



**Greatham**  
CHURCH OF ENGLAND  
Primary School

# Welcome to Early Years



*Dream it! Believe it! Achieve it!*

[www.greathamschool.org.uk](http://www.greathamschool.org.uk)



@greathamcofe

Dear Parent/Carer,

We hope that you will soon feel that you and your child feel part of our school family where our vision for all children is to reach their full potential within a caring, stimulating environment to enable them to believe in themselves, achieve their goals and develop the skills necessary to succeed in their future.

Our school is at the heart of the local community where everyone is valued as an individual. We have close links with our local parish church, St. John the Baptist in Greatham village.

Our aim is to develop each individual child academically, spiritually, morally, socially and emotionally through an engaging, motivating curriculum which is underpinned by our Christian ethos. With high expectations for all, we encourage children to take risks, make mistakes and through perseverance, learn from these to achieve.

Our Aims:

- To meet the needs of every child through a personalised learning experience with high expectations for all.
- To ensure all teaching and learning within school is engaging, motivating and inspires children to have a love of learning regardless of ability, gender or ethnicity
- To ensure each child reaches their full potential and achieves in all aspects of the curriculum
- To ensure each child has the resilience and skills to prepare them for life after Greatham.
- To promote a sense of belonging, work within the wider school family and with St. John the Baptist Church so the community can thrive

This booklet is an introduction to the philosophy and workings of the Early Years Foundation Stage.

If you have any questions or concerns, please do not hesitate to come and speak to a member of staff.



## Contact Information:

Greatham Church of England Primary School  
Egerton Terrace  
Greatham  
TS25 2EU  
Tel: 01429 870254

Email:  
admin.greatham@school.hartlepool.gov.uk

Web: [www.greathamschool.org.uk](http://www.greathamschool.org.uk)

Facebook: Follow @greathamcofe

## Staff

**Head Teacher:** Mrs. N. Dunn

**Early Years Teacher:** Miss. C. Inman

**Classroom Assistant:** Mrs. G. Moppett

**Classroom Assistant:** Mrs. A. Warren

## Opening Times:

Morning Session: 8.45 – 11.45 A.M.

Afternoon Session: 12.15 – 3.15 P.M.

Parents/carers are expected to bring their children to school for the start of the session and to collect them at the end of each session. If this is not always possible, please inform the class teacher before the start of the session the name of the person who will be collecting your child.

## ADMISSIONS POLICY:

You need to apply directly to the school for a place in Nursery. Once your child reaches their second birthday, an application form can be collected from the main school office. Our admission policy is in accordance with the Local Authority's criteria.

The offer of a place in the nursery does not automatically guarantee a place in Greatham Church of England Primary School.

## Right from The Start

The experience in Early Years is often a child's first venture alone into the larger world outside the family and home.

What children experience and learn in Early Years will create strong and lasting foundations on which to build in later life, so we believe it is essential that these first experiences are of the highest quality.

By working in partnership with parents and carers, we aim to provide a stimulating, challenging environment which is a warm, friendly extension of the home, where children and adults can explore, have fun, play, talk and learn together developing as happy, confident and independent individuals.

## Core Christian Values

These are Greatham's Core Christian values, which are at the heart of our school.



At Greatham, we believe it is important to develop core values by which to live and which help to develop a moral and spiritual awareness.

We aim to explore the meanings of the core values and their significance in school.

The gifts of **love, peace, forgiveness, trust, and hope** are the values we want our children to leave with and use throughout their life.

## Greatham Church of England Primary School Wrap Around Child Care

We are able to offer full 'Wrap Around' child care for 3 to 4 year olds. Places are limited, if you would like to register or require more information, please contact the school office.

From	To	Cost	Activity
7.45am	8.45am	£3	Breakfast Club
8.45am	11.45am	£9	Morning Session
11.45am	12.15pm	£5	Lunch
12.15pm	3.15pm	£9	Afternoon Session
3.15pm	4.15pm	£4.00	After School Club
3.15pm	5.15pm	£6.50	After School Club

All sessions (apart from Breakfast Club) needs to be pre-booked and paid for at the school office.



## Settling In

We aim to make the Early Years Foundation Stage a 'happy and enjoyable place'

Children are admitted gradually over a period of time so that they can be given the individual attention they need to settle in.

Once your child is settled you can say 'goodbye' but reassure him/her that you will be back soon to see what he/she has been doing.

When your child first begins to stay on his/her own, it is better if you could collect him/her slightly earlier as children can sometimes become anxious if they see other parents arriving first.

## Clothing

Playing can be a very messy business – please do not send your child to school in 'best clothes'. Aprons are provided but clothes can still get a bit messy.

Many parents send children to nursery in school uniform although this is not officially expected until the child starts school. If you wish your child to wear uniform, it can be purchased from the school office.

In case of toileting accidents, a supply of clothes is kept in the classroom or if you would like, you can send a spare pair of clothes in a bag. If your child needs to borrow clothes, we would really appreciate them being washed and returned to school as soon as possible.

It is the policy of Greatham Church of England Primary School that no rings, earrings or other jewellery is worn.

PE kit – This is provided by school.

**PLEASE NAME ALL SCHOOL CLOTHING.  
This is very important so that clothing does  
not get mixed up or lost.**

## Safeguarding:

Parents and carers should be aware that the school has a duty to take reasonable action to ensure the welfare and safety of its pupils. In cases where staff have cause to be concerned that a pupil may be subject to ill-treatment, neglect or other forms of abuse, staff will follow the L.A. Child Protection Procedures and inform the Social Services of their concern. This may involve a visit to the home by a Social worker.

## Special Educational Needs and/or Disability:

All children are considered as individuals and therefore having individual needs. If a child is having difficulties in any area, this will be first discussed with the parents and any support required put in place within school. Outside agencies' advice and support may be sought if this is agreed with parents/carers.

A copy of the school's SEND policy is available on the school's web-site and on request from the school office.

## First Aid:

Should an accident occur in the Early Years Foundation Stage or a child feels unwell, he/she will be seen by Miss Inman or Mrs. Warren who have had training in First Aid. Should further action be deemed necessary, parents or emergency contacts will be informed.

If a child has any special medical condition or needs to take prescribed medication, please contact the school office to complete the appropriate form.

## Car Parking:

The school car park is for staff and disabled use only.



## Early Years Foundation Stage Principles

The Early Years Foundation Stage is based on 7 key features of effective practice:

1. The best for every child.
2. High-quality care.
3. The curriculum: what we want children to learn.
4. Pedagogy: helping children to learn.
5. Assessment: checking what children have learnt
6. Self- regulation and executive function
7. Partnership with parents

The staff in Early Years will aim to enable your child to show the characteristics of effective learning which are the building blocks of how your child will continue to learn throughout their education. These characteristics are split into three key areas:

**Playing and Exploring    Active Learning**  
**Creating and Thinking Critically**

The Early Years is also split into 7 different areas of learning, which will be continually assessed by the Early Years team.

### Prime Areas:

- Communication and Language
- Physical Development
- Personal, Social and Emotional Development

### Specific Areas:

- Literacy
- Mathematics
- Understanding the World
- Expressive Arts and Design

## Starting School

Children begin full time education in the September of the school year that they are five.

The transition from part-time education to full time is a smooth experience because children remain in the same classroom for all their time in Early Years and during the last half-term of Nursery education, they can stay for a school lunch on several occasions. They also take part in school collective worship. This helps them to become familiar with other school routines and they look forward to staying all day.

As parents/carers you will be invited to a meeting with the Head Teacher and Early Years teacher and there will be an opportunity to ask any questions which you may have about the school.

Thank you for taking the time to read this booklet. We hope it has been useful and has answered some of your questions.



**We look forward to welcoming you and your child to Greatham Early Years Foundation Stage.**



**Greatham**  
CHURCH OF ENGLAND  
+  
**Primary School**