# Cradley Church of England VA Primary School



## Prospectus

## 2025-26

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# HEADTEACHER'S WELCOME



## MRS WARFORD

HEADTEACHER

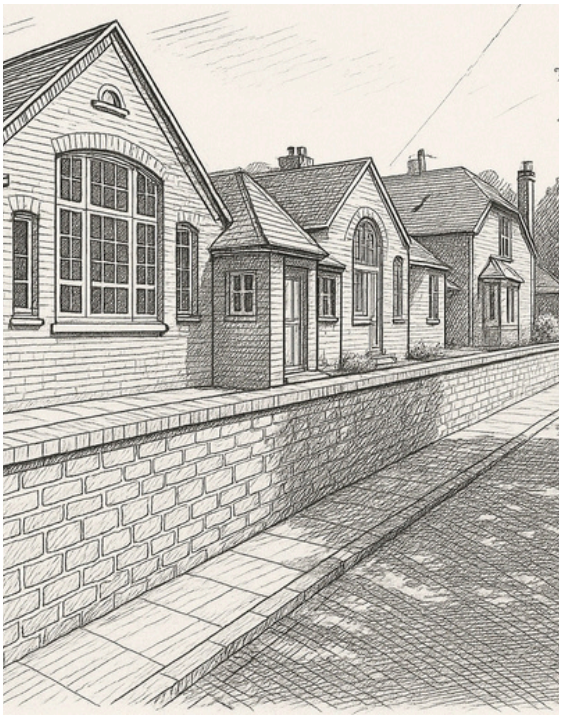
*I am proud and privileged to be the Headteacher of Cradley CE Primary, a successful and happy one form entry VA Primary School in the heart of Cradley. Our lovely little school has a distinctive Christian ethos and caring atmosphere and visitors to Cradley comment on the 'family feel' that they experience as they walk through the door.*

*Our highly committed teaching staff aim to create a stimulating, exciting and inclusive environment in which to provide high quality learning experiences for all of our children.*

*We welcome visitors to our school so please come along and see us. We will be delighted to show you around our school and we hope that during your visit you will see our values in action and experience a little slice of life at Cradley.*

# OUR SCHOOL

Cradley Church of England (Voluntary Aided) Primary School has served all the children of Cradley since its foundation in the 1850's. The land was bequeathed in trust to the National Society of the Church of England "to facilitate the building of a school for the labouring people of Cradley". In 1897 the accommodation was increased with the building of an Infant School in celebration of Queen Victoria's Diamond Jubilee.

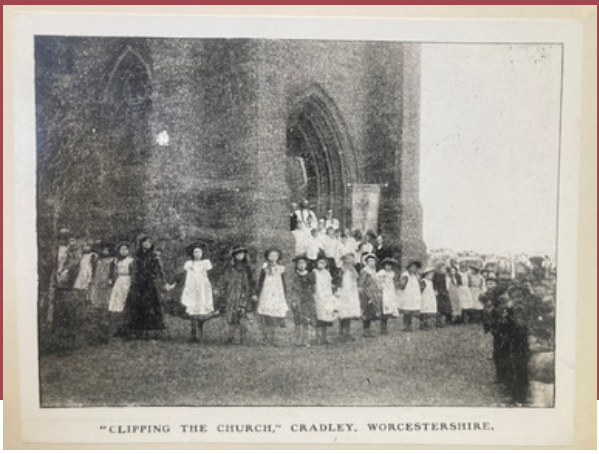


The two schools were amalgamated in 1974, and in 1985 major refurbishment was undertaken to link the two buildings and redesign the interior. The school has recently spent more money on modernising and refurbishing the interior office accommodation, infant toilets, staff toilets and repairing and/or replacing windows.

The school is well known and highly regarded by the local community for its openness and its proud history of commitment to Christian values, concern for individuals and high academic standards.

Nowadays the Church of England is voluntarily aided by Dudley Local Authority. The devolved school budget is managed by the Governors and Headteacher.
The school receives a budget for the improvement of school buildings from the DFES. This is managed together with the Worcester Diocese.

**'CLIPPING THE CHURCH' IS A TRADITION WE CONTINUE TO THIS DAY, WALKING IN THE FOOTSTEPS OF OUR CRADLEY ANCESTORS.**



"CLIPPING THE CHURCH," CRADLEY, WORCESTERSHIRE.



# SCHOOL VISION AND VALUES

## VISION

At Cradley CE we understand that every child is special, with their own unique gifts and talents and our vision reflects what we want for every child:

***Believe, belong, be happy: every child, every chance, every day.***

## VALUES

Staff, parents, pupils and governors have a shared set of core values:
respect, trust, caring, courage, perseverance, forgiveness, resilience and belonging.

It is these values which make Cradley so special. They underpin everything we do and are at the heart of who we are.

# THEOLOGICALLY ROOTED VISION

## Believe

At Cradley Church of England Primary School we believe that every child is made in the image of God and as such is a person of great worth, to be valued and treated with respect. We want our children to believe in themselves and their own abilities so that they can aspire to be the best they can be. As a school we believe in all our children and encourage them to aim high and to follow their dreams. We will help our children to develop resilience, to have the confidence to choose the right path in life, but also to find their way back if they take a wrong turn. We will offer them an encounter with Jesus Christ, support them on a journey of faith and guide them in their spiritual life.

## Belong

All relationships at Cradley CE are inspired by the example of Jesus; we aspire to be a welcoming and inclusive community in which all who belong can flourish. Our core Christian values are at the heart of all we do, allowing us to develop a true feeling of belonging and a sense of shared identity. We hope that everyone who comes to Cradley CE feels part of our Cradley family. Our children are encouraged to value and embrace the many local, national and global communities to which they belong and we support each child in developing the qualities of character which will help them to participate in their communities and to grow as responsible, compassionate and caring citizens.

## Be Happy

Happiness is the key to success and this knowledge underpins everything we do at Cradley. We want our children to feel safe, secure and happy at school: happy to talk, happy to listen, happy to learn and happy to try new things and take risks. We will help each child to see that they are special and encourage them to value themselves, to be happy with who they are, a unique child of God.

## Every Child

At Cradley CE we believe that every child is worthy of love and compassion and should be treated with dignity. We understand that every child is precious, each with their own special talents, needs and abilities. Through our broad and rich curriculum, each child is nurtured in confidence and given the opportunity to succeed, building on their own unique gifts.

## Every Chance

At Cradley we believe that each child should have every chance to live life in its fullness and to fulfil their potential. We have high aspirations for all our children and our dedicated staff are committed to providing high quality teaching and learning. We encourage our children to be independent, resilient learners who cope wisely when faced with challenges or difficulties. We work in close partnership with parents and other stakeholders to open up horizons of hope and aspiration so that every child has the best possible chance to succeed and reach their potential.

## Every Day

Each new day is seen as a fresh opportunity for our children to grow, achieve and explore their potential. Rooted in Christian faith, forgiveness underpins our relationships, giving children a fresh start when mistakes are made and encouraging them to show the same grace to others. With exciting opportunities and experiences every day, we prepare our pupils not only for learning but for life.

# SAFEGUARDING

At Cradley CE, safeguarding is at the heart of everything we do. Our vision – "Believe, belong, be happy; every child, every chance, every day" – guides the way we protect, nurture and care for all children.

- **Believe** – We help every child to feel safe, valued and respected so they can believe in themselves and their future.
- **Belong** – We foster a culture of trust and inclusion, where children know they belong to a community that will stand alongside them in times of need.
- **Be Happy** – Children thrive best when they are safe. By promoting wellbeing and protecting them from harm, we create the conditions for every child to enjoy school life and flourish.
- **Every Child, Every Chance, Every Day** – Safeguarding is not just about responding to concerns, it is about creating an environment where all children are supported, cared for and given the very best opportunities, every single day.

THROUGH VIGILANCE, TRAINING, AND STRONG PARTNERSHIPS WITH FAMILIES AND OUTSIDE AGENCIES, WE WORK TOGETHER TO ENSURE THAT SAFEGUARDING IS EVERYONE'S RESPONSIBILITY. OUR APPROACH REFLECTS OUR CHRISTIAN VALUES OF RESPECT, CARE, TRUST AND RESILIENCE – HELPING CHILDREN TO GROW INTO RESPONSIBLE, CONFIDENT AND COMPASSIONATE MEMBERS OF SOCIETY.



OUR DEPUTY HEAD, MRS BRAILSFORD, IS OUR DESIGNATED SAFEGUARDING LEAD.

OUR FULL POLICY IS AVAILABLE ON OUR SCHOOL WEBSITE.

The best interests of the children will always be our priority. As such, there are times we will need to record, monitor and share information with other agencies. We will share concerns about our pupils with the child's parents/carers unless we have reason to believe that such a move would not be in the child's best interest.

As part of safeguarding, we employ safe recruitment procedures. This includes carrying out online checks.

We provide a secure site for our children and adults are asked to adhere to our rules. School gates are kept locked except at the start and end of the day. Visitors may enter only through the main entrance after signing in at the office. Visitors to school who have a DBS will be asked to wear yellow lanyards and those without a DBS will wear red lanyards.



# STARTING SCHOOL

We understand what an exciting and daunting time starting school can be so we have developed an induction which settles children into school so they feel secure and happy.

## PARTNERSHIP AND PREPARATION

Working in partnership with every family, we arrange for a home visit to take place so the children can meet staff in a comfortable and familiar place.

We also offer an induction visit into school and a staggered start to the year so children can become familiar with their new environment.

Throughout the year we offer open evenings and parent workshops to help you find out about your child's progress and to learn how and what we teach.

We are confident that our induction will make your child's start to school an enjoyable and memorable experience.

# ADMISSIONS 2026

* The Governors have adopted a policy of taking one intake into the school in September of each academic year for pupils whose fifth birthday falls in the academic year (1st September – 31st August).

* The Governors of Cradley CE are especially committed to serving the families within the District of Cradley as stated in the Trust Deed of 1855;

***"Cradley CE Primary is a school open to all children, regardless of faith or background."***

Where the number of applicants exceeds the admissions limit of 30, places at the school will be allocated on the basis of the following criteria in order of priority.

1. First priority shall be given to "relevant looked after children."

2. Second priority shall be children who have a brother/sister, half brother/half sister (where the children share one common parent), or step brother/ step sister, living at the same address and who will still be attending the preferred school in the academic year 2024/2025

3. Any places that remain available once the above applicants have been admitted will be filled according to those children who live closest to the school, determined by a straight line measurement in metres, from the home address to the main entrance of the preferred school.

For full details please follow this web address;

http://www.dudley.gov.uk/resident/learning-school/parental-support/school-admissions

All admissions are now handled by Dudley Admissions Service who can be contacted on 01384 814223 or by email on admissions.cs@dudley.gov.uk. Please contact them if you require more information.

# CHURCH PARTNERSHIP





WE ARE PROUD TO HAVE STRONG LINKS WITH ST. PETER'S CHURCH, ALSO ON CHURCH ROAD.

MOTHER VICTORIA BARLOW REGULARLY VISITS SCHOOL THROUGHOUT THE YEAR AND WE SHARE IN CELEBRATIONS AT THE CHURCH AT KEY POINTS IN THE YEAR.

## RELIGIOUS EDUCATION AND COLLECTIVE WORSHIP

Religious Education at Cradley allows children to become well rounded citizens prepared for life in the 21st Century. Children study a variety of religions and are encouraged to speak about their own beliefs.

The Christian values modelled by all staff highlights respect for all, whether they be of different religious denomination, faith or no faith at all. Children are encouraged to respect the religious and cultural backgrounds of all people, noticing similarities between people and appreciating diversity. Through joining together in collective worship, and learning to live together in classrooms, the essential Christian values are taught. We have a focus value each half term. These values are developed throughout the half term where children, staff and parents contribute to quality learning experiences.

An act of Christian collective worship is held each day. The usual weekly pattern includes three whole school assemblies, one key stage worship and one time of class worship. Throughout the year, children receive recognition for progress and effort during our weekly and half termly praise assemblies. We also attend St Peter's Church for collective worship at key times across the year, for example Harvest, Christmas, Easter and for our Year 6 leavers' service.

# CURRICULUM

- AS A SCHOOL WE ENDEAVOUR TO MAKE OUR SCHOOL CURRICULUM; BROAD AND BALANCED, APPROPRIATE TO THE NEEDS OF THE CHILDREN, MOTIVATING, STIMULATING AND WHERE POSSIBLE LINKS ARE MADE TO THE INTERESTS AND EXPERIENCES OF THE CHILDREN.

- ALL CHILDREN STUDY THE FULL RANGE OF SUBJECTS IN THE NATIONAL CURRICULUM: ENGLISH, MATHS, SCIENCE, COMPUTING, DESIGN TECHNOLOGY, HISTORY, GEOGRAPHY, MUSIC, ART, RSHE, PHYSICAL EDUCATION AND RELIGIOUS EDUCATION.

- ALL NATIONAL CURRICULUM SUBJECTS ARE PLANNED AND DELIVERED IN LINE WITH THE NATIONAL STATUTORY REQUIREMENTS.

- THE CURRICULUM IS ENHANCED BY THE TEACHING OF PSHE AND CITIZENSHIP THROUGHOUT THE SCHOOL AND CHILDREN ARE ENCOURAGED TO HAVE A SENSE OF COMMUNITY RESPONSIBILITY THROUGH LOCAL, INTERNATIONAL AND GLOBAL STUDY.

- IN YEAR 3 CHILDREN ARE INTRODUCED TO FRENCH AS PART OF THEIR CURRICULUM ENTITLEMENT AND THIS THEN CONTINUES INTO YEARS 4, 5 AND 6.

## RECEPTION

In Reception, children are taught in line with the Early Years Foundation Stage.



## WIDER OFFER

- Forest School (Y1-6)
- Wonder Wood (Reception),
- Instrument Tuition in Year 3,
- Swimming from Reception to Y6,
- Sports coaches,
- Junior PCSOs,
- Nurture Provision,
- Library



## EXTRA CURRICULAR

There are a variety of extra curricular activities provided to enhance the work of the classroom. Past clubs have included: football, badminton, French, crafts, dance, drama, sewing, choir, recorders and cross country.

Visiting specialist sports coaches also provide coaching after school.

# THE SCHOOL DAY

School starts at 8.45.  The end of the day is at 3.15. Children in Reception, Year 1 and Year 2 are led out by their teachers and dismissed individually so we can make sure they reach their parents safely. Children in Years 3,4,5 and 6 are led out by their teacher and walk to their parents independently.

Children have a lunch break from 12.15 until 1.15. Children can either bring sandwiches from home or school dinners can be ordered.

They also have a mid morning break at 10.00 (KS1) and 11.00 (KS2). Children in Reception, Year 1 and Year 2 are provided with free fruit from the 'Fruit for Schools' initiative but other classes are encouraged to bring their own fruit.

Reception children have access to their outdoor area throughout the day and join Years 1 and 2 at lunchtime.



# QUALITY FIRST TEACHING

We are fortunate to have an experienced and dedicated staff team who bring a wealth of knowledge, skills and enthusiasm to our school. Each member of staff is committed to their own professional development, continually seeking opportunities to learn and grow.

This shared commitment ensures that the very best practice is brought into classrooms and across our provision, so that every pupil benefits. By investing in their own development, our staff are able to inspire, challenge and support children to achieve their full potential, both academically and personally.

# WRAP AROUND CARE



## CRADLEY EXTRA TIME

We have a flourishing before and after-school club which runs from 7.45 – 8.45 before school and 3.15 – 6.00pm after school.

Children are provided with a small snack around 4pm. Our aim in providing a snack is to help children develop healthy eating habits, and ensure that they have the energy and nutrition they need until they go home for their main evening meal.

We follow the DfE School Food Standards 2025 when planning and preparing snacks. Staff are trained in Food Hygiene.

Children with dietary requirements will be catered for according to their need. Club staff may have a meeting with parents to discuss food plans.

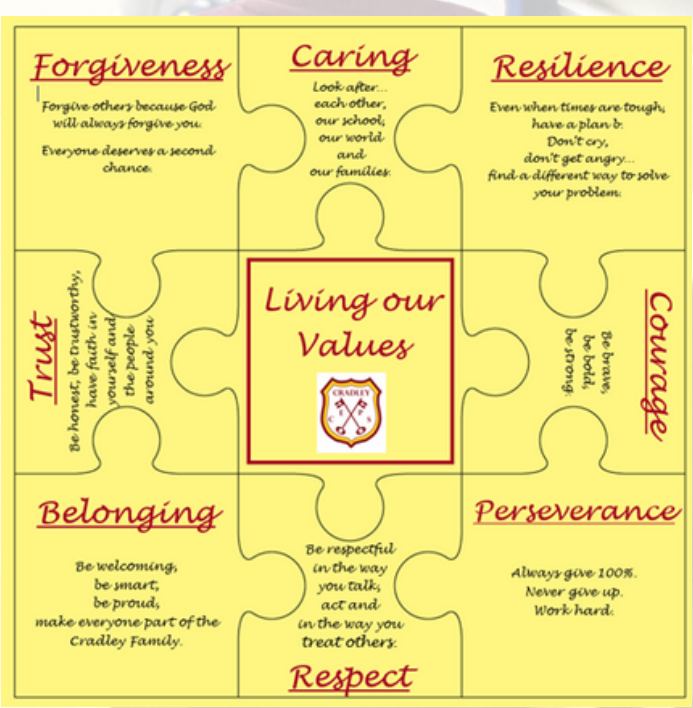
Details on charges and admission are available from the school office/website.

Please make enquires with the school office if this is a service you require as a family.

# BEHAVIOUR

Our school vision and values shape everything we do and are clearly reflected in the exemplary behaviour and attitudes of our pupils. Children demonstrate excellent manners, show respect and kindness, and genuinely care for others, creating a culture where everyone feels valued and supported.

By living out our vision of "Believe, belong, be happy; every child, every chance, every day," pupils grow in resilience, responsibility and compassion, helping to make our school a safe, happy and thriving community for all.




## REWARDS

Our school values are used to support good behaviour; our children know them well and use them to guide their actions.

Excellent work and behaviour are rewarded with a gold or silver card. Those achieving a Gold card then visit Mrs Warford for a head teacher's award.

Class Dojo is also used as a reward system with pupils receiving certificates and coloured badges at 50 dojo intervals.

### PEBBLE PARTIES

In each class is a pot of pebbles. Every time the whole class works together to do something they earn a pebble. When their pot is full of pebbles then they can choose a themed party as a reward.

### PRAISE WORSHIP

Every half term class teachers choose 5 or 6 children to be praised. This might be for a variety of reasons, including living our values, or exceptional achievements.

Parents are invited into school so they can see their child as they receive a certificate and medal. These have been a huge success and are enjoyed by parents, staff and children alike.

### KEY STAGE PRAISE

Class staff choose 2 children to be praised each week. They receive a certificate and their photographs or placed on our 'Living our values' board.

### EQUITY AND ADAPTATIONS

When supporting the behaviour of pupils with additional needs school will endeavour to engage proactively with parents wherever possible. We recognise our duty under the Equality Act 2010 and will endeavour to make reasonable adjustments in school in order to support pupils with a special educational need or disability.

We recognise that a 'one size fits all' approach may not always meet the needs of pupils with SEND. In partnership with parents and carers, we may develop an individualised plan that enables each pupil to follow the school's behaviour policy, while taking into account their specific needs and circumstances. This ensures that our approach remains fair, consistent, and sensitive to the unique challenges faced by each child.

# UNIFORM

As part of the government's Wellbeing and Schools Bill, no family should find themselves out of pocket when preparing their child for school.

We recognise that school uniform plays an important role in creating a sense of belonging and identity, while also easing the pressure on families to keep up with fashion trends. However, we are also mindful of the increasing financial pressures many are facing. Recent figures show that half of parents are worried about the cost of school uniforms, with 12% experiencing financial hardship as a result.

At our school, we aim to keep uniform expectations simple and affordable. Other than our school tie, we do not require branded items. We also offer a selection of quality pre-loved uniform in our main entrance, which families are warmly encouraged to use.

If you would like to prefer to purchase items with the Cradley logo on, they are available at https://www.gooddies.co.uk/. If you're finding it difficult to access what your child needs, please don't hesitate to get in touch – we're here to help and support is always available.

## WINTER UNIFORM (TO BE WORN FROM AUTUMN HALF-TERM TO EASTER HOLIDAYS)

- White shirt,
- Burgundy/gold tie
- Grey pinafore, skirt or grey tailored trousers, burgundy cardigan, jumper or fleece (optional to have them with Cradley logo)
- Sensible black shoes - no trainers, open-toed shoes or large 'Doc Martin' style boots, If children wear boots during the winter months, then they must be plain, flat, black leather no taller than mid-calf height.
- Tights where worn should be plain grey or plain black.

## SUMMER UNIFORM (TO BE WORN FROM EASTER HOLIDAYS TO END OF SUMMER TERM)

- Pink or red and white gingham dress or white polo shirt with a grey skirt or grey shorts.
- Sensible black shoes (no trainers or no open-toed/slip-on shoes or crocs)

## PE KIT

PE kit is to be worn on the day of their PE lessons with the exception of Reception class who will need to bring their kit in a PE bag (supplied by school).

- White polo/plain white t-shirt and plain black unbranded tracksuit for colder weather/winter
- Burgundy shorts or white polo/t-shirt may be worn in warmer weather or for indoor PE.
- Black trainers/pumps for outdoors, bare feet for indoor P.E.
- Plimsolls may be worn indoors if a child suffers from a verruca, supported by a letter from parents.

(Please provide trainers for outdoor PE as plimsolls can be slippy.)

# SPECIAL EDUCATIONAL NEEDS AND DISABILITIES

At Cradley CE Primary School, our values and vision of 'believe, belong, be happy; every child, every chance, every day' encompasses everything that we aim to achieve with the children in our care.

We believe that every child, despite their individual needs and abilities, should have the opportunity to aim high and follow their dreams whilst feeling safe, secure and happy at school.

Underpinned by our vision and values, we ensure that we provide an inclusive and nurturing environment in which all children can flourish.

Our broad and balanced curriculum, together with high quality teaching and strong relationships ensure that every child has every chance every day.

Individual children's learning and behavioural needs are assessed regularly and children who require a different approach or emphasis have a personalised programme of work designed to meet their special need.

When appropriate and in discussion with parents/guardians, advice is sought from the Local Authority about children with Special Educational Needs and referrals may be made to external agencies who can offer further advice and support such as; General Practitioners, Physiotherapy, Educational Psychology, Speech and Language Services, CAMHS, etc.

More information can be found on our website;

https://www.cradleycofe.com/send

# PUPIL PREMIUM/FREE SCHOOL MEALS

At the heart of our vision lies the aspiration that every child achieves well and makes good progress across the curriculum, irrespective of their background or the challenges they may face.

In planning our use of Pupil Premium funding, we will consider the needs of all pupils, but specifically those who may be vulnerable to possible underachievement.

These include pupils who are entitled to free school meals and those who are looked after by the Local Authority.

Pupils from Reception to Year 2 are all eligible for a free school meal but we actively encourage parents to apply for Pupil Premium funding when their child starts school ion Reception. The additional funding provided is vital in helping us to best meet the needs of all of our pupils.

We hope that each and every child will learn to believe in themselves, hold high aspirations and gain the necessary knowledge, skills and understanding, which, combined with a set of core values, will enable them to be happy, successful life-long learners.

At Cradley CE our approach will be flexible to allow us to respond to challenges and individual needs. Planned actions and interventions will be rooted in robust assessments.

**Apply here**: https://www.dudley.gov.uk/residents/early-years-and-childcare/for-parents-and-carers/early-years-pupil-premium/

# OUR GOVERNING BODY

*Dear Parents,*

*I am very pleased to write to you as Chair of Governors at Cradley CE Primary School. My connection with Cradley began when I chose Cradley CE Primary School for my children. I believed it would provide them with a first class education and I have not been disappointed. My daughter left Cradley to move onto high school with not only a very successful primary school education, but as a well rounded child who continues to carry her Cradley values with her now. My son continues to flourish at the school with the school vision statement being weaved throughout everything they do – Believe, Belong, Be Happy...Every Child, Every Chance, Every Day.*

*The school has always been at the heart of the community and even today we see different generations of the same family passing through the school.*

*I am delighted to commend to you the latest edition of the school prospectus. It is apparent that many parents in Cradley seek more than a primary school which provides a good, well rounded education for their children. They also require one which has a strong Christian ethos, a secure and welcoming environment and provides a safe haven.*

*Mrs Warford, our Headteacher, and the highly dedicated and professional staff, ensure that our school is just such a place. My fellow governors and I are well aware of their hard work and efforts to make Cradley CE Primary School a very special place.*

*Our traditionally designed school, with its warm, welcoming and caring atmosphere, excellent staff and smart pupils continues to be an extremely well subscribed school. I hope that you too will choose Cradley for your child's education.*

*Yours sincerely,*

*Rebecca Burt*






*Believe, belong, be happy;*
*every child, every chance, every day.*