



Cuddington & Dinton C of E School

PROSPECTUS 2023–2024

HEADTEACHER: Nicola Wilde

CHAIR OF GOVERNORS: Vicky Shenton



INFANT SITE
Upper Church Street
Cuddington
Bucks
HP18 0AP

JUNIOR SITE
School Lane
Dinton
Bucks
HP17 8UZ

office@cds.school

01844 291206

www.cuddingtonanddintonschool.co.uk



'Let your Light Shine'

MATTHEW 5:16

Contents

Introduction from the Headteacher 3

Our school vision and values 4

Admissions 5

School organisation and attendance 6

The curriculum 7

Other provision 10

Educational visits 12

The home–school partnership 13

School lunchtime 14

School uniform 15

Breakfast and after-school provision 16

School bus 16

School association (Friends for Cuddington
and Dinton School – F4CADS) 17

Getting involved 17

Concerns or complaints 17

Emergency procedures 17

A final word 19



Introduction from the Headteacher

Welcome to Cuddington and Dinton C of E School.

We are a friendly, caring school that is committed to achievement for all. We believe our school is special and hope that our prospectus will give you a taste of what we have to offer you and your child.

We strive to enable all children to achieve their full potential both in and out of the classroom. By working closely with the parents and the local community, we endeavour to develop our pupils' knowledge, understanding and skills to prepare them for lifelong learning.

We value rigorous academic standards and strive to ensure that your children have the best possible learning outcomes. In our last Ofsted inspection (January 2023), we were graded 'Good' in all areas. We were also graded 'Good' in our church school SIAMs inspection (October 2018). Both reports can be viewed on our school website at <http://www.cuddingtonanddintonschool.co.uk>.

Learning does not just happen in class and we value the experiences that you as parents can give your child. These will further develop their curiosity and love of learning.

Education is a partnership between parents, carers, the school, local and global communities. As educators, we wish to give your child the tools and skills needed to cope with the ever changing world in which we live.

We are part of the Thame Partnership and offer staff and children many opportunities through this group. In addition, we have good provision for sports and proudly hold the Platinum Sports Award and were Bucks and Milton Keynes Sports school of the year 2022/23.

We hope our prospectus will provide you with all the information you need. If you have any further questions, please do not hesitate to contact the school either by telephone (01844 291206) or by emailing the school office at office@cds.school.

Nicola Wilde
Headteacher

Our vision

'*Let your light shine*' MATTHEW 5:16 is central to all that we do as a Christian school community. We work together to nurture the well-being, learning and development of everyone, empowering all to shine as individuals through clearly understood values and behaviour, founded in the Christian faith.

Our values

- To show *respect* for each other
- To demonstrate the Christian ethos of *love*
- To be *resilient*, confident and determined to do the best we can in all things
- To demonstrate *trust* in our dealings with others
- To show *integrity* and honesty in all our actions
- To have *belief* that we can all achieve success and excellence that contributes to our Christian community



Admissions

Cuddington and Dinton Church of England Voluntary Aided School is a split-site school based in the villages of Cuddington and Dinton. Our combined catchment covers the villages of Cuddington, Chearsley, Dinton, Ford, Nether Winchendon, Upton and Westlington but we welcome children from the surrounding area as well. Cuddington is the Infant site, taking children from Foundation to the end of Year 2 and Dinton is the Junior site with Year 3 to Year 6. We have a total capacity of 182 pupils.

The Governors are responsible for the school's Admissions Policy and we deal with all in-year admissions (any admissions into the school after initial foundation entry). We also work closely with the Bucks Local Area Education Authority, who coordinate admissions to Bucks maintained schools and deal with admissions into our Foundation class.

The admission number for all years is currently 26 pupils. Once children have a place at the school, they will automatically transition to our Junior site.

Application forms for Foundation entry and a copy of our Admissions Policy can be found on the Buckinghamshire Council website and the school website. All in-year admissions are managed by the school.



School organisation and attendance

All Foundation children will be admitted in September.

On the Infant site the school day starts at 8.45am and ends at 3.15pm; on the Junior site the day starts at 8.55am and finishes at 3.25pm. The children can come into school 10 minutes before the start of the school day, where they will go straight into the classroom. The parents of Foundation children may stay with their children for longer; however, when we think their child is ready, we will ask parents to leave them at the gate.

We are a single form entry school, with an excellent staff:pupil ratio that includes teachers and teaching assistants. This means that the individual needs of our children can be recognised and responded to sensitively. Children work as a whole class, in small groups, individually according to their ability and interest levels. Careful records are kept of each child's progress, both in their learning and in their personal development.

Our non-class based staff (the School Administrator, Bursar and lunchtime supervisors) are very important in providing the family atmosphere of the school, whilst maintaining close links with the community.

It is vital that children attend school regularly and we ask that parents contact the school if their child will be absent.

Holidays during term time must only be taken in exceptional circumstances. Should you decide to take your child out of school for a holiday, we ask that you email the school office at least one month before the planned absence. We are unable to provide work for these periods because much of what is done in school is of a practical nature and teacher-led. Term time holidays do affect pupil outcomes.

In accordance with an agreement between our local schools, all term time holidays will be unauthorised and marked as such in the register.



The curriculum

Our school curriculum is designed to meet the expectations of current government guidance and to develop the abilities, confidence and self-esteem of all our pupils, including those with special needs. We aim to achieve this by the provision of a broad, balanced curriculum which stimulates and challenges each child.

The Early Years Foundation Stage curriculum (EYFS)

The Early Years Foundation Stage is the period of education between birth and 5 years of age. In Foundation, all children work towards the Early Learning goals. There is a strong emphasis on play and the curriculum is delivered through a combination of whole school, class, adult-led and child-initiated activities.

The areas of learning and development

There are seven areas of learning and development that shape educational programmes in the early years setting. The prime areas are communication and language, physical development and personal, social and emotional development. All these are crucial for igniting the children's curiosity and enthusiasm for learning and for building their capacity to form relationships and thrive.

The children's development in these areas is encouraged through literacy, mathematics, understanding the world and expressive art and design.

In all we do, we aim to ensure that your child enjoys coming to school, is enthusiastic about learning and has the confidence to ask questions and find out about the world around them.

We assess the children using characteristics of effective learning and communicate this via Tapestry (a web-based communication and assessment tool for EYFS parents and staff).



The National Curriculum

As in all schools in England, the National Curriculum forms the basis of learning. It sets out the knowledge, skills and understanding required as well as the standards and attainment expected in all subjects. Information about our curriculum can be found on the website under the curriculum tab. It is divided into blocks of learning known as key stages: KEY STAGE 1 is years 1–2 and KEY STAGE 2 is years 3–6.

The National Curriculum comprises the following subjects: Maths, English, ICT, Science, History, Geography, Religious Education, Personal, Social and Health Education (PSHE), Art and Design, Design Technology, Music, Modern Foreign Languages (French), PE and Citizenship.

At Cuddington and Dinton School we teach French as our modern foreign language. This is taught by a French specialist.

Our music provision is of a high standard. Our pupils have performed at The Royal Albert Hall and taken part in the Garsington Opera festival at Wormsley. Musical instrument peripatetic lessons are offered for: drums, guitar, piano and voice.

Pupils in years 2 and 3 have one term each year of weekly swimming lessons. Those Junior children who cannot confidently swim 25m are offered additional swimming lessons in the Summer term.

We offer school clubs which include boys' football, girls' football, netball, cricket, tennis and dance. Weekly tennis and dance lessons are available to all pupils throughout the year and delivered by specialist coaches. As part of the Mandeville Sports Partnership, we have opportunities for sports festivals competing against many local schools. We aim for every pupil to have access to high quality PE provision and encourage healthy habits.



Monitoring and assessment

Teacher assessment takes place on an informal basis throughout the year. Each child's progress will be observed and the information used to inform future teaching. In Foundation, monitoring forms part of the Early Years Profile for each child.

To complement informal teacher assessment in years 1–6, we have a programme of formal assessment spread throughout the school year. Pupils in years 2 and 6 undertake statutory assessments in Reading, Writing and Maths. These tests assess the national curriculum level of each child in each subject. In year 1 we assess the children's phonic decoding and in year 4 their times table recall; both in line with Government expectations.

Religious Education and Collective Worship

We are a Church of England Voluntary Aided School. Each day we have an act of collective worship led by a member of the school staff or volunteers from the local churches. Anglican religious festivals are celebrated with the local community and regular family services take place in both Cuddington and Dinton churches.

Collective worship is central to the life of our school. Following the guidance from the Church of England, we aim for our collective worship to be inclusive, invitational and inspiring.

Worship offers the pupils and others in our school an opportunity to reflect on values and issues in the context of our Christian vision and ethos. It is an expression of our vision and shapes our approach to others and to what we do in school. We warmly invite all members of our school community to join our worship.

Religious Education is taught in line with the Bucks County agreed syllabus and Oxford Diocese advice. This includes learning about other faiths. Parents may exercise their right under Section 25 of the Education Act and withdraw their child from Collective Worship or Religious Education lessons. Any parent wishing to do this should speak to the Headteacher.



Other provision

Community

This is an important aspect of the work of the school. We aim to prepare each child for living with and respecting people from other races, religions and ways of life. It forms part of the caring ethos of our school and our commitment to developing the children's empathy and understanding. Each year we support a number of local and national charities.

Disabilities and Special Educational Needs

The school has a positive attitude to the inclusion of pupils with a range of disabilities. We believe that this helps all pupils from an early age, to develop an awareness and acceptance of others' needs.

All possible assistance is given to meet the special learning needs of each child. If appropriate a child may follow an individual education plan and support can be obtained from the Local Authority Specialist Teaching Service or the Educational Psychology Team. Parents are always consulted and included in discussions about their child's needs.





Safeguarding children

The school is committed to the safety and well-being of all pupils. Our Safeguarding Policy is reviewed by the Governing Body on an annual basis and all staff have undergone safeguarding training. Upon appointment to the school, all staff must have obtained an enhanced disclosure from the Disclosure and Barring Service (DBS). All visitors to the school must sign in at reception.

The Designated Safeguarding Lead (DSL) is Mrs Wilde, Headteacher, with an Additional Safeguarding Lead (ADSL) Mrs Bowman.

Pastoral care and behaviour

Our pupils are taught and expected to be caring and respectful of each other and the adults they come into contact with at school. This is managed through our school values and behaviour policy. A copy of this is available on the website.

On rare occasions when a child behaves in a difficult or anti-social manner, we invite the parents to come for a discussion with the class teacher or Headteacher. When necessary, and after parental consultation, we may seek the support of the Aylesbury Pupil Referral Unit or the Educational Psychology Team who can help to resolve behavioural issues.

Equality and diversity

The school recognises pupil diversity and wherever possible allows the children to share their cultural and religious heritage. All pupils are treated equitably and are given equal opportunities within the curriculum and in other activities, regardless of their race, gender, religious or cultural background.

Educational visits

These are arranged to enrich and support the curriculum. In the past they have included visits to places of local interest, local churches and the countryside as well as trips further afield to places such as Cotswold Wildlife Park, The Globe Theatre, Science Oxford, Waddesdon Manor, the British Museum, The Lion King musical, Waterside Theatre and the Ashmolean Museum in Oxford. Our year 6 pupils go on a week's residential trip, currently to Derbyshire.



Charging policy (voluntary contributions)

Parents will be invited to make contributions in support of educational visits and activities.

We include all pupils in the class or group whether or not a parental contribution is made. In some circumstances, however, activities may have to be cancelled if sufficient contributions are not received. We do not make a profit from these activities and we encourage parents to come in and discuss any financial concerns they may have. We do not wish to deny any child an opportunity because of financial hardship.

The home–school partnership

We work hard to promote good communication with all our parents. We keep in touch via our Friday newsletter, a school Twitter account, various information letters, the school website and meetings. There are opportunities throughout the year to come and view the children’s work and we have a Parent Forum that meets on a termly basis. All these are in addition to Parents’ Evening meetings held each term. A formal report is issued towards the end of the summer term.

If you wish to discuss any aspect of your child’s school life, you may make an appointment to see the class teacher or the Headteacher. Arrangements can be made to see parents urgently where necessary. Generally, we ask parents to speak to the class teacher at the end of the school day rather than in the morning when they are busy setting up the classrooms.

School Gateway

The school uses a communication system called Schoolcomms to email parents. We also use ‘School Gateway’ as our electronic payments system for school trips and breakfast club. We also ask for consent for activities via School Gateway.

School lunchtime

Lunchtime

- Foundation: 12.10 to 1.15
- Years 1–2: 12.15 to 1.15pm
- Juniors (years 3–6): 12.30 to 1.30pm

Packed lunches

If your child has a packed lunch, please try to ensure that the lunch is healthy. Sweets are not allowed. All drinks should be in plastic containers, or cartons, and not glass bottles. (No fizzy drinks please.) Lunch is eaten in the hall, under the supervision of the lunchtime supervisors on the Infant site and outside (weather permitting) on the Junior site. Children will be encouraged to eat savoury food first, and uneaten food will be sent home. **We are a 'Nut Free' school, so no items containing nuts or sesame should be brought to school.** Children are not allowed to share food.

Under a Government scheme, we are able to offer a free hot lunch to all children in Key Stage 1. Our lunch provider is Fresh Start Catering, an independent company who provide delicious meals with a selection of choices. Meals are delivered fresh each day, from a local hub kitchen. All meals are ordered through Fresh Start Catering.

Every pupil is required to bring a water bottle to school daily, this can be refilled as required and available to children at all times.

School uniform

A named PE kit is best stored in a named drawstring bag (a school one is available from the uniform suppliers) that can easily be hung on your child's cloakroom peg and left in school from Monday to Friday. Items without a logo may be purchased from a variety of stores such as Marks and Spencer, John Lewis, Tesco etc. For swimming, children either wear a swim suit (not bikini) or trunks (not swim shorts). They must have a swimming hat and written permission if they wish to wear swimming goggles.

The F4CADs also run a second-hand uniform shop at various points during the year. The shop will be advertised.

Jewellery should not be worn at school. Governors cannot accept liability for loss, or any accidents caused by jewellery. If a child has recently had their ears pierced they may wear small stud earrings for six weeks only. The studs must be covered for PE. After the initial six weeks, earrings must not be worn in school.

Winter Uniform	Summer Uniform	PE Kit	Other items
White shirt or blouse School tie * Grey trousers /skirt / pinafore dress Navy blue school jumper or cardigan * Grey or white socks or tights Black shoes (not boots)	White school polo shirt* Grey tailored shorts or skirt Navy and white checked dress Navy blue school jumper or cardigan * Grey or white socks or tights Black shoes or sandals (not open-toed)	Gold t-shirt* Plain navy shorts Black or white plain trainers Plain navy sweatshirt (not hooded) Plain navy tracksuit bottoms Navy blue school drawstring PE bag *	School baseball cap * or similar summer hat Water bottle. Infants: school book bag with school logo Juniors: plain navy or black rucksack

* Items available from Bucks Schoolwear Plus, Aylesbury, and Marks and Spencers School Uniform.



Breakfast and after-school provision

Morning Owls: This starts at 8.00am on both the Infant and Junior sites. For a small fee, children may be booked into the club every morning or on specific dates or days of the week. Bookings are taken on a half-termly basis, although emergency cover can be provided when space is available. The children are offered breakfast and there are a variety of activities on offer.

After-school provision: This is on the Junior site and run by Exposure Sports. Infant places are limited to the number of children that can be transported on the school bus. Bookings are taken on a half termly basis directly with Exposure Sports. The provision runs from after school until 5.45.

Childcare vouchers

The school is registered for Computershare, Edenred and Allsave, Soetex, Care and the Government sponsored scheme childcare vouchers for Morning Owls, Exposure Sports and Holiday Clubs. We cannot accept these vouchers for school trips as these are curriculum based activities that take place during the school term.

School bus

Transport to both sites is available for children who live in the school's catchment area of Chearsley, Cuddington, Dinton, Westlington, Ford and Upton. This transport is only available from the term after which your child is five years old. All transport is organised by Buckinghamshire Council, not by the school.



School association (F4CADs)

There is a supportive School Association, F4CADs. All parents are automatically members. Their aim is to advance the education of all the pupils by providing additional facilities for education, which are not normally provided by the Local Authority. Various fund-raising and social events are held during the year including quizzes, a Family Bingo Evening, discos (for the children) and a fantastic summer event (for the parents). Over the years, F4CADs have raised a staggering amount of money. Money raised last year was spent on improving the classroom space.

Getting involved

Cuddington and Dinton School welcomes the involvement of parents, grandparents and community members. Getting involved in school life is very rewarding for both the children and those helping.

There are many ways you can help: volunteering in class, helping at F4CADs events, becoming a Governor, joining a working group or Parent Forum, helping with after-school clubs, helping on a school visit, sharing your skills and knowledge.

Concerns or complaints

In most circumstances, we would expect parents who have a concern or cause to complain, to speak in the first instance to the class teacher. Many matters can be resolved very simply by ensuring that there is a clear understanding between parents and teachers.

If the matter is not resolved to your satisfaction, then it should be brought to the attention of the Headteacher. If it is still not resolved by this means, you are asked to write to the Chair of Governors for investigation and resolution.

A full copy of our Complaints Policy is available to view on the school website.

Emergency procedures

There may be unusual circumstances requiring a decision to close the school, such as COVID lock down, extreme weather or heating system failure. This may be during the school day or out of school hours. Our emergency procedures are as follows:

- Information on the school website
- An email message to parents
- Posted on the school Twitter feed.
- Message sent via the Parent Forum class representatives.
- Information on the Buckinghamshire Council website about school closures.

Comments from parents and carers

We are proud of our achievements and of the caring, supportive ethos of the school. Here are some comments from current parents about our school.

“Thank you for all your work in helping all three of our children settle into school. They have enjoyed their time this term, have been involved in some excellent activities, and overall have found the move into Cuddington and Dinton School very positive.”

“Thank you so much for all your support today. I’m so glad that P was able to talk to you and explain her feelings ... all the support and care we receive from yourself and the other staff makes it easier to cope with.”

“Just a quick note to say how much we enjoyed the concert this evening. It was lovely to be surrounded by not only a great atmosphere, but great music too and some very brave children. The children were fantastic and were a reflection of the brilliant school that they are part of.”

“I just wanted to say thank you for taking the time to meet with us to discuss the transfer test and explain the procedures around selecting our children’s next schools. There is a lot to read through but I found the meeting really informative.”

“I have thoroughly enjoyed working at your schools this year. The children are always brilliantly well behaved and so enthusiastic.”

“I wanted to formally express my thanks as a parent for the excellent work the team has done in preparing A for the transition to secondary school. As a governor I was aware that the school had a process for ‘transition’ and I was confident that it was good, however having experienced this as a parent I now fully appreciate just how good the process is. The amount of work you have done in preparing the children for the opportunities and challenges that lie ahead has been outstanding. You seem to have covered everything, approaching the task with the usual enthusiasm and thoroughness that we parents take for granted.”

“Amazing support for my child, anticipating needs and behaviours helps my child to settle and manage day to day activities at school. Great leadership with effective and cohesive communication. Very visible and transparent leaders on both sites with the emphasis on enabling students to be the best version of themselves. Thank you.”



A final word ...



Thank you for reading our prospectus. We hope that you have found it informative and we look forward to showing you our school at work.

If you choose our school for your child, we will do our best to work in partnership with you to ensure that they receive an excellent primary education.

Nicola Wilde

HEADTEACHER

