



**Shocklach Oviatt**  
C.E. Primary School

*We aim high in our hearts and minds as we blossom in God's garden.  
"For nothing is impossible with God" (Luke 1:37)*

# School Prospectus 2020-2021



**Executive Head Teacher:** Mrs Kathleen Shephard  
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## Welcome and Introduction

Welcome to Shocklach Oviatt C.E. Primary School. This prospectus is designed to give you an insight into our school family, our values, our aims and our achievements. It will help you to make one of the most important decisions you will ever have to make. I hope it will help you to decide that Shocklach is the best school for your child. I hope that the information contained within these pages is useful, but it is no replacement for first hand experience. Therefore, you are warmly encouraged to visit our school and see us in action.

Shocklach Oviatt CE Primary School is a Voluntary Controlled School and we have very good links with St Edith's Church and the local community. It is a privilege to see our children grow and mature during their time with us.

Our school life is based on Christian Values. We recognise and respond to the needs of each child. We respond to their academic needs and also the development of the whole child as an individual. We develop happy, fulfilled, well-educated and confident children in a caring, disciplined environment with our faith as the focus of our actions. We expect, and encourage excellence in the range of activities the school undertakes.

Education is a partnership between the home and school in which we seek and encourage the participation of parents in the learning process and in the life of our school. Parents are welcome partners in the education of their child and in the development of our school family.

We are happy to provide an opportunity for new children to visit the school before joining our community. We look forward to welcoming you and your child into our school family.



Mrs K L Shephard  
Headteacher

## Mission Statement

**“We aim high in our hearts and minds as we blossom in God’s garden.”**

**“At Shocklach we create a stimulating and caring environment, grounded in Christian belief and practice, so that all members of our school community feel happy, secure and valued. Children and staff are encouraged to aim high and believe in themselves in order to achieve their full potential.”**

### **The School Aims**

We commend the following statements with the aim that they will be shared by everyone at Shocklach.

Education should encourage people to have high expectations of themselves and others. Achievements of all kinds should be fully recognised to ensure all members of the school community have confidence in their individual abilities.

We aim to provide excellent quality teaching in all areas of the curriculum, enabling children to become confident and independent learners, producing work of the highest standard.

We aim to build a sense of community where everyone feels valued and safe in and out of school.

We aim to nurture the spiritual and moral development of all members of our school community in the belief that everyone should, through education, be better able to contribute to the common good.

We aim to positively promote the belief that all individuals are of equal worth whatever age, ability, gender, race.

We aim to involve those with parental responsibility in the education of their children.

We aim to create a safe, welcoming, inclusive, positive and stimulating environment for children, visitors and our whole school community.

We aim to develop a healthy lifestyle.

We aim to ensure that children and staff are motivated and fulfilled, so that they enjoy school life.

We aim to endeavour to promote learning which has breadth and, through a curriculum that is stimulating to the whole school community, will fully encompass the requirements of the National Curriculum.

## Admission

All Reception aged children are admitted to school in the September of the academic year in which they are five. Applications for places in Reception are made by completing an on line application form available on the Cheshire West and Chester website – this has to be done by submitting an application by January of the year your child is due to start school. Admissions for reception are arranged through the Local Authority and preference forms will be sent directly to all parents. All applications for places in other year groups are made directly to the Headteacher at the school and then via application form via the Cheshire West and Chester website.

<https://www.cheshirewestandchester.gov.uk/residents/education-and-learning/school-admissions/school-admissions.aspx>

Parents are invited to make a preliminary visit to the school and this can be arranged by contacting the Headteacher.



In the September following their 11<sup>th</sup> birthday the children generally transfer to Bishop Heber High School in Malpas. Applications to high school are dealt with by the Local Authority. We work closely with Bishop Heber School to ensure a smooth transition to secondary education.

In November 2019 an Ofsted Inspection Team visited our school and confirmed that Shocklach continues to be a 'Good School.'

The report, which is available on the school website, includes the following:

*Shocklach Oviatt is a friendly and inclusive school. Staff have high expectations of pupils and constantly encourage them to live the school's Christian values in their words and actions.*

*Pupils particularly enjoy the wide range of sporting activities and clubs that are available to them. These include gardening, netball, gymnastics and art.*

*Older pupils enjoy the opportunities that they are given to learn a musical instrument. They can choose from a wide range of instruments, including piano, violin, guitar and drums.*

*Parents, carers and staff are highly supportive of school leaders.*

*Leaders have worked effectively with staff and governors to develop a broad curriculum which puts pupils at the heart of learning.*

*The teaching of reading is a particular strength.*

*Pupils enjoy mathematics and work hard in lessons, developing strong calculation skills.*

*Pupils are keen learners. All children, including those with special educational needs and/or disabilities (SEND), settle in quickly at the school and make a good start to their education.*

*A well-planned early years curriculum ensures that children get off to a good start in their learning, particularly in early reading and mathematics. Children's knowledge and understanding of the world also develop well due to the many well-planned activities that take place, both in the classroom and in the wonderful outdoor environment.*

We are very proud of this report and will continue to strive to make our school even better, with the support of the whole community.

## The Curriculum

Throughout our school considerable emphasis is placed upon the individual child – spiritually, academically, morally and socially. This child centred approach to learning forms the core of our curriculum, attitudes and internal organisation.

The school satisfies the requirements of the Foundation Stage Curriculum and the National Curriculum in all aspects. In the Reception Class there three prime areas : communication and language; physical development; and personal, social and emotional development. These areas are strengthened and applied through four specific areas: literacy; mathematics; understanding of the world; and expressive arts and design.

Religious Education is an important part of the curriculum as would be expected in a Church School. Considerable emphasis is also placed on Mathematics, Literacy and Science throughout the school. In addition, History, Geography, Music, Computing, Art, Physical Education, French and Design Technology give breadth and balance to the curriculum.



The way in which our curriculum is designed gives the children the chance to put their learning 'into context' making links with different areas of the curriculum to make it more meaningful.

Whilst parents have the right to withdraw their child from Collective Worship and Religious Education there is an expectation that support will be forthcoming for not only Religious Education and Collective Worship but the overall spiritual life of the school community.

## The Religious Life of the School

The school operates within a caring Christian community. We work closely with St Edith's Church and local clergy play an active role in offering support and spiritual leadership to our school community through worship, staff well-being as well as other activities. The aim is

to encourage the school to feel that St Edith's is our Church. We follow the Diocesan Guidelines for teaching RE and by using resources and linking our teaching to the liturgical year the children develop a Christian understanding and also the experience of other faith traditions. We help children to understand that Religion is for living, and as such is at the centre of all we do.

We actively celebrate the liturgical seasons, events and feast days through Advent, Lent and a range of other services. Each class has a quiet, reflective area where children can sit quietly, pray or just read.

School services are held at Harvest, Christmas, Easter and at our end of year service in July. The Church holds a family service on the last Sunday in every month, one of which is Education Sunday. Children of all ages are most welcome at all these services. Families are also welcome to the outdoor service for 'Rogation' at which pets and farm



animals are blessed.

## Class Organisation

Classes are of mixed ability and year groups. Individual, small group and whole class teaching are used to provide a range of stimulating opportunities for children.

All documents, including those relating to the curriculum are available on the school website. Please ask the Headteacher if you wish to see any specific documentation.



## Facilities

Shocklach Oviatt CE Primary School is a very small rural school situated near the town of Malpas in Cheshire.

The school has three classrooms, a library, a staffroom, a cloakroom area and a large hall. There are outdoor play facilities for our youngest children as well as a large football pitch, a netball court, a daily mile running track and a woodland walk.

We also have a sensory garden area where the children grow vegetables and flowers.

## Special Educational Needs

It is estimated that one in five children will experience learning difficulties at some stage in their school life. At Shocklach we identify children with special needs as soon as possible in order to give them the best opportunity to develop to their potential. By setting work matched to an individual child's ability many of these difficulties are overcome. Some children may need extra support over a longer period of time.



We deliver group intervention programmes for those children who need this support.

Parents are consulted both before a special needs programme is embarked upon and throughout its duration. Shocklach School complies with the Special Needs Code of Practice.



## Health and Sex Education

Personal, Social, Health and Citizenship Education is linked closely with the Religious Education Curriculum. Personal, Social, Health and Citizenship Education deals with matters related to personal dignity and the correct use of the body, mind and spirit. It also deals with issues such as personal sexuality, anger, frustration, drug abuse, failure and success.

The teaching of Personal, Social, Health and Citizenship Education at Shocklach has at its core the development in each child of a gradual understanding and healthy appreciation of self growth, relationships with others, marriage and family life.



Certain aspects of health and sex education are a requirement of the National Curriculum. The latter is given in a Christian context of loving and caring relationships built on respect for one another. The part that the school plays in this respect is not intended to replace the part played by parents. Thus, we have a complementary role to play, but the prime responsibility for sex education lies in the home.

Education for Citizenship is an important area of the curriculum and work is ongoing to make this an integral part of Personal, Social and Health Education.

Our School Council provides a 'voice' for the children in our school. The members of the Council are elected by their peers and meet regularly to discuss issues which come directly from them.

## Extra Curricular Activities

We are pleased to offer clubs outside the teaching day and believe these to be a great source of enjoyment to the children as well as additional learning experiences. Some of these are provided by outside agencies at a cost, although some are free of charge. Activities may include sport, art, sewing, dance, ICT.



It is necessary to ask for written consent from parents whose children wish to be involved in these extra curricular activities.

Unfortunately, there is no facility in school to supervise children not involved in clubs. Therefore, brothers and sisters not involved in such activities must be collected from school at the usual time.

## School Uniform

The school uniform at Shocklach is:

Tartan Skirt (grey/pink)/Charcoal grey trousers  
Blue polo shirt with logo  
Purple cardigan/sweatshirt with logo  
White/grey socks or grey tights  
Black sensible shoes  
Blue gingham dress/grey shorts in the summer term

PE Kit: Plain navy shorts with white school T-shirt (logo optional)  
Navy tracksuit bottoms  
Trainers / pumps  
Optional purple hoodie with logo / or plain dark hoodie/jumper

PE Kit must be kept in a named draw string bag

Other optional items: Purple cap with logo  
Book bag  
Duffle bag

All clothing, bags and footwear should be clearly marked with your child's name. Shower-proof school fleeces are available but are for outdoor use only.

Parents should note that the school does not accept responsibility for the loss of, or damage to, personal property whilst on or left at the school premises.



## Jewellery and Valuables

Jewellery can present problems of safety, especially during PE lessons and playtime. Therefore, jewellery, including earrings should not be worn. If earrings are worn this is restricted to studs and children will be asked to remove these during PE lessons for safety. We ask that, if parents wish to have their child's ears pierced, this is done at the beginning of the summer holiday so that important PE sessions are not missed as a result of being unable to remove studs.

The school does not accept responsibility for the loss or any damage to items which are brought into school.

## Pastoral Care

We are very conscious of our responsibilities toward the children in our care and willingly take on the role of a caring parent. We wish our children to grow and develop into caring and compassionate adults and this can only happen through observing these qualities in those around them.

We are aware that we share responsibility with parents for the children in our care. We control movement about the school, supervise play sessions and encourage sensible independence.

## Sporting Aims and Provision for Sport

Physical activities are carefully planned to enable progression throughout the school. We aim to encourage the children to question and explore, to experience success and thus improve their self-image, to develop co-ordination, imagination and co-operation with others. Activities are planned to help the children to achieve body control, to enable them to



use their body as a means of expression and to increase awareness of space and self.

We are well resourced for P.E. using both the School Hall and the school grounds.

## **Assessment**

Assessment forms an integral part of the curriculum at Shocklach in all year groups. Assessments are judgements which help teachers identify the next steps in a child's learning. We use a variety of Teacher Assessment strategies and standardised tests throughout the school to ensure children are making appropriate progress and are supported and challenged in their learning.

Through observation a Foundation Stage Profile for each child is developed throughout Reception to identify progress towards the Early Learning Goals. At the end of each Key Stage children are assessed by national tests and children are involved in other tests to track their performance as they move through the school. The most recent results for Shocklach Oviatt Church of England School and those nationally can be found on our website.

## **Home Learning**

Shocklach School community recognises the value of learning which takes place at home at all stages of a child's education. Home Learning is any work or activity which pupils are asked to do outside lesson time, either on their own or with parents or carers. Guidelines for the amount of home learning are followed. However, the precise amount of time spent on this is less important than the quality of the tasks set and the way they are planned to support learning.

All children should be heard to read every evening. Parents are asked to help develop a love of books in their children. It is recognised that as children get older they may become more reluctant to read aloud to an adult. In this instance, the support of parents in asking children about what they have read independently at home is invaluable.



Any additional work at home that supports a child's work is helpful. With this in mind, relevant curriculum information is sent home at the beginning of each 'context for learning' so parents know the focus and can get involved in their child's learning.

As children prepare for secondary education there is a place for more work at home. We encourage set times for reading at home, research into topics using libraries, and the learning of tables and spellings in addition to more formal set home learning. Children may be asked to finish certain tasks at home.

Home learning is generally set on a Friday to be returned the following Wednesday. If you require any suggestions or guidelines for your child please contact their class teacher.

## Rewards and Discipline

Good discipline is founded on a good relationship between all members of the community – children and adults.

We have very high expectations of behaviour. These expectations are expressed through our 'School Rules' which have been written by the children.

We rely very much on working in partnership with parents. If you have any concerns or 'good news' you want to share with us, please do so – and we will do the same.

We encourage a positive approach to dealing with situations that arise in school. Our 'Special Mention Worship' every fortnight highlights the achievements of individuals and groups of children both in and outside school.

Unacceptable behaviour is dealt with in a climate of forgiveness but it is recognised that with any reward system there must be sanctions. As a result of this our children understand the boundaries and are aware of the consequences of their actions.



## Attendance

If children are not in school they miss valuable learning opportunities and this impacts on progress and achievement. Our aim is to have an attendance percentage of 97% or above.

Should your child need to have time off school or is late please make sure that you let us know the reason by telephone before 8.45am on the day and then in writing when they return to school. When possible, please make dental and other medical appointments outside school hours.

Children should not be taken out of school for holidays.

Attendance and punctuality are obviously very important if children are to make the best possible progress. We rely on parents to support us in this.

## Parent Partnership

Parents will always be the greatest influence in the lives of their children. Within school we welcome parental involvement and

encourage all parents to take an active part in the life of Shocklach School.

We aim to keep parents informed about events taking place within the school. The school newsletter is distributed to every family in the school. In addition the school website is regularly updated with relevant information: [www.shocklachviatt.co.uk](http://www.shocklachviatt.co.uk)



The 'STSA' organise social events and fund raising activities. Through this, parents are encouraged to offer ideas and suggestions for promoting communication between the school and the home and for ways of supporting school projects.

## Reporting to Parents

There are formal opportunities during the course of each year for parents to meet teachers and discuss their individual progress. Once a year parents receive a written report.

Teachers are happy to talk to parents if there are any concerns or if there is any good news to share. Please pop into school and arrange a mutually convenient time to talk to your child's class teacher. Mrs Shephard, when possible, is out and about on the playground at the beginning and end of the day. This is an opportunity to discuss issues informally. Alternatively, an appointment can be made at any time.



Records of each child's academic achievements and progress are kept and updated each year. If parents wish to view these records, a written request must be made. Similarly, a written request must be made for a copy of the record for which a charge will be made.

## School Meals and Snacks

Children may either buy a school meal or bring a packed lunch. Children in Reception Year,



Year 1 and Year 2 are entitled to a free school meal. Meals are cooked on site daily and provide a varied selection of dishes within a healthy eating programme.

Information about claiming free school meals can be obtained from the School Office.

At morning break toast and a drink is available for children to buy.

Children in Reception and Key Stage 1 receive a piece of fruit as part of the National Fruit Scheme.

The children are encouraged to drink water during the school day as hydration aids concentration. This water must be still and unflavoured. Parents are asked to make sure that lunch boxes do not contain sweets and chocolate bars or fizzy drinks.

## **Medicines in School**

Parents are advised to inform the school if their child is on a course of medication for a long-term condition. We will administer medicines in these circumstances, but not at any other time and only when the medication has to be administered four times daily. If your child requires three doses of medication, this should be fitted in around school hours. All medicines must be handed into and collected from the school office by an adult. No medication can be administered unless the appropriate form has been completed and for the safety of the whole community, under no circumstances should medicines be left in children's school bags or in classrooms.

## **Educational Visits**

A wide range of educational visits linked to the curriculum are undertaken as part of the learning experience for all children. When these occur parents are asked for their consent in writing. Children in Upper Key Stage 2 take part in a residential to London or an activity based residential. Children in Year 1 and 2 have a two-day visit to a Cheshire West and Chester Outdoor Education Centre.



In addition to out of school visits, theatre, music and other groups often visit the school to give performances further broadening the curriculum.



## The School Day

### **Reception, Key Stage 1 and Key Stage 2**

8.55am – 10.30am: Session 1

10.30am – 10.45am: Morning Break

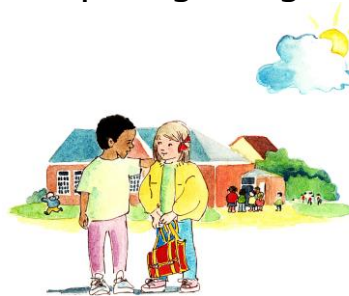
10.45am – 12.00noon: Session 2

12.00noon – 1.00pm: Lunch

1.00pm – 3.15pm: Session 3

The children in Foundation Stage and Key Stage 1 go out for a break in the afternoon at a time to fit in with what they are doing in class. In Key Stage 2 there is no afternoon break.

The doors are opened at 8.45am so that the children can come into class as they arrive for a prompt beginning to the day at 8.55am.



## Complaints Procedure

If you wish to make a complaint, please make an appointment to consult the Headteacher. If satisfaction is not achieved, then defined procedures come into force, details of which can be obtained from the school.

At Shocklach we pride ourselves on our partnership with parents so we hope it is unlikely that anyone would find a complaint not satisfactorily dealt with in the early stages. If you do have a problem, please bring it to our attention so we can deal with it before it grows into a major concern.

## School Staff

**Headteacher:** Mrs Shephard

**Teachers:**

Foxes Class; Mornings – Nursery, Reception and Year 1  
Afternoons – Reception and Year 1

Mrs Jones (0.6) – Foxes Class  
Miss Keeping (0.44) - Foxes Class

Squirrels Class; Year 2 and Year 3

Mrs Gilbert (1.0) Squirrels Class  
Miss Keeping (0.22) - Squirrels Class

Badgers Class; Year 4, Year 5 and Year 6

Mrs Jackson (0.6) Badgers Class  
Mrs Cobden (0.6) Badgers Class

**Teaching Assistants:**

Miss Whitehurst  
Mrs Mills  
Mrs Gilbert  
Ms Roberts  
Ms Rowlands

**Welfare Assistant:**

Miss Price

**Bursar:** Mrs Lewis

**Admin Assistant:** Mrs Kelly

**Caretaker:** Mr Bickley

**Cook in Charge:** Mrs Digby

**Midday Staff:** Miss Price  
Mrs Mills  
Mrs Gilbert  
Ms Roberts  
Ms Rowlands

**School Governors**

**Co-opted Governors:** Rev N. Robinson  
Mr I. Bartholomew  
Mrs S. Ramoutar-Evans  
Mrs E. Gilruth  
Mr R. Jones

**Parent Governors:** Ms M. Hickie  
Dr E. O’Dea

**Local Authority Governor:** Mr J. Hirst (Chair)

**Ex Officio Governors:** Rev D. Black

**Foundation Governors:** Mrs H. Peel

**Staff Co-opted Governor:** Mrs M. Gilbert

**Staff Governor:** Mrs F. Jackson

**Headteacher:** Mrs K. Shephard

**Clerk to the Governing Body:** Carena Graham-Benson



## Contacts

### **School**

Shocklach Oviatt Church of England Church of England Primary School,  
Green Lane, Shocklach, Nr Malpas, SY14 7BN

Telephone: 01829 250285

E-mail: [admin@shocklachoviatt.cheshire.sch.uk](mailto:admin@shocklachoviatt.cheshire.sch.uk)

Website: [www.shocklachoviatt.co.uk](http://www.shocklachoviatt.co.uk)

Headteacher: Mrs K.L Shephard

Chair of Governors: Mr John Hirst



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