

Great and Little Shelford CE(A) Primary School Annual Report 2021/22

Prepared by Anna Caroe and Chris Grey on 13th February 2022

"We live and work in harmony with love for one another so we can achieve our potential within a community of lifelong learners." – school vision

Shelford School continues to go from strength to strength. We have 205 pupils and have welcomed several new staff to support learning. We have also hosted several student teachers from the Faculty of Education. Although we have been sorry to say goodbye to two valued governors this year, we look forward to welcoming their successors soon.

As the pandemic developed, and requirements upon schools changed endlessly, we have been pleased to see the end of the bubble system, meaning children and staff can mix across school year groups. However things have not been 'normal', and many parts of school life remain different and challenging. Staff have again risen to these to prioritise learning, wellbeing and a broad and balanced curriculum. They manage a high workload and continue to cope with planning the additional adaptations that are required to address the impact of the pandemic on learning and behaviour.

Our church garden has been renovated and we are grateful for ongoing volunteer help to maintain our beautiful outdoor natural areas. We were delighted that the PTA could partner with the Playscape team to put on a Christmas fair to celebrate the opening of the new recreational area. We also repeated the camp out (at home!) and the virtual quiz is scheduled for next month. We continue to be very grateful to members of the local community for their donations to support the continued development of the school – both in terms of its environment and the nurture and enrichment we provide.

Our calendar of Church services was again hosted and accessed differently this year, but we have enjoyed some added benefits and creativity from the virtual formats, which go a little way to making up for not being able to gather together. Staff and pupils once again pre-recorded readings, drama, songs and other contributions to share these celebrations and festivals with the wider community online.

Staff, parents and governors have continued to work hard in prioritising and promoting the overall development of the children at Shelford School. This has been reflected in many ways – such as the continuation of the creative curriculum, which joins each class' topics by a shared thread. Meanwhile, a strong, continued focus on recovery from closures has seen enrichment activities balanced with very strong classroom practice, leading to fantastic academic results. Our Key Stage 1 phonics results were in the top 10 maintained schools in Cambridgeshire, and the top 20 of all schools in Cambridgeshire.

Despite these challenging times, we were delighted to be re-accredited with our International School's Award. The assessor stated, ***"This is a strong Impact Evaluation from Great and Little Shelford CofE (Aided) Primary School in this challenging year, and I am recommending it for Re-accreditation of the International School Award. Well done! You did very well to produce 14 activities for your application in this pandemic year, which are varied, motivating and detailed."*** A recent such project involved us, a UK secondary school and a primary and secondary school in Morocco – the focus of the project was entitled "A

Window into Wellbeing". Within this project we worked collaboratively to explore themes relating to wellbeing – sharing views from Morocco and the UK.

We commend the hard work of the brilliant staff and pupils behind these achievements.

Anna Caroe, Chair of Governors

Chris Grey, Headteacher

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