

School Overview

John Keble CE Primary School is a voluntary aided Church of England Primary School located in Hursley, Hampshire, serving pupils aged 3–11. Our school was judged 'Good' by Ofsted in March 2024 across all areas.

A Holistic Approach to Education, Enrichment and Wellbeing

Our vision places the whole child at the heart of everything we do. Through a rich blend of academic learning, creative exploration, physical activity and outdoor education, we provide an environment in which children feel inspired, supported and genuinely happy to attend each day.

A Broad and Inspiring Sporting Culture

Sport plays a central role in school life at John Keble Primary, offering children a wide variety of opportunities to develop physical skills, teamwork, confidence and resilience. Our children are encouraged to participate in a broad range of sports, including football, basketball, rugby, athletics, cricket and cross-country running.

As a school, we regularly participate in inter-school competitions and local tournaments, where children have experienced notable success. These opportunities not only enable our children to compete and achieve but also help them develop valuable life skills such as perseverance, fair play and cooperation.

Importantly, sport at John Keble is inclusive. There are opportunities for children of all abilities to participate, whether through competitive teams or recreational activities, ensuring every child can benefit from an active and healthy lifestyle.

A Strong Emphasis on Outdoor Learning

Outdoor learning is a defining feature of our approach to teaching and learning. Our curriculum extends beyond the classroom, enabling children to engage with nature and the wider environment in meaningful and memorable ways.

Our Forest School programme is a highly valued element, providing regular opportunities for children (and staff) to explore woodland environments, develop practical skills and build confidence through hands-on experiences. Activities such as den building, nature exploration and outdoor problem-solving foster independence and curiosity.

We also enhance our outdoor provision through the Enrich Education orienteering programme, which develops children's navigation, map-reading and teamwork skills in an engaging and active way. This programme supports both physical development and cognitive skills, encouraging our children to think strategically while enjoying outdoor activity.

We are very proud of our adventure playground, which encourages imaginative play, physical challenge and social interaction. This space allows children to take managed risks in a safe and supervised environment—an important aspect of personal development.

In addition, we are currently developing our pond project to further enrich outdoor learning opportunities. This initiative supports environmental education, enabling children to study wildlife, ecosystems and sustainability firsthand, while fostering a strong sense of responsibility for the natural world.

A Creative and Engaging Curriculum

We deliver a creative curriculum that integrates subjects and encourages children to make meaningful connections in their learning. Lessons are engaging, hands-on and relevant, often incorporating art, music, drama and design technology.

This approach supports academic progress while celebrating creativity and individuality. Children are encouraged to express themselves, think critically and explore new ideas, ensuring learning is both enjoyable and memorable.

Strong Leadership and Innovative Initiatives

The vision and leadership of the staff team have played a significant role in shaping our dynamic and forward-thinking environment. Over the past four years, a wide range of initiatives have been introduced to enrich children's experiences and promote wellbeing alongside academic achievement.

Focusing on the Whole Child

At the heart of our ethos is the belief that each child should be seen as a whole individual, not defined solely by academic outcomes. While high standards of learning are maintained, equal importance is given to emotional wellbeing, social development, creativity and physical health.

This holistic approach ensures children feel valued and supported in all aspects of their development. Positive and nurturing relationships between staff, children and parents contribute to a strong sense of belonging within our school community.

Key Stage 2 (SATs) Performance

Summary of Combined Reading, Writing & Maths (RWM)

- **2022/23:** 71% (National: 60–61%) – Above national
- **2023/24:** 70% (National: 61–62%) – Above national
- **2024/25:** 66% (National: 62%) – Above national

Special Educational Needs and Disabilities (SEND)

We demonstrate a strong and inclusive commitment to supporting pupils with Special Educational Needs and Disabilities (SEND). We have developed and continue to develop a nurturing environment where individual needs are identified early and supported through tailored interventions, high-quality teaching, and close collaboration with our families and external professionals. With 14% of children identified as having SEND and 8% with Education, Health and Care Plans (EHCPs), both figures sitting above national averages. We have significant experience in meeting a wide range of needs. Our staff are well-trained in adaptive teaching strategies, ensuring that all children can access the curriculum and make good progress from their starting points. Our inclusive ethos promotes confidence, independence and wellbeing, enabling children with SEND to thrive both academically and socially within a supportive community.

Responding to Changing Demographics

Like many schools across Hampshire, John Keble Primary is experiencing the effects of a declining birth rate in the local area. This demographic shift has led to smaller cohorts entering early years and a gradual reduction in overall pupil numbers.

While this presents challenges for long-term planning and funding, it also brings some positive opportunities for the school community. Smaller cohorts allow for more personalised support, enabling staff to work even more closely with individual pupils and tailor learning experiences to meet their needs.

The school remains committed to maintaining its high standards of education and broad curriculum offer despite these changes. Leaders continue to plan strategically, ensuring that resources are used effectively and that the quality of teaching, enrichment and pastoral care remains strong.

Importantly, John Keble continues to be a highly valued part of its local community. As a village school, we feel our relationship with the parish is particularly important, and we are keen to work closely together to celebrate and promote all that the school offers. With the valued support of the parish, we can help ensure more families are aware of our inclusive, nurturing environment and the wide range of opportunities available, enabling the school to continue to flourish.

Getting involved in everyday life at John Keble

We would love for you to get involved with us. There are plenty of exciting events coming up, including the Colour Run on Saturday 6th June at 1pm, Sports Day on 12th June at 1pm, the village summer fete on Saturday 20th June, and a plant stall on Saturday 27th June at 10am. Alongside these events, we warmly welcome regular volunteers to support

a variety of activities, from reading with children and helping with art projects to planting, designing, and building our new pond area. Whether you can give a little time or a lot, there are so many ways to get involved and be part of the vibrant life at John Keble.

Come and discover what we do and experience the special place John Keble is!