

## Birkenshaw CE (C) Primary School

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

*The Christian value of caring underpins all that we do at Birkenshaw CE (C) Primary School. All people involved within our school community feel cared for, while, at the same time, being caring themselves.*

*At Birkenshaw CE (C) Primary School we teach, offer and accept care. We know that many different values make up a pupil within our school and we believe that none of these values can be achieved without caring. Our Christian value of care will support and guide you to: have the best possible education; enjoy your time in school; better yourself and help you to make the world a better place.*



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

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.

There are two mixed ability classes in each year group, and teachers plan together. We teach a creative, topic based Curriculum and we involve the children in planning this. We are committed to enriching the curriculum - themed 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.



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

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 supporting staff and pupils emotional wellbeing is a priority for everyone in our school community.



Our children are a pleasure to teach and we have active School and Eco Councils and our Care Crew are activity involved in supporting pupil's emotional wellbeing. Pupils undertake a variety of jobs around school. We also hold the Investors in Pupils Award.



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