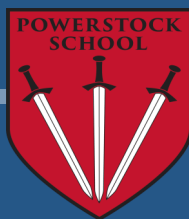


# Powerstock CE VA Primary School



## Prospectus

## Welcome to our School



We are a busy and highly ambitious Church school in the village of Powerstock, set in the heart of the beautiful West Dorset countryside. Our school values its uniqueness and is proud in saying that every child is cared for and valued as an individual. We strive for the highest standards in learning and teaching, that enable children to always improve by acquiring new skills and knowledge. Our aim is for all our children to leave us happy, confident and independent individuals with a positive outlook on life and ready to take on their next challenges. We hope that you will find this prospectus helpful as an introduction to our school. We are always happy to show visitors around our school and answer any questions you may have. We look forward to meeting you!

Mr Nick Harris  
BEd (Hons) NPQH

## Our School Aims and Values

Our school pursues excellence in learning and teaching, encouraging every child to seek and achieve their potential within a balanced and engaging curriculum. We provide high quality care and support. We promote wellbeing with individual rights, responsibilities and Christian and British values at the centre of our school ethos.

### **Our School Aims**

Our vision is to live life in all its fullness to be the best that we can be, according to John 10:10. In our commitment to achieve this we aim:

To provide a rich and exciting curriculum which engages and motivates children and in which every child can develop fully as an individual and achieve their full potential;

To provide opportunities for every child to feel part of and be able to contribute to the school, local and global community through the teaching of Christian values, rights and responsibilities;

To develop motivated, inspired, independent children who have a love of learning and are curious to know more;

To provide a secure, supportive, caring environment where children can develop respect for themselves, others and their surroundings resulting in pride in themselves, their peers and their school and who are equipped to meet the changes and challenges in their life ahead.

These aims are integral to all that we do and sit alongside our **School Values:**

**Respect** – yourself, others and our environment, always encouraging, supporting, listening and making time for each other;

**Compassion** – knowing when and how to help others and having the courage to care;

**Generosity** – giving our time and loving others as ourselves;

**Perseverance** – meeting personal challenges and running the “race of life”, having a go and trying again, making the right choices and having the courage to be honest.



*Learning together to be the best that we can be!*



Looking for different leaf shapes in the orchard!



"Fossil" making and story-Telling day at Kingcombe.



### What pupils say:

*"Powerstock has been my second home, I've been so happy here! The staff and other pupils are so friendly and I have learnt that you can achieve things you never thought you could"*

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

### What parents say:

*"When I speak to my child's class teacher, she makes me feel like my child is the only pupil in her class—the individual care and attention the staff provide is incredible."*

*"Pupils feels like one big family, older pupils help and play with younger ones." (Parent Survey 2024)*

*"It is such a comfort to know you can always turn to school for support." (Parent Survey 2024)*

### What staff say:

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



*Learning together to be the best that we can be!*



## 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 art-work 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 new 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 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.



## The Curriculum

At Powerstock, we strive provide an exciting set of learning experiences which give all our children the essential knowledge and the skills for learning, and ultimately working, in our constantly changing 21st century.

We are especially proud to be **Forest School Accredited** offering high quality sessions for all children each week delivered by Mrs Batten and Mrs Crowther. We use Merriott Woods as our base and the children love the freedom of learning that Forest School provides. Every pupil will spend an afternoon at Forest School for 3 half terms out of 6 — an offer we are incredibly proud of and are passionate to maintain.

We follow the National Primary Curriculum, and teach many of the 'Foundation' subjects (like History and Geography) through a termly theme to 'wow' and inspire the pupils whilst providing plenty of time to master the topic.

As a mixed-age school, our curriculum is planned over a 2 year cycle to ensure full coverage and a clear sequencing of skills and knowledge so that pupils know more and can remember more. Assessment takes place in a variety of ways best suited to each subject and is used to inform future planning, teaching and learning.

Ultimately, our broad and balanced curriculum aims to inspire and provide pupils with the necessary skills to thrive during the next step of their learning journey and beyond!



*Learning together to be the best that we can be!*

## 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 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

## 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

### Clubs

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” and story making at Kingcombe 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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Email: [office@powerstock.dorset.sch.uk](mailto: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](http://www.powerstock.dorset.sch.uk)