



Ormskirk Church of England Primary and Nursery School

Inspire, Aim High, Achieve and Shine

Headteacher: Mr G. Storch, BEd (Hons), PGDip Psych, NPQH

Deputy Headteacher: Mr S. Boyd, BA (Hons), PGCE, MA, NPQH

05/01/2026

Dear Parents,

Happy New Year and I hope you that you have had a good Christmas break. As Mr Storch outlined in his letter prior to the end of the previous term, for the spring term, he is working for the local authority as the headteacher of Little Digmoor Primary School in Skelmersdale. For this period, I am the Acting Headteacher, and governors have appointed Mrs Harrison as Acting Deputy Headteacher. Mrs Harrison is an experienced teacher with a particular interest in Early Years. Mrs Harrison and I will be in The Hub on Tuesday morning and on the gate by the pupil office in the afternoon, so do pop by and say hello.

Communication

I will continue to be visible around school at The Hub each morning and on the gate at the end of the day, so do speak to me if you need anything and I will do my best to help. However, most concerns are best addressed by your child's class teacher as they are closest to where your child is learning. As communicated earlier this academic year, we also have a phase leadership structure overseeing year group rates of progress, parity and implementation of support plans for each phase. Below is a reminder of the member of staff responsible for each phase.

Phase Leaders				
Mrs R McBride Nursery	Miss S Cocks Reception	Mrs R Wadsworth Yr 1/2	Mrs H Sheppey Yr 3/4	Mrs J Hardman Yr 5/6

SENDCo
Mrs H Sheppey

In terms of communication, for urgent matters please telephone school, semi-urgent matters use gateway and if it is a non-urgent query send an email. Please put OCE in the subject heading as these are filtered out first and are responded to more promptly.

 Greetby Hill, Ormskirk, L39 2DP

 01695 574027

 www.ormskirk-ce.lancs.sch.uk

 office@ormskirk-ce.lancs.sch.uk



Ormskirk Church of England Primary and Nursery School

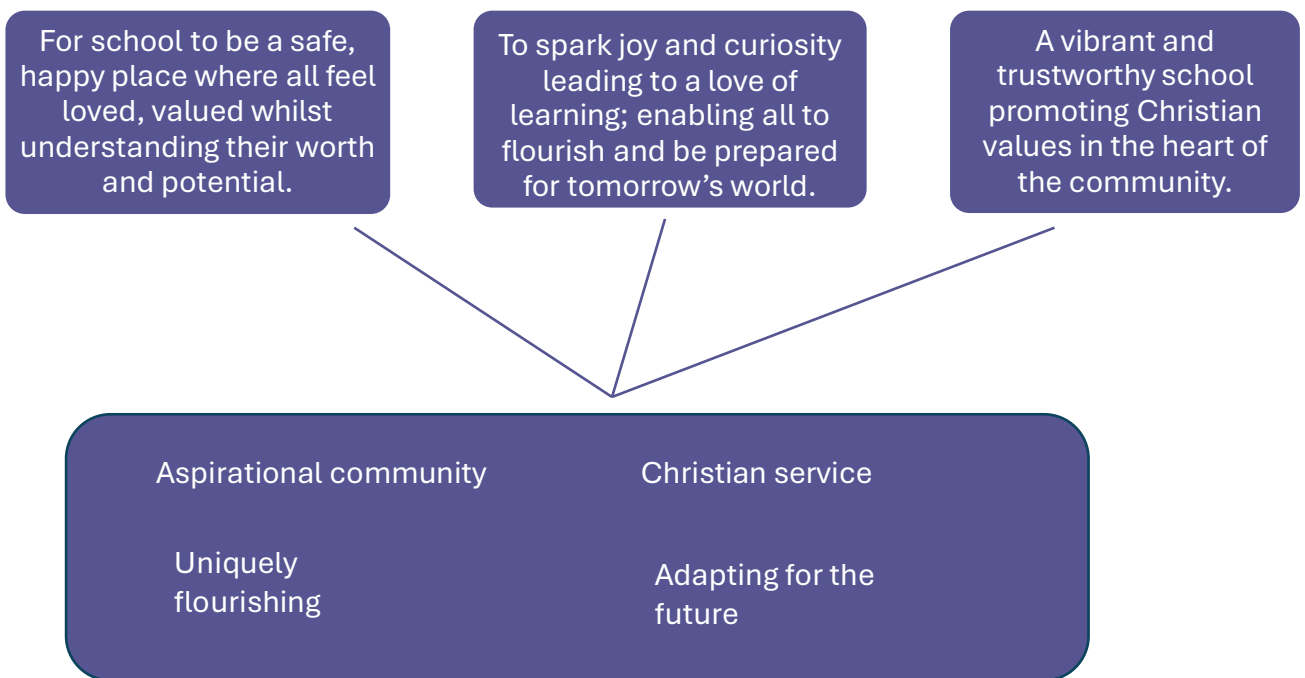
Inspire, Aim High, Achieve and Shine

Headteacher: Mr G. Storch, BEd (Hons), PGDip Psych, NPQH

Deputy Headteacher: Mr S. Boyd, BA (Hons), PGCE, MA, NPQH

Ormskirk CE 'Bigger Picture'

Early in the Autumn term, governors worked with an external professional from the Liverpool Diocese to consider the strategic direction of school over the next three years. As part of this process, governors were asked to consider the following question '**What do we want our school to be known for in the next three years?**' As a result of this process, governors have identified the following three aims to work towards achieving over this time. These aims are for the whole school community including parents, children, staff and governors. From the three aims, governors have identified three overarching themes that school will make school development decisions based on over the next three years and that governors will use to monitor the impact of school's work. Below is a diagram that outlines the three aims and the overarching themes school will use to make school development decisions.



For the spring term, and into the summer term, we have decided to focus on school development priorities that focus on the themes of uniquely flourishing and adapting for the future.

 Greetby Hill, Ormskirk, L39 2DP

 01695 574027

 www.ormskirk-ce.lancs.sch.uk

 office@ormskirk-ce.lancs.sch.uk



Ormskirk Church of England Primary and Nursery School

Inspire, Aim High, Achieve and Shine

Headteacher: Mr G. Storch, BEd (Hons), PGDip Psych, NPQH

Deputy Headteacher: Mr S. Boyd, BA (Hons), PGCE, MA, NPQH

Uniquely Flourishing – Attainment and Attendance

As Mr Storch alluded to in his previous communication, we have increasingly strong academic results compared to national average and the next few academic years are on track for an even higher percentage of children achieving the expected standard and higher standard in English and Mathematics. Nationally published results include children who join our school from other schools in the juniors. Children who start with us in reception consistently achieve not just good, but outstanding results. This is something that we are proud of as a school, alongside the trips and experiences that we provide each year group each term. Teachers are in the process of arranging trips for the spring term and we will be able to communicate dates of these trips to parents soon.

As I have mentioned in a previous letter, the Department for Education, the government and Ofsted all have heightened focus on school attendance and whilst for many years school attendance has been close to or in-line with national average, this has started to slip below over the past couple of academic years. Therefore, I would greatly appreciate it if we could work together to make sure that school's attendance is as close to 96% as possible. This includes (where possible) booking medical appointments after the school day. This will ensure that school can help support your children to uniquely flourish by continuing to improve learning outcomes and ensure a sense of belonging as part of an aspirational community. Remember that at the beginning of the school year attendance percentages may appear worse as there are less sessions than in the whole school year. For example, a school year is made up of 380 sessions (2 sessions per day morning and afternoon). In the autumn term, there were 146 sessions, so if a child missed 2.5 days (5 sessions) their percentage attendance is 96.6%. However, if they only missed 2.5 days the whole year (5 sessions) their attendance would be 98.7% for the academic year.

As part of her role as pastoral teacher, Mrs Bull will be supporting families to remove barriers to good attendance, and as a result her role will be largely non-classed based with the odd ad hoc teaching commitment. Her teaching commitment in 1RB will be fulfilled by Mrs Harrison. Mrs Bull has arranged for Helen Watson (Community Senior Family Support Worker for Lancashire County Council) to host an attendance drop-in session at school on Wednesday 7th January 2026 at 2:30pm. This session is for parents who would like support with promoting the good attendance of your child. If you wish to avail of this, please drop in to the main entrance from 2:30pm on Wednesday.

 Greetby Hill, Ormskirk, L39 2DP

 01695 574027

 www.ormskirk-ce.lancs.sch.uk

 office@ormskirk-ce.lancs.sch.uk



Ormskirk Church of England Primary and Nursery School

Inspire, Aim High, Achieve and Shine

Headteacher: Mr G. Storch, BEd (Hons), PGDip Psych, NPQH

Deputy Headteacher: Mr S. Boyd, BA (Hons), PGCE, MA, NPQH

Adapting for the future – Medical Tracker and Digital Technology

This academic year, we have been trying to seek opportunities in which we can use digital technology to improve productivity and systems in school to ensure that we can undertake our work in the most expedient way. At the end of last term, we purchased a piece of software called [Medical Tracker](#). Essentially, Medical Tracker is a digital accident book that school can use to record first aid, accidents, medication usage and expiration, medical care plans for both children and staff and integrated parental communication.

Over the next week or two, we will be sending out data collection sheets that show the information we currently hold regarding your child: name, addresses, contact details and medical conditions. We ask that you return these promptly (only if there are changes) to the Pupil Office, so we can update our records to ensure they are up to date. Going forward, if handing medicine into school, we ask that you visit either office and hand the medicine to a member of staff. There will be copies of an updated medical form in the offices which must be completed. Alternatively, you can wait and speak to a member of staff who will complete the form online with you. In addition to this, increasingly you will receive email first aid notifications via Medical Tracker rather than gateway. These will be from noreply@medicaltracker.co.uk.

During this term, we will be preparing for a significant update of our school internet and significant investment in digital technology in classrooms. This investment is to ensure that teaching and learning is as productive as possible and that we can have the greatest impact in securing pupil progress. There is some more work to do to prepare for this, so further details will be communicated to you nearer the time, but as a school we are really excited to undertake this work and are confident about the impact that it will have.

Final Messages

We have an Open Day for prospective Reception parents in September 2026 on Wednesday 7th January 2026. Tours are at 9:30am and 1:15pm. Closing date for application is Thursday 15th January 2026. Please share this with anyone you know considering a school for their child in September 2026. Current Nursery parents need to apply. Finally, make sure that you book school dinners in advance and toast for this term. They are available for you to book on the gateway app.

I look forward to working with you this term and look forward to seeing you tomorrow morning for the start of a productive term.

Yours sincerely,

Mr Boyd

 Greetby Hill, Ormskirk, L39 2DP

 01695 574027

 www.ormskirk-ce.lancs.sch.uk

 office@ormskirk-ce.lancs.sch.uk