

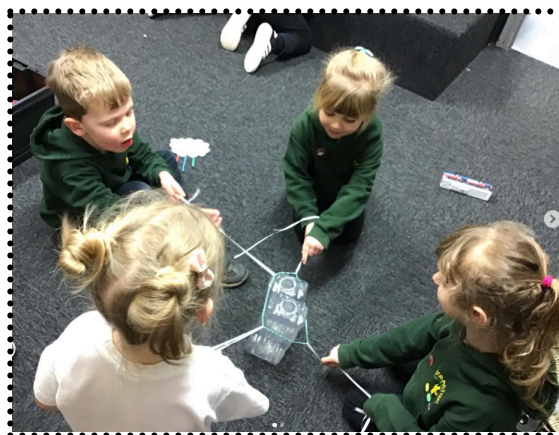
Osbaston Church in Wales School



OSBASTON
Church in Wales School



Inspiring • Discovering • Believing



School Prospectus 2026-27

e-mail: osb.primary@monmouthshireschools.wales

www.osbastonciwschool.cymru

Tel: 01600 775070



@osbastonciwschool

Welcome to Osbaston Church in Wales School

The primary years are, quite simply, the most defining chapter of a child's education. Beyond the classroom basics, these years are a period of profound growth where values are rooted, curiosity is sparked, and the character traits that carry a person through life are first shaped.

At **Osbaston Church in Wales School**, we don't just teach; we nurture. We strive to create an environment that feels like a second home—safe, stimulating, and filled with the kindness and respect we hope to see in the world. Here, your child can build the confidence to be independent and the self-discipline to excel, all while enjoying a balanced and exciting range of learning opportunities.

Education shouldn't be "one size fits all." That is why our experienced staff team have designed a bespoke curriculum unique to our school and our local community. Our Discovery Curriculum is built on authentic contexts that make learning feel real and relevant. Whether your child is just starting their journey or preparing for the transition to secondary school, our approach ensures steady progress across a breadth of knowledge and skills, tailored to their individual starting point.

We believe that a child thrives best when the bridge between home and school is strong. Education is a shared journey; a valued partnership between our staff and you.

- **Your Role:** We invite you to play an active part in these formative years. Your involvement is the key ingredient to your child's success and well-being.
- **Volunteering:** We love seeing friendly faces in our hallways! We warmly welcome volunteers to support our various activities across all year groups. Whether you have an hour or a day to spare, your time is always appreciated.
- **Open Communication:** To keep our connection strong, we operate an "open-door" policy. My staff and I are always available to discuss your child's progress or any aspect of their school life.

I am truly looking forward to the journey ahead and to watching your child discover their potential within our school family.

Yours sincerely,

Catherine Jones - Head teacher

Osbaston Church in Wales School, Osbaston Road, Monmouth, Monmouthshire. NP25 3AX

Telephone: 01600 775070

Email: osb.primary@monmouthshireschools.wales

Website: www.osbastonciwschool.cymru

About Our School

Osbaston Church in Wales School is a co-educational Voluntary Controlled Primary School for learners aged between 4 and 11 years old. There are currently 186 children on roll in seven single age classes.



Children enter school at the beginning of the **academic year** in which they have their fifth birthday into the Reception Class within the **Lower School**. At 7 years old, pupils move to the **Upper School**. At 11 years of age, pupils transfer to secondary school to begin their next step in education.

The school is blessed with excellent facilities including large well designed outdoor spaces, resource areas, libraries, break-out spaces and two school halls. The halls are multi-functional and are used for PE, assemblies and lunches (cooked daily on both sites).

We have the recommended number of lavatories for pupils, with separate toilets for girls and boys in both the Lower and Upper School, and facilities for those with disabilities in both buildings, including a designated changing area for our youngest pupils. The Reception Class has its own self-contained lavatories and wash hand basins.

We have a Breakfast Club that operates between 7.45am each morning and a private after-school club provider that runs Monday-Thursday until 5.30pm from the Upper School hall.

Digital technology plays a fundamental part of children's education; every teaching area is equipped with an interactive screen, with access to individual devices including small laptops, tablets and coding tools. Both school halls have an integrated projector, screen and speakers.

The school benefits from a large playing field, and three large tarmac playgrounds. The school grounds have been beautifully landscaped and are an important part of children's learning. We have two outdoor classroom spaces, a forest shelter, two outdoor play areas and an established school pond. Although located on the edge of Monmouth town, the school prides itself on being a traditional 'village' school and participates actively in community activities. We are grateful that so many people in the local community support events associated with our school.

We are a Church School and value our close links with St Mary's Church and the Diocese of Monmouth. Members of our local clergy join us weekly for Collective Worship and visits to the church form an important part of learning.

Vision, Mission and Aims



Guided by our Christian tradition and faith,
to inspire a love of learning through exploration and
discovery; creating together a sense of value, kindness,
respect and self belief

INSPIRING:

- *Enthusiasing learners so they have high expectations of themselves and others;
- *Developing inquisitive and enquiring minds

DISCOVERING:

- *Stimulating natural curiosity and creativity through experiential learning;
- *Encouraging genuine, healthy and robust questioning to explore and understand the diverse world around us

BELIEVING:

- *Seeing the love in God, the goodness in others and valuing the contributions from everyone.
- *Fostering a sense of self-belief, resilience and confidence to be able to use and transfer skills independently for lifelong learning

School Staff

We have very dedicated, experienced staff at Osbaston School, all of whom are concerned with the welfare of your child. Mrs Jessica Kift, our School Administrator will always be available on site or at the end of the telephone to answer queries or help solve problems.

Mrs Catherine Jones	Head teacher
Mrs Catherine Baggott	Reception teacher (Senior Leader & ALNCo)
Mrs Nicola Beavan	Year 1 teacher (Senior Leader & Leader of Lower School)
Ms Donna Cole	Year 1 teacher (Thurs-Fri), Support teacher & HLTA
Miss Emma Wilce	Year 2 teacher
Lower School Support Staff:	Mrs Debbie Fuse (HLTA), Miss Ceri Morgan, Mrs Nicki King
Mrs Clare Cooper	Year 3 teacher
Mrs Lisa Dunn	Year 4 teacher
Mr Michael Marley	Year 5 teacher (Mon-Wed)
Mrs Sian Damon	Year 5 teacher (Thurs-Fri)
Mrs Shelley Tokar	Year 6 teacher (Deputy Head teacher)
Ms Deb Morgan	PPA teacher
Upper School Support Staff:	Mrs Sarah Biggs, Mrs Louise Uttley
Mrs Jessica Kift	School Administrator
Mr Donald Whittam	Caretaker
Mrs Louise Trigg	Cook
Mrs Linda Thomas	Cook
Mr Darren Prosser	Breakfast Club/ Midday Supervisor
Mrs Sam Pritchard	Assistant Cook/ Breakfast Club
Miss Alisha Prosser	Breakfast Club Assistant
Miss Jess Bufton	Assistant Cook

Governing Body

School Governors have overall responsibility for every aspect of the school. They have legal duties, powers and responsibilities laid down by legislation. In practice, the Governors operate rather like a Board of Directors for a company, making decisions about how the school is run, whilst the Head teacher and staff get on with its day to day operation.

More specifically, Governors are appointed to:

- decide what is taught in the light of statutory requirements laid down by the Government
- monitor and review standards of teaching and learning, well-being and behaviour
- support the strategic decision making of the school, decide how the school budget is set
- interview and select staff
- make policy decisions
- provide support and challenge to secure continued growth and improvement

The Governors can only act together; therefore all decisions have to be taken through a Governors' meeting. These generally happen at school once or twice per term.

Our School Governing Body is made up of: parents, teachers, local council, church and community representatives. The Local Authority (Monmouthshire County Council) nominates some Governors, parents themselves elect Parent Governors, and others may be co-opted by the existing Governors. As a Church in Wales School, the Governing Body also includes Foundation Governors.

We are fortunate in having a very experienced board of Governors, from a range of backgrounds who are dedicated to our school and securing the best possible outcomes and experiences for all learners.

The progress of the school is reported annually to parents through the Governors' Annual Report to Parents. Copies can be accessed through the school website.

Chair of School Governors:

Mr Ryan Regan

To contact Mr Regan, please contact our school office 01600 775070.

Our School Calendar- Academic Year 2026-27

Autumn Term Begins	Tuesday 1st September
Half Term Begins	Monday 26th October
Half Term Ends	Friday 30th October
End of Autumn Term	Friday 18th December
Spring Term Begins	Monday 4th January
Half Term Begins	Monday 8th February
Half Term Ends	Friday 12th February
End of Spring Term	Friday 19th March
Summer Term Begins	Monday 5th April
May Day	Monday 5th May
Half Term Begins	Monday 31st May
Half Term Ends	Friday 29th May
End of Summer Term	Tuesday 20th July

There will be 6 school closure days throughout the year for staff professional learning on:

Tuesday 1st September

Friday 9th October

Friday 30th April

Monday 19th July

Tuesday 20th July

*The 6th day is yet to be confirmed

Applications and Admissions

Parents considering sending their children to Osbaston Church in Wales School are welcome to meet with the Head teacher and to view the school whilst it is at work or at the end of the working day. We hold an open afternoon for prospective parents and children in October each year, but welcome individual meetings and tours at any time throughout the school year. We aim to answer any questions you have as we explore the site and the school facilities. Please telephone the school for an appointment (01600) 775070.

The school admits children at the beginning of the academic school year in which they become five, without reference to ability or aptitude (September). Entry to the Reception Class is staggered on a part-time, half day basis over the first days of the autumn term. We aim for all pupils to complete a full day at the end of this first week, enabling them to experience lunchtime and eating a meal in school. We feel that this allows children an opportunity to settle more easily into their new daily routines. Details of these timings will be shared with parents/carers in the New Intake Meeting in the summer term.

All applications are made through the Local Authority (Monmouthshire) and they make all decisions and grant admissions to the school. Priority is given to those children whose families live within the school's catchment area, siblings of children already at the school and pupils with additional learning or health needs. Many of our families live outside this area and choose to send their children to our school and we warmly welcome pupils from across Monmouth and the wider community. The school's catchment area generally covers Osbaston, Monmouth town (between the two rivers) and up to the Herefordshire border. For help with admissions at any time of the year, please visit

<https://www.monmouthshire.gov.uk/applying-for-a-school-place/> or contact Monmouthshire's School Admission Unit on (01633) 644644. We are then able to plan ahead for your child's entry to the school.

If you are applying for a place for Reception for September 2027, it is imperative that you submit your application by the closing date. As the school places may be in demand, you may not be offered a place at the school if your application is late.

At the end of their primary education with us, nearly all pupils transfer to Monmouth Comprehensive School. We work closely with the secondary school and our Cluster Primary Schools (Kymin View, Overmonnow, Trellech, Raglan, Llandogo, Usk, Cross Ash) to ensure a smooth transition period for your child.



Our School Day

The area surrounding the school is often heavily congested at the start and end of the school day. It is advisable to ensure plenty of time to arrive at the school. Where possible, we encourage our families to walk, scoot or cycle to school, but acknowledge this is not possible for everyone.

Gates Open:	8.40am - please do not arrive before this time
Doors Open:	8.50am - children are collected by class teacher
School day starts:	9.00am
Morning Break:	10.30-10.45am - Lower school 10.45-11.00 Upper school
Lunch:	12.00-1.15pm - Lower school /12.15-1.15pm - Upper school
School Ends:	3.20pm

*There is no afternoon break, but a comfort break may be taken at any time.

At the end of the school day Lower School pupils will be released directly to their parents/carers at the front of the school building. Upper School pupils will be released from the school gates. After School Club pupils are collected by staff members from classes in the Lower School and meet in the school foyer in the Upper School.

Breakfast Club

If you are a working family, you may choose to utilise our Breakfast Club each morning. The club opens at 7.45am (£2.00 per session per pupil), or for entry between 8.25-8.35am for Breakfast only (no cost). All pupils enter through the Upper School gate and must complete registration in the school foyer before entering the club. All Lower School pupils must be accompanied into the Breakfast Club by an adult. You **MUST** register for a place at our Breakfast Club and identify the days and times you wish to use the facility.

After School Club

After School Club is run by an external provider Playworks in the Upper School Hall. After school club is offered on Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday from 3.20-5.30pm. All registration and bookings are made directly with Playworks: <https://playworks-childcare.co.uk/>

Lunch and Snacks

All pupils in the school can choose to receive a free school lunch everyday. Meals are prepared and cooked to order on the school premises and served from our Lower School and Upper School kitchens. The cooked meal includes a hot main meal (vegetarian option available daily), pudding and access to water. A school meal menu can be accessed on our school website. It is also printed in our weekly newsletter.

https://www.osbastonciwschool.cymru/key_information/school_meals/school_meals.html

If you prefer, your child may like to bring their own healthy packed lunch from home. We do recommend that fresh fruit or vegetables feature in the diet. It is our policy to allow pupils access to water at all times or you may wish to provide a plastic or metal bottle with a fruit squash or cordial for their packed lunch. **Fizzy drinks, sweets, chocolate bars and chewing gum must not be brought to school.**

Pupils are supervised throughout the lunch hour by our experienced teaching assistants and midday supervisors. Teaching staff are usually on site at lunchtime, but do not carry out a formal duty at this time.

For a mid-morning snack, children are able to bring a healthy snack – a piece of fruit (no kiwi fruit), vegetable sticks, rice cakes or cereal bar. They may also purchase fruit or vegetables from our daily healthy tuck shop at a cost of 30p. Please note **NUTS are not permitted** in school as a snack or flavouring within cereal bars, biscuits or as sandwich fillings due to allergies. Pupils in the Lower School are also offered milk at break times, which is provided free of charge. We also ask you to provide a robust reusable drinking bottle for water. Your child can access this at break time and lunchtime, as well as throughout the day.

Children whose parents are in receipt of Income Support may be entitled to free school meals. Whilst our lunch time meals are free for all, this benefit supports a free place in Breakfast Club and access to other financial support. If you think this may apply to you, please ask Mrs Kift for the relevant form or visit www.monmouthshire.gov.uk. Applications are treated in complete confidence.



School Uniform

Osbaston Church in Wales School has a uniform and we strongly encourage children to wear it. We believe a uniform looks smart, wears well and instills a sense of belonging to the school. Our school uniform colours are grey and bottle green. Uniform **does not** need to be branded with our school logo. If you do wish to purchase uniform from one of our suppliers, you can shop locally at Flexiprint in Monmouth or via online www.flexiprint.co.uk , or www.nationwideschooluniforms.co.uk . You may also wish to order from our ethically sourced Fairtrade uniform provider www.koolskools.co.uk . You may also wish to make use of our pre-loved uniform stock, which is sold regularly by the PTFA for a nominal fee. Alternatively, you can email the PTFA and request uniform items: osbasptfa@gmail.com or Facebook: 'Preloved Uniform at Osbaston'. We do not encourage the wearing of jewellery to school, other than a watch. Rings, hoop or dangling ear-rings and necklaces must not be worn. Make-up and nail polish are not permitted.

Recommended Uniform List:

Grey trousers/ shorts

Grey skirt/pinafore

White polo shirt

Green and white checked summer dress/skirt/skort (optional)

Green sweatshirt or cardigan (available with school logo) via

www.nationwideschooluniforms.co.uk

www.koolskools.co.uk/schools-list

Black shoes (no trainers please)

PE clothing

Plain black or navy shorts

Plain white T-shirt or polo shirt

Green hoodie

Plimsolls or trainers

Sweatshirt and black/ grey or navy tracksuit bottoms for cold-weather

Please ensure that all items are clearly labelled with your child's name.

*In the interests of safety, we prohibit the wearing of any jewellery in PE lessons. If ears are newly pierced and cannot be removed, pupils need to use micropore tape to cover the studs.



Health and Wellbeing

The health, safety and well-being of all our children is paramount. Our children have the right to protection, regardless of age, gender, race, culture or disability and all pupils have a right to feel safe and secure when in school.

The law requires us to have a **Designated Safeguarding Person** (DSP) at the school who will liaise between the school and other support agencies including Children's Services and Health if needed.

At Osbaston Church in Wales School, this is **Mrs Catherine Jones**. In her absence, **Mrs Shelley Tokar and Mrs Catherine Baggott are the Deputy Designated Safeguarding Persons** (DDSP).

All children are visited by the School Nursing Team during their first years of schooling. Routine screening tests are provided during a pupil's school life. The current policy includes vision, hearing, growth assessment, flu vaccination and dental health.

The School Nurse can also be contacted at any time to discuss any medical issues you may be experiencing at home. For particular needs, the School Nurse can support with counselling or make a referral to external agencies. Please speak to your child's class teacher or School Office for further information. You may also wish to contact the School Nursing Team directly by phoning (01633) 431685.

If your child becomes ill or has an accident during the school day, appropriate first aid or other care will be administered and you will be notified as soon as is practical. It is our policy to contact a parent when a child receives a bump to the head. This may be via a written incident report, or a phone call home, if it is more serious.

Pupils with asthma have access to their inhalers at any time. Younger pupils give these to the class teacher, so that the medication can be put in a safe but accessible place. Older pupils may carry their inhalers with them if going on a trip or give them to the class teacher for security. They are accessible at all times within their classroom.

When a pupil is prescribed medicine that needs to be administered x4 daily, parents may bring medicine into school. This has to be given to the class teacher and a letter of consent completed. Non-prescribed medication e.g. Calpol should not be administered at school. For further guidance please see our Healthcare Policy.



Absence from School

If you know in advance that your child will be missing any part of a day's schooling; arriving late or leaving before the end of the school day, please let us know in advance—preferably by telephoning the school office (01600) 775070 and leaving a message or sending a note to the class teacher with your child as soon as possible.

If you cannot let us know in advance, please telephone the school on the **first day of absence** — do not wait until your child returns. If we have not received an explanation for non-attendance, parents/ carers will receive a phone call from the School Administrator on the first day of their child's absence to ask why your child is not in school.

Following sickness, we insist that there is a period of **48 hours after the last sickness** symptom before your child returns to school, to ensure infection control.

A child who is absent for unexplained reasons or who arrives late for school can be deemed to have 'unauthorised absence' and the register will be marked accordingly. Unauthorised absences appear on a written report which you will receive at the end of each academic year. Please remember any day of absence is a day of missed learning.

We are also obliged to notify the Educational Welfare Officer of any ongoing absence or lateness. The school meets every half term with the EWO to review pupils with attendance below 90% and the school and EWO will work in partnership with identified families to support daily and punctual attendance in school. Persistent lateness and continued absences or patterns of absence will result in a letter being sent home and a meeting with the Head teacher.

We discourage the taking of holidays during term time since this can be disruptive both to your child's education and to the class in general. A holiday request form must be completed and returned to school to notify of the reason for absence. This will not be authorised by the school..

https://www.osbastonciwschool.cymru/key_information/attendance/attendance.html

Green Zone	Attendance of 97% and above	Excellent attendance
Amber Zone	Attendance between 90% and 96.9%	Risk of underachievement
Red Zone	Attendance below 90%	Serious risk of underachievement

Relationships & Wellbeing

We expect high standards of discipline and behaviour at all times from all pupils at Osbaston Church in Wales School. If a child does not feel safe or secure in their environment, they will not be able to learn. We want all learners to attend school feeling happy and content. Whilst we acknowledge there will be times when pupils fall out with friendship groups or make an unwise decision with regards to regulating their behaviour and/or actions, we are here to support them in repairing the situation and moving forward together in a positive way.

Rules are kept to the minimum and are designed for safety and consideration of others. We prefer to promote the values, rights, standards and attitudes of the school community through example and discussion with our pupils, encouraging them to accept responsibility for their actions. Pupils are taught and learn about positive and healthy relationships. Kindness and consideration are part of our core value of respect. Restorative practices form part of managing positive relationships when a difficulty arises.

If your child does have difficulty in managing relationships we try to find the reason and take positive action, consulting with parents when necessary. Our core principle is 'connection before correction,' as we know a child needs to feel safe and unthreatened before they are able to regulate their emotions. We have trained staff members who are able to support learners in managing emotions and developing strategies to deal with challenging situations. It is particularly valuable for such a child to recognise that school and home are working together as joint partners in the development of self-discipline and supporting them to feel supported and looked after. For further guidance, please see our Relationships and Wellbeing Policies. The policies were produced and written in conjunction with pupils, staff, pupils, governors and parents.



Home and School Partnership

It is our fundamental belief that in order for every child at Osbaston Church in Wales School to achieve their full potential, the school and home need to work together as a partnership. Our Home/School Agreement is shared with parents at the start of their educational journey with us. This sets out expectations of the school, parents/carers in maintaining positive relationships at our school.

Close links between home and school are essential for establishing a good working relationship between parents/carers, pupils and teachers. We value your support at home and firmly encourage all families to read regularly with and to children, learn spellings and times tables and talk about the learning in school. We are a partnership that lasts for the seven years your child is with us at Osbaston. Evidence shows a positive home learning environment plays a crucial part in improving children's outcomes.

At the start of each year, the class teacher will meet with parents/ carers to discuss class routines and expectations. Termly overview documents provide detail about the content of learning in each curriculum area. Parent consultations will be held in the autumn and spring term. This provides an opportunity to formally discuss the progress of your child. You will also be invited to attend a 'Parent Share' afternoon during the autumn and spring term, where you are able to sit with your child and look at their books and learning environment. Educational afternoons/evenings will also be held to discuss particular aspects of the curriculum.

We are always very pleased to welcome parent/carer/wider family volunteers who can provide invaluable extra adult help. Even if you cannot come into the school regularly to help, you may be able to accompany the class on an out-of-school visit or event. To become a volunteer, you will need to complete a DBS check, undertake Monmouthshire County Council approved Group A Safeguarding training online and a further face to face session. You also need to provide two character references. Please speak to Mrs Kift in the School Office for further details.

Weekly e-newsletters will keep you abreast of school news. Important messages will also be shared through Schoop on-line information system and our school website. It is vital you subscribe to Schoop as this is our main communication channel. Daily events will be published through our Instagram account and we recommend you establish an Instagram account and subscribe when your child joins the school. In the Lower School, individual accounts through Seesaw (online learning platform) also provide you with photographs and videos of the day to day experiences of your child. All of these channels aim to keep you fully informed.

If you have any queries at all, you are welcome to come and see the Head teacher or members of staff at any time; we ask you make an appointment through the school office.

The school operates an open-door policy—please call in when the need arises. If a member of staff is available to talk to you there and then, they will do so. Teachers are usually available at the end of day, rather than the morning as this can interrupt the work of the class at the beginning of the school day. If the teacher is not available, or if time is short, please make an appointment at a mutually convenient date. Please do not wait if you have a concern, it is important to keep lines of communication open.

Additional Learning Needs

All pupils in the school are individuals, with individual needs. As far as practically possible, we do our very best to support every child's individual needs in order for them to fulfil their potential. This includes children with a particular talent or aptitude, as well as those with a barrier to learning, an additional learning need or a physical impairment. Parents are welcome to discuss the individual needs of their children at any time with the class teacher or Head teacher.

We are always careful to identify and meet such needs as early as possible. The school encourages early communication from parents of children with additional learning needs and maintains strong links with pre-school providers and the Early Years partners within the Local Authority. We will also establish school entry planning meetings to ensure the transition into Reception is as smooth as possible.

A small number of children **will** experience a difficulty or particular challenge in their learning journey. Such barriers to learning are usually overcome with positive encouragement, guidance and help at school and at home. However, if the difficulties prove more persistent, we may need to work together to discuss strategies to support your child or seek specialist guidance and support from external agencies. If required, we can request support from specialist advisers within the Local Authority. This is agreed in consultation with parents, the class teacher, and the school's Additional Learning Needs Co-ordinator, Mrs Baggott.

All staff contribute towards the preparation, implementation and on-going assessment of any educational interventions or programmes that are tailored to an individual's needs. At every step of the journey, maintaining a partnership and working together closely is imperative. Lines of communication are always kept open and decisions will be made in consultation with parents/carers.

Pupils with barriers to learning follow the Curriculum for Wales, with minor adaptations to the teaching style, content and delivery of learning, depending upon an individual level of need. For **nearly all** learners, they will be supported within the classroom through well planned differentiation of learning activities, or be able to access small group teaching in break out spaces. For a very few learners, they **may** access a higher level of adult support, through additional learning provision, due to their significant level of need which is different to all other pupils in the class..

Osbaston Church in Wales School is committed to inclusivity. There is a clear commitment to including all and promoting equality. Our single-storey buildings mean access to the school for the physically impaired is good.

For further details please visit our website:

https://www.osbastonciwschool.cymru/key_information/additional_learning_needs/additional_learning_needs.html

Our School Governor with responsibility for Additional Learning Needs is Mrs Natalie Rosser

Equality and Equity

At Osbaston Church in Wales School we do not discriminate against anyone, be they staff, pupils, parents or carers, on the grounds of age, sex, race, disability, religion, sexual orientation or any personal protected characteristics. We promote the principles of fairness, equity and justice for all through the education that we provide in our school.

We continually strive to remove any forms of indirect discrimination that may form a barrier to learning and challenge stereotyping and prejudice whenever it occurs. We celebrate the cultural diversity of Wales, the UK and the wider world and show respect for all. Our curriculum is rich in exploring the rights of members of our society including [United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child \(UNCRC\)](#) and the [United Nations Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities](#) (UNCRPD). We are committed to becoming an anti-racist organisation and learning experiences provide rich opportunities to explore diversity.

All recruitment, employment, promotion and training systems are fair to all and provide opportunities for everyone to achieve. This is in line with the 1976 Race Relations Act and covers both direct and indirect discrimination.

Charges and Remissions

The Education Reform Act 1988 requires that the school operates a specific policy about charges to parents/carers. In brief, your child has a right to free education during school hours and with some very specific exceptions, we will not make any charge for any activity that takes place during school hours. We do not normally charge for anything produced during craft or technology activities – unless your child intends to take it home and keep it. In activities such as cooking, the school may request a small voluntary contribution towards the cost of the ingredients.

In addition, some non-curriculum activities can only be organised on the understanding that parents are willing to make a voluntary contribution towards the cost. These include educational visits and residential trips. You will be informed well in advance about the proposed activity and the cost and payment plans can be set up using our online cashless system ParentPay. If sufficient support is not forthcoming, the activity may be cancelled.

No pupil will be discriminated against because their parents/carers have not contributed towards the cost of any voluntary activity. Where charges are made, you may qualify for exemption if the family is receiving Universal Credit. Single parents whose weekly net income falls below a prescribed limit **may** also be able to access hardship funds and a subsequent reduction in costs.

Any wilful breakage or damage to school equipment or premises will be charged to parents of the pupil(s) concerned.

The School Curriculum

The Curriculum for Wales prepares young people to thrive in a future where digital skills, adaptability, creativity and knowledge are crucial.

We want our children to enjoy learning and to develop skills, knowledge and emotional resilience. They should be confident, ethical individuals who play an active role in their community and society. We want our learners to develop positive attitudes to the work they do at school. We also recognise the importance of having a curriculum that takes into account the needs of children of different ages and abilities.

The teaching staff at our school strive to create authentic learning situations which are both motivating and interesting in themselves. We are conscious that the fundamental skills of reading, writing and mathematics and digital competence must also be directly taught, before being applied in meaningful contexts that make learning relevant to everyday life.

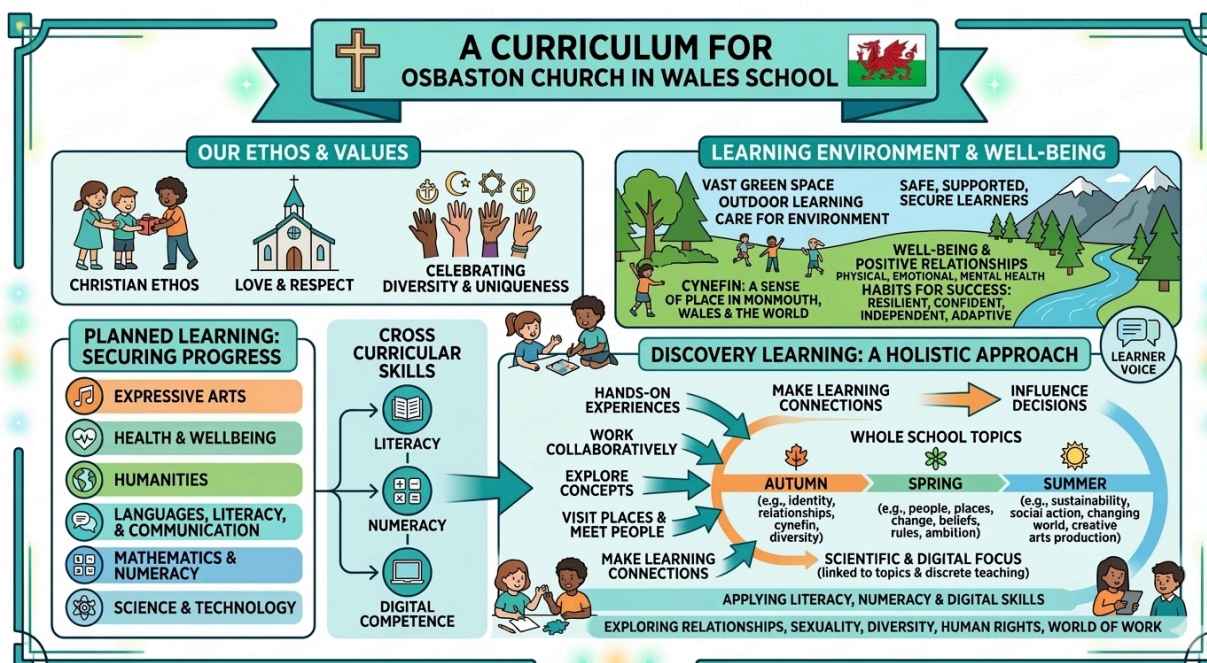
A mixture of class teaching, group, paired and individual learning experiences take place throughout each day. The wide range of abilities amongst learners demands that teaching methods must be varied, providing opportunities for the able child to progress at a rate suited to their capacity, whilst enabling individuals with additional learning needs to master their difficulties and so gain confidence. In the early years of school, experiential learning through play is paramount and small group teaching enables focused learning activities to be undertaken purposefully. The proportion of time given over to whole class teaching increases as the children move up through the school.

The purpose of our curriculum is to enable learners to develop as:

- **ambitious, capable learners, ready to learn throughout their lives**
- **enterprising, creative contributors, ready to play a full part in life and work**
- **ethical, informed citizens of Wales and the world**
- **healthy, confident individuals, ready to lead fulfilling lives as values members of society**

Our curriculum continues to evolve and it is bespoke to Osbaston Church in Wales School. We listen to our learners and make them a part of what and how they learn in school. There is flexibility in the way we approach the learning and we believe that learners and staff are most enthused about their teaching and learning when the curriculum is relevant and meets their interests and needs. Our learners have a range of needs and backgrounds and our curriculum enables us to identify the specific experiences, knowledge and skills needed to become lifelong learners.

The curriculum enables all learners to have a strong understanding of literacy, numeracy and digital skills which can be applied across the curriculum and into every day, real life contexts. As well as literacy, numeracy and digital skills, there are six areas of learning and experience. Everything your child learns will be connected to these areas.



In **Expressive Arts**, your child will explore art, dance, drama, film and digital media and music to develop their creative, artistic and performance skills.

Health and Well-being is about looking after their physical and mental health including emotional well-being. They'll learn about healthy eating and how to make good decisions, deal with influences and develop healthy relationships.

In **Humanities** pupils learn about the world, society and events in the past and present. They'll explore the challenges and opportunities that face us, and what ethical action we can take to safeguard the world and its people in the future. They will learn about religious as well as non-religious beliefs as philosophical convictions and discuss values and ethics, as well as sharing their own perspectives.

In **Languages, Literacy and Communication**, your child will learn about languages. They'll understand and use Welsh, English and other languages. In our school children will learn French, German and Spanish. They'll study and create literature, and communicate in spoken, written or visual ways. This could include poetry, drama and film.

In **Mathematics and Numeracy**, your child will develop their understanding of numbers and use symbols in maths. They'll explore shapes and measurement and learn about statistics and probability.

In **Science and Technology** your child will learn about biology, chemistry, physics, computer science and design and technology. They'll learn about design and engineering, living things, matter, forces and energy, and how computers work.

Languages, Literacy and Communication

Literacy is a fundamental skill in children's learning and the key to accessing all areas of the curriculum. Competency in literacy grows through an interaction between speaking, listening, reading and writing in all subjects.

Oracy

Children are encouraged to listen, discuss and share ideas and report their findings to a partner, group or to the class, wherever possible. Pupils are given frequent opportunities to talk about their experiences, interests and learning discoveries. Circle time, role play, drama, discussion and questioning offer a wealth of experiences for our pupils to develop their oral skills as well as more formal assignments such as prepared talks or performing in school productions.



Reading



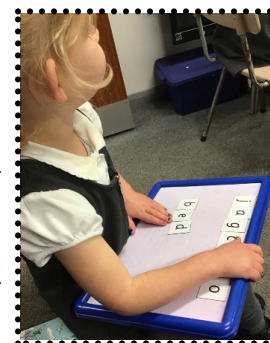
We aim to foster a love of books by providing a wide range of reading material and resources. Teachers and staff provide positive role models and promote a love of books. A variety of strategies, including synthetic phonics are used to teach reading. Individual progress and needs are closely monitored and every child in the schools reads with their teacher at least once every week. At the start of each day, there is a dedicated reading session for thirty minutes in ALL classes. **We expect all pupils to read at home regularly** with a parent/carer or family member. There are other opportunities for children to read together as part of a reading group or with a reading buddy.

A reading meeting for Reception parents is held during the autumn term to provide guidance and support for parents. Children are encouraged to read regularly at home and we ask parents to sign individual reading record books to support this partnership.

All children become a member of Monmouth Library upon entry to school and families will receive a form to complete which the school will take to the library in September. Every class visits the town library at least once per term and pupils are able to select and borrow books for enjoyment at home. Class libraries are accessible to pupils at all times and a breadth of reading material can be taken and enjoyed at home or during school.

Read, Write, Inc (RWI)

We use Read, Write, Inc. phonics programme across the Lower School, which is a lively and rigorous teaching of synthetic phonics to develop the children's basic skills in literacy. Children learn the 44 common sounds in the English language and how to sound-blend words for reading (decoding) at the same time as developing handwriting skills and spelling (encoding). Crucially, they read a wide range of traditional and contemporary storybooks and



non-fiction books with words they can decode, so they achieve success in reading. The more sounds they know the greater the range of texts they can read.

As children are taught to decode and encode, they are also taught to comprehend and to compose out loud. The quicker their encoding, the more they are able to write what they have composed out loud. As children have early success in reading, teachers can put all their energy into encouraging children to read widely and often that will propel their vocabulary growth.

Writing

We aim to provide a wide range of stimuli to promote different forms of writing and writing experiences. We want to develop confident, independent writers who are capable of showing creativity and the ability to convey meaning in structured sentences with accuracy and fluency.



Grammar and punctuation are taught so that children organise their writing clearly. They are encouraged to write in Standard English. A handwriting scheme is used throughout the school so that children progress to writing in a fluent joined style. A structured, developmental approach is used to teach spelling. Pupils are encouraged to rehearse spellings throughout the week through a variety of activities. 'Blue pen marking' provides pupils with the opportunity to correct spelling, grammar and punctuation errors in their writing after it has been marked by teachers.

Welsh

All pupils learn the language of our beautiful country. We aim to promote bilingualism in our school and incidental Welsh phrases are used by members of staff and pupils throughout the school day and form a seamless part of their daily spoken and aural language. From an early age children are exposed to the Welsh language and they use simple words and phrases as part of the classroom language and routines. Words, phrases and sentence patterns are taught throughout the school and many of our pupils leave Osbaston School with a high degree of competency. We foster a love of the language and celebrate the rich culture of and history of Wales.

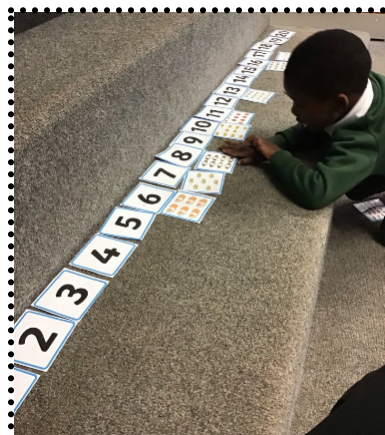


International Languages

Learners across the Upper School (Years 3-6) receive weekly international language lessons from our experienced PPA teacher. Pupils learn French, German and Spanish through exposure to songs, games, fun activities and interactive resources as they move through the four year groups, building upon their vocabulary and pronunciation. In the Lower School, learners are exposed to international languages through songs, rhymes and actions.

Mathematics and Numeracy

The Mathematics and Numeracy Area of Learning and Numeracy Framework provide the core of our mathematics at Osbaston. In their early years, pupils use concrete experiences to count and make sense of number. They count, group and sort objects, look for patterns and shapes. Learners acquire mental strategies to deal with numbers. As they progress through the school, children begin to use pictorial methods and written methods to record their work. These will be introduced in a hierarchical way they can understand, rather than accepted traditional methods that can sometimes cause confusion. Pupils will be introduced to a wider range of formal calculations and recording methods as they deal with larger numbers and more abstract concepts.



Our teaching has four key aims:

- to ensure that every child learns to enjoy mathematics and numeracy;
- to provide the child with appropriate skills and knowledge in number, shape, measure and data handling;
- to prepare the child with lifelong skills and help him/her to cope with the many mathematical problems that she or he is likely to encounter;
- to enable the child to see the importance of numeracy in the everyday world, particularly its role as a powerful means of communication.

To achieve these goals our maths and numeracy teaching encompasses number work, data handling, the study of shape and the use of various measures. Practical equipment is used where appropriate in order to achieve conceptual development and provide thorough understanding. We encourage learners to apply mathematical skills and understanding to the solving of problems in real life contexts and to develop their reasoning skills, considering whether an answer is plausible.

Science and Technology

The importance of science and technology in our modern world is huge. Developments in these fields have driven innovation and change in our society.

A rich and stimulating scientific and technological education helps children make sense of the world around them. Many opportunities are provided in our school for investigative learning through experimentation and problem solving. We aim to develop skills of observing, classifying, recording, making and testing hypotheses,



planning and developing experiments and ideas and drawing conclusions. In this way children develop their learning as well as their knowledge and understanding.

Science may be taught as a separate 'discrete' subject or through an aspect of a broad curriculum theme. The school grounds and local area are a valuable natural resource and are used extensively as part of pupils' learning. Through their active study and care for the natural world, learners are led to consider broader ethical issues. In becoming more aware of the wider world, learners understand the interdependency between flora and fauna and to develop their knowledge of the world around them.



We live in an increasingly technological age and believe that all learners should be actively involved in practical and problem-solving situations where they can use modern technology without fear. During the course of their primary curriculum they will learn to program or code a range of technology to achieve a desired outcome, exploring the steps needed to create algorithms, refining their work and developing increasing sophistication in their plans.

Learners develop the practical skills needed to help them in the area of design and make challenges to fulfil a brief. Children generate ideas through experience and using their imagination and they are provided with opportunities to experiment and apply their knowledge in practical situations. Children are made aware of the importance of the safe use of a wide variety of equipment, materials and tools and given opportunities to make items that they can evaluate and attempt to improve.



Humanities

Humanities provides a vehicle for learners to engage with the most important issues facing our world today; sustainability and social change. It helps develop the skills needed to undertake inquiry based learning, seeking answers to 'big questions' and to interpret and articulate the past and the present.



This Area of Learning encompasses geography, history, religion, values and ethics, business and social studies. As much as possible, common themes and concepts are linked in an interdisciplinary way.

We aim to promote learners' interest in the past and present and to explore the key issues and events in Wales, Britain and the wider world, as well as the lives of ordinary people. Through exploration, learners will be able to identify similarities and differences between the past and present including people's values, beliefs and attitudes.

Pupils learn about the world around them and gain an understanding of their own locality and elsewhere in Wales and the wider world. They begin to consider themselves as ethical, informed citizens and recognise their responsibility in the care of the Earth and its people. We are keen to develop the children's understanding of world issues including those affecting the environment and humanity.

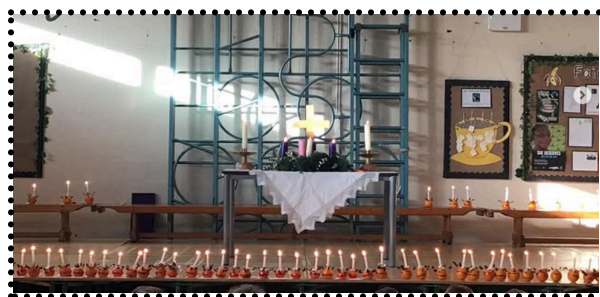
Interpretations of human rights, values, beliefs, religious and non-religious views are explored through enquiry, encouraging learners to respect and challenge worldviews.

As a Church in Wales Voluntary Controlled School, the moral and spiritual education of learners is valued equally alongside the pupils' academic, physical, mental and emotional health and well-being. We aim to help learners understand how religious beliefs and values affect the way people live and the importance of deciding for themselves. Stories and teachings from Christianity, as well as other world faiths are shared to help develop an understanding of their own and other cultures.



Collective Worship

The arrangements for collective worship are in accordance with the teaching of the Church in Wales, bearing in mind the age, aptitude and ability of the pupils. A broad approach is taken, in keeping with the inclusive character of the Anglican tradition. Our Church in Wales Clergy Team regularly leads Collective Worship, both at school and at St Mary's Church.



Parents have the legal right to withdraw their children from Collective Worship, but the School hopes that this right will be exercised only following careful discussion with the Head teacher. Religion, Values and Ethics follows the Monmouthshire Agreed Syllabus and is non-denominational, but takes account of the Church in Wales Foundation of our school.

Health and Well-being

Health and Well-being develops the knowledge, skills and understanding needed to navigate life's opportunities and challenges. Physical health and development, mental health and emotional and social well-being are fundamental components.

Pupils need to lead confident, healthy independent lives and to become ethically informed, active and responsible citizens. Pupils are encouraged to take



part in a wide range of activities and experiences across and beyond the curriculum, contributing fully to the life of the school and the local community. In doing this they learn to recognise their own worth, work well with others and become increasingly responsible for their own learning. They reflect on their experiences and understand how they are developing personally and socially, tackling many of the spiritual, moral, social and cultural issues that are part of growing up. They find out about their responsibilities, rights and duties as individuals and members of communities. They learn to understand and respect our common humanity, diversity and differences so that they can go on to form effective, fulfilling relationships that are an essential part of life and learning.

Physical Education helps build self-esteem and increase children's ability to cope with success and failure in competitive situations. PE activities foster commitment, integrity, enthusiasm, and a sense of fairness and concern for quality as well as success.

Every child in school experiences a full range of physical activities, through which they can come to a greater understanding of their bodies and the world around them. Swimming is an important aspect of PE, particularly with two major rivers running close to the school. Indoor swimming sessions are organised for Years 3,4,5&6 in each academic year at our local pool which is within walking distance of the school. Our Sports Day is one of the key events in the school calendar involving the children in a summer afternoon of competitive fun.

Expressive Arts

Expressive Arts encourages learners to develop their creative, artistic and performance skills through dance, drama, digital media, film and music. Learners are provided with opportunities such as visits and workshops which enable them to utilise the expertise of external practitioners and take part in a variety of experiences.

Practical learning activities enable pupils to develop and refine skills enabling personal expression and increased confidence. Creative arts are valued and promoted and provide learners with opportunities to connect socially and emotionally and develop self-esteem.



Upper School pupils can choose to learn a musical instrument (strings, brass, piano, woodwind, drums, ukulele, guitar, cello) or singing delivered through Gwent Music Support Service. Peripatetic staff deliver individual or small group tuition weekly. There is a charge for these lessons.

All classes participate in regular music sessions which enable learners to express ideas creatively and perform to others.

Outdoor Learning

Whenever possible we make use of our extensive school grounds to enhance learning experiences for our pupils. All staff have received training in outdoor learning, enabling pupils to undertake activities which promote collaboration, trust and self-esteem. Our forest shelter provides an all weather space for learners to access the physical landscape and connect with nature.



Relationships and Sexuality Education (RSE)

RSE at Osbaston Church in Wales School aims to teach learners about the ways in which society, culture, technology and biology influence and affect the ability to form and maintain positive, healthy relationships.

Healthy relationships are fundamental to our sense of belonging and can influence our physical, mental and emotional health. Through our inclusive age appropriate RSE curriculum learners we aim to develop values, skills and attitudes to enable learners to establish healthy, safe, respectful and fulfilling relationships throughout their lives.



There are three strands to our curriculum: Relationships and identify; Sexual health and well-being; Empowerment, safety and respect.

These will be delivered through cross curricular learning opportunities and well as in discrete lessons or as matters naturally arise within a class. Discussions will always be at an age appropriate level.

We enable our learners to make responsible and informed decisions as they grow from childhood through adolescence and into adulthood.

Assessment, Recording and Reporting

Assessment is an integral part of the teaching process, providing opportunities for reviewing progress, identifying next steps in development and recognising achievement. At the start of Reception, a school entry assessment is undertaken to identify children's knowledge, skills and experiences using a combination of observations, play and more formal tasks or discussion. This is used to identify the starting point of every individual learner and to ensure the curriculum is planned and tailored to meet the needs of every child.

Teachers and support staff will be assessing your child continuously as they undertake learning activities and experiences. Through discussion about their learning, marking books and observing outcomes, practitioners are making judgements which are responsive to the needs of the pupils. In addition to this daily practice, there will be many forms of assessment such as weekly spelling or tables tests, Read Write Inc half termly progress reviews.

We use annual Welsh Government tests to help monitor children's progress in reading and numeracy. The National Tests are taken across Years 2,3,4,5&6 and are adaptive tests which provide teachers with a picture of areas of development. In Year 4 we also monitor your child's achievement against tests of their potential. This helps us determine whether or not your child is reaching their 'full potential'.

Parents have access to all information about their child's progress upon request.

A formal written report of your child's progress and achievements and broader development and well-being will be shared with you in the summer term. You are asked to make a written comment about the report and will be given an opportunity to discuss the content if you so wish. We hold parent/teacher consultation meetings in the autumn and spring term, so that you can receive regular feedback about your child's progress. A third meeting is offered in the summer term following the report upon request. Two additional 'book share' open afternoons are held (one in autumn and summer term), enabling parents and carers to come into school and sit and share their child's books. This is a time for celebration of achievements.

Please remember we offer an 'open door' policy and you are welcome to come into school and discuss your child's progress at any time. You are always welcome to come in and see the teaching staff more informally at any time during the term, either to talk about progress or to view your child's work. We do ask parents to make an appointment for such visits, so that staff may put time aside to make your visit worthwhile at a mutually convenient time.

Security at the School

Within the limits of what is practically possible, the school provides a safe, secure environment for the children and staff, and balances this with the need to allow access to parents/ carers. This requires the cooperation and understanding of parents/carers, pupils and staff alike.

The school gates are locked at 9am and after this time all visitors, parents/carers and pupils **must** enter the school premises via the gates above the Upper School building, which is where the main Reception is located. School can only be accessed using the electronic buzzer system and the gate will be unlocked. Visitors must always report to the main office, where Mrs Kift, our School Administrator is based. Doors are closed after the start of the school day.

All visitors must 'sign-in' when on site and sign out as they leave and must wear a visitor lanyard. In order to protect all of our pupils, regular visitors and parent helpers **MUST** undertake a Disclosure and Barring Service check (DBS) for Monmouthshire and complete Group A Safeguarding training (online) and A+ Safeguarding training (face to face at school). You also need to provide two character references. We cannot allow visitors into school to work with our pupils without completion of these steps. If you need to complete a DBS check, or require details of Group A+ training dates, please see Mrs Kift and she will provide you with further details.

Parents of Reception pupils are able to accompany their children to the door of the school building during the first few weeks as they settle into their new routine. Children should then begin to take responsibility for themselves and walk into school with their peers, hanging up their own coats and bags. We encourage parents to say goodbye at the gate to the Reception entrance as soon as possible.

Towards the end of the school day, the Lower School gate will be unlocked, allowing parents/ carers onto the site to collect children. We kindly ask all families to vacate the site by 3.40pm as gates are closed. This ensures pupils that are undertaking after school activities are safe within the school site.

Pupils are **not** permitted to bring mobile phones to school.

Teaching staff are very busy in the mornings preparing for the day ahead. Please take this into consideration and relay messages via your children or Mrs Kift/Mrs Jones. We request that parents **always** report to Reception in the Upper School building and deliver messages to a member of staff.

Complaints

As a school we seek to maintain a very close working partnership with families and acknowledge their support to our children and staff. We want learners to feel safe, happy and supported. However, there may be some occasions when concerns are raised and situations require answers or investigation. We are confident that we can resolve such concerns at school level. To that effect, the following procedures have been agreed between the school and the Local Authority. If you have any concerns about your child's education or welfare at school please follow the set procedure:

1. In the first instance, consult the **class teacher**. Usually they are able to give an explanation, investigate matters or offer guidance.
2. If you are not satisfied, please speak to the **Head teacher**. Your concerns will always be followed through.
3. If you still feel the matter is not resolved, please speak to a member of the Governing Body or to the **Chair of Governors** (Mr Ryan Regan). They will meet with the Head teacher or may consult the whole Governing Body; either way they should formally report back to you.

Please remember that we offer an 'open door' policy at Osbaston Church in Wales School. Staff are always happy to discuss matters with parents and often at short notice. If you think more time is required or if the moment is not right for both parties, please make an appointment to meet the appropriate member of staff. This can be arranged via the school office or talking directly with the member of staff.

We hope you have found this information useful. Please contact the school at any time if you have any further questions.

OSBASTON

Church in Wales School



Inspiring • Discovering • Believing

