

Reviewed by:	Full Governing Body
Last updated:	January 2009
Next review date:	January 2010

Ethos statement

“Caring now, for the future”

Seaton Primary School believes that every child is a seed for the future. It is the aim of the school, through its curriculum and teaching to nurture and care for each individual to enable them to grow, to blossom and to release their full potential in the future.

Our 21st Century facilities and up to date resources enable us to care for the whole child. In caring now, for the future, we aim to provide:

Care for the individual – High Standards in Education

We aim to provide the best teaching and learning at every stage of their primary school education. This means getting off to a good start in the reception class, building strong foundations in the basic skills in Key Stage 1 classes, and developing independence, interest and enthusiasm across a broad range of subjects in Key Stage 2 classes, preparing them well for their Secondary school. The school caters for children of all abilities, including able and talented pupils, by providing Special Needs support, extension activities and 'setting' the children for English and Mathematics within Key Stage 2. Our expectations are high for all our children and our educational standards are excellent.

Care for the whole child – A healthy and fit lifestyle

As a school we have already been awarded Healthy School status because of our emphasis on the needs of the whole child. We care for the health and physical needs of the children by providing regular exercise, encouraging healthy eating and drinking of water. We have a wide range of sporting clubs and activities and have links with local sports clubs. Through the School Sports Co-ordinator we have benefited from a wide range of extra activities and events that promote fitness and help the children to succeed. The school cares for the child's personal, social, spiritual and moral needs through assemblies, PSHE lessons and circle time. This builds self esteem and respect for life, enabling all our pupils to look to the future with confidence.

Care for each other – A happy school

The children are taught and encouraged to live, work and play with each other through school and class rules, assertive discipline, praise and encouragement. We want every child to be happy in school and ready to learn. We do not accept bullying or any behaviour which causes upset. Through assemblies and class discussions our ethos of care, for the future is explained and underlined so that everyone can play their part in the whole school community. We have class councillors who meet in the school council so that all have a voice in the development of the school.

Care for the Community – Involvement

The school is very much a part of the Local Community. It is involved in the Community and brings the Community into the school. The values of the Community are reflected in our own values to teach the children what it means to be a part of that Community. Community resources are used to enhance the curriculum, through visits to local places of interest and by inviting local experts into the school. There are good links between the school and other organisations within the town of Seaton, within the Axe Valley and throughout East Devon. We also have good links with the local churches and welcome the local clergy into school to take assemblies. The children are encouraged to get involved in the Community and play their part in local celebrations and festivals. They care about the future of their community and have already made their thoughts known about proposals for future developments.

Care for those in need - Giving

We have been very generous over the years in raising money for a variety of charities. This has involved the staff, the children and their parents giving of their time and money, putting on events and going the extra mile to support those in need. We believe this develops empathy and understanding in the children enabling them to be caring and compassionate in their thinking and their actions.

Care for tomorrow's needs – Teaching and Learning for the 21st Century

In providing for the children today we also need to keep an eye on the future. Those starting in reception this year will be the young adults of our world in the 2020s. In school we merge the best of existing practice with the use of new technologies. Our computer network, and more use of the internet and interactive teaching tools, means that ICT is being embedded into our teaching and learning to provide the children with the skills for adapting in and shaping the world of tomorrow.

Care for the World – Sustainability

Seaton Primary School provides a world perspective in caring for the future. Not only do the children learn how to look after their wonderful school grounds but also are at the forefront of being a sustainable school. Our new wind turbine, photo-voltaic panels and solar panels, the first school in South West England to make use of a selection of renewable energy forms, helps the children to think about caring for their world and know about alternative energy. Our energy policy and Good Housekeeping policies enable the children to learn about saving energy and reducing, reusing or recycling waste. We have a world perspective in our teaching and learning and the nature of multi-cultural Britain in our curriculum. We have developed contacts through the internet with schools in different parts of the world and use these to learn more about the different cultures and lifestyles of people in other countries.

It is by 'caring now, for the future' that we are able to give the children who will live in this 'future' all the skills they need. Seaton Primary School strives to achieve this aim through self review and careful improvement, looking forward in confidence to a successful future.