

# Cornerstone Church of England (VA) Primary School

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Mr T Clarke Headteacher



*Building our Community with Love, Forgiveness and Hope*  
*Growing an Inspirational Learning Community*

26 February 2020

## Promoting our positive school ethos

Dear Parents,

I am writing to you as the proud headteacher of a school community who regularly embody and demonstrate our school Values of Love, Forgiveness and Hope.

The levels of care and respect shown for the children, staff and families by members of our school community are important and must never be taken for granted. As a school we recognise that as human beings we will all (children and adults) make mistakes at times, but we spend a great deal of time discussing with children our Forgiveness rules, such as “say sorry, improve and move on.” We also discuss with them the importance of not labelling their peers for errors that are made, but to help nurture and cherish friendships. We also see cheerful positivity on a daily basis and a genuine Hope from so many members of our community that problems can be overcome, and situations will continue to improve if we respect and live out our Values.

One of the ways we celebrate and share the positives of our school community is through our school Facebook page. We also try to use this as a model for the children of positive, considerate and respectful use of social media / online tools. We appreciate that as a school we cannot please all members of our community all the time, and that sometimes people may disagree with our decisions. We also recognise that at times we will make mistakes and we will always endeavour to be open and transparent about these mistakes and to learn from them to continually develop and improve our provision.

We understand that at times parents or other members of our school community may have questions or concerns. We know that these are most effectively and constructively addressed by people talking directly with our staff and working in partnership to answer questions and respond appropriately to concerns.

“The school’s values of Love, Forgiveness and Hope thread through the everyday life of the school. Pupils enjoy school life and their learning at Cornerstone. Teamwork permeates through the school, with staff motivated to ‘Growing an Inspirational Learning Community.’” (Ofsted 2019)



Please can I therefore respectfully ask that if you have questions or concerns, particularly if they concern other children in our school community, that you do not discuss these questions or concerns online or via social media forums, but discuss them directly with members of staff who are best placed to answer questions or respond to your concerns.

As the headteacher of Cornerstone, when I talk to colleagues from other schools, I regularly mention how fortunate we are as a school community to have such enthusiastic and wonderful children, such hard-working and high quality staff and governors, and such positive, supportive and understanding parents. As I said at the start of this letter, we have a school community who regularly embody and demonstrate our school Values of Love, Forgiveness and Hope. We need to work together to continually cherish and nurture this ethos for the benefit of each and every member of our community.

Many thanks for taking the time to read this letter, and for your continued and positive support.

Yours sincerely,



Tim Clarke  
Headteacher

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