

Bawdsey CEVC Primary School

East Lane, Bawdsey, Woodbridge, Suffolk, IP12 3AP

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Yearly report for the Bawdsey Parish Council April 2025

Our first news is that on the 1st of April 2025 our school stopped being an LA maintained school and we have joined a multi-academy trust. We are now part of the Tilian Partnership- one of 12 schools. We chose to look for, and found a MAT who specialises in church schools. The Tilian Partnership of schools have the same ethos and moral values as our school, they also allow their schools their own identify and encourage us to be individuals. Our name is the only outward thing that has changed it is now not Bawdsey Church of England Voluntary Controlled Primary School, but Bawdsey Church of England Primary School.

The next large bit of news is about our 'Good' Ofsted visit. Where they said:

'Bawdsey Primary School is a nurturing place to learn. Pupils have respectful relationships with staff, who care for them well. Staff are committed to helping pupils gain a strong sense of community and belonging. Pupils are happy and safe.'

'The school has high expectations for all pupils to achieve. Pupils apply themselves to their learning. They get the support they need to learn well.... Pupils are polite and well mannered. They listen well and know how to conduct themselves. In the early years, children settle quickly into school routines. They are independent, confident learners.'

'Pupils benefit from a wide range of trips and visits. A range of well-structured opportunities help pupils to learn about life beyond their community. Pupils visit historical sites, national museums and local town cathedrals. The inclusive culture ensures that all pupils represent their school in sporting events, such as athletics and ten-pin bowling. Pupils relish learning about their local area. They take part in 'beach school', where they learn about the habitat and how to stay safe at the beach.'

Our numbers are at 72 and rising and attendance again is consistently higher than National and the Suffolk attendance figures. The children come into school engaged and eager to learn. We have experienced and dedicated staff who go above and beyond for the pupils with their time and care.

We are still offering lots of wider opportunities to the children and their families. Trips have included Rec to year 6 going to The Regent's panto in Ipswich, the older children went to watch the tennis at Wimbledon and we have tickets again this year. The trips mentioned above and all the



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others we have been on, have all been paid for by the fundraising of our wonderful PTA- called the Bawdsey School Association.

We still have our additional weekly opportunities for the children; in years 3-6 they still go swimming for two terms every year, the year 5 and 6 pupils learn to play the flute each year too and perform in a wider schools' event in the Summer. All children get two half terms of forest school and a half term of beach school sessions and all the children have cooking lessons. The EYFS class also have a sign and sing session each week to help them develop their speech and Mrs Head who runs this and made our school song with the children, also runs our choir each week. None of the lunchtime, or after-school clubs; sports, gymnastics, gardening, art, maths, SATs club, choir, or dance clubs are charged for, all children can attend if they want to. It is important to us that all children can have the same experiences without cost being an issue.

With our endeavour to keep our Platinum Suffolk School Games sports award this year the children competed at the Olympic pool in London, representing Suffolk and we came 4th Nationally. We competed in the East of England ten pin bowling competition in Norwich and one of our year 6 girls won the hot shot competition, getting a strike with two spares. We have attended a wealth of other sport competitions and made sure everyone has been given a chance to compete. Our year 5 and 6 pupils have been trained to be sport leaders at lunchtimes too. We believe in inclusivity and for the first time ever, all of the children in years 1-6 will have represented the school at a sport competition by the end of the Summer term.

The school and Governors are still very much community minded and are keeping all of our care costs as low as possible. For breakfast club for instance it is subsidised at £2 a head, or free for 'free school meal' children. We want to ensure all children can have a meal to start the day and parents and carers can get to work. From a child's third birthday we still offer matched funded sessions, ensuring a child with 15 hours of government funding will get 30 hours free (another 15 hours and lunchtimes free from the school) which is a full week of free childcare. We are not a profit-making business and do not agree with passing on unnecessary costs to families- we are a community resource.

All in all, we are still proud of what we achieve and can offer the children and their families at Bawdsey Church of England Primary School.

Katie Butler

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Headteacher



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