

# **GILDEN MORDEN**

## **CHURCH OF ENGLAND**

# **PRIMARY ACADEMY**

*Together we work to succeed and flourish*



# **School Prospectus**

## **WELCOME FROM THE HEAD**

A very warm welcome to Guilden Morden Church of England Primary Academy.

I am so proud to be the Head Teacher of this very special place to learn. It is a thriving, growing and happy learning environment within the beautiful village and supportive community of Guilden Morden. We make the most of the opportunities afforded by a small school with our small classes to ensure that everyone is valued and supported as an individual. This was recognised during our recent Ofsted Inspection:

*"Pupils are extremely happy at school. They enjoy their work and are keen to do well. They like the small size of the school because everyone knows each other. As one pupil commented, 'we are like one big family.'" (Ofsted 2019)*

We are proud to offer a rich curriculum that takes full advantage of our facilities, including a wildlife area, a large playing field and a heated swimming pool, that all children benefit from. We employ expert teachers for PE and Music to add to our own expertise and a range of visitors add to the experiences we offer. Our residential trips provide children with different environments in which to learn and grow.

*"The curriculum provides all pupils with rich experiences that is likely to leave them with lifelong memories of their time at the school. Staff plan activities that broaden pupils' horizons and encourage them to have high aspirations for themselves." (Ofsted 2019)*

We know that every child is different and choosing the right school is vital to allowing your child to thrive, so please come along and visit us to find out if we are right for your child. To arrange a visit, call us: **01763 852318**, email us: [office@guildenmorden.cambs.sch.uk](mailto:office@guildenmorden.cambs.sch.uk).

This prospectus aims to provide a taster about our school and our policies and procedures. There is **additional information** and a **virtual tour** on our school website. [www.guildenmorden.cambs.sch.uk](http://www.guildenmorden.cambs.sch.uk).

**Mrs Sonia Singh**

## **WELCOME FROM OUR CHAIR OF GOVERNORS**

When we welcome a child to our school, we also welcome the family. Guilden Morden is a community school and two of my children attend school currently. I am immensely proud to be the Chair of Governors of this school, which continues to grow from strength to strength. We have strong values at the school underpinned by Christian, British and other values we have chosen. All of the Governors, Head, teachers, children, the whole school, parents and wider community, work together to succeed and flourish.

Please look on our website to access the video, '**A word from our Chair of Governors**'.

**Anna Fettiplace**

## **WELCOME FROM OUR TRUST**

Guilden Morden Church of England Primary Academy is part of the **Diocese of Ely Multi-Academy Trust (DEMAT)**.

The Church of England has been providing high quality education in England for more than 200 years. The DEMAT promise encompasses providing the best education and life chances we can through nurturing our children's values of Love, Community, Trust, Respect and Ambition. We recognise the importance of continually improving the quality of education across our schools. We are investing in the development of our curriculum, teaching and wider provision to ensure these improvements are realised.

Our schools give children the chance to learn, grow and make friends in a happy and inclusive learning environment. We provide them with a firm foundation for the future and the opportunity to thrive. We equip children with the skills and knowledge to fulfil their potential, to build their confidence and aspirations and help them to understand the positive role they can play in their local communities. We seek to instil a lifelong love of learning, to expand each child's horizons, and to give them the tools to succeed in whatever they set their minds to.

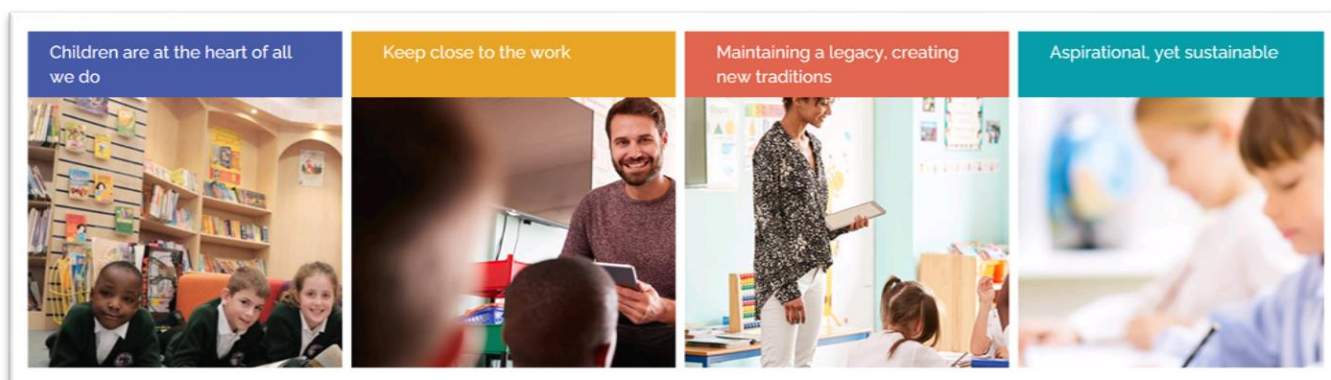
Our vision is for every child to flourish, to be introduced to the richness of human experience, and to understand, question and contribute to the world around them.

Our strategic plan will be delivered through four core strands, all of which are underpinned by our Christian distinctiveness.

1. Children are at the heart of all we do.
2. Keep close to the work.
3. Maintaining a legacy, creating new traditions.
4. Aspirational, yet sustainable.

Welcome to our Trust.

**Adrian Ball, Chief Executive Officer**



## **WELCOME FROM OUR PUPILS**

Here are some of the things we love about our school:

*"We have a friendship bench and a wellbeing team so everyone has someone to play with outside."*

*"We have lots of space outside to play on the apparatus and the field. You get to go swimming in the summer in our own pool which is really good fun."*

*"All the teachers are very kind and they challenge us to do our best. We get house points and the house who wins has a special treat. You get to be with your brother or sister in your houses too."*

*"We are an environmentally friendly school. We do composting, recycling and even have our own global gang!"*

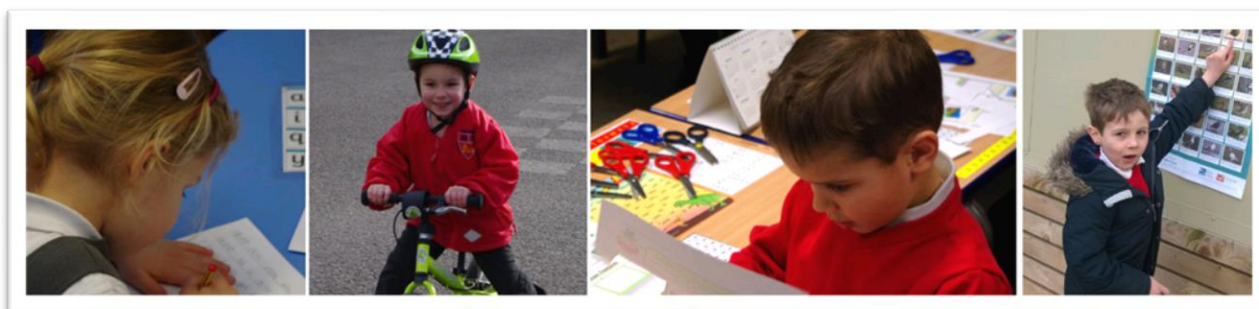
*"We have dance with Vanessa which is fun. We walk to the church on special occasions."*

## **WELCOME FROM OUR PARENT TEACHER AND FRIENDS ASSOCIATION (PTFA)**

We are an open community of volunteer's working alongside the school/staff/and other 'friends' to benefit the school and ensure the best educational experience for all our pupils. All parents and carers at Guilden Morden Pre-School and Primary School are automatically enrolled to become supporters of the PTFA when their children start their learning journey at our wonderful setting.

We support the school and pre-school by enhancing an already broad, balanced and stimulating curriculum; We raise funds in a variety of ways throughout the year from Christmas events to summer ice-cream stalls. We are actively involved in a range of projects and initiatives supporting the staff and our pupils - always promoting the shared ethos of our school community. We also run clubs in the summer term including gardening and swimming which the children enjoy greatly and provide a number of 'just for fun' events across the school year.

**Lucy Seymour**





## **OUR VISION**

- At Guilden Morden School, our vision is to provide each child with a challenging, stimulating and enjoyable education.
- We will strive to develop the whole child through the encouragement of high expectations, in an inclusive and supportive environment, where every child can reach for their potential and grow in independence.
- We will nurture attitudes of care and consideration in keeping with our Christian Ethos.



## **OUR AIMS**



- For all our children to grow as thinking, confident, responsible and caring individuals with clear values rooted firmly in our Christian Ethos.
  - For all our children to reach their full potential through access to an exciting and stimulating curriculum, developing the skills to become life-long learners, whilst meeting the full requirements of the National Curriculum
- 
- To provide a supportive environment where children and adults feel confident and able to challenge themselves.
  - To provide high quality teaching that meets the needs of all the learners
  - To provide equal opportunities for everyone in the school community to develop personally and professionally in an inclusive, safe, secure and supportive environment.
  - To maintain co-operative and supportive relationships within the school community of children, families, staff and governors.
  - To maintain a purposeful, attractive, safe and stimulating learning environment. To enable the children to benefit from a school that is an integral part of the local community.



*Together we work to succeed and flourish*

## **OUR CHRISTIAN DISTINCTIVENESS**

Recognising its historic foundation, the school preserves and develops its religious character in accordance with the principles of the Church of England and in partnership with the Church at parish and diocesan level. We aim to serve its community by providing an education of the highest quality within the context of Christian belief and practice. We welcome families of faith or no faith equally. We help the children to gain an understanding of the meaning and significance of faith and promote Christian values through the experiences we offer to all pupils.



"**Together we work to succeed and flourish**" is our school motto and the foundation upon which we develop our aims and ethos.



Guilden Morden CofE Primary Academy  
**Our Christian Vision for Education**



# ***'Together we work to succeed and flourish'***



Our school community is centred on the **friendship** of Christ, rooted in **love** and **respect**, enabling all to flourish. Through the **courage** given to us by the Holy Spirit we will be visible children of God.

Our Christian vision for education underpins life in its fullness at Guilden Morden and is strengthened by our core values and biblical theology:

***Jesus said "I have come that they may have life, and have it to the full." John 10:10***

## **COLLECTIVE WORSHIP**

As a Church of England School, Collective Worship is an integral part of our school day. It follows a different theme each week linked to a plan for the term. The careful planning of assemblies supports our emphasis on the school ethos and the spiritual and moral aspect of learning and living in a community

## **OUR VALUES**

Together, as a school community, we have developed a set of values that incorporates Christian Values, British Values and other Values that we have prioritised. We want the children to understand each value and be able to apply them to their own choices and beliefs. We therefore have a value of the month and this is the focus of collective worship, aspects of the curriculum and specific rewards.



Our Values of the Term are as follows:

### **OUR SCHOOL VALUES**

#### **2022/2023**

Autumn 1	Autumn 2	Spring 1	Spring 2	Summer 1	Summer 2
Honesty & Trust	Appreciation	Respect	Friendship	Perseverance & Courage	Patience

#### **2023/2024**

Autumn 1	Autumn 2	Spring 1	Spring 2	Summer 1	Summer 2
Responsibility	Tolerance	Hope	Determination	Compassion & Forgiveness	Consideration

## **OUR SCHOOL DAY**

Morning Session	9.00 - 12.15 am
Break Time	10.45 - 11.00 am
Lunch Break	12.15 - 1.15 pm
Afternoon Session	1.15 - 3.15 pm



Children should arrive at school for 8.50 am ready for their planned lessons to begin at 9.00am. This allows time for children to settle in, take registers and also engage in early morning activities each day. Depending on the different year groups, these activities may include reading through and responding to feedback in their books, independent reading, phonics activities, maths activities or activities designed to develop fine motor skills.

The school gate will be closed at 9.00 am and if your child arrives late, then you will need to take your child to the office as the register will have been marked. Children attending pre-school will need to press the buzzer after the gate closes at 9.00am.

## **OUR EXTENDED DAY**

“Cool Club” is part of our extended day where we offer a Breakfast Club from 7.45am and an After-school Club until 5.30pm during term time only. Breakfast is served from 7.45am onwards, which typically includes cereal, toast, juice and fruit. We serve a snack between 4.00-4.30pm which varies each day (beans on toast, bagels, pasta, sandwiches) and again with fruit being provided daily. Please see our school website for further details or contact the school office.

We also offer a wide range of clubs and activities over a typical school year, dependent on the term. Some of these take place at lunchtimes and before school but many take place after school. These have included:

Homework Club	Drama Club	Swimming
Gardening Club	Art Club	Multi-Sports

## **OUR CLASSES**

Currently the school is organised into the Pre-School and two main-school classes:

Class	Year groups/ age	Curriculum
Preschool	Daily morning and afternoon sessions for 2 to 4 Year olds	Early Years Foundation Stage
Class 1 (Owls)	Reception Year 1 Year 2	Reception (EYFS) Key Stage 1
Class 2 (Phoenix)	Year 3 Year 4	Lower Key Stage 2
	Year 5 Year 6	Upper Key Stage 2

Children are grouped according to age. The teachers and teaching assistants work together to ensure that the different learning needs within each class are catered for and that children have a curriculum appropriate to their age and development.



## **TEACHING AND LEARNING**

A variety of teaching methods take place in each class; group teaching, individual teaching and whole class teaching, with Teaching Assistants supporting the learning in a variety of ways. Altering the style according to the needs of the child and the subject being taught enables the potential of each child to be realised. Each child's progress, academically, socially and physically, is closely monitored by the class teacher and the school leaders so that each individual thrives and so that timely action can be taken where needed.



Through working as a team, we strive to ensure high quality teaching in all curriculum areas. Teachers with particular expertise work throughout the whole school teaching, advising and supporting. The school uses some of the money it receives through the PE Premium to fund the services of a Dance specialist and a PE specialist who works with pupils and staff. All children from Reception upwards learn Spanish.

## **EARLY YEARS FOUNDATION STAGE**

Pupils joining the school in the year they turn 5 enter Reception. This covers the final year of the Early Year's Foundation Stage. The Class Teacher and Teaching Assistant will liaise carefully with Pre-school settings to ensure progression for each child. The Foundation Stage curriculum is based on learning through play. The areas of learning are divided into Prime and Specific areas.

The Prime areas of learning are:

- Communication and Language
- Physical Development
- Personal, Social and Emotional Development.

The Specific areas of learning are:

- Literacy
- Mathematics
- Understanding the World
- Expressive Arts and Design



## **KEY STAGE ONE AND TWO**



Pupils in Key Stage 1 and 2 follow the National Curriculum. Due to having different year groups in each class, we have arranged our curriculum on a 2 year cycle. This enables progression and continuity without undue repetition. Breadth and balance in the curriculum is achieved through this planning, including a focus on developing skills in each subject and through the regular inclusion of visitors, trips and visits. The children's opinions of the impact of the enrichment activities are regularly sought in order to ensure that there is enjoyment and motivation. Curriculum plans are published on the school's website and a weekly curriculum newsletter is emailed to parents from each class.

## **OUR INCLUSION STATEMENT**

Our school aims to be an inclusive school. We focus on making all our children welcome and feeling happy to look forward to their school day. Every child is different and we view differences as an opportunity for adults and children alike to learn more about ourselves.

## **SPECIAL EDUCATIONAL NEEDS PROVISION AT GILDEN**

The school caters for the needs of all pupils with special educational needs. All teachers plan, set and mark work which is appropriate and relevant to the individual needs of the pupils. The SENCO is responsible for overseeing assessment and provision. All pupils, including those with special educational needs, are encouraged to become increasingly independent and take responsibility within the school.



We work closely with specialists who come into school to work alongside school staff to formulate individual education plans, review these and provide any necessary training. In addition, the school accesses a 'play therapy' service through the YMCA. The counsellor is able to offer support in school to children, who are experiencing emotional or behavioural difficulties.

- The name of the Special Educational Needs and Disability Co-ordinator (SENDCO) is **Kate Wright**
- The name of the Special Educational Needs and Disability Governor is **Trudie Woodhall**
- A copy of the SEND policy is available on the school's website.

## **VISITS AND VISITORS**



A variety of visits are organised which form part of the curriculum. They include visits to museums, historic buildings and theatre visits, as well as performances and workshops held within school.



There are obvious benefits of such school visits. It is required by law that the costs are covered by voluntary contributions, however school visits could not take place without these.

By the end of Year 6 we aim to ensure that each child has had the opportunity to take part in a residential visit.



## **SAFETY EDUCATION**

We are keen to make all children aware of some of the hazards around them. These include road safety, water safety and dangers on farms, as well as being more aware that some people may pose a threat to children. Personal safety is included in aspects of the curriculum from Foundation Stage onwards.



Children travelling to school by bicycle should be accompanied by an adult or should have successfully completed the Bikeability Course. The wearing of cycle helmets is expected.



## **RELATIONSHIPS AND SEX EDUCATION**

The Department for Children, Schools and Families recognises that 'appropriate and responsible' relationships and sex education (RSE) is an important element in the work of schools preparing pupils for adult life.

We believe that this is a shared responsibility between parents and teachers and requires a careful and sensitive approach. We have a Health Education Programme which complements the age and maturity of the child and in Year 5 links to the PSHE. There is a structured programme for relationships and sex education delivered by the class teacher.

You will have the opportunity to view the material used, so that you can be prepared for issues and questions which may arise at home. Parents retain the right to withdraw children from these sessions.

## **PHYSICAL EDUCATION**



We want our children to be active, to develop fit and healthy bodies and develop a range of sporting skills. Over the year we cover the National Curriculum and we prepare the children to take part in a whole range of activities including competitions with other schools. We have specialist teachers for PE and Dance who teach every child each week. We use our outdoor spaces as much as possible and add to the expected curriculum with:

- Daily Mile for all (15 minutes of sustained walking, jogging and running)
- Special events such as the Limitless Games Days and visits from sports stars such as Mike Mullins (former BMX world champion)
- Swimming for all children in the Summer term using our own pool



For the past three years we have gained the Silver Games Mark in recognition of the competitions we have entered and are working towards Gold accreditation.



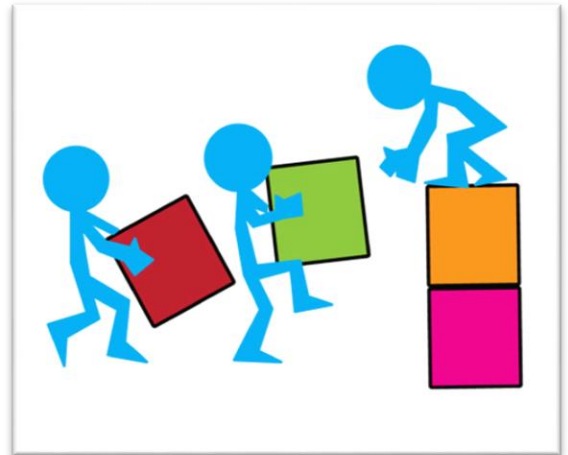
## **FOREST SCHOOL**

Forest School is a child-centred learning process that supports play, exploration and supported risk taking. It develops confidence and self-esteem through child inspired, hands-on experiences in a natural setting. We have a trained practitioner for Forest School that delivers weekly sessions in our garden and examples of activities include making bird feeders, exploring nature, gardening and looking at ways to protect our environment.

## **WORKING TOGETHER IN THE SCHOOL**

All children use the same playground, eat together and have Collective Worship together. We encourage our children to be positive role models for others and also develop early leadership skills, by giving children responsibilities. Some of these are within the classes, others across the school such as being part of our Vision and Values Team or supporting at playtimes as Play Leaders.

The school also has a house system where children are placed into one of four houses when they start school in Reception class. These houses are Saturn, Neptune, Venus and Jupiter. Siblings are placed in the same house. The house system is used to encourage the children to work collaboratively with a wider group of children across the age ranges and children can earn points for them in many ways. They also compete in their houses during sporting and other competitions.



## **ASSESSMENT**

We assess the children's academic progress formally according to national expectations:

- Early Years Foundation Stage Profile (Pupils are assessed on entry and then throughout the year)
- Phonics Screening -Year 1
- KS1 Statutory Tests and Assessment - Year 2
- KS2 Timetables (from 2020)- Year 4
- KS2 Statutory Tests - Year 6

And informally, on a termly basis, in order to ensure that they are progressing well. We also keep track of each child's well-being and take steps to address any concerns that arise.



The outcomes of our Statutory Assessments are published on our website.

## **SAFEGUARDING AND CHILD PROTECTION**

As a school community we are committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children in our care and expects all staff, governors and volunteers to share this commitment. We will always endeavour to provide a safe and welcoming environment where children are respected and valued.

- Designated Safeguarding Lead: **Sonia Singh**
- Designated Deputies for Safeguarding: **Kate Wright, Helen Smith, Kristy Carter, Louise Young**
- School Safeguarding Governor: **Sarah Fryer**

***Everyone has a responsibility to make sure that the children within Guilden Morden Primary Academy are safe.***

For more information and a copy of the school's Safeguarding and Child Protections Policy please see the school website.

## **BEHAVIOUR AT GUILDEN**

Our Behaviour Policy is based on having a therapeutic and whole school approach to behaviour management using pro social strategies that support the child as a whole with their personal, social and academic development.

Our Golden Rules help everyone in the school to be safe and happy and able to reach their own potential.



For the full policy, please see our Behaviour Management Policy and Anti-Bullying Policy on our school website.



## **OUR SCHOOL UNIFORM**



### Boys:

- Red sweatshirt/jumper
- Red fleece (optional)
- White polo
- Grey/black trousers/shorts
- Sensible shoes

### Girls:

- Red sweatshirt/jumper/cardigan
- Red fleece (optional)
- White polo
- Grey/black skirt/trousers
- In the summer, red and white gingham check/striped dress.
- Sensible shoes

### Clothing for Physical Education:

- Plain blue shorts (close fitting without buckles)
- Plimsolls (indoor shoes)
- House coloured t-shirts
- A pair of boots/trainers for football and other field sports
- A warm tracksuit or training top for winter
- A swimming costume, towel and hat in a waterproof bag (summer term only)
- Boys must wear close-fitting Speedo type trunks
- A drawstring bag to keep PE clothing in



No nail varnish or jewellery should be worn in school. Children with pierced ears wear plain stud earrings which need to be removed independently for P.E. and swimming. There is a small selection of second-hand uniform available through the office for a small donation towards the P.T.F.A.

## **SCHOOL MEALS AND DINNER MONEY**

Lunchtime is a great social occasion as all children eat at the same time. Children have the choice between a cooked meal or to bring a packed lunch.

We operate a healthy eating value at lunch and operate a nut free policy for all packed lunches and school dinners. Please see our website for additional advice on what we encourage to be a healthy packed lunch, including foods and drinks to avoid.

After lunch, the children are free to play on the playground, field or quiet area. All children take part in our daily mile, this is a focused 15 minutes walking or running led by our sports leaders / staff.

Parent Pay is used to manage payments and for ordering of all school meals. Our office are always happy to explain how the meal selection and payment works.

## **TRANSITIONS**

We recognise that transitions mark significant changes in any child's journey through education and make arrangements to ensure that these go as smoothly and worry-free as possible, whilst helping the children to be ready for and excited about the next phase in their education.

*"Leaders believe it is important to help all pupils to flourish both socially and academically. They prepare pupils well for each new stage of their education." (Ofsted 2019)*

## **PRE-SCHOOL**

We are so lucky to have such a great provision on our site and take advantage of this when preparing the pre-schoolers to join our school. Throughout the year prior to starting Reception, the children:

- Join the main school for assembly each week
- Join the rest of the school on the playground one day a week
- Join Reception for dance, every fortnight

During the summer term before they join Reception class, the children have class taster sessions to get to know the teachers. Parents are invited to a meeting to receive the key information about starting school and the teachers arrange a home-visit.

## **STARTING SCHOOL IN RECEPTION**

Our new Reception children have a phased start during September. This gives us valuable time to help settle the children quickly and effectively into school.

## **TRANSFER TO SECONDARY SCHOOL**

We believe that a carefully planned transition programme is vital in ensuring pupils have a positive start to secondary school. The local secondary school is Bassingbourn Village College (BVC) and it places great emphasis on getting to know its future students. Whilst in Year 5, pupils are invited to days at BVC to get to know a little about life in the school. During the year preceding transfer, the college staff work closely with our staff, the pupils and their parents. The college provides several opportunities for families to look round and meet staff and students. The Pastoral Team looks after pupils' individual needs when they transfer and they are all assured that they will start their secondary education in a group with friends from their primary school.

In addition, we are very fortunate that our PE teacher who teaches in each class also works at BVC and is able to provide additional links between the schools, including bringing a group of sports leaders to Guilden Morden to run our Summer Sports Day.

## **FINAL WORD FROM OUR HEAD**

We hope that this prospectus gives you an insight into our school. As a school we are continuously evolving and improving to ensure that we are able to offer high quality education to all our pupils. We are a school built on nurture and positive relationships that are strengthened by our core Christian values of love, friendship, courage and respect that run seamlessly in everything we do and we hope that you can see that when you visit our school.

If you have any questions or queries then please get in touch with the school and we will be happy to respond.

**We look forward to welcoming you to our school community.**

## **OUR SCHOOL CONTACT DETAILS AND LOCATION**

GUILDEN MORDEN C OF E PRIMARY ACADEMY

Pound Green

Guilden Morden

near Royston

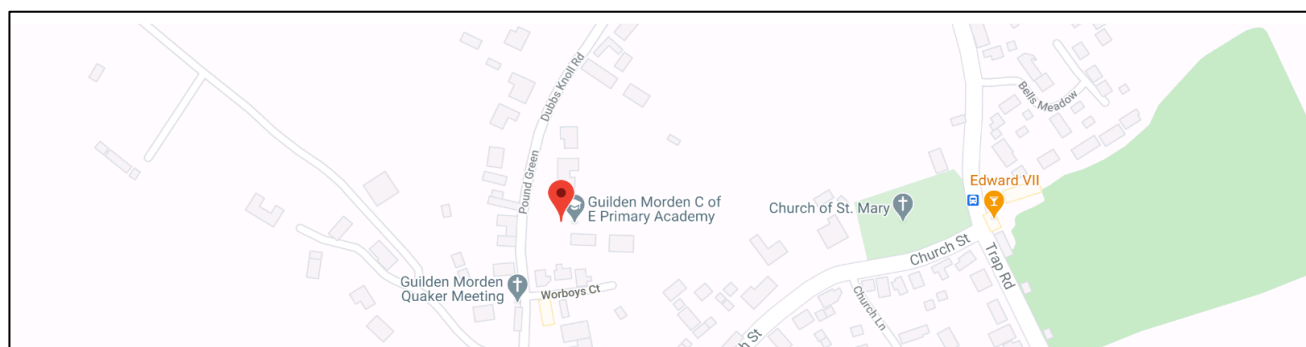
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Email: [office@guildenmorden.cambs.sch.uk](mailto:office@guildenmorden.cambs.sch.uk)

Website: [www.guildenmorden.cambs.sch.uk](http://www.guildenmorden.cambs.sch.uk)



## **The Diocese of Ely Multi-Academy Trust (DEMAT)**

Bishop Woodford House,

Barton Road,

Ely

CB7 4DX

**Tel: 01353 652701**

## **DEMAT Office Address**

Grace Building,

8 High Street,

Ely, Cambridgeshire,

CB7 4JU

**Tel: 01353 656760**

## **DEMAT Website**

<https://demat.org.uk/>

