

Birkenshaw CE (C) Primary School

We are a welcoming and supportive school, where everyone feels valued and respected in a happy, safe and stimulating environment. We aim to serve the community by providing education of the highest quality within the context of Christian belief and practice.

We pride ourselves on high standards and encourage everyone to become confident lifelong learners, so that they are equipped to live life fully and to contribute to the lives of others.



Birkenshaw C.E. (C) Primary School is a voluntary controlled school for children currently aged 3 – 11 years in Kirklees Local Authority. In September 2013 we completed the reorganisation to change from a First School to a full Primary School with a Nursery.



The school has an extensive and attractive site, which includes a well-established wildlife conservation area, including a pond and mature woodland, a kitchen garden, mud kitchen, a ball court and purpose designed play areas.



The Key Stage Two building comprises four classrooms, a technology Suite, an Art/DT Room which is also home to our Breakfast and After School Clubs, a hall, a library, the Headteacher' and administrative offices, and storerooms. The classrooms are self-contained units with their own cloakrooms and toilet facilities and direct access to outside teaching spaces and play areas. The building is home to the children in Years 3 and 4. The Year 5 and 6 children have their own modular building which is self-contained.





The younger children (Reception, Year 1 and Year 2) are based in the Key Stage One building, which dates from the early 1970s. It has six semi open-plan classrooms with shared areas, together with a hall, a library, a small group room, the staffroom, staff workspaces and storage facilities. Our fully refurbished and modernised kitchen is located in this building and the hall becomes the school dining room at lunchtimes.

Our Nursery is housed in its own modular building, adjacent to the Reception classes.

There are two mixed ability classes in each year group, and teachers plan together. We teach a creative, topic based Learning Challenge Curriculum and we involve the children in planning through Learning Journeys. We are committed to enriching the curriculum - theme days and weeks are a regular feature of school life, as are visits by theatre groups and professional artists and musicians, and visits to places of interest both within and outside the local area. A wide range of extra curricular clubs are also on offer.



We have a strong environmental focus and hold the Eco Schools Green Flag Award and Fair Trade School Status. We also place great importance on cultural awareness in education, and caring for the community around us. Modern foreign languages are taught throughout school, starting in Nursery.



We are proud of our high standards in IT, with children from Reception to Year 6 currently receiving specialist teaching once a week. We are one of the few schools in the LA to achieve the NAACEMark award for ICT.



Our Christian ethos is at the heart of everything we do, and we have a very close relationship with our parish church. We have a tradition of fundraising for charities through various fun events.



We have a large and friendly staff team and, because we have a number of separate buildings, work hard to ensure that a whole school ethos and approach is maintained. We are committed to ongoing staff development and hold the Investor in People Award, with the Assessor commenting on our high standards in managing and developing staff.



Our children are a pleasure to teach and we have active School and Eco Councils and a Play leader scheme at lunchtimes. Pupils also undertake a variety of jobs around school. We hold the Investors in Pupils Award.



At Birkenshaw CE (C) Primary School, we care.