

The Federation of the Church Schools of Shalfleet and Freshwater & Yarmouth

Together for a Brighter Future

3rd September 2025

Dear families,

We hope you had a wonderful holiday with some beautiful weather! We are very much looking forward to the new term, welcoming back familiar faces and those families who are new to the Federation.

We will do all we can to ensure the children have a positive learning experience at our schools.

Mission Statement

We aim to make everyone welcome, valued and respected in an atmosphere of Christian love. Our community builds strong relationships and is dedicated to developing and supporting everyone to flourish academically, emotionally, socially and culturally through an excellent and engaging curriculum.

Our Mission Statement is lived through our three Core Christian Values – Respect, Resilience and Relationships and underpinned by our well being culture – the ‘Conscious Community.’

Staff consistently have high expectations of pupils in both their learning and behaviour as part of the school’s ‘conscious community’. Staff expect pupils to show respect, build resilience and develop strong relationships. As a result, pupils are morally grounded and make the right choices. They know staff will help them with any difficulties or worries that they may have.

Ofsted 2024

This year, we are building on the ‘Conscious Community’ with our ‘Conscious Communication’ initiative. Our aim is to streamline our communication, achieving greater consistency, to ensure our community is well informed. We have also set out a clear process for parents when contacting the school to ensure we respond in the best possible way.

Parent Forum - Three times per year, I invite parents/carers to attend Parent Forum. This is an opportunity for parents/carers to share their thoughts and ideas to improve the Federation. The dates for Parent Forum are included on the Events Calendar. We look forward to working with you to improve the children’s school experience.

Curriculum Offer - Teachers have been taking the opportunity over the Summer term to further improve our curriculum offer and the opportunities for the children. We have a range of enriching, interesting topics for the children to enjoy, complemented by some super trips, visitors and open afternoons. Please find the ‘Events Calendar’ attached so you can see the events and opportunities coming up for the children and put the dates in your diaries.

We have also increased the number of parent open sessions, where parents are invited into school to enjoy learning with their children. Please look out for the dates sent out by the individual classes.

We look forward to continuing with our ‘Inspire Talks’, where we invite inspirational speakers to come and talk about their chosen career paths and show the children the possible futures which could come out of our two small, yet very special, primary schools. We will also welcome back our ‘Where Are They Now?’ interviews with past pupils which have been a source of inspiration and humour for the children. As ever, we remain committed to improving the children’s learning experiences as we move forward together.

Headteacher: Mrs Elizabeth Grainger BEd English (Hons)

Shalfleet Church of England Primary School,
Station Road, Ningwood, Newport, Isle of Wight. PO30 4NN

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Freshwater & Yarmouth Church of England Primary School,
79 School Green Road, Freshwater, Isle of Wight. PO40 9AX

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Federation Website: www.fosay.co.uk

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purpose is to educate children in an atmosphere of Christian love where all achieve the very best they can, now and throughout their lives.





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This year, we are looking to further develop our 'Federation Curriculum', ensuring that it meets to the needs of the children in our schools and to support our year 6 children as they head towards the testing arrangements for 2026. We will keep parents updated as to these changes and the best way to support the children as the year progresses. We are also continuing our Junior Leadership Team and Learning Leaders group, which has been set up successfully across the Federation, to encourage the children to have an in depth understanding of learning and be able to take an active role in improvements across both schools.

In terms of school improvement, the Federation continues to focus on the following 5 main areas:

Objective 1 Aspire	Objective 2 Unify	Objective 3 Collaborate	Objective 4 Include	Objective 5 Stabilise
Every child in our Federation has a fantastic education All children receive the highest quality T&L and provision All children receive the highest quality opportunities and life experiences	The future vision of our Federation is committed to and shared by all stakeholders	The Federation works collaboratively with all stakeholders, the wider community other schools, and external agencies to improve the curriculum offer and drive Federation improvement	Ensuring provision meets the needs of all learners Embed the 'Federation Welcome' to everyone entering our schools	The Federation continues to have a reliable staff team confident to drive future improvement Opportunities for future Career Development/CPD A financially sustainable Federation

Teachers will also be sending out their topic overview sheets, this will give you a flavour of the topic the children will be completing this term and give you some ideas as to how you can get involved.

Staffing - Mrs Westhorpe is the Federation Deputy Headteacher with responsibility for Inclusion, ably supported by Mrs Eggleton. Mrs Westhorpe will work closely alongside me to drive Federation improvement.

We are also pleased that our School Leader positions will remain in both schools across the Federation. The School Leaders will drive aspects of Federation improvement and be on call in the absence of the Head teacher and/or Deputy

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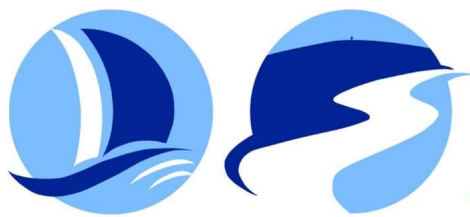
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Head teacher to ensure the smooth running of our schools. Mrs Thompson is Shalfleet's School Leader and Mr Cook is the School Leader at Freshwater and Yarmouth.

We are very excited about the new year, the teams across the Federation and the skills set we have secured. We would be very pleased if you would like to meet new or existing members of staff and would like to invite you to a Meet and Greet session after school on the 9th of September from 3.00pm – 4.00pm. Please pop in after the school day. This will give the opportunity to come and meet the teachers and ask any questions. Even if your child is going to be taught by the same teacher, please do come in and find out about the topics your child will be enjoying this year. We would like to take the opportunity to remind you that the newsletter is sent out bi weekly via email and is available to view on the website.

Collective worship - Celebration Collective Worship will take place each Friday morning beginning at 9.00am in each school. We will provide further details about Collective Worship in due course. This will give us the opportunity to celebrate the children's achievements and efforts and provide us with the chance to be together as a community. If your child achieves something they are proud of outside of school, please do bring in any certificates or awards and put them in the school office, we would very much like to celebrate all of the children's achievements and praise them for their efforts. Please note, we will not be celebrating out of school achievements on the Christmas, Easter and End of Year worships.

Pick up and drop off reminder:

Shalfleet:

Shalfleet operates a 'Drop Off Scheme' thanks to kind parent volunteers and the wonderful Mrs Swift. The "Drop-Off Scheme" operates each morning, using the dedicated car pull-in spaces within the school grounds, the children will be greeted and accompanied to the playing field or classroom.

Shalfleet also offer an Early Morning Club from 8.00am which can be booked through Little Explorers via Tucasi/Scopay.

Freshwater and Yarmouth:

Early Morning Club 7.45am-8.25am. If you are using this service, please book the children a space via Tucasi/Scopay.

Year 5 and 6 children are able to walk home independently provided written permission has been received.

Thank you for taking the time in reading this welcome back letter. Please remember that we committed to providing an enriched learning experience for your child and want to support your family in any way that we can. Please do talk to us if you have any concerns about your child or suggestions that you would like to make. We very much want to work in partnership with you to create a positive school experience for your child and look forward to working with you over the coming year.

With warmest regards,

Mrs Grainger

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