



Shankhill C of E Primary School

*Our vision: Creative learning, personal achievement and happiness.
Enabling everyone to flourish and 'to live life in all its fullness'. (John 10:10)*



Information about our School

Shankhill Church of England Primary School is an exemplary small rural primary and nursery school with an excellent reputation both locally and nationally for excellence in teaching, learning and curriculum provision as recognised recently by Ofsted, SIAMs and as a CUSP Lead School. More importantly, Shankhill has a reputation for being a happy and successful learning place, where enjoyment and rich learning experiences are of equal importance so run hand in hand with high quality learning and provision.

Shankhill CofE Primary School provides education for pupils aged 3-11 years. Having celebrated our 150th anniversary with a huge party attended by at least 300 people, Shankhill is at the heart of its community. Originally built in 1874 as a small schoolroom, we continue to serve the surrounding Cumbrian rural communities of Solport, Stapleton and Easton, as well as eastwards to the Scottish Border of Penton, and the surrounding areas of Hethersgill and Longtown. The nearest village is Hethersgill, just north of Brampton. There are currently 45 pupils on roll, 36 of whom are full-time.

Shankhill CofE School is set amongst the rolling hills of North Cumbria, near to the Lake District, South West Scotland and Hadrian's Wall. Carlisle, the Borders and the North East are all within easy driving distance, with the M6, M74 and A69 giving access to all that the area has to offer. The Carlisle Western By-pass also enables a direct route to the West of the County. **Shankhill is only 15 minutes from Carlisle, Brampton and less than 10 minutes from Longtown. We are closer than you might think!**

As a Church of England School we have very strong links with our local Church and our Rector regularly comes into School to talk with the children and deliver Collective Worship, and we also have support from NISCU. We have effective links with other local church schools and work collectively on projects such as our annual RE week. As a School we have worked very hard to make effective links throughout the local area, including regular community lunches and events like our pupils leading Collective Worship during our community Lent Lunches. In our most recent SIAMs inspection we were praised for our excellence in many areas and were awarded a very competent good grade.

Our most recent Ofsted Inspection took place in March 2024 where the School's overall effectiveness was reported to continue to be 'Good' and as HMI found outstanding practice and outcomes across all areas of school, we achieved OUTCOME 2 meaning we are currently waiting for a second inspection to confirm our OUTSTANDING position. Our most recent SIAMs Church School's Inspection took place in December 2021 where we were again praised for the excellence within our good school.

Parents' comment that: "teachers care and go out of their way to support children and their families".

Pupils' comment that: "This is a special place because everyone is really good friends" and "We are one big family in School."

These comments typify the happy, safe atmosphere that pervades our School.

*"A good school...the evidence gathered suggests that the inspection grade might be **outstanding** if a graded inspection were carried out now...Pupils flourish at this welcoming and ambitious school...pupils are particularly impressive, knowledgeable... Pupils follow a very well thought-out curriculum which helps them to achieve highly...behaviour is exemplary... Pupils' enjoyment of learning is a key factor in their high attendance at school...The school's ambition for all pupils to thrive helps pupils to achieve exceptionally well... a highly effective curriculum. The school is meticulous in its approach to meet the needs of pupils in its mixed-age classes...Staff are experts...This helps pupils to master knowledge and skills which they seamlessly apply." Ofsted 2024*

Christian values ensure positive relationships across the wider community and effective collaborative partnerships are built on mutual trust. SIAMs Dec 2022

Staff "strive to ensure that pupils are happy, while making education fun and enjoyable." Parent View

"I love coming to school with my friends and enjoy learning and the experiences we have." Pupil View



Eco Schools



March 2024 www.shankhill.cumbria.sch.uk

Over the years, the School building has been significantly extended internally with a large and an impressive school hall complete with stage and gymnastics equipment. There is also extensive outdoor space with an adventure playground, large playing field, school garden, hard surfaced area, 'mile track' and cycle sheds. In addition there is an outdoor classroom and a canopy allowing covered space for younger children to use a walled outdoor play area. Our School also boasts its own independent kitchen with an experienced cook, who produces delicious, hot and nutritious school lunches on site following personalised menus for each child, sometimes using produce that we have grown. Recently, we have created a music room in our annex where our peripatetic music lessons from children as young as Reception take place weekly.

A wide variety of after school extra-curricular activities are also currently provided with a high uptake, including arts and crafts, gardening, sports, music, free-play and a film club, amongst others.

Pupils are taught in three spacious classrooms, staffed by teachers, and our two Senior Teaching Assistants. In addition there is our expansive hall, a Head Teacher's Office, School Office and Staffroom.

The School is organised flexibly into 3 main classes every morning: Class 1 is Early Years (Nursery and Reception) and Year 1; Class 2 is Year 2 and Year 3; and Class 3 is Year 4, Year 5 and Year 6. During the afternoon, Year 2 joins Class 1 and most Nursery leave at 1pm. Year 3 join Class 3 for Key Stage 2 learning. Class 1 includes nursery aged children (3+) who attend school under the Extended Schools remit (15 hour morning sessions or up to 30 hours). The outdoor classroom and overhead canopy space are easily accessible from Classroom 1, ensuring that all children can regularly utilise the outside areas. All children at Shankhill C of E School are taught to their abilities, taking into account their age and maturity. Our weekly school-led baby and toddlers sessions are very popular within the area to provide contact and support for our families.

Our school vision, values and virtues are paramount to ensuring that every child in our care experiences the best education they can to be the best they can be. As such, we have developed our virtues to guide personal development, metacognition and flourishing. To support teaching and learning to be the best it can be, we utilise evidence-led practice to provide a curriculum that is coherent, connected and cumulative; it is rich in vocabulary as well as substantive and disciplinary knowledge; and most importantly it is fun to experience. We are currently working directly with Alex Bedford and Lauren Meadows on CUSP Curriculum in small school developments. We are proud to be one of the first schools selected nationally to be a CUSP LEAD SCHOOL, and remain one of only 11 ambassadors working nationally and internationally.

As a School we are committed to ensuring our pupils have an understanding of the world around them, learning from other cultures, traditions and environments. We have strong sustained links with schools in our locality, especially our Church of England schools; we work collaboratively to successfully organise learning and celebration events, such as RE Week, shared staff training (Shankhill recently setting up a new PTI Hub for Brampton and Carlisle to lead professional development in our area) and sporting events each year. These experiences have inspired our curriculum, our pupils and our staff team to know more about the area in which they live and work, to create friendships and support development and transition to secondary school. We have close and effective working relationships with William Howard Secondary School, who feed back to us that Shankhill pupils continue to flourish and achieve great success as they continue their learning journey after leaving Shankhill.

Pupils regularly visit museums, art galleries, outdoor activity centres and historic buildings as part of their rich experiential learning. We currently hold the Gold Games Award. Our School also achieved the award of the Arts Council England's Artsmark and the Bronze Music Quality Mark, demonstrating a nationally recognised commitment to quality arts provision. In addition to this we are very proud of our Silver RE Quality mark and our Eco-Schools Silver Award for work outdoors.

Staff and Governors are supported by Carlisle Diocese Board of Education and have universal support from Cumberland LA Learning Improvement Services. Staff regularly take up Professional Development opportunities tailored to their individual needs and School priorities. Our School has strong links with other primary and secondary schools in the area, with regular meetings attended to share pedagogy, experience and to support each other. We also work closely with other local schools to deliver relevant joint curriculum

projects, school trips and other events. In addition to this, our links with William Howard Secondary School in Brampton are strong and throughout the school year we are fully involved in a wide range of joint activities and events, ensuring a smooth transition from primary to secondary education for our pupils.

We believe that the current standing and achievements of our School will provide the successful applicant with an excellent platform from which to continue to inspire, motivate and further develop in a very well-qualified and established team of staff, to maximise the potential of all pupils and to maintain excellent links with other schools, the Church and the wider community.
