

*"The headteacher leads the school
with a clear vision of what
outstanding education looks like."*

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Yoxall St Peter's CE Primary
Dream, Believe, Learn and Achieve



Welcome to Yoxall St Peter's CE Primary School



"Pupils' spiritual, moral, social and cultural understanding is expertly developed. Pupils behave well. They care for each other and cooperate well. They are well prepared for life in modern Britain."

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Welcome to Yoxall St Peter's C of E Primary, a proud partner in the John Taylor MAT. As one of the first primary schools that joined the JTMAT, we believe in the power of education to transform lives and the world.

Learning without limits

Are you fed up of exam factories? Do you feel that 'teaching to the test' is a parlous way to educate modern minds? Do you believe that every child should be entitled to reach their maximum potential, that learning should not be 'capped' and that every child should be able to learn without limits?

Yoxall St Peter's C of E Primary is a school where children gain a lifelong love of

learning. Caring and thoughtful, Yoxall children are innovators, builders, artists and improvers. They are risk-takers, problem solvers and writers. They are also pursuers of excellence and expert weavers of dreams.

The School is a 5 class primary school, with mixed age year groups throughout. We are a Church of England School and this informs our ethos and everything we do; we have a mission to nurture children that are knowledgeable and tolerant of all religions and cultures.

Our Great British Values and Christian Values ensure that Yoxall children are tolerant, mutually respectful, democratic young people that understand their rights as well as their responsibilities.

Curriculum: Creative, Healthy, Mindful & Spiritual



We're proud of our curriculum because it's OUR curriculum; you won't find it in any other school. It was designed in consultation with education experts, based on the latest research into learning styles and pedagogy and most importantly... we asked the children what they wanted to learn about. It's underpinned by our unique learning style of metacognition, building on the science of how children learn and how the brain adapts through learning.

All our learning is underpinned by our core values, our vision and aims and our steadfast, unshakeable belief that **education has the power to transform lives**. Our children are happy, they want to learn and they can't wait for Mondays to come around. *Yoxall Children aspire to be lifelong learners.*

We believe passionately in the right of every child to receive a broad and balanced Curriculum that stimulates their love of learning and engenders a fascination and understanding of the world around them and the global society in which they live.

Our **English** and **Maths** results are always above local and national levels. In **English** we believe in writing for purpose; children have written to local



“Pupils are kind, caring and aware of the needs of others. Pupils spoken to formally and informally on the playground, spoke about how much they enjoy school and how well staff care for them. One pupil said, ‘it is a safe school’ and other pupils nodded vigorously in agreement.”

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Curriculum continued...

businesses and even the Houses of Parliament (and received a reply!). Likewise in **Maths**, children use their mathematical skills to problem solve in real world scenarios – such as our popular Farmer’s Market in which the children showcase their **Design and Technology** skills to sell up-cycled produce and products to the local community to make a profit for the school. We have embraced the Mastery Approach to mathematical teaching and this has substantially improved our results.

We have a subject-based approach to **History** and **Geography** at Key Stage 1 and Key Stage 2. We use our environment and community to its best advantage, aiming to ensure that the children are aware of their place and purpose in society and in today’s changing world.

We are passionate to make sure that our children get the very best education and employ specialist qualified teachers and coaches to provide **Music, French** and **PE**. Every class from Year 3 upwards has a specialist music teacher delivering lessons. Every child, from Year 3 upwards has input from a native-speaking **French** teacher to encourage conversational French at an advanced level.

Computing Technology is directly concerned with generating ideas and developing children’s skills in designing, planning, making and evaluating. Opportunities to experiment with materials and techniques in all areas of **Art and Craft** are given to the children in order to stimulate and develop their creative abilities.

Children are naturally curious about themselves and their environment. Our aim in **Science** is to build upon their curiosity and to enable each child to develop an enquiring mind and a thirst for exploration and discovery through first-hand experience by which scientific knowledge and skills will be acquired.

At Yoxall, we recognise that Sport is important to our everyday lives and learning. In **Physical Education** aim to promote physical activity and healthy lifestyles as we develop positive attitudes, team spirit and motivate each pupil to enjoy physical activities so that individuals are able to make an active, purposeful use of their leisure time both now and in their future lives.

Early Years Foundation Stage

“Pupils are taught in stimulating learning environments that excite them about their learning.”

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What is EYFS?

The EYFS is a framework of learning and developing that outlines the expectations and standards that children are expected to reach by the end of Reception. Children are taught through a combination of independent play and adult-led activities covering the seven areas of learning. *There are three prime areas:*

Personal, social and emotional development – covering the development of children’s emotional intelligence, including developing their self-confidence and relationships with other children and adults and also learning to control and adjust their feelings and behaviour.

Physical development – this includes the children’s fine and gross motor skills such as pencil control and handwriting and also their abilities to move in different ways and negotiate space.

Communication and language – this area focuses on children’s listening and attention skills, their speaking and their ability to ask and answer questions.

And four specific areas:

Literacy – the development of children’s ability to link letters and sounds and begin to read and write.

Mathematics – this involves providing children with opportunities to develop and improve their skills in counting, understanding and using numbers.

Understanding the World – guiding children to make sense of their physical world and their community through opportunities to explore.

Expressive Arts and Design – enabling children to explore and play with a wide range of media and materials, allowing them to share their thoughts, ideas and feelings through a variety of activities.

Christian Values: Aims & Vision



“The headteacher has a clear vision of providing a high-quality education in school. He is determined to achieve it.”

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Dream, Believe, Learn and Achieve

Through the vision of the leadership team, governors, teachers and stakeholders of this school, our children will learn about:

Community

They will **dream** and fight for a global **community** that lives well together

Aspiration

To **Believe** in steadfast character development, hope, **aspiration** and courageous advocacy

Wisdom

To **learn** how to acquire the **wisdom**, knowledge and skills they need for life

Respect

Achieve a school environment and seek a global society in which dignity and **respect** can flourish

Our Aims

Dream of a global community that lives well together

We *dream* of a world in which all communities are healthy, work well together and thrive. We *believe* in the unique gifts and potential of every person, the rights of every person to develop as an independent, confident human being who is not afraid to ask questions about the ‘bigger picture.’ We *learn* how to work collaboratively with parents, church and community, developing and cherishing the whole person – mind, body, emotions and spirit.

Christian Values: Aims & Vision continued



Believe in steadfast character development, hope, aspiration and courageous advocacy

At Yoxall, we *dream* of a world in which the poor, despised, disadvantaged and disenfranchised are given a voice; we *believe* that by our own individual courageous advocacy we can not only bring to light the world's injustices but actually change them. We believe that it is our moral duty to **learn** about the world beyond our doorstep, challenge those that would destroy God's creation and our environment and *achieve* the best outcomes for all living things.

Learn the wisdom, knowledge and skills we need for life

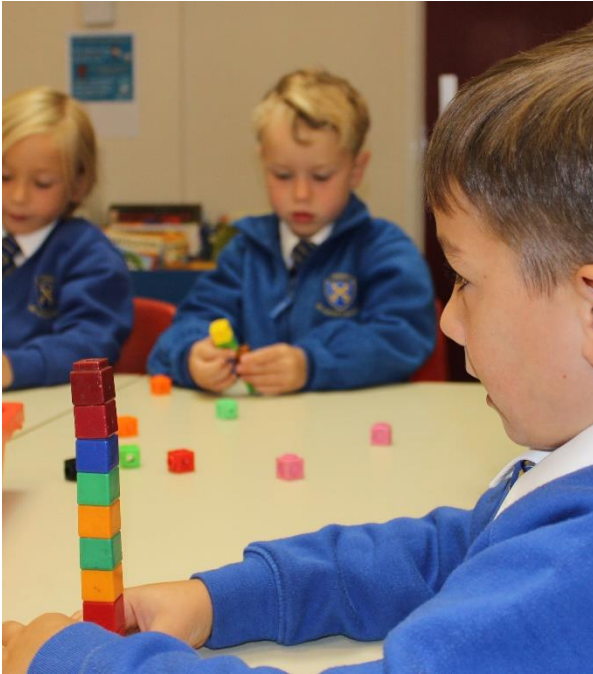
Our *dream* is a domain in which all children exceed their potential, where we *believe* that the safe, secure and healthy environment, enriched by the stimulating and entirely enthralling curriculum that we are nurtured in will enable us to learn the skills we need for high school and the world beyond

and *achieve* the very best outcomes possible in life through a lifelong acquisition of wisdom, knowledge and skills.

Achieve a school society in which dignity and respect can flourish

With time for reflection and consideration, we *dream* of a world in which all of us can flourish. We are given time to reflect on our own Christian beliefs but *believe* in the rights of others to maintain their own beliefs; as our own beliefs are taken into account by the adults around us, so the beliefs of our peers and our community are accepted and tolerated by ourselves. We *learn* about other cultures through our engagement with other churches, schools and communities, both national and international. Through our growing understanding of our own rights and responsibilities, we are the custodians of the future and will *achieve* God's plan, reading and interpreting with wisdom the many signposts laid out for us on the roads, ways and global highways of our life.

Our Learning Style: Metacognition



Learning without Limits

Children at St Peter's are taught self-regulation and self-reliance from the outset, embracing our metacognitive approach to learning. Yoxall St Peter's children are eager to have a go, are resilient to failure and have an innate yearning to learn about the world in which they live.

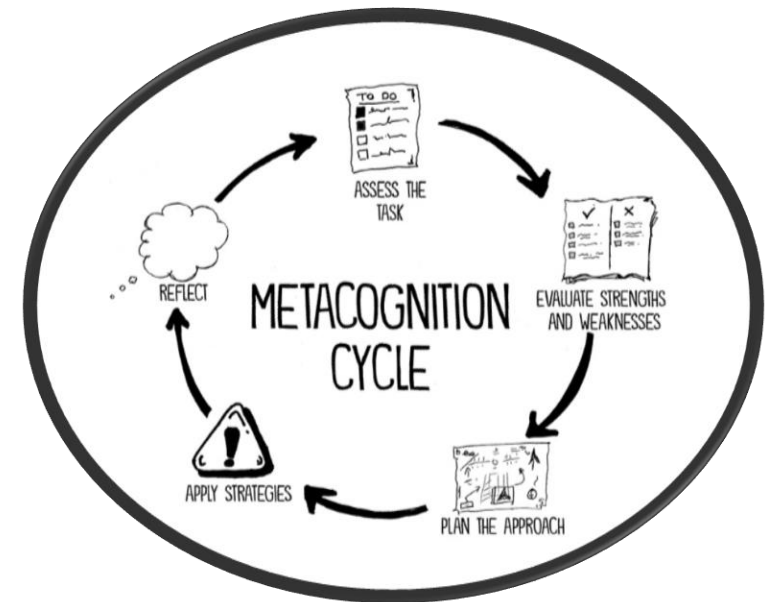
Metacognition (derived from the Greek root word "meta" meaning "beyond" and the Latin word "cognoscere" meaning "getting to know") refers to a student's ability to be aware of what they are thinking about and choose a helpful thought process. It captures a student's ability to:

- Analyse how they think
- Have high self-awareness and control of their thoughts
- Choose an appropriate and helpful strategy for the task at hand.

The importance of metacognition in education is on the rise after research suggested that it is one of the most effective and cost-efficient ways to help students make gains in their learning. Evidence shows that students who use metacognitive thinking and related strategies improve in a range of subjects, including Maths, Science and English. Yoxall St Peter's C of E has been leading the way for over three years now in this field.

Our children are self-critical and can review and comment on their own learning and that of their peers in a thoughtful, reflective way; we believe this engenders an environment that is rich and inclusive, mindful of others and give an opportunity for children to 'learn without limits.'

No child's learning is ever capped at Yoxall St Peter's.



Clubs and sport



Children can enjoy a variety of pre-school, lunchtime and after school clubs. Examples include:

- Chess • Football • Netball • Tag Rugby • Cookery • Construction • Mindfulness • Gardening • Archery • Choir • Dodge Ball

Sport

PE is taught each week by our class teachers, and as part of our involvement with a number of partners including Burton Albion, fully trained coaches work alongside our teachers to provide extra training.

All classes across the school benefit from a trained coach for at least half a term during the year. The coach also carries out extra-curricular sporting clubs, which the children are able to attend.

Competitions and festivals

Being part of the Dove Valley Partnership also gives our children the opportunity to take part in a huge variety of competitions and festivals.



Communicating with parents



We are always looking at ways to improve parental engagement and we will let you know how your child is progressing at regular intervals.

Parent Forum

A Parent Forum is now held at least once every term and we welcome ideas to discuss at the meetings and we will publish the meeting notes on the school website.

Parents' Evenings

Parents' Evenings are held termly. Parents are given detailed information on their child's progress and as well as being informed of their ongoing targets, given precise information on how best to help their child achieve those goals.

Twitter

We understand the difficulties that many working parents face in keeping up to date with what is happening in school. We regularly Tweet about what we are doing in school – making the 'what did you do at school today' conversation a lot easier at the school gate!

Parent workshops

We host parent workshops to give parents ideas on how to support their child's learning. Workshops held last year included an early literacy and numeracy workshop, and the teaching of spelling, punctuation, grammar and calculations across the school. We also held several workshops on online safety.

Admissions



Parents who are thinking of applying for a place at our school are invited to visit and look around at any time.

Children are admitted to our Reception in the September after their fourth birthday. This is for full time sessions. We have 30 places available. Places are allocated by the Pupil Support Services of the Local Authority. More information is available on their website: <https://www.staffordshire.gov.uk/Education/Admissions-primary/home.aspx>. Information about joining the school at other points in the year may also be found through this link. **We currently have a small number of places in all year groups.**

Moving on to secondary school

In Year 6, pupils will do focused learning about aspects of transition to support their understanding of the changes ahead. A member of staff from the secondary school setting comes to visit and meet with the children who will be attending their school. Many secondary schools hold open evenings for parents to attend in order to support their decision making process about which school is the right choice for their child.

Children from Yoxall St Peter's CE Primary School benefit from priority applications to John Tayjor High School and John Taylor Free School, whether they are in catchment or not, as attendance at a JTMAT school takes precedence over catchment.

