

Creeping St Mary CEVAP School

Overview of 2018/19

The past year has been busy for the school, with the building of a new classroom, bringing the nominal roll to a maximum of 105. The school is close to full, and we had 36 applicants for 15 places in Reception for next term. Keeping the school full is extremely important as the funding of education is proportionate with headcount, the pressure of long term austerity is biting, and recent adjustments to pension levels bring additional cause for concern.

We have worked hard to try and alleviate some of the long-standing parking difficulties by instituting a graduated drop off in the mornings. This measure reduces the pressure on the limited available parking and keeping parents out of the school playground improves the safeguarding of the children. It is not a perfect solution, but it is moving in the right direction.

Significant amounts of development in and around the village will add pressure on all resources, such as Needham Market Country Practice, the local schools and general infrastructure. It will put more pressure on places at the school, and we would like to impress on parents of primary school age children to ensure they apply for school places. This year we had several cases of parents who assumed places at schools to be an automatic right and did not apply. Development without infrastructure will amplify the shortage of local resource and admission policies favour proximity.