

Swainswick's Journey to 2020

Ambition	What will success look like in Summer 2020?
Learning	
L1 Ensure all children learn to the best of their ability.	<p>Teaching is stimulating and engaging, and challenges the children to be the best they can be.</p> <p>Barriers to children's progress are identified early and effective interventions occur.</p> <p>Assessment is used to guide children's learning, and does not cause angst; children take all forms of assessment in their stride.</p> <p>Children with specific talents and abilities are recognised, and have the support of the school should they wish to explore these further.</p>
L2 Providing an enriching programme to create a love of learning	<p>Children have rich, memorable and engaging experiences throughout their education</p> <p>Swainswick has a broad, balanced, challenging curriculum through growth mindset to maximise the child's ability</p> <p>Children experience a consistent approach to learning as they move through the school, which empowers children to be active participants in their own learning, and to value making mistakes and what can be learnt from them.</p>
L3 Ensure Swainswick's distinctiveness as a Church school is maintained	<p>Children develop a sense of wonder and imagination encouraging profound feelings and insights throughout school activities, and experience opportunities for reflection about beliefs, respect for faith, feelings and values, preparing them for later life.</p> <p>Children enjoy spiritual development through R.E. and Collective Worship which helps them to make moral choices and understand social and cultural development from a religious perspective.</p>
L4 Ensure that the Art, Music & Sports provision progressively builds foundation skills. through a planned programme across the years.	<p>All children leave Swainswick with key foundation skills to be able to enjoy and participate in a wide variety of sports/physical activities.</p> <p>Children have an appreciation of different types of music, and have had the opportunity to develop music making skills.</p> <p>Children respond creatively to the arts, and enjoy and express themselves through a variety of artistic forms.</p>
Learning environment	
LE1 Retain and enhance Swainswick unique ethos.	<p>Each child is known and nurtured; the individual value of the child is paramount, regardless of external pressures.</p> <p>Children are supportive of one another, and develop empathy.</p> <p>Children leave Swainswick feeling self confident and ready for new challenges.</p> <p>Swainswick is recognised as a beacon of excellence for a small, rural, growth mindset school.</p> <p>Local community understands Swainswick's vision and approach to learning, and is engaged with the school.</p> <p>School has sustainable pupil numbers.</p>

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LE2 Ensure children benefit from Swainswick's rural location, for both skills development and connection with nature.	<p>Teachers and children enjoy extending learning into the outdoors.</p> <p>Forest school is an integral part of the curriculum</p> <p>Children have an appreciation of the environment, and develop practical skills.</p>
LE3 The school provides a stimulating and purposeful environment, which is unique to Swainswick.	<p>Side Grass provides an all weather space for children to play, and a covered outdoor space for outdoor learning, enriching the Swainswick curriculum.</p> <p>Two purpose built modern classrooms with toilet facilities and break-out rooms.</p> <p>Welcoming reception, school office and dedicated private Head's office.</p> <p>Children benefit from a well-equipped forest school, improving their learning.</p>
LE4 Parents have access to knowledge to help them support their child's journey through primary school.	<p>Parents are informed of school activities in an effective and timely fashion.</p> <p>Children are well supported by their parents.</p>
Leadership	
LS1 Best practice governance, ensuring the school meets the needs of all it's children.	<p>Swainswick is well governed, and this is validated by external review.</p>
LS2 Ensure the long-term resilience of the school's ethos and teaching approach.	<p>Develop the role of middle leaders to support and drive forward whole-school.</p> <p>Head delivers effective and authentic leadership.</p> <p>The school organisation is flexible, responding dynamically to the needs of the children in the school.</p>
LS3 Ensure a working environment which allows staff to make the most of their motivations, commitments, and capacities.	<p>Staff feel valued, inspired and motivated, and teaching is predominantly outstanding.</p> <p>Staff are empowered, as part of a team, to contribute creatively to the school, and professional development supports them on this journey.</p> <p>Team of teachers and staff who create the environment to nurture and inspire children to flourish.</p> <p>Staff feel free to try new and creative approaches, which respond to the needs of the children.</p>

I love my big classroom, there is lots of light, and room to play.

My year 6 buddy looks out for me on the playground - I love being at the top of the castle in top grass.

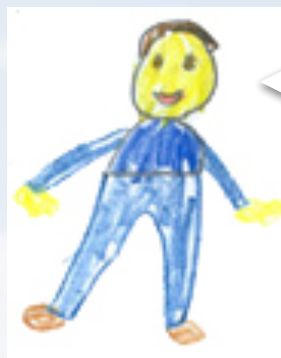
My teacher makes me feel that I can do anything. I have lots of fun learning - I can write my name in small letters and count with blocks.

When we go to the woods, I love toasting marshmallows over the fire, and hunting for bugs.

I'm pleased I get to stay with my teacher next year as well, as I'm only just getting used to being at school.



Apple Class Child



Hazel Class Child

My classroom is welcoming, and there is lots of space to work in our different groups. I like it when my teacher notices that I've worked hard in the www [what went well], and am challenging myself more.

I think I did something called SATS, but I didn't realise I was doing anything different from usual - except we built exciting models in the afternoon.

My favourite part of the school is Side Grass, because we are spies on a secret mission there.

I have been whittling a bow and arrow on Forest Fridays - it has taken ages but I'm proud that I kept working at it.

I like helping my friends in Year 2 when they get stuck - it makes me realise how much I've learnt.



Oak Class Child

My teacher really understands me, and it is easy to ask her for help.

I like that I get to assess my own work. When my friends assess my work, I'm proud if they pick out something I have worked really hard on.

I like it when I work through a challenging problem, and don't mind if I get it wrong the first time, as that shows I'm learning.

I was a bit nervous about SATS, as my friend at a different school got really worried about them but I don't see why - it doesn't really matter how well you do as long as you do your best.

I'm excited about sport in secondary school, I'm really fast and can throw far! My friend says he is going to join an orchestra - music is always encouraged here.

I will miss forest Fridays at Secondary School, but I can still go outdoors at the weekends, and I have asked for a penknife for my birthday.

Swainswick school is really special, I'm ready for secondary but I've made some really good friends here and will miss all the fun we've had - even learning outdoors in the rain.

What is life at Swainswick School like in 2020?

Swainswick is a great school to work for - the children look out for one another and there is a real community feel. The Head creates a great ethos and always puts the children first.

He expects us to get the best out of the children, but we have the freedom to be creative and adapt our teaching to the needs of the children. I like that I am encouraged to incorporate outdoor learning into my lessons - it's a great way to enhance the children's learning.

Although it's a small school, I get the opportunity to visit other schools, and we only do CPD that has a real impact when you're back in the classroom.

I feel I am always developing as a teacher.



Parent

Having a primary school in the village really brings the village to life.

It's great that it offers such a unique and effective education - we are very proud of it. The school tries very hard to respect the needs of the people who live nearby.

I like seeing what the children have been up to on the newsletter on the Church noticeboard, and the things they choose for the reflection corner in the Church are often very poignant.

I sometimes go to Cafe Swainswick with my grandson and the parents are always very welcoming to us.



Community



Teacher

Swainswick is a lovely school - everyone there knows my child and cares about them. My daughter still talks about how kind her Year 6 buddy was, and she's in Year 5 now!

To have such a beautiful environment is really unusual, and I know that it has created special memories for them.

I was worried that being a small school my child might not get a wide range of opportunities, but I'm amazed at what Swainswick does. The mixed classes give my child stability, and allow them to learn at their own pace.

Swainswick really puts the important things first - building confidence, love of learning and creating a community.

My child has really grown in confidence and I am amazed at how far they have come in their learning. I know they will have all the skills they need, both academically and more broadly to move on and succeed at Secondary school.