

Trull Church of England VA Primary School



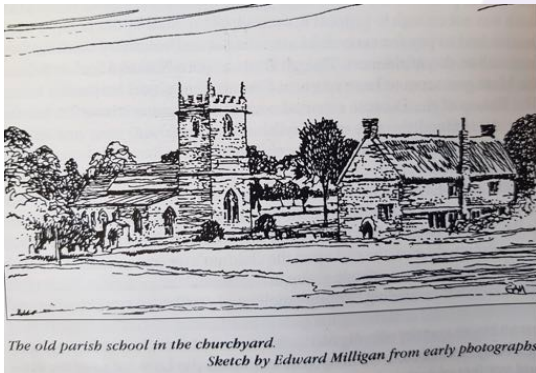
"I have come that they may have life, and have it to the full"
John 10:10

What is a Church of England School?

A bit of History..

Before the government became involved with providing education for everyone in England- there were Church schools and other charitable schools. The majority of Church schools were built in the 1800's.

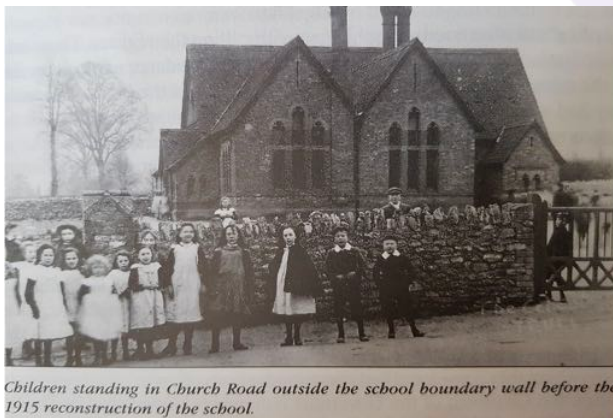
In 1755 John Wyatt left £200 for the poor children in the Parish of Trull to be taught the "True Principles of the Christian Religion" and the original school was built in the Churchyard.



*The old parish school in the churchyard.
Sketch by Edward Milligan from early photographs*

In 1875 the school moved to its current location and in 1952 Trull School became a Church of England Voluntary Aided School.

There were two requirements as a Church School, the first to teach Christianity through "Religious Instruction" and the second to hold a regular act of worship.



Children standing in Church Road outside the school boundary wall before the 1915 reconstruction of the school.

1885



2017

When the state became involved with providing mass education, Church schools became integrated into the education provided by the state. All these schools are known as maintained schools and they are funded by the state. All maintained schools including the Church school have to teach Religious Education and hold a daily act of worship. So Church schools work on the same basis as community schools.

The purpose of a Church of England school is to offer a **spiritual dimension** to the lives of young people, within the traditions of the Church of England, in an increasingly secular world. The vision is deeply Christian, with the promise by Jesus of 'life in all its fullness' at its heart.

What extra is added by being a Church of England school?

Church schools have Christian beliefs and values at their heart. This means that every child and adult associated with the school is not just important because they are members of the school but because they are seen as unique individuals within God's creation.

Church schools recognise that as well as academic and emotional intelligence human beings also have spiritual intelligence. The spiritual aspects of life will be recognised, and nurtured alongside the academic and emotional needs of all.

Church schools are places where challenge through questioning is encouraged as through this we can make sense of the world, the gift of life and the purpose of our own personal lives.

What differences will you notice ?

As a pupil, parent, visitor or member of staff you should find that your Church school is as good as any other good school but you should feel that the way the school works is different and Distinctive. That Distinctive difference will be rooted in Christian values that affect the way everyone is respected.

Church schools are encouraged to:

Educate for Wisdom, Knowledge and Skills:

- Good schools foster confidence, delight and discipline in seeking wisdom, knowledge, truth, understanding, know-how, and the skills needed to shape life well. They nurture academic habits and skills, emotional intelligence and creativity across the whole range of school subjects, including areas such as music, drama and the arts, information and other technologies, sustainable development, sport, and what one needs to understand and practise in order to be a good person, citizen, parent, employee, team or group member, or leader.

Educate for Hope and Aspiration

- In the drama of ongoing life, how we learn to approach the future is crucial. Good schools open up horizons of hope and aspiration, and guide pupils into ways of fulfilling them. They also cope wisely with things and people going wrong. Bad experiences and behaviour, wrongdoing and evil need not have the last word. There are resources for healing, repair and renewal; repentance, forgiveness, truth and reconciliation are possible; and meaning, trust, generosity, compassion and hope are more fundamental than meaninglessness, suspicion, selfishness, hardheartedness and despair.

Educating for Community and Living Well Together

- We are only persons with each other: our humanity is 'co-humanity', inextricably involved with others, utterly relational, both in our humanity and our shared life on a finite planet. If those others are of ultimate worth then we are each called to responsibility towards them and to contribute responsibly to our communities. The Good life is 'with and for others in just institutions' (Paul Ricoer). So education needs to have a core focus on relationships and commitments, participation in communities and institutions, and the qualities of character that enable people to flourish together.

Educating for Dignity and Respect

- Human dignity, the ultimate worth of each person, is central to good education. The basic principle of respect for the value of each person involves continual discernment, deliberation and action, and schools are one of the main places where this happens, and where the understanding and practices it requires are learned. This includes vigilant safeguarding. It is especially important that the equal worth of those with and without special educational needs and disabilities is recognized in practice. For the first time in history, there is now something approaching global agreement on the worth of each person through the United Nations Declaration of Human Rights and its successor declarations, covenants and conventions, including that in 2006 on the rights of persons with disabilities. How that is worked out in each nation and each school is a massive task that calls on the inspiration and resources offered by each tradition of faith and belief.

Taken from the Church of England Vision for Education July 2016

Parents who send their child to a school formed around this vision will not be disappointed as they discover an education that embraces excellence and academic rigour within the wider framework of spiritual, physical, intellectual, emotional, moral and social development and enables their children to flourish. We want pupils to leave school with a rich experience and understanding of Christianity, and we are committed to offering them an encounter with Christian faith and practice in a way which enhances their lives.

In order to nurture children's spirituality, Governors ensure Trull School:

- is led by a Headteacher who is committed, with the help of staff, to maintain the Christian character of the school in its day to day activities and in the curriculum
- Enables children to engage meaningfully in a daily act of Christian worship
- Offers a school life that incorporates the values of the Christian faith
- Ensure that Religious Education is given at least 5% of school time
- Observe the major Christian festivals
- Ensure those children of other faiths are able to and encouraged to mark their major festivals with integrity,
- maintain and develop an active and affirming relationship with the Parish of Trull

What does an 'Aided' School mean?

Trull Church of England VA Primary School is an 'Aided' school meaning it is aided by the Local Authority but is owned by the trustees, on behalf of the Diocese of Bath and Wells.

For instance:

Buildings	Owned by trustees.
	New building and repairs are the responsibility of the governors who must contribute 10% towards costs.
Teaching Staff	Appointed and employed by the governors, paid by the LA
	Governors are bound by National agreements.
	Governors must seek evidence of Christian commitment from applications for teaching posts.
Worship	Reflects Anglican tradition
Religious Education	Governors have chosen to follow the LA syllabus, which reflects Anglican traditions
Governing Body	Church (foundation) governors have an absolute majority over all other governors. A proportion of foundation governors are also parents. A chair is elected by all governors.
	The Parish Priest is an ex officio member