



## HIGHFIELDS PRIMARY SCHOOL

### SCHOOL PROFILE

Highfields Primary School was opened in 1978, providing places for pupils from St Michael's Church of England Primary School and the Manningtree Wesleyan School, both of which closed at that time. The pupil roll has steadily increased since then due to the development of the Lawford Dale Estate and other new housing in the area.

Manningtree is a small rural Market Town and lies 10 miles to the North East of Colchester. Highfields is positioned in the village of Lawford and serves a mixed catchment area that includes parts of the surrounding villages of Mistley and Manningtree. A large Council estate is situated to the front of the school and a private housing estate to the rear, the latter having generated rapid growth in pupil numbers over the last few years.

The school shares a site with the local Manningtree High School.

In 2000 we were one of twelve Tending Schools privileged to be included in a PPP scheme. This has meant a brand new school with permanent accommodation for 350 pupils. Architects worked closely with the school to ensure a building that met the new model brief for Essex. We have spacious closed classes, a large purpose built ICT suite, 2 halls a medical room, large welcoming entrance hall and many other features that give opportunity for enhanced stimulating teaching and learning. The landscaping is now completed to provide spacious soft/hard play areas where pupils can enjoy quality leisure time.

In 2010 a purpose build independently run Kindergarten was opened on the school site. The majority of the children move into 'Highfields' following a detailed induction. We also take in children from a variety of private nurseries and pre-school settings in the area.

Employment in the area is limited to a small industrial estate nearby and minimal casual work in the local market garden industry. A large proportion of parents living on the council estate are local to the area, some of whom are not in full employment. A high percentage of the parents from the Lawford Dale estate commute to the surrounding towns of Colchester, Ipswich and the city of London.

The school has a mission statement and AIMS that were formulated by staff and Governors in January 1995. Monitoring and evaluating systems are in place, and the AIMS are reviewed annually with staff and the Curriculum Committee of Governors.