



School Prospectus

For school starters
September 2026

Our Vision Statement

VISION STATEMENT:

*Together we gather and grow to bring life to our rural school community.
Everyone is welcomed, known, valued and treasured as individuals.
God's countryside is our classroom, where we live, breath and connect with our
evolving natural world. Through our curriculum we nurture pupils
to be resilient, inquisitive and compassionate.
By embracing stewardship, we recognise our shared responsibility for each
other and the world. We empower each other to act and make a difference to
our neighbours.*

As a Church of England Primary School our six Christian Values are at the heart of our vision.
Every day we aspire to grow in **Faith, Love, Compassion, Kindness, Respect and
Forgiveness**, so that our school family may experience the joy and hope of **"life in all its
fullness"** (John: 10 v10)

Our values underpin our entire school curriculum.

Through our curriculum, we want to develop learners who are:

- Communicative
- Independent
- Collaborative
- Inquisitive
- Resilient
- Emotionally intelligent

As a Church of England school, we want to develop learners who are:

- Respectful
- Loving
- Faithful
- Compassionate
- Kind
- Forgiving



Northbourne – A rural, village school

Thank you for showing an interest in our popular and unique school. I hope that the contents of this prospectus will give you an outline of what Northbourne has to offer you and your family. We are always happy to welcome new families and to show them around, so please do contact the school office to arrange a visit.

Northbourne is classified as a rural school. We enjoy a beautiful, rural setting, which is unique amongst the local Deal schools, whilst being only a short 5-minute drive from Deal and Sandwich,

The school is situated outside of the village of Northbourne, amongst the open fields of the Northbourne estate. It was first opened in 1852 and has been steadily and sympathetically developed and improved throughout its 170-year history. Today we have a school that fully embraces its small, Victorian village school roots, whilst providing a modern and unique curriculum, where the rural environment plays a pivotal role in shaping our pupils.



Northbourne – A Church School

Northbourne is proud to be a Church of England Primary School. Our current SIAMS Church inspection (June 2025) celebrates our strong Christian vision and the links we have with our local churches.



St Augustine's church is located in the heart of Northbourne village and serves as our local church. Throughout the year, our pupils walk to the church for many services and celebrations, including Harvest Festival, Advent and Christmas services, Epiphany, Easter and Ascension services as well as our Year 6 Leavers service in the summer.

The local clergy form a pivotal part of our staff team, joining us in school each week to lead Collective Worship.

Northbourne has no requirement for its families to be attending church in order to apply for a school place. We welcome applications from families of all faiths as well as those who do not practice a religion. We do, however, ask that all of our families support us in promoting our Christian values of Respect, Love, Faith, Compassion, Kindness and Forgiveness.

Northbourne – A Founding Member of “DEALT” (Deal Education Alliance for Learning Trust)

At Northbourne, we pride ourselves on our strong sense of community and family. We work closely alongside our local Deal primary schools. Northbourne CEP School is a founding Academy member of the Deal Education Alliance for Learning Trust (DEALT) which is a Multi Academy Trust of eight local primary schools within Deal and the surrounding villages. This unique and exciting collaboration of local schools work together to ensure the very best outcomes for all pupils and their families within our town.



Northbourne – A Forest School



Forest School does not refer to a physical school building. Forest School is a holistic program, set in our beautiful woodland setting that aims to create and support a relationship between children and the natural world.

Forest school is an inspiring process, a specialised approach to learning that aims to develop confidence and self-esteem through hands-on learning in woodland environments. It is a perfect vehicle through which to demonstrate our school values of being communicative, independent, collaborative, inquisitive, resilient and emotionally intelligent.

It is our aim for Forest School to play a central role in developing our pupils' learning behaviours and character. Forest School time is child led and play focussed. It nurtures and enriches essential real-life skills that equip our pupils for their learning today and for years to come.

Forest School has become widely used in a short space of time across the UK. Its roots lie in good Early Years work, Woodcraft Folk, Scouts & Guides, Scandinavian education and other approaches such as the Reggio Emilio approach to learning.



Pupils at Northbourne CEP School benefit from weekly, half-day Forest School and Outdoor Learning sessions. All Forest School sessions are led by our fully qualified Level 3 Forest School Practitioner and take place in our dedicated Forest School areas. These are set within the natural woodland that surrounds the school. We currently have over 2 acres of outdoor learning space that the children benefit from.

Forest School is based on the process of learning by doing. The Forest School ethos gives our children the opportunity to investigate and learn from different outside environments with lessons taking place throughout all of our British seasons whatever the weather. This helps to develop our children's resilience, keeping them curious, enabling them to work in teams, yet be individually creative. It encourages them to look after their surrounding natural environment and gives them a greater sense of the world around them.



Children are also given the chance to look at a range of new skills, from growing and preparing vegetables and cooking on the 'campfire,' to making shelters and dens. Children also learn how to use a range of tools, starting with hand drills and hacksaws in Reception, all the way through to bow saws and whittling knives in the upper years.

If you feel that our Forest School provision is the right approach for your child, please do arrange to visit and see the environment and facilities for yourself.



Our Curriculum Offer



Our Curriculum is designed to foster learners who are Communicative, Independent, Collaborative, Inquisitive, Resilient and Emotionally Intelligent.



The curriculum at Northbourne Church of England Primary School uses the foundations of the National Curriculum in order to build an exciting and relevant curriculum for our pupils. Each week, our pupils engage in a range of learning opportunities that embed the knowledge and skills needed to succeed in Mathematics, English, Science, PSHE (Personal, Social and Health Education), Computing, Art, Music, French, PE (Physical Education), History, Geography and Design and Technology.

In addition to the subjects specified in the National Curriculum, Northbourne also provides a rich Religious Education curriculum, supported by the Church of England



'God's wonderful world' a creation by Willow Class



Our rural setting plays a key role in our curriculum provision, with learning taking place outside throughout the year. This is particularly evident in our PE provision and our bespoke Forest School provision, which is led by our experienced Level 3 Forest School practitioner.

The curriculum is complemented throughout the year with the addition of theme days, visiting experts, local learning trips and journeys further afield, all in order to provide experiential learning opportunities to broaden our pupils' knowledge and skills.



Our admission number

At Northbourne we have a planned admission limit of just 20 pupils in each year group. With such a small intake number, we often become over-subscribed for places in our Reception class each September. However, we would warmly encourage parents to name us on their school admissions form whilst having a good understanding of the criteria for over-subscription in our Admissions Policy. This can be found on our website. If you require a written copy please contact reception on 01304 611376.

Our Class Structure

The school consists of five classes. This means we model a traditional small school structure of mixed age group classes. Unlike larger one and two form entry schools that you would find in town, our pupils in Year 1 through to Year 6 work alongside a parallel year group.

Our Classes:



Willow Class

Reception

This class consists of all 20 Reception Year pupils



Beech Class

Year 1 and 2

This class consists of all twenty Year 1 pupils and ten Year 2 pupils



Maple Class

Year 2 and Year 3

This class consists of ten Year 2 pupils and all twenty Year 3 pupils



Hazel Class

Year 4 and Year 5

This class consists of all twenty Year 4 pupils and ten Year 5 pupils



Oak Class

Year 5 and Year 6

This class consists of ten Year 5 pupils and all twenty Year 6 pupils

Within each class, pupils follow their own year group curriculum expectations, whilst maximising the flexibility for broadening learning that mixed year group classes provide. Our classroom structure is not just about academic achievements, but also considers the pupils relationships with their peers, relationships with staff and their resilience to activities both in the classroom and outside in our Forest School environment.

Ofsted



Our school was inspected on 18th July 2023. We are delighted with our positive report.

We were particularly proud of the references in the report to the pupils and their excellent behaviour and attitudes to their learning.

- *“Pupils are kind and considerate towards each other. Older pupils develop their strength of character well. With considerable maturity, they helpfully support younger pupils during playtime. In this school, everyone is known as an individual.”*
- *“(Pupils) collaborate well with one another, showing independence and confidence in their learning.”*
- *“Pupils’ behaviour is exemplary. They are impressively polite and courteous”*
- *“(Pupils) are respectful of difference, including different faiths. Pupils are curious about the wider world and have mature views around equality.”*

The full published report by OFSTED and can be accessed via the OFSTED website:

- [Northbourne Church of England Primary School - Open - Find an Inspection Report - Ofsted](#)

Or via our school website:

- [Northbourne CE Primary School - Ofsted & Section 48 Documents \(northbourne-cep.kent.sch.uk\)](#)

Staff List

Chair of Governors	Mr Jackson-Merrick
Headteacher	Mr Reynolds
Special Educational Needs Co-ordinator	Mrs Underwood
Secretary	Mrs Berridge
Forest School Leader & Site Manager	Mr Chidwick
Teachers	Miss Bradley
	Miss Roberts
	Mrs G Smith
	Mr Martin
	Miss Cooper
Teaching Assistants	Miss Davies
	Miss Ruiz
	Mr Skeggs
	Mrs Atkinson
	Mrs Kent
	Mrs A Smith
	Mrs Cavell
	Mrs Robson
	Mrs Heath
Special Educational Needs Teacher	Mrs Morrison
Sports / Clubs Coach	Coach Josh from Team Theme
Music Teacher	Mr Royston
Midday Supervisors	Miss Smart
Whole School Meals Kitchen Staff	Mrs Dower

The information supplied was correct at the time of its production. Changes in staff, and other factors, may alter the arrangements in the school before your child is admitted.

We will be happy to inform any prospective parent, on request, of anything which may have altered.

Applying for September 2026 intake

If you would like to apply for a place at our school, this can be done on the Kent County Council's admissions webpage. You can access it at the following address:
www.kent.gov.uk/education-and-children/schools/school-places/primary-school-places

Applications open on Friday 7th November 2025
Applications Close on Thursday 15th January 2026

Offers will be made via email on Thursday 16th April 2026 after 4pm

Please note that all applications are made to and processed by Kent County Council. The school does not process any applications. If you have a query regarding your child's application please contact the KCC admissions team at the following address:
kentonlineadmissions@kent.gov.uk

Arranging a visit to Northbourne

We appreciate that choosing your child's school is a big decision and we would encourage you to visit as many schools as possible to find the correct setting for your child. At Northbourne we understand that the school has to be the right setting for both pupil and parent.

Thank you for taking the time to read this short summary of our school. There are many other aspects to life at Northbourne, which you will only see by visiting the school and joining us for a tour. If you have any questions or would like to arrange a tour please do contact the school office.

Yours sincerely,

Mr M Reynolds
(Headteacher)

School Telephone Number 01304 611376
Email secretary@northbourne-cep.kent.sch.uk
Web-Site <http://northbourne-cep.kent.sch.uk>