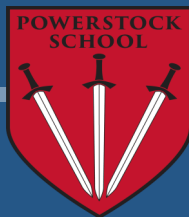


Powerstock CE VA Primary School



Prospectus

Welcome to our School



Welcome to Powerstock CE VA Primary School, a small but ambitious Church school nestled in the heart of the beautiful West Dorset countryside.

We are proud of our unique setting and the nurturing, inclusive environment we provide for every child.

Our vision, inspired by John 10:10, "I am come that they might have life, and that they might have it more abundantly" underpins everything we do.

We are committed to ensuring that every child flourishes academically, socially, emotionally and spiritually.

We hope this prospectus gives you a clear insight into our school community, our values, and our aspirations. We warmly welcome visits and look forward to sharing our school with you.

Mr Nick Harris
Headteacher
BEd (Hons), NPQH

Our Vision Aims and Values

Vision Statement

Learning together to be the best that we can be!

At Powerstock CE VA Primary School, we believe every child should flourish. Inspired by John 10:10, "I am come that they might have life, and that they might have it more abundantly" we aim to create a caring, inclusive and ambitious environment where children grow academically, socially, emotionally and spiritually.

Learning is a shared journey. Through strong partnerships between pupils, staff, families and our wider community, we help children develop the skills, knowledge and character to thrive in life.

Curriculum Principles

Our curriculum is shaped by three core principles:

Achievement – High-quality, tailored teaching ensures every pupil makes strong progress and achieves their potential.

Confidence – We build self-belief through challenge, success and reflection, helping pupils express themselves and take risks in their learning.

Coherence – Carefully sequenced learning across subjects enables pupils to make connections, deepen understanding and apply knowledge meaningfully.

School Values

Our values guide how we learn, interact and grow together:

Respect – For ourselves, others and our environment.

Compassion – Courage to care and support those in need.

Generosity – Giving time and kindness freely.

Perseverance – Facing challenges with honesty and determination.



These values are embedded in daily school life and help our pupils become thoughtful, responsible and kind individuals.

Learning together to be the best that we can be!

What pupils say:

"The Sensory Room is the best thing about the school." (Pupil Survey June 2025)

"I feel safe here and the teachers help me to explore and learn lots of new things!" (Pupils Survey 2024)

What parents say:

"The new curriculum is ambitious, brilliantly sequenced and meaningful." (Parent Survey June 2025)

Amazing staff members who really care about our children as individuals." (Parent Survey June 2025)

It really is like one big family throughout all age groups." (Parent Survey December 2024)

What staff say:

"When I joined, I was struck by how loving and caring the school is." (Staff Survey 2024)

"The CPD I have had has really pushed me and I feel I have gained huge amounts of knowledge and skills going forward." (Staff Survey June 2025)



The Curriculum

Classrooms

We are proud of our learning spaces which are designed to promote flexible teaching and learning styles and meet the needs of all our pupils. From doing artwork on an angle, to desks that genuinely allow children to concentrate on their own, our classrooms are able to provide our children with what they need. Each class is provided with a set of iPads to promote ICT access at their desk and outside. Our aim is to prepare children to use ICT effectively and safely as they encounter it in the 'real' world.

Our Reception and Key Stage 1 class room allows children to learn and play in our inviting, enclosed outdoor area and garden. We focus on enabling indoor and outdoor continuous provision throughout the day, regardless of the weather!



We have three mixed year group classes in our small school:

- Burton class (Rec, Y1 and Y2) with Mrs Oxenbury;
- Cogden class (Y3 and Y4) with Mrs Batten and Mr Harris;
- Seatown class (Y5 and Y6) with Mrs Cleden.

Our curriculum is designed to inspire curiosity, foster independence and promote deep learning. It is carefully planned across a two-year cycle to ensure full coverage and progression in all subjects, with appropriate time allocated to each area to allow pupils to 'linger longer and delve deeper'.

We measure the impact of our curriculum through four key strands:

Independence – Pupils take ownership of their learning, recall prior knowledge and seek out new challenges.

Creativity – Pupils think innovatively, use both rational and lateral thinking, and generate new ideas.

Curiosity – Pupils ask thoughtful questions, pursue their passions and aspire to be the best they can be.

Collaboration – Pupils work effectively with others, understand the value of teamwork and contribute positively to shared goals.

These strands lead to the development of:

Successful learners
Confident learners
Knowledgeable learners
Passionate learners
Limitless learners
Flourishing learners



Curriculum Highlights

Active Reading – Embedded across Key Stage 2 and bridging into Key Stage 1, supporting comprehension, vocabulary and reading for pleasure.

Learning Journals – Used across the school to capture pupil progress, reflect on learning journeys and inform teaching.

Writing Progression – A whole-school writing strategy aligned with the 2025 Writing Framework, ensuring consistent development of core writing skills from EYFS to Year 6.

Forest School Accredited – All pupils attend weekly sessions for three half-terms each year, developing resilience, teamwork and a love of nature.

Our School Uniform

Our school uniform is based on the colours red and black. Currently, school uniform with the school's logo is available from myclothing.com. Good quality second hand uniform is available from the school for free.

Winter ~ Red sweatshirt or cardigan, red polo shirt, dark grey or black trousers, skirt or pinafore dress, black, grey or white socks and black school shoes (these can be trainers but must be all black).

Summer ~ Red sweatshirt or cardigan, red polo shirt, red gingham dress, dark grey or black shorts, skirt or trousers, black, grey or white socks, black school shoes (these can be trainers but must be all black).

PE and games ~ Pupils are expected to attend school in their PE kit on PE days. Black or red shorts, red plain t-shirt, a pair of plimsolls or trainers and black or white socks. Track suit bottoms are allowed during cold weather.

Forest Schools ~ Pupils are expected to wear Forest School kit to school on the days they have Forest School. Pupils must wear a long sleeve top, trousers and appropriate footwear. Wellies can be kept at school for the duration of their Forest School half-term.

All articles of clothing worn to school must be clearly named and labelled. We believe that it is important for children to learn to take responsibility for their belongings: clearly named clothes really help with this!

Hair and jewellery ~ Long hair should be tied back at all times (this is so that it does not distract from learning and for hygiene reasons). Items that are absolutely required by a religion are allowed.

Other jewellery is limited to a watch and plain stud earrings and friendship bracelets.

Local authority guidance is that no earrings are worn for PE; however, we allow small studs but only at the risk of the wearer.

No make-up is to be worn

Our School Day

The school day starts at 8.45am and finishes at 3.30pm with registration ending at 9:00am. We have a daily act of worship and every other Wednesday, we walk the children to Church for our service with Rev. Chris. Every Friday afternoon at 3.00pm we have a Celebration Worship where parents are warmly invited to attend to see the pupils encouraged and praised for work done.

Morning Playtimes ~ Children have a morning break from 10:30 to 10:45am. Healthy snacks are encouraged to be eaten at break time.

Lunch ~ All Children have their lunch at 12:15pm, then go out to play in our beautiful grounds. Lunchtimes end at 1:15pm. Hot school meals are provided by Local Food Links and cost £2.30 per meal. All children in Key Stage 1 are entitled to a free Hot School Meal through the Government's universal infant school meals scheme. Meals can be ordered directly from Local Food Links website or the school office. Parents may of course also choose to send their child to school with a healthy packed lunch each day.

Drop-off and collection ~ The playground is open to parents at the beginning and end of the day. From 8:45am the playground is supervised and parents may drop off their children. The playground reopens at 3.30pm for collection. Pupils will be brought out by their teachers who will then be available to talk to or pass on messages — this is vital in building close relationships between parents and school as we want to have good links with all parents. If normal arrangements have to be altered (e.g. you are delayed or another person is collecting your child) please let the office know. This avoids any confusion or upset. You can always make an appointment to see a teacher, however and there is a weekly drop-in session with Mr Harris on Tuesdays from 9.30am — 10.30am.

Getting to School ~ Parking is restricted in front of school during drop-off and collection times but is available up and down the road from the school, however the village '3 Horseshoes' pub has kindly given permission for parents to use their car park at drop off and pick up times. There is also a bus that runs from Bridport through to Powerstock each morning and returns in the afternoons. Please contact the office if this would be a useful option.

Extra-Curricular activities

We ensure that there are opportunities for all our children to take part in after-school clubs. We try to provide opportunities for children to try some new and different sports and activities such as computing, gardening and Drama.

There is always a mixture of free and paid clubs. Most of the clubs are run voluntarily. The paid clubs are run by professional coaches and experts.

The children all enjoy our trips to support topic work including making “fossils”, museum visits, and days out in Exeter and Salisbury.

School Community— Governors

The School Governors are legally responsible for all aspects of school life. This includes the curriculum, staff appointments and financial control. In practice however, day-to-day management of the school is vested in the Head Teacher and Staff. The Governing Body meets four times a year. All Agenda, Reports and minutes of meetings are held in the school office and are available for parents. As a voluntary aided school, the majority of our governors are Foundation' (Church) governors. Parents are represented on the Governing Body in the role of Parent Governors and are always open to hear from parents about any issues concerning the school.

Powerstock School Association

The school is lucky to have a very active, friendly group of parents who are happy to support the school in any enrichment activities and simply to make the school experience the best it can be for our children. The PSA meets regularly to organise fundraising and social events for everyone from our annual talent show to making Christmas decorations with the children to supporting the more formal events in school.

Contact us at:

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Bridport
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Email: office@powerstock.dorset.sch.uk

Please have a look at our website that includes more detailed information and up-to-date news and diary dates—
www.powerstock.dorset.sch.uk