



Stonegate Church of England Primary School



‘Love of Learning for Life’



Prospectus 2025 - 2026

Our School

Stonegate Church of England Primary School is a joyful, family-centered community school nestled in the heart of the rural village of Stonegate. Our historic Victorian listed building is set within beautiful grounds, providing ample space for students to learn and play on our expansive field and in our scenic garden areas. The school boasts breathtaking views of the Great British countryside, creating an inspiring backdrop for our learners.

We pride ourselves on being an excellent school where each individual matters. Our community works collaboratively, fostering a culture where everyone cares deeply about one another and where every member is given the opportunity to thrive and flourish.

Welcome



Thank you for considering Stonegate Church of England Primary School as the place to educate your child. Our school provides all students with high-quality teaching, engaging experiences, and a strong foundation in social and moral understanding, helping every child to reach their full potential. Our beautiful setting forms the perfect canvas for the beginning of life's journey. Through this prospectus, we hope you gain a true sense of what makes Stonegate a fantastic community for learning.

Lucy Hazeldine – Head of School

School Vision - Love of Learning for Life

Stonegate Church of England Primary School and Little Acorns Pre-School are communities founded on Christian values, welcoming every child and their family. We provide a safe and nurturing environment where a lifelong love of learning is fostered, the whole child is supported, and every individual is valued and encouraged to thrive.



Love of Learning for Life - "I came to give life — life in all its fullness."

Love of Learning for Life

John 10:10

We strive to offer an inspiring and engaging curriculum that encourages children to develop a lifelong passion for learning and the ambition to excel in all their endeavors.

Our Ethos

Our aim is for every child to realize their full potential by:

- Fostering a love of reading, writing, and numeracy
- Providing a rich and creative curriculum to build foundational knowledge and essential skills for understanding and questioning the world
- Encouraging enthusiasm for learning beyond the classroom, especially in art, sport, music, and the performing arts
- Promoting respect for others and recognizing that the efforts and achievements of every individual are equally valued
- Creating pathways that inspire initiative and cultivate self-confidence

Links with the Church



Stonegate is a Church of England Voluntary Controlled School, originally established by the Church of England and now funded by the County Council. The Church appoints governors to the school, maintaining a close connection.

The whole school gathers at St. Peter's Church to celebrate key events such as Harvest Festival, Christmas, Easter, and the end of the school year, with parents and friends warmly invited to join. Daily acts of worship bring the school community together to reflect on how we treat one another and what truly matters in life. Collective Worship centers on core values and important aspects of social and emotional learning, including self-esteem, goal setting, relationship-building, and charity.

Our key values are: Trust, Courage, Friendship, Respect, Compassion, Resilience.

Our school rules are: Be Kind, Be Positive, Be Safe. Children are encouraged to look after, respect, support, and care for one another.

In January 2020, the school achieved the highest grading of 'excellent' in its SIAMS



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Church Inspection. In March 2023, Ofsted rated the school as 'Good'.

Learning

We offer a creative, stimulating, and challenging curriculum that inspires thinking and learning beyond the classroom. Our approach encourages independence, confidence, spirituality, and self-esteem, leading to strong academic achievement. Our cross-curricular, creative curriculum allows pupils to explore topics in depth and makes literacy tasks more meaningful. In addition to covering all aspects of the National Curriculum, we organize two or three special themed weeks each year.



At Stonegate, we emphasize strong partnerships between teachers and parents/carers to support children's learning. Parents are kept informed about their child's progress and attitude towards learning through our website, social media, regular communication, termly newsletters, weekly Celebration Assemblies, parent consultations, and open classrooms.

Learning Outside the Classroom

We are proud to offer Forest School as part of our curriculum. Every child has the opportunity throughout the year to build forestry skills, teamwork, and risk-taking abilities, while deepening their understanding and appreciation of the local environment. Forest School sessions are led by a Level 3 trained practitioner, supported by teachers, teaching assistants, and volunteer parents.



Beyond our school grounds, we enhance learning through a variety of visits and guest speakers, including firefighters, police officers, local authors, traveling historical groups, and parents. These opportunities provide real-life context for the curriculum.

Our students benefit from enriching trips that broaden their perspectives. Recent destinations include PGL at Bawdsey Manor, the Natural History Museum,

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Shakespeare's Globe, Hastings Beach, The Sealife Centre, Battle Abbey, Newhaven Fort, and the theatre in Tunbridge Wells.

Additional Curricular Activities

We offer a wide range of out-of-school activities that expand children's experiences and develop diverse talents and interests. Wraparound care is provided by Premier Education, with breakfast available from 7:45 AM and after-school care until 6:00 PM, five days a week. Additional lunchtime clubs include gardening, choir, and Lego.



Sports at Stonegate

Our sports teams are a source of pride, consistently demonstrating spirit, competitiveness, and fairness. Students regularly participate in tournaments for football, netball, cross country, tag rugby, cricket, and athletics. We are fortunate to have a dedicated PE coach, who works with all children across the school year.

Achievements

We encourage every pupil to achieve their best in all areas. With strong parental support and high-quality teaching, our students perform well in national tests.



Special Educational Needs

We are committed to providing all children, regardless of ability, with equal access to a broad and balanced education. Many children may require additional support at some point during their school journey. The special educational needs teacher, Mrs. Leahy, works with class teachers to identify and support children with special educational needs, primarily through in-class or small group interventions. When necessary, the school seeks guidance from external agencies. In rare cases, a statutory assessment may lead to an Education, Health and Care Plan. All interventions are discussed with parents.

Our Learning Exchanges

We actively build and maintain strong links with the community to enrich our pupils' learning experiences and opportunities.

- We offer wraparound care and lunchtime clubs, continually seeking new activities aligned with students' interests.
- Our students participate and compete in local events and competitions.
- We organize numerous educational visits to complement curriculum learning.
- We share learning experiences and opportunities with our partnership and local secondary schools.
- We take part in the local Bikeability scheme.
- Our students sing and perform within the community.
- We organize fundraising and social events with our PTA.
- Parents support the school by assisting with reading, clubs, sports events, performances, and school outings.
- We support the learning and development of children in our community from ages 2 to 11.



Our Behaviour Expectations



Stonegate is a warm and welcoming school that conveys clear expectations to students. We strive to create an environment that consistently encourages and reinforces good behavior and positive attitudes. Our consistent approach, maintained by all members of the school community, results in a happy learning environment where engagement minimizes behavioral issues.

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Every child is encouraged to see themselves as a school ambassador. Our students rise to this challenge, and their politeness, communication, and general conduct are frequently praised by those they meet.



With the introduction of our Pre-School, Reception Class pupils have the chance to collaborate with younger students and serve as role models and learning partners.



Our School Partnership with You



We work closely with parents and carers to support each child's learning and well-being by:

Inviting parents into school for class assemblies, sharing sessions, and educational workshops to observe their child's achievements.

Organizing Parents' Evenings, individual interviews, and educational/social events to foster community involvement.

Providing a 'Morning Clipboard' for scheduling appointments or expressing concerns.

Regularly updating news and information on the school website, newsletters and weekly Celebration Assembly.

It is always our highest priority to ensure every child fulfills their potential and flourishes in a happy, safe, and stimulating environment. We expect parents to work in supportive partnership with us to achieve these shared goals.

Meals at Stonegate

At break times, all Reception and KS1 children receive a piece of fruit, and occasionally enjoy vegetables grown at school. KS2 students bring their own fruit or vegetables.

At lunchtime, students can choose a nutritious meal prepared in our school kitchen or bring a healthy packed lunch. Meals are pre-ordered through the ParentPay system.

Under the Government's Universal Free Meal Scheme, all Reception, Year 1, and Year 2 students are entitled to a free school meal. For further information about our lunch menus, please visit:

<https://www.eastsussex.gov.uk/educationandlearning/schools/school-life/meals/download/>



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Starting School with Us

Transitioning to a new school or Pre-School is significant and can be challenging. We ensure that the transition from home, nursery, or another school is smooth and well-managed to help pupils settle quickly and feel comfortable in their new 'family' environment.

We encourage families to visit and explore the school so children become familiar with their new surroundings and the people who will support them. Every family starting in Foundation Stage (Pre-School or Reception Class) is offered a home visit to discuss their child's individual interests and needs. If a home visit is not possible, an in-school meeting is arranged before the child starts. These early connections are the foundation for your child's future learning and progress.

We recognize and nurture each child's unique strengths and talents across the curriculum and school life. Children are encouraged to shine by challenging themselves and questioning the world around them. Our successful 'Buddy' system pairs each Foundation Stage pupil with a Year 6 student, fostering friendship, confidence, empathy, responsibility, and trust for both age groups.



Thank You

Thank you for reading our prospectus. To learn more about why Stonegate Church of England Primary School is a great place to learn, please visit our website at www.stonegate.e-sussex.sch.uk. If you would like to arrange a visit, please contact the office at 01580 200 415 or email us at office@stonegate.e-sussex.sch.uk

