



Bloxham CE Primary School

02 September 2025

Dear Families

It was a real joy to welcome children and families back to school today for the start of our new academic year. The staff team were delighted to greet familiar faces returning after the summer as well as new families and new colleagues who are joining our community for the first time. Bloxham CE Primary is such a positive place to belong, and that is because of the people who make it: our children, staff, governors, parents, and the wider village community.

This morning we gathered for our first whole-school collective worship of the year. We reflected on the importance of working together, encouraging one another, and making every member of our school feel welcome. You may also enjoy reading more about this in our contribution to the *Bloxham Broadsheet*.

As a school, our motto, *Be. Build. Become.* and our values — to **be inclusive, be caring, be honest, be trustworthy, be ambitious and be creative** — are not just words on a wall; they are lived each day in our classrooms, corridors, and playgrounds. The respect, kindness, and care our children show one another is something that continually makes us proud.

The local authority have consistently expressed strong confidence in our capacity to achieve our goals — and indeed the successes already achieved. Such is their confidence that we have now been removed as a strategy school, with the LA clear in their belief that we have the capacity to achieve continued success without their input. Before the summer break we were delighted to present the significant progress our school has made to Ofsted, the wide range of opportunities pupils experience, and the many strengths across the school. Our nurture provision is just one example, alongside the expertise and commitment of our staff team and the clear trajectory the school is on. We are now awaiting the publication of their report, with the summer break affecting the usual timeframes and processes relating to this. Whilst we are unable to share the outcomes at this stage, the governors and I are privileged to work with a team who are always striving to improve further, to personalise learning for every child, and to ensure ambition and success are at the heart of all that we do.

As we begin the new academic year, 2025/2026, we continue to build upon our success. Having now run our topic plan for two years, we have reviewed and refined our planned learning to ensure pupils gain a true depth of knowledge. This work was developed throughout last year,

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shaped by training undertaken by Mr Singleton and myself. It not only enables us to deepen children's knowledge but also further strengthens links to Fundamental British Values across the curriculum. From the beginning, we have always been clear about what we want children to learn, using our Blue Review assessments to build a picture of the children's understanding and further learning needs. We have now extended our already strong practice to take it to the next level, so that pupils can really draw upon learning from previous topics, making even stronger connections, strengthening their recall, and developing a deeper understanding over time. Locality links continue to remain an important feature of our curriculum, giving pupils a real sense of relevance and meaning to their studies, and ensuring that what they learn is rooted in the community they live in.

Tomorrow's **Meet the Teacher** sessions will give you a chance to hear more about how these developments will look in practice across the year groups, and how we will continue to ensure every child is challenged, supported, and inspired in their learning. The first session will take place at **3:30pm**, and it will be repeated at **4:00pm** to help as many families as possible to attend. You'll hear a brief overview of the year ahead and have a chance to ask general questions. (If you need a private conversation, please arrange a separate time with your child's teacher.)

We are excited for the year ahead, with new opportunities for learning, memorable experiences, and further ways of building strong partnerships with you as parents. Together, we can ensure every child is nurtured, supported, and encouraged to be their very best.

As we look ahead, you may also recall that our Section 48 inspection, originally expected last term, was postponed. We anticipate that the visit will take place soon and we look forward to sharing the many strengths of our school with our SIAMS inspector. We know how well our pupils are supported and how they flourish here, living out our vision each day: *"Encourage one another and build each other up."*

Thank you, as always, for the support you give both to your children and to our school. We are looking forward to another happy and successful year together.

With warm regards,

Sarah Marshall

Headteacher

Be . Build . Become