



The William Amory Primary School

**Where each child is
encouraged to
explore and expand
their potential.**







Welcome to The William Amory

I would like to welcome you to our school and hope that what you see of our ethos and values agrees with what you want for your children.

All of us at The William Amory strive to continue our tradition of being an exceptionally welcoming place with a real family feel and strong values. A place that children and parents feel part of the family and where, together, our children can learn and explore more than just English and maths - important though these are.

The staff and parents at our school share a goal. Together we aim to continue the drive towards ensuring that every child in our care can reach their full potential. Towards giving the children the courage to challenge themselves and be confident in who they are. Towards excellence - whether that be in the classroom, on the stage, the sports field or all three.

Working together we are creating a school where the children, parents, governors and staff are proud to be part of and where children can thrive. A place where children develop a love of learning as they travel through.

I hope that you will join us.

Bruce Wilken
(Headteacher)

"Carry on doing what you're doing - you have a lovely sense of community and we feel our son is understood as an individual."

(Parent Survey 2014)







Teaching for the future

It is often said that the jobs available when your child reaches the age of employment have not been invented yet. Certainly the development of technology over the last decade helps strengthen that argument. With that in mind, schools are faced with a question.

How does The William Amory prepare for a future that no one can forecast?

By predicting that at the very heart of any future will be the ability to read and understand; write - however that looks and be fluent in maths. Whatever form the future takes, the lives of our children will be significantly improved with these root skills confidently learnt and understood. This, combined with a creative application of the skills will help our children to explore and extend their limits without the basics being a block to progress and to success.

For that reason, our curriculum focuses on these root skills. In English they would include reading amongst others. In maths it would be times tables. But root skills are found in every subject. A cricketer must be confident in catching the ball before they can excel. An artist needs to be able to mix colours before exhibiting at the Tate.

It is the combination of firmly learning the basics and then applying them in original, meaningful and creative ways that ensure we are able to prepare children for the future we cannot perhaps forecast.

“Our son enjoys coming to school and clearly enjoys spending time with his peers - this speaks volumes for the atmosphere you create...”

(Parent Survey 2014)







Fulfilling Child Potential

At the very heart of the school are the pupils, every one someone's son or daughter, looking to us for direction, purpose and the opportunity to fulfil their potential, whatever that may be. We never forget how privileged we are to work with your children and we always strive to embrace this responsibility with pride and see it as an honour to be part of a great school every time we walk through the door.

At The William Amory we aim to develop the whole child, to tap into their natural inquisitiveness and motivation to find things out. We create an atmosphere where children can learn more than just the National Curriculum through the delivery of a creative, topic based curriculum which encompasses all areas of learning, from Maths to Art, From English to Sports.

The children know the school well and are often very clear about ways to make it even better. We make sure that they are given responsibility where appropriate to make informed choices about the direction of the school. We believe that by giving the children a voice, our school moves forward and the children develop an understanding of how to make a positive contribution.

**"The staff are very approachable and do everything to support the parents...
The school is good at paying attention to individual needs - providing challenging work to develop interest."
(Parent survey 2014)**





English and Maths

English

Language is at the centre of all aspects of the curriculum. It is the medium through which we receive, process and communicate ideas, thoughts, information and feelings.

We aim to provide a rich, stimulating and challenging environment where children can fully develop the essential skills of listening, speaking, reading and writing. Not only do these skills equip children for the demands of everyday life, they enable each individual to apply and explore deepening and widening levels of interest, intellect and achievement.

Maths

We provide an exciting and stimulating mathematics curriculum based on the understanding of mathematical concepts and the teaching of basic skills. The mathematics programme in our school is carefully structured with each stage taught and practised thoroughly, meeting the individual needs of each child. The skills learned are applied throughout the curriculum, and a wide range of activities are incorporated. It is important that children enjoy mathematics, and we firmly believe in making maths fun through a creative problem solving approach with a strong emphasis on mental maths.

“Academically, my child has achieved so much in a short time and I'm happy that her abilities are being recognised... [Your school is] being led by a strong and visionary system...”

(Parent Survey 2014)







Progress and Attainment

Progress underpins everything we do. We don't believe in limiting a child's progress so that they achieve their potential, we aim to ensure that every child exceeds it. Our drive to accelerate progress, to beat government expectations, means that we can bring the best opportunities to our children.

We believe that by keeping class sizes below 25 where possible, we strike the right balance in terms of staffing and personal tuition. Children have room to learn and classrooms are just that little bit more spacious and quieter.

This focus over the past few years has had a clear impact on learning standards and attainment:

- In the past two years over 93% of our pupils achieved level 4 compared to 79% in similar schools in Staffordshire and nationally.
- DfE comparisons place The William Amory 6th for attainment against similar schools in the country.
- DfE comparisons note that we are the best performing school within Staffordshire when compared against similar schools.
- For the last two years running The William Amory has come in the top 20% of schools nationally for progress whilst in school.

"I am writing to say how delighted I am with the particular performance of your school in the Key Stage 2 results. The outcomes achieved by your children are outstanding and must be a source of great pride to you."

(Cllr Liz Staples)







Collaboration for Wider Learning

Our strong relationship with Blythe Bridge Music Foundation Trust School gives us increasing opportunity to develop our musical talents as well as continuing with the very strong academic partnership we have always had with them. Our pupils regularly visit the high school to work in art, PE and other areas in order to experience an additional level of tuition.

We work in close association with The Care and Fun Club, with whom we share our premises. They provide nursery education for children from 2 years of age. We combine teaching and other ventures to ensure that we both get the best out of each other.

Both of these very strong and close links mean that the children are confident for their start in our school and the confidence continues when moving onto secondary school.

The William Amory Primary School has an active choir who have performed in many locations including The Victoria Hall, Lichfield Cathedral and the LG Arena in Birmingham.

In addition, we are part of two school sports leagues, which allows us to offer a huge range of competitive sporting opportunities - from football to rugby; from athletics to dance and everywhere in between.

**"After School clubs and classes are brilliant...
We appreciate the effort your staff put into extracurricular activities...
The choir has done exceptionally well."
(Parent Survey 2014)**



Ofsted Parent Survey

- My child is happy at this school - 100% agree.
- My child feels safe at this school - 100% agree.
- My child makes good progress - 100% agree.
- My child is well looked after - 100% agree.
- My child is taught well at this school - 100% agree.
- My child receives appropriate homework for their age - 84% agree, 13% disagree, 4% have no opinion.
- This school makes sure its pupils are well behaved 100% agree.
- The school deals effectively with bullying - 88% agree, 13% have no opinion.
- This school is well led and managed - 100% agree.
- This school responds well to any concerns I raise - 96% agree, 4% have no opinion.
- I receive valuable information from the school about my child's progress - 96% agree, 4% disagree.
- Would you recommend this school to another parent? - 100% agree.

**“ Pupils make good progress throughout the school and achieve well...
The quality of teaching is good...
Teachers deliver well-planned lessons that are creative...”**
(Ofsted 2013)

Attainment and Progress Data

End of Key Stage II

English

- 93% of pupils attained Level 4 or above in the key stage 2 English.
- The school's result (results/attainment) are in the top 20% of similar schools' results.
- The school's result (results/attainment) are in the top 40% of all schools.
- 100% of pupils achieved expected progress in English.
- The school's result (progress) are in the top 20% of similar schools' results.
- The school's result (progress) are in the top 20% of all schools.

Maths

- 96% of pupils attained Level 4 or above in the key stage 2 mathematics.
- The school's result (results/attainment) are in the top 20% of similar schools' results.
- The school's result (results/attainment) are in the top 20% of all schools.
- 100% of pupils achieved expected progress in mathematics.
- The school's result (progress) are in the top 20% of similar schools' results.
- The school's result (progress) are in the top 20% of all schools.

**“ Reading standards are good and pupils make good progress across the school...
Pupils make good progress in writing....
Pupils achieve well in mathematics...”**
(Ofsted 2013)

Attainment and Progress Data

End of Key Stage 1

Reading

- 88% of pupils attained Level 2 or above in the key stage 1 reading assessment.
- The school is in the middle 20% of all schools nationally.

Writing

- 88% of pupils attained Level 2 or above in the key stage 1 writing assessment.
- The school is in the middle 20% of all schools nationally.

Maths

- 92% of pupils attained Level 2 or above in the key stage 1 mathematics assessment.
- The school is in the middle 20% of all schools nationally.

**“ A strength of the school is the way all pupils are valued as individuals...
Behaviour is good in classes and around the school. Pupils get on well together and show respect for each other...”
(Ofsted 2013)**



The Facts and Figures

These pages signpost you to sources of information about our school and comparisons with other schools nationally.

Please note that the information is correct at the time of press. Our website will provide more current information about our school.

All quotes are available for inspection in the office. Parental surveys were completed most recently in January 2014. Cllr Liz Staples wrote her letter of congratulations in 2012. The most recent Ofsted judgment was given in January 2013.

Sources of information:

- PARENTVIEW - Our parent's views of the school for Ofsted can be found by selecting 'Parent View Results' at parentview.ofsted.gov.uk
- OFSTED - The latest Ofsted report can be obtained from www.ofsted.gov.uk
- DATA COMPARISONS - The latest official grades & assessment comparison tables can be found at dashboard.ofsted.gov.uk
- PERFORMANCE DATA - The DfE analysis of our school's performance against similar schools can be found at www.education.gov.uk
- SCHOOL INFORMATION - The DfE information about The William Amory can be found at www.education.gov.uk
- Links to all up to date information can be found on our website - williamamory.co.uk

“Leaders expect the best from the teachers and this is reflected in the challenging targets for improvement that teachers are set...”

(Ofsted 2013)



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