

## St. Faith's Church of England Infant and Nursery School Golden Jubilee (1974 to 2024)



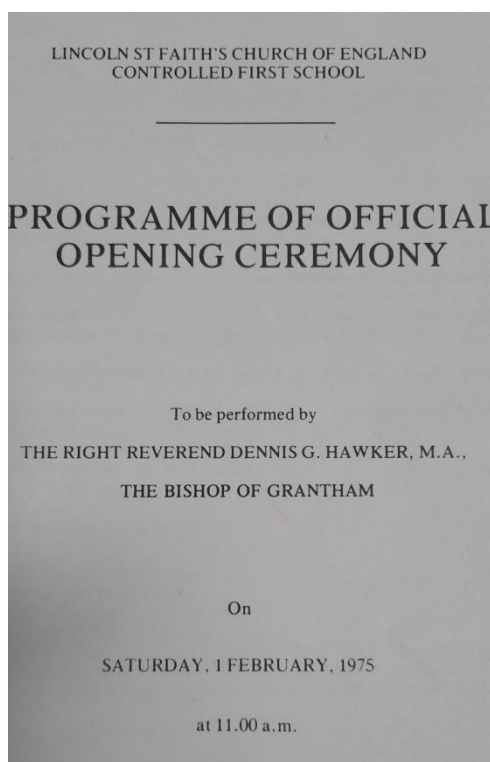
Children in the former St. Faith's School playground  
(*School Archive image*)



Main entrance to St. Faith's Church of England Infant and Nursery School  
(*Nigel Horner*)

Welcome to St Faith's Infant and Nursery School, and our golden jubilee in this location – although our story is part of education provision in Lincoln's West End going back nearly 150 years.

The current establishment can trace its history to the first Elementary School in the West End of Lincoln, which opened on 10<sup>th</sup> January 1876, with 62 children in its Infant Department and 57 children in its Upper Department. Built in accordance with the Education Act of 1870 and in advance of the subsequent compulsory requirement of the 1880 Education Act for all children to be educated, the school predates the St. Faith's Church on Charles Street West (which opened in 1895), and the remnant of this establishment can be seen in the Church Hall situated eastwards along West Parade.



In September 1971, the establishment on this Victorian site became St Faith's First School for 5- to 8-year-olds, with older children going to the newly renamed St Faith's Middle School on Hampton Street (which had formerly been the Rosemary Boys' Secondary School).

A new school was commissioned to be constructed on the Moor Street / Woodstock Street allotments, designed by architect D.S. Atkinson and duly built by Eccleshare Ltd at a cost of £122, 901.

The new School opened in September 1974 and the Headmistress, Mrs. M. Blakeman and her team of 9 teachers, duly welcomed 236 children.



Aerial view of St Faith's School before modification and redevelopment (*School Archive image*)

The school's numbers increased from 1984 following the closure of St. Martin's First School, which had been located near the top of Beaumont Fee, and the younger children from there duly joined St. Faith's Infant School and Nursery. The older children joined the school on Hampton Street, as reflected in the name being amended to St. Faith's and St. Martin's Junior School.

Two skeletal remains of a plesiosaurus had been discovered on the present site in 1906, and the image of such a creature was adopted by the children as the school emblem in 1992, and from 1998, emblazoned on the school uniform sweatshirt.

The School was substantially extended and restructured after 40 years, with a new hall being the most striking feature from the main entrance on West Parade. The official opening of the extended, redeveloped facilities was held on 12<sup>th</sup> May 2016.

In terms of its current establishment, the school has 288 children on roll. Numbers have progressively risen in the last 5 years: in October 2019 pupil numbers were 236, by July 2024 the figure was 297. In 2018 the school name was changed from Infant School to Infant and Nursery School, to reflect the increasing size of the nursery provision.

Since the School was established on its present site, it has enjoyed the leadership of just 6 headteachers: Mrs M Blakeman; Ms Pam Hill; Mr Roger Brown; Mr Ian Wiles; Mrs Debbie Barks; and the current Head, Mrs Amanda Konrath.

St. Faith's Church of England Infant and Nursery School and its total of 51 teaching and professional support staff members – like their predecessors - has been dedicated to supporting an expanding, increasingly diverse and multicultural group of children in their first years of education in the West End of Lincoln over the past 50 years.

We warmly welcome all our current and former pupils, their parents, relatives, carers, and friends, and all members of our community who have supported us for half a century.

Thank you.