



# Urchfont C. E. Primary School

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## Update on Emmanuel Collaboration

As many of you already know, our school is part of a formal collaboration, called the Emmanuel Collaboration, with four other local primary schools. The other schools involved are Five Lanes CE Primary, Holy Trinity CE Primary Academy, St Barnabas CE Primary, St Thomas a Becket CE Primary, and Urchfont CE Primary.

[CE Stands for Church of England and all schools in the Collaboration have a Church of England Foundation. Christian values are at the heart of the work done in each school so that the best education can be provided to all children, those of any faith and those of no faith].

Within the Emmanuel Collaboration each school maintains its own independence, keeps control of its own finances, has its own governing body and has control over all matters to do with the school (unlike the situation in a Multi Academy Trust).

Within the Collaboration, we aim to improve education for every child by sharing resources, professional development, moderation opportunities, interesting visitors, good practice and much more. As small schools joined together, we can do far more than any one of us could do on our own.

Headteachers have regular meetings to ensure the best leadership possible for all the Collaboration schools. Governors meet with the Headteachers at least twice a year to monitor progress and attainment across the Collaboration. Teachers meet regularly to moderate each other's work and to offer and receive support with aspects of teaching and learning. Admin officers support each other and meet to discuss matters of common interest. This year already, all Year Three children and some other year groups have taken part in an exciting day of "Reading into Writing" activities with a well-known author, at Five Lanes school. And there are many other ways in which every school receives support from the Collaboration.

We are delighted to be able to report that, since the inception of the Collaboration in 2015, academic standards across the Collaboration (measured through the Government's Statutory Assessments) have risen steadily each year. Just as importantly, the quality of education in many other areas has been improved through the work of the Collaboration. Opportunities for our staff and our children are far greater through collaboration with each other than they would have been on our own.

Yours sincerely

Mrs Carol Talbot  
(Head Teacher)



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