



THE FOREST CE FEDERATION

SMALL ENOUGH TO CARE, LARGE ENOUGH TO INSPIRE
VALUING ALL GOD'S CHILDREN

WELCOME

On behalf of all our pupils, staff and governors I would like to welcome you and your family to the Forest CE Federation.

We are immensely proud of our Federation and what we have achieved since we joined together in 2011. Our achievements have only been possible because of our highly committed staff, fantastic pupils and supportive parents and governors. I am proud and honoured to be the Executive Headteacher of four small schools.

The union of our Federation has enabled us to pool our strengths and experiences in the classroom, alongside leadership and governance to create a richer learning experience for all our children. Being a Federation of four small rural schools enables us to give the children experiences that previously would have been difficult to organise in a small village school with small year group numbers. We come together for joint school trips, celebration parties, sporting events and special events in the Christian calendar including Easter, Christmas and Harvest.

My priority as Executive Headteacher is to ensure that every child is treated as an individual to give them the opportunity to develop and grow into

confident young people with a thirst for learning and knowledge.

We are proud to be Church of England Schools, closely affiliated with the Diocese of Peterborough. This provides us with a rich ethos embedded within Christian values which shapes the whole of school life. The heritage of the villages in which we are set is a wonderful resource for the children's exploration and education.

Our curriculum is creative, well balanced and topic based. We want every child in our Federation to have a happy, safe and inspirational engagement with education. We are passionate that every child enjoys the best opportunities to widen their aspirations, develop and stretch their abilities whilst nurturing their spiritual, moral, social and cultural development. Our children are expected to do their best whilst taking pride in their education.

If you are interested in sending your child/ children to one of our schools please do get in touch. We would love to welcome you to any of the schools to view our day to day activities.

MRS ELIZA HOLLIS

Executive Headteacher



OUR VISION AND AIMS

In recognition of its Christian foundations, the Forest CE Federation provides a welcoming and caring environment, in partnership with parents, churches and communities, where each child is valued as a unique individual. Respect, responsibility and Christian values are developed in a safe, nurturing environment, where every child is encouraged to thrive and reach their full potential.

ETHOS STATEMENT

- We provide a creative, stimulating and engaging curriculum that is accessible to all pupils, where each child will develop their individual talents, interests and skills.
- We engage the inquisitive mind of every child and ignite a passion for life-long learners who are curious about the world around them.
- We offer rich and varied experiences individually or in collaboration with others across the Federation.
- We provide a happy environment where children show tolerance, respect and consideration for others.
- Diversity is embraced and celebrated through devotion to Christian and British values, spiritual awareness and reflection through prayer.

We believe that it is important for children to try and live their daily lives by upholding Christian values. As a school family we have chosen six values which we celebrate throughout the school year. These values are displayed around the schools as a reminder to our children.

FRIENDSHIP

We encourage one another and support each other to be the best that we can be

RESPECT

We treat others as we would like them to treat us and celebrate their differences

LOVE

We love and care for one another without any regard to what we get in return

TRUST

We trust in our own abilities and strength to make the right decisions

FORGIVENESS

We forgive others to become stronger people

PEACE

We live with one another in peace and harmony

CURRICULUM

The Forest CE Federation aims to provide children with an exciting, broad and balanced curriculum that will instil a love of learning. This will enable them to become lifelong learners by developing transferable skills to equip them to succeed in a competitive world.

We believe in the “whole child” and are committed to children’s wider well-being. Our inclusive curriculum is driven by an ethos of educating the whole child. We know that a child who feels happy, safe and secure have the confidence to try their best and achieve in all that they do. We endeavour to provide all children with the skills, tools and environments in which to thrive.

The curriculum is designed with progression, achievement and mastery of skills at its core. As children progress through school life, the skills they gain are revisited, consolidated and built upon, in order for them to achieve mastery across the National Curriculum, rooted in a wide range of interesting and imaginative contexts. All children will begin their learning with a WOW topic launch day. This is a hook to get them excited, engaged and eager to learn. Throughout the topic children have the opportunities to reflect and evaluate their learning to gain a deeper learning.

We aim to provide children with varied, exciting ‘hands on’ learning experiences and as a part of this we offer a range of visits and visitors for a rich variety of activities.

“ innovative ways have been developed to meet the individual learning needs of pupils and to ensure that challenge is provided ”

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“ High levels of engagement with all learning and excellent learning behaviour in all classes ”

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CORE SUBJECTS

ENGLISH, READING & WRITING

Daily English lessons develop the skills of written and verbal communication. We aim to equip the children with the ability and confidence to express themselves with clarity. Through speaking and listening activities, we help children to sustain and develop their ideas and adopt active listening strategies. Children are encouraged to work collaboratively and join in group discussions; they are also taught the skills of critical analysis.

We aim to foster a love for reading. There is a progressive reading scheme that is used to support the teaching of specific reading strategies such as using phonics, visual and contextual clues. Much time is spent during a typical week with reading opportunities, including individual, group and class reading.

Writing is taught to enable children to coherently communicate their thoughts, ideas and experiences. Grammar, punctuation and spelling skills are taught in a structured way enabling children to write effectively for a range of audiences. We encourage children to be creative in their writing.

MATHEMATICS

Through teaching Maths, we aim to equip pupils with a uniquely powerful set of tools to understand and change the world. These tools include logical reasoning, problem solving skills, and the ability to think in abstract ways. Children develop their knowledge and understanding of mathematics through practical activity, exploration and discussion. They focus on various aspects of number, shape, space and measures, and data handling. Children are taught to identify mathematical relationships, apply mental skills with speed and accuracy, and acquire an ability to apply Maths skills in everyday practical situations.

FOUNDATION SUBJECTS

We have a number of specialist teachers to ensure that children gain the highest quality education across a range of subjects. We are creative in our curriculum and offer children a range of opportunities through themed days and more importantly through the curriculum we provide everyday. Through the wider curriculum children gain skills to prepare them for later life. We celebrate and explore the diversity of our world and challenge children's perceptions.



WHY CHOOSE



THE FOREST CE FEDERATION

- **SMALL CLASSES**

One of our strengths as village schools is smaller than average class sizes.

We encourage children of all abilities to reach or exceed their full potential.

- **HIGH STANDARDS**

We set and expect high standards in all aspects of education. As well as achieving good results we want our children to adopt healthy attitudes and to learn the personal skills to help them in life. These skills include learning to appreciate their own self-worth, to show respect and understanding for others of all ages, to be part of a team, to know right from wrong and pursue a healthy lifestyle. We inspire all children to have a love for learning to become life-long learners.

- **HOW WE TEACH**

We combine the best of traditional and modern teaching methods according to the age, ability and previous knowledge of the children, the size of the group and what we are teaching. We use a mixture of whole class teaching, individual study and small target groups. We match the level and nature of teaching to the needs and abilities of children. Due to us being small schools we are able to tailor individual education to help children achieve.

- **SPECIAL EDUCATIONAL NEEDS AND DISABILITIES**

A number of children experience some form of learning barrier during their school life. Children may have a variety of Special Educational Needs and Disabilities and we are committed to early identification. If additional support is required, a programme of support is put in place. They may be taught individually, in small groups or supported within the whole class. We also seek advice from a number of specialists to support the child and the school. We are passionate in our belief that every child should have the opportunity to reach their full potential.

- **SCHOOL LIFE AND PUPIL VOICE**

We encourage our children to become good young citizens by helping to develop well-rounded pupils who show consideration for others, respect for their environment, an ability to make healthy informed choices, and recognition that they can make a positive contribution to society. Each school has a strong and proactive School Council. They are active in making our school's and the Federation an even better place. Alongside the School Council we have a Sports Crew. Children are responsible for encouraging active play and help plan sports competitions and events.

We hold monthly VIP assemblies where we celebrate effort and achievements. Parents and family are invited by Golden Ticket to attend this "Red Carpet" event.

- **PARENTS AND CARERS**

We encourage a close partnership with parents/carers in our school. All parents/carers are invited to regular "Walk in Mornings" where they can get involved with their children's learning. Regular information meetings are held with parents to help their children learn at home. Sessions are held for help with Phonics, Literacy and Maths. We actively encourage parent volunteers into school.

- **UNIQUENESS**

Our Federation is unique. The four schools retain their individual identity while benefitting from the wider opportunities the Federation can offer. The Federation offers the children a wider base with children making firm friendships across the school's which is beneficial for them when they start their new journey into secondary education. All the schools offer a warm friendly atmosphere where children feel safe and secure.

FRIENDSHIP



“ And as you wish that others would do to you, do so to them ” Luke 6.31

“ Pupils are well behaved, confident, courteous and keen to learn ”


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LOVE



“ Let us not love in words or speech but with actions and in truth ” John 3.18



“ One parent said,
‘they go over and
above with the
teaching to really
engage the children ”


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RESPECT

“ Honor your father and mother, and,
You shall love your neighbour as yourself ”

Matthew 19.19




“ I will miss the family
atmosphere when I
leave school where
everyone looks out for
one another ”

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TRUST

“ My God is my strength in whom
I trust ” Psalm 18.2




“ The emphasis on
values makes a marked
contribution to the pupil’s
spiritual, moral, social and
cultural development. ”

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PEACE

“ God blesses those who work in
peace, for they will be called the
children of God ” Matthew 5.9




“ There are strong partnerships with parents who appreciate the way children bring home the Christian values they are taught ”

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FORGIVENESS

“ Just as the Lord has forgiven you, so you must also forgive others”



“ Parents praised the family atmosphere and how included they feel in the life of the school ”

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