

# “SOARING TO SUCCESS”



## THE BELLBIRD PRIMARY SCHOOL, SAWSTON, CAMBRIDGESHIRE



### Information

Address: The Bellbird Primary School,  
Link Road, Sawston, Cambridge  
Cambridgeshire, CB22 3GB

Telephone: 01223 833216

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

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

Age range: 4 to 11 years old

Type of school: Community Primary





## Letter from the Chair of Governors



The Bellbird Primary School opened its doors for the very first time in September 2007, following the amalgamation of the John Falkner Infant and John Paxton Junior Schools. In April 2010 the school moved into a purpose-built facility with extensive grounds located on Link Road, Sawston. An extension was added in April 2013 giving us a tenth classroom, an extension to our Atrium, additional car parking space and cycle shelters. Since then the school has grown and whilst our PAN is 45 we have accepted 60 children in the last two years and are on course to move to 2 form entry throughout the school, with plans to build 4 extra classrooms, eventually making The Bellbird Primary a 2 form entry school in 2019. While the school has grown in numbers, it has also successfully developed standards and achieved an Ofsted Good rating in 2015. It is an exciting time for this growing and vibrant school.

Please click here ([www.thebellbird.cambs.sch.uk/vacancies](http://www.thebellbird.cambs.sch.uk/vacancies)) to take a look at a short video to give you an immediate picture of what our school is like.

The Bellbird Primary School sits at the heart of a thriving and growing community just south of Cambridge. This is a wonderful area with high tech and biotech industry rapidly expanding and drawing new families to our area. As our school expands to meet this growing population, we look forward to encouraging and supporting the next generation with outstanding all-round education, laying the foundations that will lead to both success for our pupils and provide a competent and skilled stream of talent for our world-leading industries and research establishments.

Our school has wonderful links with parents and the wider community, is supported by an active and committed governing body, and boasts a highly effective PTA (FABS – Friends at Bellbird Primary School), whose fundraising enhances school life and supports all our children. This funding extends to giving every child in the school a cycle helmet and swimming lessons. We also have a well-established and in-demand breakfast club and after-school club, with its own rooms and staff.

If you are interested in sending your child to our school or you would like to apply for a job here, we would encourage you to visit us so that you can see why we are so proud of our children and our school – and we look forward to hearing from you.

Yours sincerely,

[Dr Tim Wreghitt](#)

Chair of Governors

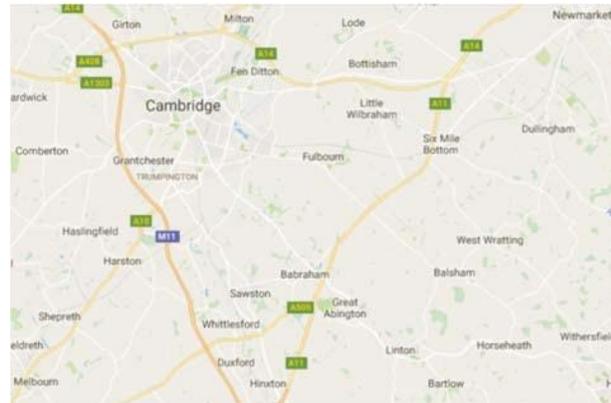


## School Location

Sawston is a large, thriving and supportive community village situated to the south of Cambridge. The Bellbird is located in the centre of the village with the majority of pupils and parents walking to school each day.

Sawston is very well situated. The M11, A11 and A505 (providing excellent links to the north, south, east and west) are all within 5-minutes' drive of the village centre. Sawston is also central to the rapidly growing science and biotech industries that are based in the area. The Wellcome Trust Genome Campus ([www.sanger.ac.uk/about/campus](http://www.sanger.ac.uk/about/campus)) is 3 miles away, as is the Babraham Institute ([www.babraham.ac.uk](http://www.babraham.ac.uk)), while the new global headquarters of AstraZeneca ([www.astrazeneca.com/our-science/cambridge](http://www.astrazeneca.com/our-science/cambridge)), being built at the Cambridge Biomedical Campus ([www.cambridge-biomedical.com/about-the-campus-2](http://www.cambridge-biomedical.com/about-the-campus-2)), is just 5 miles away.

Eight miles north of the village is Cambridge and many people cycle to the city using the extensive network of cycle paths. The train can take you to Kings Cross or London Liverpool Street in approximately 1 hour and both Cambridge International and Stansted Airports are less than half-an-hour away.



Cambridge itself is a timeless place, characterised by charming architecture and cobbled streets. The city is most famously home of the world-renowned University of Cambridge, giving it a real international flavour. There are plenty of independent arts and concert halls to enjoy, food to taste and cultural spots to experience. In contrast to its genteel image, the city is a hotbed for innovation. As well as the biotech industry, there are several technology parks surrounding the city creating Silicon Fen with digital businesses like ARM, Apple, Microsoft and Amazon (currently trialling its drone delivery service near Babraham). On the southern edge of the city sits Addenbrooke's, one of the UK's leading teaching hospitals and a major employer in the area with an ever-expanding medical

campus.

The Bellbird has strong links with the University. We are in partnership with teacher training at Homerton College; The Bellbird accepts teacher- training placements throughout the year so that they can gain experience in school. Furthermore our year 6 pupils visit St John's College each year in collaboration with Sawston Village College.

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## School Key Facts

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<b>Age range</b>	4 to 11 years old
<b>Type of school</b>	Community primary
<b>PAN</b>	45 (Sept 2019 – 60)
<b>Number of classes</b>	12
<b>Number of children on roll</b>	325
<b>OFSTED</b>	Good June 2015
<b>SEND</b>	23 children (7.1%)
<b>Free School Meals</b>	23 children (7.1%)
<b>Attendance 2015 to 2016</b>	96%
<b>Finance</b>	Good financial position with a healthy school fund.

We have strong links with other primary schools within our cluster area as well as a strategic partnership with the local Sawston Village College secondary school. We have a good relationship with local businesses, research establishments and research campuses, who contribute to our after-school clubs. We contribute positively to and support the local church and village community, enhancing the role of the school within the village. In order to create an inclusive school where everyone can flourish, whatever their background, we promote an ethos of respect and empathy, where diversity is valued and celebrated – both within school and the wider world. Safeguarding and welfare is extremely important and pupils are taught the virtues of kindness, appreciation and support – we encourage pupils to think about the needs of others and how we can develop a better society. We foster open and honest communication with parents, carers and specialists and actively seek to engage with all members of The Bellbird in a positive and supportive manner.

In 2015 Ofsted rated The Bellbird as a 'Good' School. We aim to be an outstanding school.



## Safeguarding

The school is committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children and expects all staff and volunteers to share this commitment. Everyone who may come into contact with school pupils in their line of duty holds an enhanced DBS disclosure and is subject to other employment checks where applicable.

## Vision and Values

- To provide a safe, caring, nurturing environment that promotes core values in our children, preparing them for their next school and later life. We aim to equip them with the self- esteem, confidence, respect, resilience and tolerance to be responsible and contributing members of a global society.
- To inspire and achieve consistently outstanding attainment and progress by our children, challenging and supporting all pupils.
- To be recognised as the school of choice for families in the local community, balancing academic progress with the physical, moral, social and cultural development of their children.
- To be recognised as a school of choice for staff working in the education sector, providing a happy, productive working environment that supports and develops its staff.
- We encourage children to take ownership of and responsibility for their learning, so they have the confidence and curiosity to ask questions, solve problems and respond to quality feedback. Children are praised for hard work, determination and having a positive attitude.

### A People Place by William J. Crocker

- If this is not a place where tears are understood, where do I go to cry?
- If this is not a place where my spirits can take wing, where do I go to fly?
- If this is not a place where my questions can be asked, where do I go to seek?
- If this is not a place where my feelings can be heard, where do I go to speak?
- If this is not a place where you'll accept me as I am, where can I go to be?
- If this is not a place where I can try to learn and grow, where can I be just me?

## We achieve our vision by

- Ensuring all decisions and the manner in which matters are prioritised keep the best outcomes for our children in mind at all times.
- A school-wide focus on accelerating pupils' progress and learning in all areas such that every child is enabled to achieve their full potential.
- Constantly striving to adopt best practice in teaching and learning, either identified within the school and cascaded as necessary, or resourced through collaboration with other schools and educational establishments.
- Making best use of our wonderful outdoor space and facilities through a diverse offering of sports, recreational and cultural activities during and after school hours that help to develop healthy, active and creative children.
- Retaining and enhancing our high calibre, dedicated team of staff – providing an environment that supports and develops its employees, delivering outstanding leadership, teaching, safeguarding and care across the school as a result.



It is our aim for all children to leave The Bellbird as independent learners with self-belief and an abiding respect for others. We aim to instil a lifelong love for learning and a strong grounding for future success.

### School Grounds

The Bellbird School has extensive grounds with a large playing field and maturing environmental areas. It has dedicated Key Stage 1 and Key Stage 2 play areas and a separate safe area for Foundation Stage children. It also has an allotment, which is used by the whole school and a pond area with a Bug Hotel. We recently gained the Eco Schools Bronze award.

### PTA – FABS



We have the most wonderful PTA committee. A small group of dedicated parents and staff run the Friends at Bellbird School (FABS). FABS organises events such as jumble sales, children's discos, magic shows, summer and Christmas Fairs, quizzes and other fund raising events such as the hugely popular parent quiz and bingo nights. The funds raised through these activities are donated to the school, which uses them to purchase extra items to help the children, such as coaches for outings, summer swimming lessons for Years 2 – 6, books, ipads and many other items. FABS has gone from strength to strength in recent years and is an integral link between parents and the school.

### After School Club – FLASH



We are very lucky to have dedicated before and after-school care for our pupils that require it. This care comes in the shape of our Out of School Club called FLASH. The club accepts 40 children between the school ages of 4 and 11 and utilizes its own dedicated, fully equipped early years room. The Breakfast club opens for an hour from 7:45am until the start of the school day and the after school club runs from 3:15pm – 6:00pm during term time. Holiday clubs run from 7:45am until 5:00pm on most professional days and even operate on some days during school holidays. The aim of FLASH is to create a welcoming, friendly social setting in which the children can enjoy before and after school care. Such is the popularity of FLASH, the club can, at times, be oversubscribed.



We hope this information encourages you to come to see what The Bellbird has to offer. We look forward to meeting you and showing you around the School.