



**PROSPECTUS  
for  
Crosby Ravensworth CE Primary School**



**2023-24**

For an up-to-date picture of life in our school, please visit our website:  
[www.crosbyravensworth.cumbria.sch.uk](http://www.crosbyravensworth.cumbria.sch.uk)

*“The pupils that inspectors spoke with told us that they enjoy school so much. Pupils said that they get on well together. They make sure that everyone can join in with games at playtimes. New pupils find it easy to make friends.”*

**OFSTED, February 2020**

## CONTACT DETAILS

Crosby Ravensworth C of E (Aided) School  
Crosby Ravensworth  
Penrith  
Cumbria CA10 3JJ

Telephone: 01931-715265  
Email: [admin@crosbyravensworth.cumbria.sch.uk](mailto:admin@crosbyravensworth.cumbria.sch.uk)

# WELCOME



*Children visiting nearby Shap Quarry to watch a live explosion of limestone*

We're small. That's what's so special about us. We've a magical atmosphere in our church school which is hard to describe - like one big happy family.

Happy children need space to grow in confidence – that's the key to any successful school. From competing in sports teams to starring in school productions; from reading in church to speaking at conferences, opportunities are plentiful at Crosby Ravensworth. Every child has a clear voice that is heard by all the teachers who are dedicated to making learning fun. We love outdoor learning and make the most of every moment in our beautiful Eden Valley location. Inside the building we ensure there's a laptop and tablet for every child and an award-winning hot meal freshly cooked onsite every day. We also ensure that the children know the value of hard work: in the last three recorded years of SATS tests, our Year 6 leavers exceeded national attainment standards in all areas.

We have two classes of mixed age pupils aged 3-11 and our class sizes never exceed 20. Wrap around care is well established with before and after provision each day to support working families while providing a range of exciting activities from circus skills to cycling.

We are proud of our past, but ambitious about our future. To find out more, please arrange a visit and we'll be delighted to show you around.

Duncan Priestley  
Headteacher

# MISSION STATEMENT

We educate for life in all its fullness. At Crosby Ravensworth this means:

- A close, cohesive family atmosphere where children are inquisitive, confident in the natural environment to which they are connected and supported as they learn resilience through challenge.
- Widened opportunities for children, alongside adults, to flourish. Cultural capital is prized and we prepare our children for a world of diversity.
- Richness and ambition throughout our academic, creative, sporting, social and spiritual ventures.

*I have come in order that you might have life; life in all its fullness.*

John 10.10

## Our Christian Values

Our mission statement is underpinned by core Christian values of courage, compassion and community. We explore the meanings of these through our Collective Worship and link them to the Christian faith by relating them to Bible stories and readings.

# SCHOOL INSPECTIONS

Our most recent inspection took place in February 2020; the inspector's letter has been posted in full on the school website. We have included some quotes from the letter within this prospectus. A SIAMS (Statutory Inspection of Anglican and Methodist Schools) inspection is expected to take place in late 2020.



## HEALTHY FOOD SCHOOL



In October 2020, we reached Bronze **Food for Life Served Here** award standard which shows that school **food** is healthy and uses seasonal ingredients that are at least 75% freshly prepared. Every pupil has the opportunity to visit a local farm and take part in cooking and **food** growing activities.



Artsmark  
Silver Award  
Awarded by Arts  
Council England

## ARTSMARK SCHOOL

The Artsmark Award is the only creative quality standard for schools, accredited by Arts Council England. It supports schools to develop and celebrate arts and cultural education, putting creativity and wellbeing at the heart of the curriculum. Artsmark ensures every young person can be creative and access a diverse, high-quality cultural education.

In 2023, our school was awarded Artsmark Silver status after developing our arts and culture provision to embed a broad and ambitious curriculum. This was achieved by creating an overall plan that was committed to and delivered across the whole school.





## STAFF

<b>Mr Duncan Priestley</b>	Head teacher Teaches 0.65 FTE, Class 2.
<b>Mrs Susan Pattinson</b>	Class teacher (part time) Reception, Years 1 and 2.
<b>Mrs Jane Corrie</b>	Class teacher (part time) Teaches in Class 1 and Class 2.
<b>Ms Heather Lowthian</b>	Part-time teacher 0.3 FTE Teaches in Class 2.
<b>Mrs Tara Hollis</b>	Teaching Assistant
<b>Miss Karen Winder</b>	Classroom Assistant; Midday Supervisor
<b>Mrs Linda Ball</b>	Nursery and Teaching Assistant
<b>Mrs Pauline Cleasby</b>	School Business Manager
<b>Mr Andrew Clement</b>	Clerk to Governors
<b>Mrs Freda Smith</b>	Cook in Charge



*Children look down at a tributary of the River Lyvennet in the village. During sessions with Eden Rivers Trust, they helped relocate native British Crayfish into a new meandering section which was developed to help the county's flood defences.*

## THE GOVERNING BODY

Our vision is for every child to fulfil their academic and social potential, and exceed their goals in a safe and happy environment that holds Christian values at its heart.

### Aims

- Every discussion, decision, meeting and action of the governors will have its focus on further raising the achievement, attainment and progress of every child in the whole realm of their school life.
- The Governing Body will provide support and challenge to the head teacher and staff as they strive for the highest standards in all aspects of school life.
- The Governing Body will support the financial performance of the school with strategic oversight, ensuring that Best Value principles are applied at all times, optimising the resources available for every member of the school community, and facilitating the best outcomes for pupils.
- The Governing Body will work together strategically as it embodies and promotes the school mission statement.

## MEMBERSHIP as of November 2023

NAME	STATUS	TERM OF OFFICE ENDS
Barbara Wallis (Chair)	Foundation	June 2024
Georgina Griffiths (Vice Chair)	Foundation	January 2027
Susan Pattinson	Staff	January 2027
Duncan Priestley	Staff Ex Officio	
Karen Winder	Parent	June 2024
Neil Hughes	Local authority	June 2027
Tom Cripps	Foundation	January 2024
Sylvia Evans	Foundation	Dec 2024
Anna Lea	Foundation	Jan 2025
Rev Stephen Tudway	Ex Officio	
Naomi Callaghan	Parent	July 2027
Christena Pelmore	Associate	Sep 2027

Foundation Governors are appointed to represent the interest of the Church Authority. All governors serve a term of office of four years. Any of the Governors may be contacted with queries or matters to be raised. Parents may also contact the Clerk to the Governors via email: [clerk@crosbyravensworth.cumbria.sch.uk](mailto:clerk@crosbyravensworth.cumbria.sch.uk)

The School Governing Body meets regularly, working in partnership with the Local Authority, the Carlisle Diocesan Board of Education and school teaching staff to oversee the running of the school in all its aspects. Minutes of Governing Body meetings, once approved, are published on the school website and are available for inspection on request. They can also be emailed to interested parents.



*“Governors and leaders understand the challenges of working in a small school and support the staff well.”*

**OFSTED, February 2020**



*Children enjoy our weekly outdoor learning classes together.*

## **CROSBY RAVENSWORTH UNITED SCHOOLS FOUNDATION**

The Foundation is a charitable trust, with funds derived from property and land donated in past years, for the benefit of the school and its pupils. The committee consists of six trustees. One trustee is nominated by the Parish Council, and one is nominated by the School Governors.

The aim of the committee is to progress and develop the school in conjunction with the head teacher and staff. The committee meets to discuss and approve expenditure on items related to the school, and a close relationship is maintained with the head teacher in order to ascertain

the school's requirements. Contact is also maintained with past pupils in order to enable them to pursue their further education.

Some years ago, generous contributions from the Trustees enabled the school to secure funding for a two stage building project which extended the Key Stage 1 classroom, added a new front entrance, head teacher's office and administration office, refurbished the toilets and cloakrooms for all pupils, added a new Key Stage 2 classroom and provided a hall area. More recently, the Trustees have helped fund a refurbishment to the boiler and heating system, extend the outdoor play area outside class 1, re-roofed the older parts of the school and supported internal decoration. Other projects have included the supply of computers for both office and classroom use, the purchase and erection of sheds for storage of sports and outdoor play equipment, and the resurfacing of the play area with a recommended safety material.

## FRIENDS OF THE SCHOOL

Parents and members of the local community are the main fundraisers for the school, which benefits from their hard work in a wide variety of ways. Donations have previously helped the school to fund everything from iPads and lap tops to special excursions. The main fundraising events of the year include the summer fair and Christmas Fair. A 100 club is drawn each month with a cash prize for each of the 100 members.

## OTHER LINKS WITH THE COMMUNITY

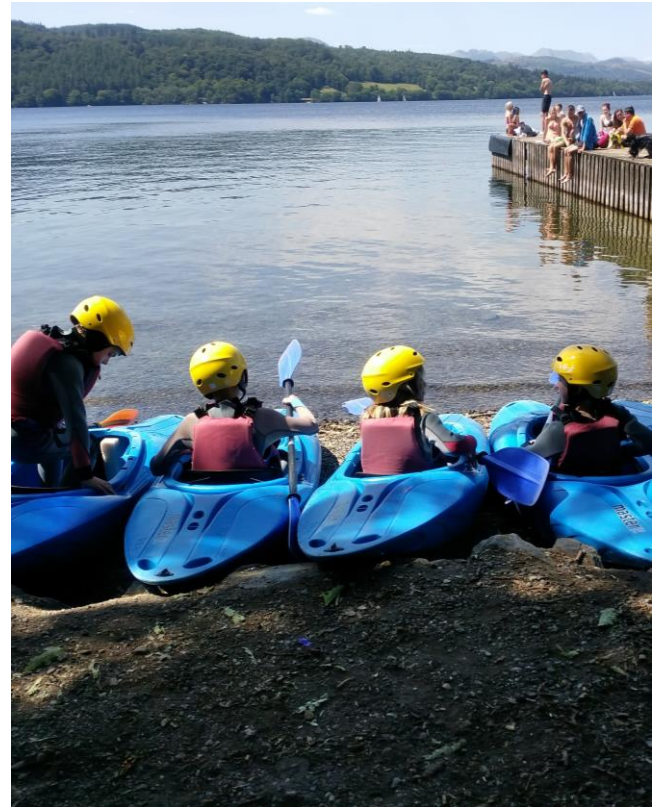
The school values its strong links with the local community, especially St Lawrence Church in the village. The children's artwork is often on display in the village church and village hall.

Members of the community contribute to the life of the School by sharing their particular skills and interests with the children. The children play their musical instruments at various venues in the area including the village pub, The Butcher's Arms. All the pupils exhibit work at Crosby Ravensworth Show every year.

*"The school is a hive of activity. Pupils benefit from external visitors such as the local vicar and a range of authors. Pupils experience a wide range of interesting and varied extracurricular activities... Older pupils learn important life skills as part of their residential trips."*

**OFSTED, February 2020**





*Whole school wider sports opportunities Summer 2018 included skiing and kayaking.*

## TEACHING ORGANISATION AND CURRICULUM

Children learn most effectively from first hand experiences and real life situations. To best meet the demands of the National Curriculum, we believe in deploying a balanced mix of teaching methods. Children are given a degree of responsibility for their learning and the organisation of their working environment, which is a preparation for adult working life.

The children are taught through topics that make links between different areas of the national curriculum. The school follows the National Curriculum for Years 1-6 and the Early Years Foundation Stage (EYFS) curriculum for Reception and nursery pupils; detailed information can be found on the school website.

Children are given a reasonable amount of homework, appropriate to their age, on a regular basis. For both Key Stages this will normally amount to some reading, writing, spelling and mathematical activities.

*“Leaders have designed an ambitious curriculum for children and pupils right across the school. Leaders have thought carefully about what pupils need to learn and when they need to learn it.”*

**OFSTED, February 2020**

## ASSESSMENT

Children are continually monitored and assessed as they progress through the school. This ongoing assessment enables us to best meet the needs of the individual child at all stages during their development. It also ensures that the progression between different teaching groups is as smooth as possible. In the Summer term, children in Years 2 and 6 participate in national external assessments known as Standard Attainment Tests (SATs) and children in Year 1 undertake a phonics reading test.

*"Pupils enjoy their learning. Teachers help pupils when they struggle so that everyone, including pupils with special educational needs and/or disabilities (SEND), can be successful."*

**OFSTED, February 2020**

## HOME/SCHOOL PARTNERSHIP

### General Parental Involvement

Parents help in school in a variety of ways, with cooking, music, festive occasions and school visits etc. They may help on a regular or occasional basis depending on the time they have available. If you wish to help please let us know. We are very grateful for the help we receive from parents and friends; we do hope you will be able to help us too.

### Family-Child-School Agreement

As part of our partnership with parents, the school has consulted with parents and pupils to draw up a Family-child-school agreement. This is signed by pupil, parent and teacher at the start of each child's time with us. School and parents each keep a copy for reference.

### Parents' Evening

A formal parents' evening is held in the Autumn term when teaching staff are available for consultations about a child's progress. The school has an open-door policy and welcomes regular dialogue with parents about children's progress and well-being.

### Pastoral Care and Discipline

*"Pupils behave well and they feel safe... Teachers set clear and consistent expectations for pupils' behaviour. Older pupils are excellent role models to the younger pupils, including children in the Nursery class. Pupils respect and trust the adults who work with them. Pupils are proud of how well they get on together and look after each other."*

**OFSTED, February 2020**

We are aware that we share responsibility with parents for the children in our care, and make every effort to provide the care which any responsible parent would be expected to give. Parents play the most important role in teaching their children to respect other people's feelings and property. At school we reinforce the attitudes and disciplined behaviour started at home, and build on courteous and civilised behavior making links to our Christian Values.



## Child Protection and Safeguarding

*“The arrangements for safeguarding are effective. Leaders make sure that any concerns are followed up meticulously. Pupils know about the different risks that they may face both online and in the community. Pupils are confident to share any worries with an adult in school. Pupils, staff and parents agree that pupils are well cared for and safe.”*

**OFSTED, February 2020**

The health and safety of all children is of paramount importance. Parents send their children to school each day with the expectation that the school provides a secure environment in which their children can flourish. We therefore have to ensure that this expectation becomes reality.

In order to meet the school's safeguarding obligations, a wide range of measures have been put in place, covering all aspects of this issue. If you have any queries or would like to view the policy, please ask. The designated teacher for safeguarding is Mr Priestley.



*Rev Stewart Fyfe leads a service to bless the school's new willow construction outdoor chapel.*

## SCHOOL ADMISSIONS

The catchment area comprises Crosby Ravensworth, Kings Meaburn, Maulds Meaburn and Reagill. Children living in the catchment area have an automatic right to attend the school, subject to a place being available. Last year the school was able to admit all pupils whose parents applied. Admissions and transfers to schools in Cumbria are co-ordinated centrally



via the Local Authority – please ask in the school office for more information, or for a copy of our Admissions policy.

Parents who move into the district and would like their children to come to the school are invited to telephone or write to the Head teacher to make an appointment to discuss this and to visit the school while in session.

### Starting school

Children are eligible to enter our pre-school from the third birthday onwards. From the term after the third birthday, they can take up their entitlement to 15 funded hours. The Reception year commences at the start of the Autumn Term after their fourth birthday. Arrangements for starting schooling are discussed with parents during this period, when the amount of schooling a child is to receive in the first few weeks is agreed. After half term it is expected that all children will attend on a full-time basis. Parents are however not obliged to send their child to school until the term after their fifth birthday.

*“Teaching staff take good care of children in the early years. They get to know these children well. Teachers build good relationships with children and their parents and carers.”*

**OFSTED, February 2020**

### Transfer between schools

Pupils transfer to Appleby Grammar School, Ullswater Community College and Queen Elizabeth Grammar School. Details of the procedures are issued to parents in the Autumn Term prior to transfer. Once decisions have been made about places for secondary education, children visit their new school for a complete working day to familiarise themselves with their new surroundings. Representatives from the secondary school visit the school to meet pupils and to answer any queries and questions they may have.

*“Older pupils are well prepared for high school.”*

**OFSTED, February 2020**



*Pupils from Years 5 and 6 on Outdoor residential at Hawse End, Keswick*

# GENERAL INFORMATION

## School Website

There is much information for parents on the school website, which is regularly updated by staff, governors, fundraisers and pupils. The content includes:

- Term and holiday dates.
- Letters to parents, including the Friday bulletin.
- Timetable and curriculum information.
- A changing display of photographs and films taken at school events.
- School dinner menus and uniform ordering.
- Policies.
- Examples of pupils' work.

## Start of the School Day

Children should not arrive at school before 8.45 am, as school staff are not available to supervise them before this time. Parents should give the school notification if there is a change to a child's normal going home arrangements.

## School Hours

Morning: 9.00 am - 12.15 pm, with a break from 10.30 - 10.50 am  
Afternoon: 1.15 pm - 3.30 pm, with a break of 15 minutes for Class 1 only

The time spent on in-school education, excluding assemblies, registrations and breaks, is 23 hours and 45 minutes per week.

Class sizes fall well within government targets, always under 20 pupils in each of the two classes in recent years. Nursery join Class 1 on Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays and are supported by a specialist member of staff. Session dates and times are reviewed annually to meet the needs of the community.

## Illness and Absence

If a child is not well enough to attend school, we would appreciate a telephone call by 9.30 am to let us know. A letter explaining absence must by law be brought to school on your child's return. The school will contact parents on the first day of a child's absence if no explanation has been received by 9.30 am.

## Absence during term time

Under current regulations schools have the discretion to grant term time leave for exceptional circumstances only. There is strong evidence to suggest that significant absence from school during term time can have a negative impact upon a child's attainment and learning.

Parents/carers are not entitled to remove children from school during term time, for holidays or any other reasons. If a parent feels there are exceptional circumstances, these should be explained on an 'Application for term time absence' form available from the school office. The



decision to authorise term time absence rests entirely with the Head teacher, who will follow the school's policy.

## **Transport and Parking**

Many of our pupils are entitled to free transport to school; information about applying for this can be found on the school and Cumbria County Council websites.

The movement of vehicles and people, especially at the start and end of the school day, has the potential to cause an accident. To minimise the risk of an accident occurring parents are asked to take note of the following points:

1. Parents should keep close and constant supervision of their own children. Parents arriving early in vehicles prior to the end of the school day when there are no pupils in the vicinity of the parking bay, should reverse into a space allowing them a good clear view for manoeuvre onto the road once they have collected their child(ren).
2. Cyclists must dismount when approaching the parking bay and push their cycles through the school entrance gate. This will protect the cyclists from moving vehicles and allow them to enter a safe environment.
3. The minibus is driven forward into the bay marked "Minibus parking only" when arriving at school in the morning. The vehicles will then be reversed out once pupils have dismounted and are through the school gate, and when safe to do so. At the end of the school day, the minibuses arrive early when there are no pupils in the vicinity of the parking bay, and reverses into the marked parking bays.



*Class 1 exploring their gardens topic.*



## **School Clothing**

The school uniform comprises of a burgundy sweatshirt and various other items embroidered with the school logo. Dark coloured trousers for boys, dark coloured skirts or trousers for girls and dark shoes or trainers should be worn. Please ensure that all clothing is clearly named.

Correctly worn uniform helps to give everyone a sense of pride in their appearance, and more importantly the school. The Governors and staff are keen that pupils also wear the correct uniform when they are representing the school on trips and visits.

An order form and link to our supplier's website can be found on the school website under 'Information for parents'. Uniform is sold as a service to parents at the cost price from the supplier; the school does not receive any additional funds from these sales.

To maintain the high standard of cleanliness and tidiness in school, parents are asked to provide the following footwear for children:

- Outdoor shoes/wellie boots.
- Indoor shoes/slippers/Crocs.
- Outdoor PE trainers.

Please ensure that all footwear is appropriate and in good repair, as it has been noticed that sometimes the indoor shoes in particular can become worn very quickly and therefore pose a danger when children are walking about in school.

## **E-safety**

When children start at the school, parents and children sign an acceptable use agreement which covers the internet and other digital technologies. Parents are also asked for consent to use images of their children within the school context, and according to the e-safety policy.

## **Jewelry and Mobile Phones**

As a safety precaution no jewelry may be worn during PE, games or swimming sessions. Mobile phones should not be brought into school at all.

## **PE Clothing**

For PE lessons, children should wear plain black shorts and an embroidered burgundy school tee shirt. The children are expected to have their PE kit in school every day, in case of changes to the timetable. PE footwear should be suitable and well fitting. All PE kit should be clearly marked with a name and kept in a bag which will hang easily on a cloakroom peg. Football boots should not be of the 'blade' type, but have normal round studs.

## **Charging**

The formal curriculum offered at Crosby Ravensworth School is not subject to charge or the parents' willingness to make a contribution, except for parents who would like their 3 year-old to attend prior to the term after the third birthday. Governors recognise that whatever public funds are made available there will never be sufficient to fund all desirable activities. Thus, voluntary contributions will be requested to cover the costs of certain activities, eg trips either

within or outside school hours. If you require more information please ask to see our Charging policy.

### **Free School Meals and Clothing Grant**

Parents are encouraged to find out if they are eligible for free school meals (FSM) and the clothing grant; if claimed, this information is used by the Department of Education to allocate extra funding to the school (this is known as the Pupil Premium). Parents should still register for FSM even if their child is 7 years or under, and will be receiving the Universal Infant Free School Meals (see below). The scheme is administered by Cumbria County Council, not the school. Parents should look on the Cumbria County Council website to apply online. Alternatively, please contact the school office; parents can be reassured that the matter will be dealt with in a sensitive and entirely confidential manner.

### **Food and Drink**

We actively encourage all pupils to take a school meal; all meals are cooked on site, and the cook provides a changing menu of healthy balanced meals using fresh produce, and including vegetarian options when necessary. Payment can be made weekly or half termly in advance if you prefer; bills are sent out to parents at the start of each half term. Parents are asked to give 3 weeks' notice if they intend to change between dinners and packed lunches.

Children in Class 1 are all eligible to receive free school dinners and free fruit at morning break. In the afternoon, a snack is also provided for a voluntary contribution from parents. Older children may bring a healthy snack from home for morning break.

Milk can be provided for a small charge to children in Class 1; please ask at the school office for more information. Chilled drinking water is available in both classrooms.

### **Medical Matters**

It is vital that parents inform the school of children's medical conditions so that provision can be made for them. Staff are able to administer medication when this is unavoidable – please ask to see the policy on Supporting Children with Medical Conditions. Inhalers may be kept at school for self-administration by the child at appropriate times.

When staff suspect a child is unwell, parents are contacted by telephone and staff care for the child until the parent arrives. It is essential that school has an emergency contact number and that this information is updated whenever a change takes place. Minor cuts, bumps and bruises are dealt with by a qualified first aider. However, bumps on the head are notified to the parents.

The School Health Programme is run by Eden Valley Primary Health Trust. After obtaining parental consent, a medical is carried out during each child's first year at school. Parents are invited to be present. The children's eyes and ears are tested and if necessary, referred for further investigations. Parents are informed when the school dentist is going to visit.

### **Security**

The security of pupils and staff is considered a very high priority in the school, and good levels of security are in place.

The building has an electronic security and fire alarm system, security floodlights, and phones in each classroom. At break times, a member of staff patrols the front of the school. At 3.30pm, a member of staff supervises the departure of pupils to ensure that each child is collected or boards the school bus.

There is a “snowball” scheme to allow schools to quickly spread information which affects the security of schools in the local area (eg strangers acting in a suspicious way), and there are also arrangements for getting all the children back into the school building in an emergency.



*Children celebrate Children in Need Day with Pudsey Bear*