring their own packed lunch- please ensure that this is a healthy balance of

*We ask that lunch money for the whole week is paid by parents on the Monday morning to the office or paid on the day a meal is ordered.*

## EYFS Provision

We offer 5 sessions a week during for children over 3 years old. Sessions start at 9.00am in the morning and finish at 12.00pm.



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www.pret-a-portrait.net



## Parents as Partners

As a parent or carer you are the most important people in your child's development. We work hard to work in partnership with you and provide a range of ways to support you in your role and for you to compliment what we do at school.



We want you to feel involved and informed about your child's learning and development at school whilst maintain a secure, safe and ordered environment at school.

We ask all parents to sign up to our 'Home School Agreement'. In addition we offer the following:

### Open Mornings

A weekly opportunity to visit your child's classroom with them at the beginning of a designated day giving you the informal opportunity to see your child's classroom and learning in their books and meet staff.

### Parent Teacher Consultations

Each term you will be offered an appointment to discuss your child's learning with their teacher. This will focus on their achievement and progress in key skills agreeing targets for their next steps and ideas about how you can support this.

### Parent Forums

Termly opportunities to meet with Senior leaders and Governors to share ideas about whole school developments.

### Family learning

Regular events for parents to get to know about how we teach aspects of the curriculum – 'They didn't do it like this when I went to school!'

### School and federation events

Parents, carers, family and friends are invited to share in whole school events including Class Assemblies; Learning Cafes; Plays and Shows; sports days; Curriculum Celebrations.

### Friends of the School

All parents/carers are invited to join the Committee or help out at fundraising events to add to the School community

## Volunteers

We invite volunteers to support our work in supporting school activities for example – Reading Rangers; Maths Masters – helping individual children improve their skills (advice and direction is given); Helping with practical activities such as cookery or school trips and visits. If you have a particular talent then please let us know.

## Home School Agreement

### School will:

- Provide a happy, secure and stimulating environment in which to learn
- Have the highest expectations of each individual
- Encourage children to take care of their surroundings and others around them
- Provide both formal and informal opportunities to discuss children's progress
- The school will provide a plan which summarises what the teacher aims to teach each half term.

### Family will:

- Support the ethos and aims and the policies of the school
- Ensure that my child arrives and is collected on time
- Make sure my child attends regularly and provide an explanation if my child is absent
- Encourage my child to work hard, do all homework tasks and listen to my child read
- Endeavour to attend Parent Consultations to discuss my child's progress

### Child will:

- Follow the school behaviour policy
- Try to do my best in all aspects of school life
- Respect and care for everyone in the school

### Together we will:

- Listen to each other
- Celebrate our achievements
- Work together to ensure that all individual needs are met
- Value and support our schools' communities

Signed

*Alison Hughes*



## Aims & Ethos



### Believe

We can achieve



### Respect

We value everyone equally and believe everyone is important.



### Inspire

We are a learning community of independent thinkers and learners.



### Determination

We challenge ourselves and persevere in everything we do.



### Going for Goals

We reflect on our own learning and know our next steps.



### Enjoyment

We are enthusiastic and happy.



### Success

We celebrate every success.

