

Waldringfield Primary School Annual Report to Waldringfield Parish Council – April 2025

As the Executive Headteacher of Waldringfield Primary School, I am pleased to share our annual report for the year. We continue to uphold our reputation as a small, friendly school where individual needs are met, and every member of our community is listened to and respected.

School Ethos and Environment

Our ethos is demonstrated daily through an active learning atmosphere that provides all children with opportunities to succeed. Since September 2021, we have proudly federated with Hollesley Primary School, a partnership that strengthens our commitment to maintaining a small, nurturing, and inclusive environment. Here, every individual is welcomed and celebrated.

School Demographics and Structure

Currently, Waldringfield Primary School has 65 children enrolled, organised into four mixed-age classes. This represents the smallest enrollment in recent years. We are excited to announce that the Department for Education (DfE) has selected us to expand our capacity by opening a new nursery. Plans are underway to utilize our existing space for this purpose.

Our school community includes 9 children eligible for Free School Meals (13%) and 18 children (28%) on the SEN register, with 3 of these (5%) having an Education and Health Care Plan. We are supported by four full-time teachers and seven teaching assistants. Planning, Preparation, and Assessment (PPA) time is facilitated by Higher Level Teaching Assistants (HLTA) and an external PE provider. Additionally, our Breakfast Club and After School Club are run by dedicated school staff.

Resources and Community Involvement

We are fortunate to be well-staffed and well-resourced, with spacious learning areas both inside and outside. Our active WSA (PTA) organises activities and events for pupil enjoyment and family participation, raising funds for resources and supporting school trips.

Over the past academic year, we have expanded our enrichment activities, including hosting football matches with local schools, visiting the Wolsey Theatre in Ipswich for the pantomime, and making termly trips to the gymnastics center at Piper's Vale in Ipswich.

Curriculum and Values

We continue to focus on our core values of respect, responsibility, resilience, resourcefulness, readiness, and reflectiveness. Personal and social development is integral to our learning, with an emphasis on independence, exploration, and stamina. Our curriculum is structured through the Cornerstones approach, enabling children to learn through various topics each term. We invite community members with expertise in our topics to enhance our learning experience. A list of our topics is available on our website under the curriculum section.

New Initiatives

We have recently registered for OPAL (Outdoor Play and Learning), a program that supports outdoor play and learning activities. This initiative reshapes our play and lunchtimes and provides training for staff and children to facilitate happier, unstructured times. Look out for updates in the village newsletter on how the community can assist in resourcing this exciting development.

Joining ASSET Education Trust

As of 1st April this year, we have become part of ASSET Education Trust, a development already communicated to the Parish Council. Joining ASSET provides our staff and children with further opportunities for development and strengthens our leadership capacity. We are eagerly anticipating this new and exciting chapter in the life of Waldringfield Primary School.

Conclusion

Thank you to everyone who regularly supports and engages with our school. We are grateful for your continued support, which has contributed to another successful year. Please reach out to us if there are ways we can further support the community.

Sarah Wood
Executive Headteacher