

# Berkley Church of England First School Profile

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## Berkley Church of England First School

Berkley, Berkley Road  
Frome, Somerset, BA11 5JH  
Telephone: 01373 830455  
<http://www.berkley.ik.org>

Children's Service Authority:	Somerset LA
Age range:	5-9
Number of pupils:	91
Head teacher:	Mrs Carole Brautigam
Chair of governors:	Mr Leslie Stather

## What have been our successes this year?

We have achieved Dyslexia Friendly Status and this means that teachers are using a broader range of teaching strategies which is improving learning for all learners.

There has been significant improvements in the school buildings with a thorough redecoration programme.

The implementation of a new playground initiative has meant a wider range of playground equipment is being used and children are working on targets to improve their skills. Year 4's planned and led a range of lunchtime clubs for the squirrels class which were very successful.

An eco school initiative was launched and the children have achieved Bronze level and are now working towards the Silver Level.

Inter school P.E. festivals for year 3 and 4's took place between local schools and were very successful and will be continuing this year with additional festivals for year's 1 and 2. We won the tri-football competition between Christchurch, Hayesdown and ourselves. Due to its success it will now become an annual event.

All classes took part in a cross curriculum topic called GIANTS which was a real success. Staff are now going to be incorporating these every term into their planning.

Standards continue to be good.

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## What are we trying to improve?

-The further development of children's social skills during playtimes with new playground games and clubs being run by Year 4 children. In class focus on social skills, talking partners, peer collaboration, opportunities to work in different groupings.

-The continual development of a PSHE and citizenship scheme of work for both KS1 and KS2 - this is building on work that has been established in Circle Time.

-Staff are very committed to continuing work on Emotional Intelligence sessions with lunchtime supervisors. Positive impact on children behaviour. Children have been developing their own problem solving strategies for tackling behaviour management.

-Continuing to build on good assessment work. Children evaluating their own work. Staff are using "I can statements" and developing them further into graduated success ladders so that children are more aware of what they are learning and how well they are doing.

- Improving the premises with a thorough redecoration programme and the repairing and painting of the perimeter fencing. Establishment of a new quiet area on the school field with paving, seating and plants.

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## How have our results changed over time?

The school has a consistent approach to the achievement of high standards throughout all year groups. We provide children with a safe and nurturing environment. Good relationships between staff and children are a key to our continued success.

Year 4 progress was very good in numeracy and literacy. Their results in reading were excellent with 12 out of the cohort of 16 achieving 3A+ which is well above the national average.

Year 3 progress was good and they are on line to meet their challenging targets in Year 4.

Year 2 results were again very good this year. There was slight rise in the number of children achieving level 3 for reading. Two thirds of the cohort were 2A+ for writing which is well above the national average and results have risen in numeracy with more children achieving level 3 this year.

Children achieve well in the foundation stage although this was a very small cohort this year. They are strong in the creative area of their curriculum

## **How are we making sure that every child gets teaching to meet their individual needs?**

The well planned curriculum enables all pupils, including those with S.E.N and those who are noted as being gifted and talented to achieve very well in the key areas. Early identification of need enables us to target groups and support the learning potential of children. We employ an additional staff member, when appropriate, to work with children who have learning difficulties, on a 1 to 1 basis in order to build up their self esteem and aid their progress. Each subject leader leads a staff development meeting where work is scrutinised, planning and lesson observations form part of this. Teachers planning is of a high quality and is well differentiated to meet the needs of all learners in mixed age classes. Schemes of work are developed in all of the foundation subjects and regularly revised and updated. Subject leaders have developed good subject knowledge which is cascaded to other teachers and members of staff. Staff are keen to develop professionally and regularly attend courses to keep abreast of new initiatives. We have regular curriculum enrichment weeks to suit the needs of all learners and are expanding these all the time.

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## **What have pupils told us about the school, and what have we done as a result?**

Children are proud of their achievements which are shared with the whole school on a Friday Morning at Good Work Assembly and through newsletters and the website. The children are keen to work hard and behave well in order to receive stickers. The children talked to one of our Governors about the car parking issue and since then the Governing Body have tried to secure more land and this is still ongoing. KS2 girls wanted to have the basketball at lunchtimes whilst the boys played football and this is now implemented although there is lot of mixed football and basketball sessions. The children have had a voice in what playground equipment has been ordered. They also like to choose what charities we donate money to. They have designed new markings for the playground and this work has been carried out. They wanted nicer bins for their rubbish and we have two friendly hippo bins now. We have listened to their suggestions for becoming more eco-friendly and have shared ideas in eco-focused assemblies. Children share their positive behaviour management strategies with their class through Emotional Intelligence sessions with class teachers and lunchtime supervisors.

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## **How do we make sure our pupils are healthy, safe and well-supported?**

-Circle time and acts of collective worship provide a good vehicle for discussing our anti-bullying policy and any related issues.

-Extra curricular opportunities such as tag rugby, cricket and football help the children to keep fit and healthy

-The school fosters good links with local clubs and groups e.g. Frome Collegians, swimming clubs, gymnastic and trampolining clubs

-We have a healthy eating policy

-Science topics, P.E. Design Technology and PSHCE provide ongoing opportunities for promoting a healthy lifestyle

- We have a planned Healthy Week focus every year
- Each class participates in brain gym activities and enjoys them
- At lunchtimes children are encouraged to socialise over a mealtime and reinforce the routine of eating at a table and promoting good manners
- We have resourced toys and games provision for playtimes. Yr 4 children to run games clubs at lunchtimes
- Children have reflection time and prayers to think about the moral health of our children and families
- Through PSHE and Citizenship and day to day living children are encouraged to think about others both within the school community and in the wider world
- We are currently working towards achieving Healthy School Status

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## **What activities and options are available to pupils?**

Beyond the statutory entitlement for children we offer a range of after school clubs which include gardening, maths, football, tag rugby, animation, country dancing, multi-skills and problem solving. During school hours and lunchtimes we offer choir at both Key Stages. All children have the chance to play recorders in Year 3 and 4. We also provide cricket coaching from a Somerset cricket coach. All year 3 and 4 take part in a Music wider opportunity project and are learning to play the violin. We also provide Enrichment weeks such as Multicultural week and Literacy/Book week. We take part in the Jackdaws music festival where our KS2 choir sing and our recorder players perform. In Reception we offer forest school activities as an extra entitlement to their curriculum with all children taking part.

We took part with 4 other schools in an Arts and Kids project which involved a theatre trip, working with a real artist and then having the children's work displayed in an art gallery locally. All children took part and enjoyed themselves as well as developing new skills.

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## How are we working with parents and the community?

As a whole school staff we actively seek to build up good relationships with our parents and we have an open door policy so that parents feel they can approach us at any time. We encourage parents to come in and help in school. Parents views are sought via questionnaires, through discussions and parents evenings. Our children design a Christmas card each year for our local MP. They regularly participate in competitions and events - singing in the local community. They are enthusiastically involved in charity events such as raising money for our local church, Oxfam and Christmas Child Operation through the gift boxes. . We work with other schools through our Gifted and Talented agenda. We take part in a wide range of projects through the Frome Community Learning partnership (FCLP) which include raising achievement projects, media and sports. We send out fortnightly newsletter in order to keep parents informed and we also have a very active website. We have recently started a singing to the wider community project which was well received last Christmas and we are currently planning this year's event.

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## What do our pupils do after leaving this school?

Our children move onto the middle schools in Frome, primarily Selwood because of our catchment area. We have strong links with both our middle schools. Year 4/5 teachers have a strong liaison group which meet regularly throughout the year to discuss and improve arrangements. There are also a range of liaison projects run by the teachers. Initially our children meet with a liaison teacher from Selwood who explains routines and answers questions. They have an informal sharing evening with their parents at Selwood and an opportunity to look around the school. There are opportunities for them to attend after school sporting events. The children have a day visit where they meet their new class teacher and work with them. Children write back to us in their first term at the middle school. Some of our older pupils rreturn to us on work experience. Parents and pupils still come to our fund raising events and support the village fete.

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## Ofsted's view of our school

This is a good school which gives good value for money. High quality teaching is a significant aid to pupils' very good achievement.

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Date of last inspection: 28-Feb-2005

Ofsted graded our school as good

Inspectors made judgements on a scale: excellent (grade 1); very good (2); good (3); satisfactory (4); unsatisfactory (5); poor (6); very poor (7).



[View the Ofsted page for Berkley Church of England First School](#)

## **What have we done in response to Ofsted?**

We have written a scheme of work for PSHCE for both Key stages and this is now timetabled into a weekly slot which complements our emotional intelligence work and circle times. We have replaced a classroom with a new Elliot and have moved the children down onto the main site in order to address health and safety issues. We have continued to build on our very good assessment practice by including the children into the process. They are now developing even better self-assessment skills through using "I can statements" in a success ladder. We planned and implemented "A Multi-cultural Week" in order to raise children's awareness of other countries and their practices. This was thoroughly enjoyed by all the children and the teachers moved around the classrooms so that the children had a flavour of three different countries.

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### **More Information**

If you would like more information about school policies, including our policies on special educational needs and disability, admissions, finance, school food and our complaints procedure, please contact us:

By telephone 01373 830455

Our website <http://www.berkley.ik.org>

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