

Welcome... to the Nursery Class

Trinity
Holy
Mathias
Springfield
the
precision
spontaneity
John
individuality
Baptist
creativity
St
collaboration
imagination
James





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To inspire a future and a world, learners at Holy Trinity are empowered and prepared through the key values of faith, compassion, endurance and respect. Our learning environments seek to foster these values; that they might be a light to shine before others; inspiring a community of learners and give glory to God. We aspire to be a confident community who can nurture individuals' gifts with respect and compassion. Where learning is delivered in a way that brings opportunity, growth, hope, new technologies and creativity whilst holding to the wisdom that endures.

Holy Trinity C of E Primary School
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London
E8 3DY

0207 254 1010

admin@holytrinity.hackney.sch.uk

Executive Principal: Ms Sian Davies

Headteacher: Ms Catherine Thomas

Lead Practitioner for Early Year Foundation Stage: Ms Steph Li Rosi



Welcome to Holy Trinity C of E Primary School

We are very excited to welcome you to our school! We have written this booklet to help you work with us to give your child the best possible start to Nursery. It also contains important information about the school. Please read the booklet carefully and keep it in a safe place for future reference. If you have any further questions, please do contact us.

The email you have received with this booklet attached also confirms whether your child has been offered a full time or part time place so if you are not sure, please check back on your email. You will also find the link in the email for the admissions form you will need to fill in prior to your child starting at the school. Once children have been in to meet the teacher we will be allocating start dates so you do not yet have that information.

How will I settle my child in?

A child's initial need upon starting Nursery is to feel emotionally secure. We ask you to cooperate with us in helping to make the break from home to Nursery as gradual and as natural as possible. This is important for a number of reasons:

- For your child to get to know and trust a new group of adults and children.
- For you to observe how the Nursery functions and to be familiar with the things your child will talk about at home.
- For you to be around to tell us about your child and the activities they enjoy doing.

Please note that the first two consecutive nursery sessions are 'settling in' sessions. These last for 1 hour and you (one parent/carer only) are invited to stay for the first 15 minutes to settle your child in. You will then be encouraged to leave your child to enjoy the rest of their 1 hour session with their friends and school adults. We fully understand that it can be emotional leaving your child and that they may be upset as you go. Please help us by saying goodbye and leaving swiftly. Providing all goes well for your child's first two settling sessions, you will then be able to drop off and pick up at the normal time. If your child would benefit from a more graduated settling in period we will speak with you to arrange this.

If you have any questions, please do contact the school on 02072541010 you can also email us on admin@holytrinity.hackney.sch.uk

When do I meet the teacher?

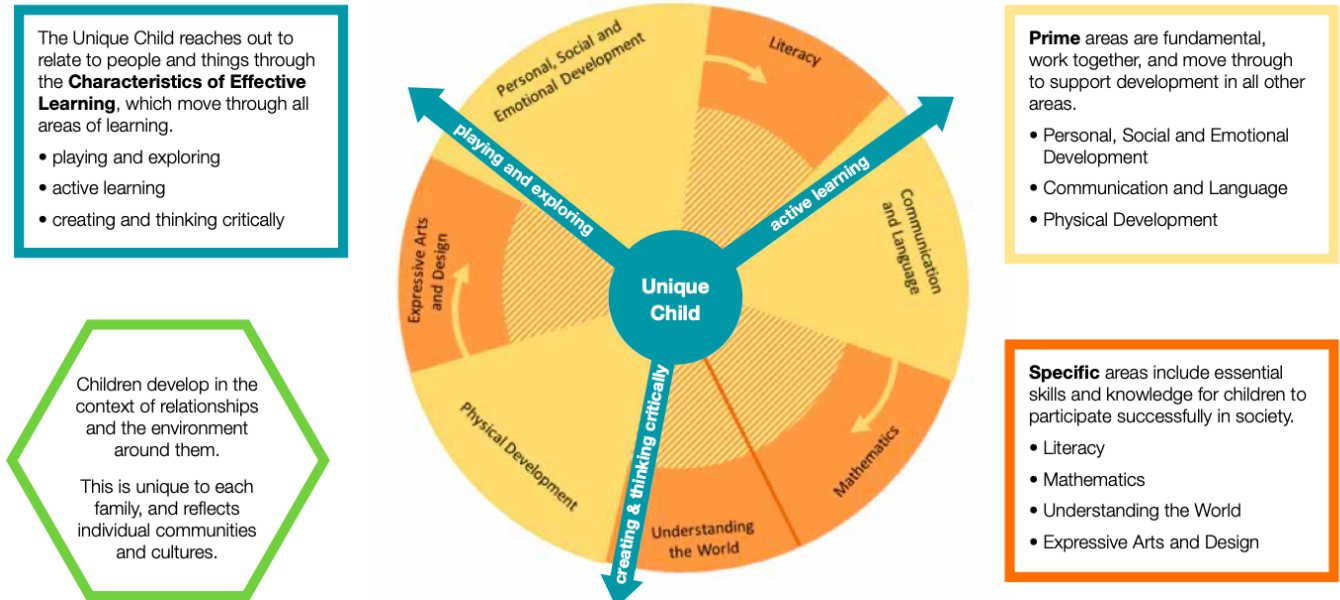
We are very excited to be able to offer you a stay and play session to meet the teacher and spend some time in the setting. This is a valuable opportunity to help your child feel comfortable around the school adults and additionally offers you the chance to ask any questions you may have after you have read this information. The details of the stay and play session will be included in the email that this booklet was attached to. We may also carry out a home visit following the stay and play session.





What does EYFS mean?

EYFS refers to the Early Years Foundation Stage. This stage of education ranges from birth to age 5 (60 months). The diagram below outlines what we teach in the EYFS (Development Matters, 2021).



How do you teach in the EYFS at Holy Trinity?

We aim to teach a rich, broad and balanced curriculum at Holy Trinity. This means that we use exciting stimuli alongside high quality texts and resources to help your children become autonomous and passionate learners. Learning is active and engaging, with themes or topics that are brought to life by hands-on, real experiences for the children both inside and outside of the classroom. We support children in making their own choices about learning, build curiosity, awe and wonder, and we will teach a curriculum that matches their stage of development. There is time for self selected learning and play where adults are involved in supporting and enhancing language, social skills, creativity and imagination. In the preschool and EYFS we will always encourage children to be independent and lead a moral life based on our school ethos, and in line with our British values.

Quite simply, we love learning at Holy Trinity and will work with you to ensure that your child becomes a lifelong learner too!





What Does A Typical Day Look Like in the EYFS?

A typical day in Nursery is outlined below. Please note that the children can freely access toilets and drinking water all day. As we have part time children in for morning and afternoon sessions, we alternate am and pm carpet sessions to ensure all children experience the whole curriculum.

Morning

Soft Start - Children are registered as they arrive into the classroom, and begin their morning with a 'soft start'. This is time for them to settle and engage in the provision with activities that are set out and accessible. These activities support the development of independence, confidence and our prime areas of Communication and Language, Personal, Social and Emotional Development and Physical Development.

Listening & Attention/Early Phonological Awareness - We use the Read Write Inc Phonics program to teach early reading. We will be exploring the sounds around us as we tune into our environment, instruments, body sounds, rhythm and rhyme, alliteration, voice sounds, oral blending and segmenting and exploring letter sounds.

Continuous Provision - This is learning that takes place in the indoor and outdoor environment throughout the day. It is carefully planned for and tailored to meet the needs of the children and to include all seven areas of learning. It will be seen by the children as play and commonly referred to as 'choosing time'. During this time, adults are engaged in high quality interactions that support, challenge and move the children's learning forward. The children can freely access outdoor activities throughout the day.

Snack time - this is an opportunity to regroup, have a healthy snack and a drink, and participate in language based activities and enjoy a storybook together.

Mathematics - We will have a short, adult led carpet session that supports our children's early number sense. In the EYFS, we build our understanding of numbers to 5, and beyond through hands-on activities and making connections to the world around us. We take part in a small directed teacher activity that follows and extends our carpet session.

Lunch (more info on page 9)

The children have an hour for their lunch break. They eat with their classmates at a table and are expected to use cutlery if they are having a school lunch. They are supervised by familiar adults. The children eat lunch and then head outside for playtime.



Afternoon

CLL - Communication, Language and Literacy - A carefully chosen high quality text is explored and shared with the children. This includes developing our children's vocabulary by exploring words and their meaning relevant to our story and theme. A relevant and engaging follow up activity is then completed in small groups. These activities are carefully planned to support our children's love of reading, understanding of books and relevant themes, and their ability to share their thoughts and ideas.

Continuous Provision - children continue to learn and play in their indoor and outdoor activities.

Wider Curriculum - During this adult-led session, we listen to stories and engage in activities that explore our Understanding of the World, Expressive Arts and Design and Physical Activity. This may include Cooking/Food tasting, Write Dance and Dough Disco. We also take part in a weekly Religious Education session.

Please note our timetable may alter between morning and afternoon sessions to ensure all children, including part-time and full-time children have access to all sessions across the week.



What do I need to know about the first day?

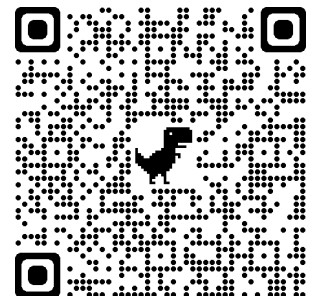
- We recommend that children in the Nursery do not wear a school uniform as after exploring each day in the Nursery they often need a fresh set of clothes by the next day. If a child does wear a school uniform, further information can be found on page 8. We ask that children wear warm, practical clothes and bring a coat if the weather requires it. Please bring along a book bag for your child so they can safely borrow and bring books to and from school.
- Am - Part time children and full time children arrive between 8:45 and 8:55 am through the large pupil gate on Roseberry Place.
- Pm - Part time children arrive between 12:30 - 12:40 pm through the small gate on Roseberry Place.
- Please ensure that you supervise your child until the teacher is ready to welcome them in.
- Collection for part time children is from 11:30 am - 11:45 am via the main gate on Beechwood Road.
- Collection for full time or part time pm children through the large pupil gate on Roseberry Place between 3:30 - 3:40 pm.
- Hand them over to the teacher, say goodbye and leave swiftly!
- Parents and carers are not able to enter the classroom due to safeguarding reasons.
- As there are lots of educational toys in school, we would ask you to please keep your child's own toys at home.
- If your child has a packed lunch please inform the school office and remember to bring it with you.

WE WILL NOT ALLOW YOUR CHILD TO GO HOME WITH ANYONE OTHER THAN THE KNOWN PARENTS
UNLESS WE HAVE BEEN INFORMED IN ADVANCE.

CHILDREN UNDER THE AGE OF 16 WILL NOT BE PERMITTED TO TAKE A CHILD HOME FROM NURSERY.

What do I need to know about attendance?

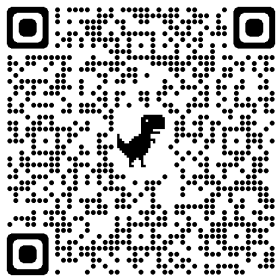
If your child cannot attend for any reason, you must let us know, please go to the school website and click the link under the contact tab or scan the QR code here to link to the online form. Being late and missing the day through absence can disrupt your child's routine and impact your child's education.



Extended absence should only be taken in term time in exceptional circumstances. Any parent considering taking their child out of school should apply in writing to the Head teacher. This letter must include the number of days the child/ren will be absent and the reason for absence. Your child may be given work to complete whilst away; this is to be given to the class teacher on their return. If your child is absent from school for an extended time a referral may be made to the Educational Welfare Officer. Your child's place could be withdrawn and the place could then be offered to another child.

What should I do if my child is not well enough to come to nursery?

Please keep your child at home if they are unwell. After sickness or diarrhoea there must be a clear 48 hours before returning to school. If your child should be taken ill in school, or have an accident, we will need to contact a parent or carer. Please ensure we have your telephone number, plus an additional number for a friend or relative who can be contacted in an emergency. It is VERY IMPORTANT that we have up to date contact addresses and telephone numbers. Please advise us if your child is taking any medications. In order to secure your child's well being, please let us know if there are any changes in this information. School staff cannot take responsibility for administering any medicines in school unless there is a medical care plan in place.



What should I look out for as my child socialises more?

When your child starts in the Nursery setting it is likely that they will pick up colds and viruses as they are mixing more with others. There are also other common childhood illnesses that the children may experience. To help support you in deciding how best to support your child please use the link below to take you to the 'Be Care Confident' Booklet available on the school website. https://holytrinity.hackney.sch.uk/wp-content/uploads/sites/2/2022/06/BeCareConfident_Guide_To_Common_Illnesses.pdf

What happens if my child is feeling unwell in nursery?

Your child would be taken to Ms Cunningham or another first aid trained adult for assessment. If your child has a temperature or is too unwell to return to class then a phone call will be made for you to come and collect your child. Currently we also have a protocol in place for when a child develops symptoms inline with COVID-19.

What should my child wear?

School uniform is not necessary in Nursery however if you wish for them to wear uniform it can be purchased through the M&S School Uniform website below. Alternatively, you can order by phone on 0333 014 8418. Please note that children are not able to wear jewellery, if they have their ears pierced they may wear simple stud earrings. <https://www.mandsyourschooluniform.com//m-s-uniform/uniform-by-school/london-schools-a-m/holy-trinity-c-of-e-primary-school/5637147667.c>

Please be sure that shoes are safe for climbing. Laces and trainer boots are very difficult and frustrating for young children to manage themselves. When it's time to buy new shoes, please think about choosing ones that are easy to fasten such as ones with velcro tabs or buckles. Please clearly label ALL clothing items including shoes!

Please ensure that you send spare clothing for your child, in the event that we need to change their clothing on the day it is less disruptive for everyone if they have clothes at school. We recommend that this includes easy to put on items such as leggings, jogging bottoms and a pullover style jumper that are perfect for little hands. We ask you to keep a spare, full set of clothes (including underwear and socks) at school incase of any toileting accidents.

What do I need to know about lunch?

Full time children in the nursery will be staying for lunch. You can choose to provide your child with a packed lunch or we provide a meal for your child. Please let the office know whether your child will be eating a packed lunch or school provided lunch. Your child can have a mixture of school meals and packed lunches, but this must be on a term by term basis. For example, school meals in Autumn term, packed lunches in Spring term and school meals in Summer term. If you wish for your child to move from school lunches to a packed lunch please inform the school office.

Packed lunches should follow our healthy eating guidelines, please ensure that your child has a balanced meal for lunch. Access to water and milk is provided throughout the day and at lunchtime for all children, therefore is not needed as part of their packed lunch. If you have any questions please ask a member of the Nursery team or office staff. Fruit is provided throughout the day free of charge.





What should I do to prepare my child for nursery?

We all want the best for our children and the aim of this section is to encourage you to prepare your child so that they benefit most from nursery.

Children who are used to having everything done for them by an adult may find it difficult to settle into a nursery day where there will be many children with two adults.

Children who have been encouraged to be independent and have been shown how to do things for themselves have a far easier and happier transition into school.

All the fun activities that you do with your child at home are important in supporting their learning and development, and have a really long lasting effect on your child's learning as they progress through school. Even when your child is very young and is not yet able to talk, talking to them helps them to learn and understand new words and ideas. If you make the time every day to do some of the following things with your child it will make a real difference to your child's confidence as a young learner.

- Sing songs and nursery rhymes together
- Read stories together and talk about the story with your child
- Take part in back-and-forth conversations, talk with them as much as possible. Ask questions about what they see around them and talk to them about their interests and wonders.
- Play together

We will be holding several parent workshops in the Autumn Term which will help you to understand how your child is learning. We welcome all parents from Nursery to attend these workshops. Information with further details will be shared in October.

Some Additional Ideas and Suggestions

If you're looking for new ideas for things to do then find out what is on offer at your local children's centre. Many offer 'messy play' activities which you and your child can join in with, and many of the activities they provide are free. Staff can also give you advice about the kinds of books or other activities your child might enjoy at different ages.

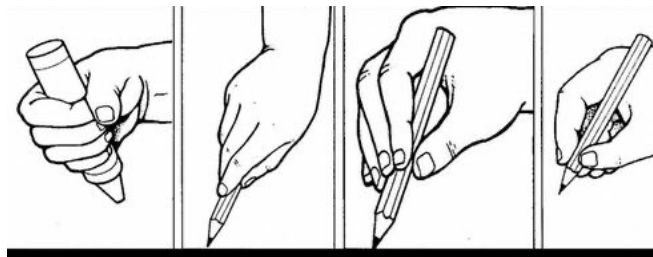
It will be a great help to both your own child and the teacher if they can manage to do the following:

- Use the toilet independently, including wiping themselves and washing their hands with soap and water.
- Undress and dress themselves. Try to give your child clothes with simple fastenings and shoes with Velcro to support their independence.
- Blow their nose.
- Talk to your child as much as possible. Ask them questions about what they see around them and talk to them about their interests and wonders.
- Tidy up their own toys – Start working with your child to do this at home and explain that it is expected in school too. This helps to build independence and responsibility at a young age.
- Answer a question clearly – Some children who come to school respond only with head gestures and with little to no speech. As parents you will understand these meanings but other adults may not. Try to encourage your child to give a clear answer to a question by modelling and emphasising responding with 'Yes, please' or 'No thank you'.
- Use a knife, fork and spoon properly.
- Read as much as you can and talk about what you have read.



- Encourage mark making, drawing and writing as much as possible. This may include activities that strengthen their hands and fingers. Such as:
 - random scribble patterns and making squiggles and letter-like shapes
 - using letters to represent a word
 - any drawing, tracing or dot to dot activities which will help your child learn to grip and use a pencil comfortably.
 - sensory play at home; sorting lentils and rice, pastas, seeds.
- For more information visit www.hungrylittleminds.campaign.gov.uk

This image shows the early stages of pencil grip through to the tripod grip (final image) that we are aiming for.



My child has additional needs, who shall I tell?

Additional needs can be medical, dietary, educational or a combination of them. Please make sure that this has been recorded on your registration forms. If your child takes regular medication please make an appointment to meet with Ms Cunningham. The medication you are handing over for the school to hold should be clearly labelled with your child's name and should be with a copy of their medical care plan if they already have one. If you are concerned that your child has any educational needs, please contact the school SENDCo on 0207 254 1010 or via email, senco@holytrinity.hackney.sch.uk

How should I communicate with the nursery?

We encourage you to make contact with your child's class teacher. Whether it is communicating details about your child and how they are feeling, voicing concerns, seeking advice on how to best support your child at home or a great idea you would like to share; we welcome all input. If you require more than a few minutes in the morning then please make an appointment.

We hold parent workshops in the Autumn term which focus on how a child learns in Nursery. These workshops provide parents with the opportunity to support their child's learning at home, around the key areas of sounds and numbers.



Equal Opportunities

We are committed to achieving quality in education. We wish to enable every child to develop a good self image and, through education and experience, to reach their full potential. We encourage a positive acceptance and respect for all differences.

We also think it important that both boys and girls feel free to involve themselves in all activities available. They should not feel inhibited from taking part in those activities which traditionally are not considered appropriate for their gender, e.g. we encourage girls to play with footballs, do woodwork and build with the variety of construction materials available. Current research reveals a strong link between early experience with construction toys and achievement later on in mathematics and science. Similarly, we include the boys equally in cooking activities, and encourage them to dress up in the Home Corner and play with dolls. This provides an excellent opportunity for them to develop and practice their caring and nurturing instincts.

If you have any queries or concerns, please contact the class teacher who will be able to make an appointment to talk to you.

How will I know how my child is getting on?

You will know how your child is getting on in their year group through feedback from adults, this may be in the form of an informal chat, a phone call, a note home, stickers or a meeting. We hold Learning Conversations/Parent Evenings with parents/carers and teachers throughout the year. You will also receive a Google Login to access your child's Google Classroom. This will share our activities as well as our Floor Book that has a weekly snapshot of our learning!

We will be running Family Fridays throughout the school year. This will be an opportunity for parents and/or carers to spend time with your child in their classroom. It is a lovely opportunity for your child to show you how they are getting on and for you to meet the adults and other parents.

We have 3 simple rules here at Holy Trinity.

We are Ready

We are Respectful

We are Safe

Each week children who are following our school rules and have exceptional behaviour in school will be recognised. One child, per class, per week is selected to have Hot Chocolate with the Headteacher. You will know about it in advance of the event as your child will come home with an invitation that looks like the one here. Please make sure you turn it over as it will have a reason on the back for why your child has been invited to Hot Chocolate.





Who else might be useful to know about?



Catherine Thoma is the headteacher. She has been working at the school for over 10 years. "I travel to school in one of two ways, I either run or I drive. One of my favourite children's books is 'Whatever Next' by Jill Murphy. I love how the imagination of the bear takes him up the chimney, through the night sky and to the moon! I have a passion for Mathematics and a strong belief that when taught well, everyone can develop a love for the subject."



Stephanie Li Rosi is the Lead Practitioner for Early Year Foundation Stage. She has a passion for lifelong learning and supporting to create engaging, enticing and supportive environments where play and talk is an integral part of our provisions. "I love to explore new places, being outdoors and exercising! I love reading stories, especially funny ones! One of my favourite stories is 'There's a Monster in Your Book' by Tom Fletcher because I love how we need to follow the interactive instructions to get the Monster out!"



Cherriffa Grierson is our Assistant Head for Inclusion and Designated Safeguarding Lead (DSL). I have worked in Hackney for a number of years and I love that Hackney is a vibrant mixed community of cultures, races and religions. I have a passion for music, fashion and travelling and have tried to embrace this whenever I visit another country. I believe that education is a journey that we are on and we must always do our best to show the best versions of ourselves. My favourite children's books range from '5 minutes peace' by Jill Murphy to 'Kensuke's Kingdom' by Michael Morpurgo."



Leah Grant-Muller is our Key Stage 1 Assistant Head and English Lead. "I have a passion for Art, Drama, Music and Dance and believe that it is important to let children be as creative as possible in their lessons across the curriculum. I also love teaching PE and running sporting clubs and competitions. I believe that children should have every opportunity to develop and showcase their sporting talents! Some of my favourite children's stories are 'The Tiger who Came to Tea' and 'I want my hat back!'"



Pauline Cunningham is the Pastoral Support Manager, her role provides an additional link between home and school. Pauline loves to travel (only in the school holidays) and she has been monitoring the attendance and welfare of children in our school for the last 17 years. Pauline will make contact with parents if the school has a concern about your child's attendance and/or punctuality. She can answer questions about holiday requests and is often the person to support your child when they are unwell. To support our role in looking after your child's welfare, we have a nominated school nurse and education welfare office linked to the school. These additional agencies work closely with the school and families to ensure that your child is in school each day.



Sian Davies, Executive Principal, has a long standing relationship with Holy Trinity and with Hackney. She has been Executive Principal at Holy Trinity since 2004 and leads the eight schools in our Federation. She believes passionately in education as a vehicle for change for individuals and for society. "I am a big Harry Potter fan but my favourite book is A Necklace of Raindrops by Joan Aiken, illustrated by Jan Pieńkowski. It is such a beautiful story and a one I loved to tell in assemblies. It is magical when a short story can capture the attention and imagination of over 200 children of all ages at the same time".

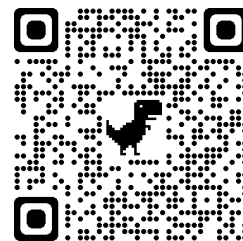


Reverend Laura Luz is the Vicar of Holy Trinity Church, Dalston and All Saints Church, Haggerston. She leads collective worship once a week and makes visits to the school to talk with children. Laura is a school governor and the chair of the Holy Trinity Local Advisory Board. We encourage those children who are already involved in the Christian faith and hope to bring a spiritual awareness to those of no faith.



Holy Trinity C of E Primary School

<https://holytrinity.hackney.sch.uk/>



Local Education Authority

The Local Education Authority makes education provision for all the children in its area. Our Local Education Authority is:

Hackney Education Authority

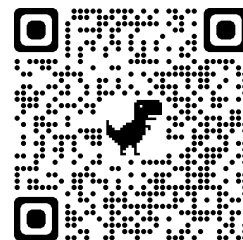
Hackney Education

T.L.C. Building

Reading Lane

E8

Telephone: 0208 820 7000



The London Diocesan Board

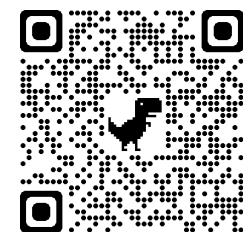
As a Church school Holy Trinity Primary School is supported by the London Diocesan Board for Schools (LDBS).

London Diocesan Board for Schools

36 Causton Street

London SW1 4AU

Telephone: 020 7932 1100



The LDBS and the Governors work in partnership with the local authority to ensure a good educational standard for the school.

OfSTED Parent Portal

<https://parentview.ofsted.gov.uk/>

