



'Great oaks from little acorns grow' is a fourteenth-century proverb which captures brilliantly the aspiration we have for our children at William Gilpin Primary School (rated GOOD by OFSTED in January 2022). For decades, our small village school has inspired generations of young people as they begin their journey of lifelong learning. Starting small but thinking big!

The school lays within the picturesque village of Boldre in the New Forest, and offers a truly distinctive and memorable educational experience for our children because we get to know every single child in a way which is simply not possible in a larger setting. Small year groups mean that William Gilpin is more like a 'family' and we know exactly what our children want and need. Their strengths and achievements are valued and celebrated, whilst their needs are understood and provided for. Learning is all about positive relationships and by the time they leave our school, the children will have developed tolerance, empathy, and a sense of humour - skills which will be essential throughout their lives. The wonderful staff team at the school are incredibly skilled and nurturing; their hard work and dedication is what makes the difference.

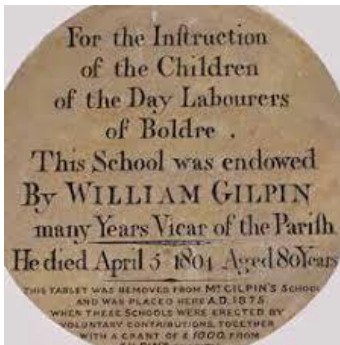


At William Gilpin, our goal is to offer children an excellent all round experience: academic achievement is very important to us but so is the wider experience of school life. We ensure that through quality first teaching, all children can access the learning in our classrooms. Furthermore, we balance creativity, rigour and mastery in order that children are truly inspired and challenged. Alongside this, we strive to provide the most enriching childhood possible for our young learners. This includes gardening, forest school and a range of sporting, musical and performance opportunities. By focusing on children's wellbeing, through nurture and emotional sensitivity, we see them flourish. Our children have the opportunity to take part in a variety of sporting activities and competitions



through the Priestlands Sports Partnership. The arts are particularly important to us and are integrated into our daily life at William Gilpin. In addition, many of our children choose to learn an instrument with one of our private music instructors, plus our choir is a real showstopper at our termly services! We also focus very much on global citizenship, giving our children an understanding of contemporary issues such as climate change, as well as

an opportunity to act and make a difference through charity work and raising awareness. We call this 'courageous advocacy' and as a school we are very much compelled to instil in the next generation a desire to make the world a better place.



The history embodied in the founding of our school is fascinating and Christian values are central to the ethos of our church school. Our close link with St John the Baptist in Boldre is very special. We believe that **courage** is an essential part of everyday life; it takes courage to try something new, to stand up for what is right and challenge what we know is wrong. **Compassion** is palpable throughout the school. The way our older children care for the

younger ones is something we are exceptionally proud of. Finally, a sense of **community** is essential. Whenever we can, we reach out to members of the local community, such as through our annual art project with Oakhaven Hospice, as well as hosting a variety of community events, including a Food Festival and 'Valentine Crafternoon' – events organised by our wonderful P.T.A.



William Gilpin Primary School really is the best of both worlds: although a small village school, through a richly-compelling curriculum we provide an abundance of memorable experiences, set within an outstanding learning environment in extensive grounds. We offer breakfast and after school provision (7.45am – 6.00pm) and an independent pre-school operates within our school site. It is an absolute

privilege to be the Headteacher of the school and I would be delighted for your child and family to join us. If you think we may be the right fit for your son or daughter, please contact the school office to book a personal tour.

Simon Croutear
Headteacher

