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# Welcome to Cherry Garden Primary School



Thank you for your interest in Cherry Garden Primary - I am very pleased to welcome you to our school as a current or prospective parent, or indeed a member of the wider community who would like to know more about our school.

The aim of this prospectus is to provide you with an overview of our school and our approach to learning. If you have not had an opportunity to visit Cherry Garden, I would strongly encourage you to see for yourself why we are so proud of our school.

Cherry Garden Primary has an excellent reputation for both the care of its pupils and for the standards they achieve during their seven years at the school. This has been recognised by a variety of bodies including OFSTED (who rated us 'Good' in July 2018) and the Local Authority and is best exemplified by the school's many awards, including the Gold School Games Award, Eco-School Green Flag and Activemark.

I started as headteacher in September 2017, and have always been so impressed with how happy, motivated and eager to learn all of the pupils are. This is in no small part due to the fantastic staff team here at Cherry Garden, both in the classrooms and across the whole school. Each and every one of them is motivated and highly skilled, giving their all every day to provide the most enriching and engaging experiences they can for all the children at the school.

The school has recently looked at the kind of education we want to provide for children in the 21<sup>st</sup> century. Our motto, 'Learning for Life' summarises this vision – we want children to be learning now for the life ahead but also to develop attitudes that will enable them to learn beyond the classroom and their formal education.

Our school has an experienced Governing Body who play a big part in the life of the school and an active PTA (Parent/Teacher Association) who organise a variety of fundraising events. The school has strong links with the local community and its neighbouring schools.

At Cherry Garden, as in any school, children thrive when there is a strong partnership between home and school. Parental support is an essential ingredient in a child's success and our staff are committed to working with all parents and carers to achieve the best outcomes for all the children in our care.

I thank you for your interest in our school. Should your child become part of our community, I look forward to getting to know you better and to working with you to ensure your child's time at Cherry Garden Primary School is happy, inspiring and successful.

Tom Hutchings  
Headteacher

# Our School Values



Our six core values underpin all that we do at Cherry Garden. They are central to our work, behaviour and play. We use them, discuss them and celebrate them regularly, and they are one of the key things that make our school the special place that it is.

## Confidence

To try new things and challenge ourselves to be the best that we can

To stand up for what is right

To admit when we are wrong and say 'sorry'

## Happiness

With ourselves

With our achievements and friendships

When others succeed

## Excellence

In our work and behaviour

In our attitude to life and learning

In our aspirations for the future

## Respect

For ourselves and for others

For differences in people, ideas and beliefs

For the places where we live, learn and grow up

## Resilience

To stick at a task and not give up

To try again when things go wrong

To be positive when we face challenges

## You

Are one of a kind

Deserve the very best

Are 'Learning for Life'



# School Vision

Our children are Learning for Life. It is woven into the fabric of the school – not just because our children take it everywhere on their school jumpers! As a school, we believe that our children are not just at Cherry Garden to reach high academic standards. We have recently updated our school vision in consultation with our parents, children, governors and staff. We believe it reflects what an amazing place to be Cherry Garden is, but also shows our aspirations for the whole school community.

Cherry Garden is **at the heart of the local community** and its pupils understand their responsibilities as local and global citizens.



Our staff create **exciting** opportunities to **enrich** the children's daily experiences so that they have **the chance to excel** and realise their unique potential.



Every child will be **nurtured** and **celebrated** so that they can **flourish as an individual**.



# School Vision – How The Children See It

This letter from one of our Year 6 pupils to their Reception buddy perhaps best illustrates our school vision and what it means to the children.

Dear My Reception Buddy

I have loved being your buddy. I remember your first day in Reception when you were a bit nervous but you soon settled and realised what an amazing place Cherry Garden is! The staff were kind, caring and encouraging for you then, just like they have for me, every day that I have been here.

We have shared so many amazing experiences this year, from our buddy lunches, to our walks in the Magic Forest. We have both grown in confidence so much, I have learned a lot from having someone to look out for, nurture and care for. And I know you have changed so much as well, learning to read and write, and develop a love of learning, like we all have at the school. Even though you have only been here a year, you are already such an important part of our school community.

But for you, this is only the beginning! You are so lucky to have six more years at Cherry Garden. Over your time here, you will find and excel in new skills and passions that you never knew you had. That could be in new subjects, through Friday enrichment sessions that you get to start next year (lucky you!) or maybe through an after school club or trip. If you want to, you'll get to represent the school at sports or arts or perform in front of hundreds of people. You will meet and work with people in the local area and find out more about how fortunate you are to live in such a special area. You'll have more time to play in our lovely grounds, take risks and make friends right across the school. I'm so excited for you and what you still have to come.

Here I am at the end of that journey. I've smashed my SATs, celebrated successes and spent my first nights away from home. I've lead events for other children and feel more than ready to take on the challenges that await me at secondary school. Cherry Garden has definitely kept their promise of 'Learning for Life' - even though it's the end of my time here, I'm only just getting started.

I'm sure we'll still see each other around in the community. When we do, we can catch up and you can tell me all about your awesome Cherry Garden journey.

Best Wishes

Your Year 6 Buddy



# Ofsted Report

Cherry Garden was inspected by Ofsted in July 2018. Having been 'Good' at our last inspection in February 2015, we received a shorter, one day inspection. Ofsted judged that our school continues to be good. We are very proud of the highly positive comments from the inspector, and the ongoing improvements that were identified in the report.

"Pupils enjoy school and chat excitedly about their learning."

"Good teaching helps most pupils to make strong progress to achieve the standards expected for their age."

"You know your pupils well and pastoral support is strong."

"Good teaching ensures that disadvantaged pupils' progress is strong."

"You have taken highly effective action to improve the teaching of phonics. As a result, 90% of current pupils achieved the expected standards in the Year 1 phonics check."

"The proportion of pupils achieving expected standards at the end of key stages 1 and 2 has increased over the last three years."



# Our Staff

Year Group	Teacher	Leadership Role
Reception	Jackie Hanks Katie Wright	EYFS and PSHE Leader Pupil Premium and RE Leader
Year 1	Emma Holland	PE and Phonics Leader
Year 2	Leanne Harbury	Design & Technology and Computing Leader
Year 3	Lucy Cook Jasmin Budd	SEND and History Leader Art Leader
Year 4	Vicki May Stephanie Georgiou	Deputy Head, English and Science Leader
Year 5	Lily Webb	Languages and Geography Leader
Year 6	Hannah Durber	Mathematics and Music Leader

## Teaching Assistants

Caroline Beek	Tracey Bishop	Sarah Calder
Deb Roberts	Rose Cooke	Angela Harbury
Sue Read	Natalie George	Amber Britton

## Office Staff

Sharon Godfrey <i>Senior Administrator</i>	Deb Barnard <i>Senior Administrator</i>	Claire Stevens <i>Clerical Assistant</i>
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## Lunchbreak Supervisors

Sue Read	Vicky Coombes	Rose Cooke
Natalie George	Marie Gover	Belinda Chenery
Claire Stevens	Caroline Lane	

## Caretaker

Mark Phippen
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## Cleaners

Claire Hanrahan	Izzy Elmes
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# Special Educational Needs and Disabilities (SEND)

We pride ourselves on being a welcoming and inclusive school. We believe that no child should be denied a high quality education because of a special need or disability and do our very best to ensure that every child receives the support they need and deserve. All children are different and have the right to access a broad and balanced curriculum that will enable them to make good progress.

Our SEND Leader, Miss Cook, is there to ensure your child's needs are being met. We monitor the progress of all children at regular intervals and decide if any child requires additional support to succeed. If we have concerns about your child's progress or their current rates of learning we will always contact you early to develop a plan for meeting your child's needs.

Additional support can take a range of forms, depending on the need of the child and the skills of the staff. The school has a dedicated team of teaching assistants who run a variety of intervention programmes aimed at 'closing gaps' in children's learning.

Occasionally, the school and child may need some additional support beyond that the school staff can give. In these instances, we have a number of agencies with whom we work closely, these include the school nurse, Educational Psychology, Speech and Language Therapy, Occupational Therapy, Educational Welfare and CAMHS (Child and Adolescent Mental Health Service).

To ensure that we are able to start meeting your child's needs as quickly as possible, when starting at Cherry Garden, whether that be in Reception or any other year group, we ask parents or carers to complete a short questionnaire about their child's needs.

Cherry Garden is committed to building on each child's strengths in order to secure high quality outcomes. A copy of our SEND Policy, along with a set of frequently asked questions, can be found on our website.





# Partnership with Families

At Cherry Garden, we know the value of working together. Your child is on a path to success when home and school are giving the same messages around values, behaviour and the importance of study and learning. We recognise the huge role that families must play in the education of their child – from the basics of making sure children attend school regularly and on time, to supporting children with their learning at home.

Cherry Garden have a number of initiatives and strategies in place to support learning at home. Firstly, all children have a school planner. Within the school planner are a number of support materials such as number lines, times tables chart and place value grids. Across the school year, we run a number of workshops for parents and carers to help them understand how the school teaches different subjects and how these can be supported at home using the resources provided. Our workshops, as well as focusing on subjects such as maths and English, have also looked at wider issues such as internet safety and health education.

The school planners are also a place where children record their homework and their reading at home – all children have spellings homework, most classes have maths homework as well, and all children are expected to read at home at least three times a week.

The planners are also a place of celebration – if children receive a gold star in class for their outstanding behaviour or effort then these are stuck into the planners for sharing at home. When children reach a landmark of gold stars, 10, 25, 50 or maybe even 100, they are presented with a special certificate in celebration assembly on a Friday morning.



Communication between home and school is key, and we keep in touch via weekly newsletters, a school to home text messaging system and emailing of letters and key documents. In addition to our parent consultation evenings, we also hold regular 'Look at Learning' events where parents and carers are able to visit their child's class during the day to see learning in action. All our teachers make themselves available at the classroom door each day before school and at the end of the day, and Mr Hutchings is regularly on the school gate at key times to keep in touch and provide an opportunity for anything you may wish to discuss.

# Celebrating Learning and Achievements

At Cherry Garden, Celebration Assemblies are one of the main ways in which we celebrate the children's achievements across the week. There are a number of awards, including VIPs (Values in Practise), Teacher Certificates and the Eco Award. We also like



to celebrate children's achievements outside of school, so challenges like the summer reading challenge are all welcomed. All families are welcome to join us for Celebration Assembly, but if we know a child will be receiving an award, we send a text home on the Thursday evening to give families the opportunity to see their child receiving their award.

In addition to our weekly Celebration Assemblies, there are also a number of other key times in the year where families are able to join us to celebrate learning and achievements. Throughout the year, we hold a number of themed days or weeks, and at the end of these times, we will often have a gallery or assembly to share what we have been up to! Recent examples include our Tudor Week, Spirited Arts Week and Internet Safety Day.



We also invite families in to celebrate at key times of the year. Our Harvest Assembly, Nativities, Carols by Candlelight, Sports Day and Summer Production are always well attended and are a great opportunity to see the children performing and enjoying their work.

If individual classes have been working hard on a specific project then we will also give families the chance to visit school and share that learning, for example Year 1 Pirate Singing Project, Year 4 Ukulele and Year 5 VE Day project.





## Breakfast Club



Cherry Garden runs a breakfast club every day of the week. The club begins at 7:45am each morning and lasts until 8:45am, at which time the school day begins. There is a daily entry fee, currently £2.50. Pre-booking is required for this club but is done easily through the school's School Money online system. We recognise that many parents who use the club would like their child to have breakfast before coming to school, but for those who

wish for their child to eat on site, there is the opportunity to buy various breakfast items such as toast, cereal, warm and cold drinks. The breakfast club is run on a 'not-for-profit' basis and all entry fees cover costs and resources. At the club, children have access to a wide number of toys and games as well as art and craft resources. The club is run by school staff who are familiar to the children.

## After School Childcare

There is also an after school childcare club available to the children of Cherry Garden. This club runs from 3:20pm until 6:00pm, currently from Monday to Thursday, and is run by a private provider (OOSC) on our school site. OOSC have a number of after school clubs at other South Gloucestershire schools and are an experienced provider. Although they are an external provider, they are very much part of the Cherry Garden team and share our values and ethos. The club have full use of the school's facilities, including our half-acre conservation area. The club at Cherry Garden is inspected by Ofsted and in their most recent inspection achieved the highest possible rating. Booking and payments can be made online for this club – for more details about their club and pricing, please visit [www.oosc.co.uk](http://www.oosc.co.uk).





# After School Clubs

Cherry Garden offer a number of after school clubs for the children. All of these clubs are **free** and are provided by a mixture of professional sports coaches, school staff and volunteers. The school invests heavily in providing these clubs – as a school we believe that family finances must not be a barrier to education and enjoyment.

Across the school year, there are a wide range of clubs, including but not exclusively, sports themed clubs. The clubs are open to different year groups across the year with the aim of ensuring that all children have the opportunity to follow their interests or perhaps try something new.

Some of our sporting clubs then feed into our representative school teams where we compete against other local schools in a range of fixtures.

Over the last few years, the clubs that we have offered have included:

Football      Netball      Multi-sports      Street Dance  
Survival      Drama      Craft      Electric Go-karts      Gardening



## Educational Visits

Educational visits have a role to play in enhancing and enriching the curriculum that we offer at Cherry Garden. We recognise that they are not cheap for families and therefore all visits are carefully chosen for the way in which they can have maximum impact on children's learning. Every class will have at least one visit to a place of interest each year. More and more, we are trying to maximise the opportunities in the immediate area around school and therefore will also visit a number of local places on foot each year.

In Year 6, our pupils have the opportunity to go on a residential visit with the school. In 2023 the children visited Woodhouse Park Activity Centre where they took part in a range of outdoor activities, such as abseiling, climbing, adventure course and go-karting. For some of our children it is their first experience away from home, but for all children it is exciting and character-building!



# School Uniform

We have a bright, instantly recognisable school uniform which we expect all children to wear every day. We encourage children to feel proud of their school and wearing our uniform shows that they are part of our school family.

We recognise that uniform can be expensive and to help with this, we have a dedicated group of parents who run a regular second-hand uniform shop which sells high quality, low cost uniform for a fraction of the new cost. Several families have found this offer increasingly helpful over the last year.

Items with the school logo can be purchased directly from our school uniform provider. We also offer bookbags and jackets with the school logo.

## Uniform

- ✓ White or red polo shirt or blouse
- ✓ Red jumper or cardigan (with or without school logo)
- ✓ Grey trousers, skirt or pinafore
- ✓ Grey socks or tights
- ✓ Black shoes (including soles) – no trainers



## PE Kit

- ✓ T-shirt in house colours
- ✓ Black shorts
- ✓ Black daps or trainers for outdoor games

## What Our Parents Say

We are very proud of our school and all that we achieve together with the whole school community. But don't just take our word for it! At the beginning of the 2023/24 academic year, we invited our parents and carers to share their thoughts on the school and what they would say to prospective parents. We have selected quite a few but feel that each gives a slightly different perspective on life at Cherry Garden.

*Cherry Garden is a wonderful friendly school with incredible teachers who genuinely care about the children they teach. The school values are the golden thread which is weaved into every part of the school day. My children enjoy school so much, they are supported, challenged academically, encouraged and given opportunities to grow in the most wonderful way.*



*It's a lovely friendly school where the teachers and head know every single child individually. I couldn't wish for a better place to send my children and the school community is so supportive. My children are thriving, all thanks to the efforts of each and every one who works at Cherry Garden.*

*It is a brilliant school and you will not regret your choice! It has a lovely friendly, community feel and all the staff are so happy and positive, they definitely love their jobs! Children have fun in their learning and make very good progress. All the teachers are fantastic and get to know each of their pupils well. The headteacher is a real asset to the school, and knows every child well (including younger siblings)! A lovely school to feel very proud of.*

*This is the most beautiful place where your children will be happy. Come and visit our wonderful school, it won't be a decision that you regret.*

*The school has an incredible sense of community and it displays that by teachers working closely together and getting to know children across the whole school, not just their own class. The head teacher knows every child's name and is often at the school gate to greet the children as they arrive at school - his sense of pride in the school speaks volumes.*





Cherry Garden is a really welcoming school, staff are friendly and always visible. Your child will love the Magic Forest and having a Year 6 buddy to help them during their time in Reception. The PTA put on lovely events that the whole family can enjoy. Cherry Garden is a fantastic community.

Such a caring school, every member of staff I have met smiles and makes me feel welcome. The sense of community is incredible, led by Mr Hutchings but upheld by all. Celebration Assemblies are a great weekly occasion and the communication (especially the newsletter) is superb. My child raves about enrichment sessions which sound great.



Cherry Garden is a small and welcoming school. There is excellent transition support for starting school – they offer lots of opportunities and activities to attend school before starting in Reception which really helped prepare my child for starting here. It's still early days since my daughter joined Reception this year but so far, I'm really impressed.

All staff in the school take the time to get to know the children. After only a few weeks since joining the school, most staff already know my daughter. It feels like a family environment where my girl is thriving.



Cherry Garden is a nurturing, caring school with amazing teachers that care and go the extra mile. Mr Hutchings and his team are all so lovely and ensure our children thrive at school. Each child is known really well and made to feel happy and safe. There is a fantastic PTA that always hold lovely events for all the children to enjoy. There is also an excellent range of after school club opportunities.

This is a small school with a big personality! I wouldn't want my child to go anywhere else; your child will be cared for, nurtured, enriched, pushed academically and will smile every day. Minor problems are dealt with quickly and carefully, you are always made to feel valued and listened to.

Do it! It will be the single best decision you make for your child. It's a fabulous school community where everyone is pulling in the same direction. Your child will be treated like an individual and will thrive each and every year. The school was great when my first child started and it seems to go from strength to strength. They clearly care and want to give children and families the very best they can.

# Parent Teacher Association (PTA)

Cherry Garden has an active PTA who organise a range of fundraising activities across the school year. All parents and carers are automatically members of the PTA but some people choose to play a highly active role in the organisation.

The work of the PTA is critical to the school – they continually help to provide additional funds to the school to ensure that children have access to a growing number of high quality resources and opportunities within school.



Across the last few years, the PTA have organised Christmas Fayres, Summer Fayres, a number of discos and film nights and regular cake sales. These events have meant that in the last three years, the school has been able to purchase new interactive teaching screens for every classroom, a set of 20 iPads for classroom use, new playtime equipment for the pupils, a new climbing wall, enhance our 'quiet area' on the main playground, and purchase some excellent mathematical resources for use in every classroom.



The PTA welcomes all members to their meetings – whether you think you would like to play an active role on the committee or just be an extra pair of hands to help out at an event, please get in touch.



# The Magic Forest



Our Conservation Area (or Magic Forest as our Reception and Year One pupils know it) is half an acre of woodland at the rear of the school. It is completely and safely enclosed by secure fencing and is a wonderful space in which to learn and play. In this space, as well as plenty of trees and other plants, we also have an open area with a patio space.

Apart from using it to learn about nature and the world around us, we also use it for a whole range of activities such as building structures for Design Technology, Inter-House Treasure Hunts, and forest skills such as cooking on open fires and hanging hammocks. It has even been known to host nests of Dragon Eggs which have been discovered and then used for inspiration in writing!



Our School Council have worked on finding safe and fun ways in which we can use it at lunch times for play and discovery, and have helped to develop a set of rules and guidelines for everyone. Through the work of the School Council with Mr Hutchings, we have recently made some exciting additions to the Magic Forest which have included a much-improved and larger pond, a tree house and a rope swing. Our new wildlife camera also helps us to catch glimpses of the animals that inhabit the forest.

We are very fortunate to have such an incredible space within our grounds and are always looking for new and innovative ways in which to use it.







Learning for Life