



# Connor Downs Academy

Head of School: Mrs J Eddy



**Connor Downs**  
Academy

A message from  
Mrs. Eddy

Summer Term 2024

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Connor Downs Academy, Mutton Hill, Hayle, Cornwall TR27 5DH

A Company Limited by Guarantee. An Exempt Charity

Registered in England & Wales - Company No. 07387540

Registered Office: Aspire Academy Trust, Unit 20, St Austell Business Park, St Austell, Cornwall PL25 4FD



As we come to the end of another busy, exciting and successful year at Connor Downs Academy, it is time to celebrate together all that has been achieved.

Our children have made super progress in their learning, showing a real dedication to their studies. We are delighted across the school at the fantastic attainment and progress achieved in all year groups. Please see attainment summary below.

### Early Years % Good Level of Development

Connor Downs Academy	National
86%	67.7%

### Phonics % pass rate in Year 1

Connor Downs Academy	National
85.2%	80.3%

### Key Stage 1 SATS (No National data this year as KS1 SATs optional)

	EXS+	GDS
Reading	76.7%	6.7%
Writing	80.0%	10.0%
Maths	80.0%	3.3%

### Key Stage 2 SATS

	EXS+	National EXS+	GDS	National GDS
Reading	81.3%	74%	31.3%	TBC
Writing	84.4%	72%	13.0%	TBC
Maths	75%	73%	18.8%	TBC
GPS	78.12%	72%	25%	TBC

### Key Stage 2 Reading, Writing and Maths combined

	RWM %
School	75%
National	61%

### Average scaled scores

	Reading	GPS	Maths
School	105.9	105.31	104.0
National	105.0	105.0	104.0

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You will recall that Connor Downs Academy received a Section 8 Ofsted Inspection on the 8<sup>th</sup> and 9<sup>th</sup> May 2024.

I am delighted to share with you the glowing Ofsted report which is now live on the Ofsted website.

[Connor Downs Academy \(ofsted.gov.uk\)](https://www.ofsted.gov.uk/Connor-Downs-Academy)

The headline Ofsted judgement is that,

**Connor Downs Academy continues to be a good school.**

As Head, along with the CEO of Aspire Academy Trust, the Directors, the Board of Trustees, our Hub Council and collective staff, we are delighted with the report.

Ofsted have rightly recognised that,

**Connor Downs Academy is a place where pupils shine.**

Key positive aspects of the report are:

- Pupils learn in a calm, orderly and inclusive setting.
- Pupils are respectful and take pleasure in helping one another.
- Pupils are rightly proud of their school.
- Pupils benefit from a wide range of experiences.
- Pupils enjoy school and attend well.
- Pupils show excellent attitudes to learning.
- Pupils work across the curriculum is of a high quality.
- Staff are determined for pupils to learn well and have high expectations for pupils.
- Staff deliver an ambitious curriculum.
- Staff have considered and sequenced progressively the knowledge pupils need to know and remember.
- The school effectively uses assessment to check how well pupils are learning the curriculum.
- Staff have high expectations of pupils' behaviour and pupils live up to these.
- The school is calm and orderly with rules and routines well established. Any pupils who struggle to manage their behaviour are well supported.

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- Staff build positive relationships with pupils to enable them to learn in a safe and nurturing environment.
- Children get off to a strong start in early years.
- There is a strong culture of reading.
- Pupils benefit from a wide range of opportunities to promote reading for pleasure.
- Staff receive regular training to teach the phonics programme well.
- Pupils show confidence when decoding and blending words because they are secure in their sounds.
- The school is ambitious to make a difference for pupils with SEND. These pupils benefit from precise learning plans. Teachers adapt knowledge to help them build their knowledge as well as their peers.
- Pupils' wider development is a strength and is at the heart of the school.
- The school goes above and beyond to develop pupils as responsible, respectful, and active citizens.
- Opportunities to enrich pupils' experiences are carefully mapped out. Pupils benefit from a range of visits and residentials to enhance the curriculum, develop their social skills and to build resilience.
- Pupils know they make a difference to the school through the many roles and responsibilities they have.
- 'Cultivating Futures' is at the heart of the many opportunities provided by the school. It enables pupils to care for the environment, develop empathy and to learn about nature. Pupils value this space and time for reflection.
- Those responsible for Governance have an accurate view of the school and they, along with the school, are ambitious for pupils to do well.
- Safeguarding is effective.

During the two-day inspection, our children were a credit to the school and to their parents/carers. The children spoke with enthusiasm and knowledge to the Inspector and were incredibly proud to share their learning and their setting.

The Inspector recognised that the school motto.

**'Open spaces, open hearts, open minds,'**

threads through the school and enables Connor Downs Academy to be Ofsted judged as a consistently good school with many exceptional elements.

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The summer term, along with the entire school year, has been packed with exciting learning taking place in the classrooms, outside in Cultivating Futures and within our local environment and beyond. The children have experienced a rich and varied range of enrichment activities to support their curricular learning including school visits, special visitors, careers day and opportunities for residential experiences including London for the Year 6 pupils, along with a huge array of sporting and arts events.



Year 6 enjoyed a surfing lesson at Gwithian beach this term which built on their skills and water confidence gained in Year 5.

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Special thanks to our parents and carers who supported our school events through volunteering, some even camping on the school field! We are very grateful.

Year 4 Camp Kernow.



Year 6 camping on the school field.

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Special thanks must be extended to our superb Friends of Connor Downs Academy who have been tirelessly fundraising to support school projects. The school disco along with the pre-loved uniform sales, ice-cream sales and the spectacular summer fayre, have all raised considerable funds which will be used wisely to benefit all children within the school community.



Summer Fayre

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We are very grateful for the ongoing support from our parents and carers. You have worked alongside us to enable our children to fully access their learning and to participate in the huge range of events offered, thank you.

Many parents/carers have also stepped forward this year to support with our career's day. Thank you for your support. Days of this nature are incredibly inspiring and enriching for the children.



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Year 5 during their camp at Carnyorth.

Each class teacher along with Mr Costello, our Outdoor Learning Lead, has created a summer term newsletter to showcase the amazing array of work covered this term. I hope that you enjoy reading these letters.

For our children and parents/carers who are leaving us this term, we wish you and your children the very best for the future. We hope that your time at Connor Downs Academy was special, meaningful and memorable.

On behalf of all at Connor Downs Academy, I would like to wish you and your family a super summer break. I hope that you have time to relax, enjoy the sun and stay safe and well.

Kind regards,

Mrs. J. Eddy

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