



St Mary's Catholic Primary Schools Trust

Prospectus

Welcome

We are a Multi Academy Trust consisting of St Mary's Catholic Infant School and St Mary's Catholic Junior School working together in partnership to provide the best education possible for the children in our care.

Our schools are vibrant and innovative with a dedicated staff and supportive but challenging Governing Body. We are a learning family and work hard to ensure that our children understand the value of growing and learning together. We value each child as an individual and work closely with parents to foster faith, love, care, Independence, versatility, persistence, curiosity, creativity, and confidence.

We want our children to love learning and so take great care to ensure that our curriculum is exciting, challenging and bursting with awe, wonder and fun. We also want them to realise their potential and so we encourage them to be aspirational. We believe that they are wonderful and we want them to believe this too.

Our Catholic Faith is at the heart of everything we do and our Gospel values form the basis of our ethos and the way we reach out to our inclusive St Mary's family.

We welcome visits so if you would like to find out more about our school please call the office to make an appointment.

I look forward to meeting you and showing you more of our wonderful schools.

Linda O'Callaghan
Executive Headteacher

“Aspire not to have more but to be more.”



Independence

We want all our children to grow into confident, independent learners and so we encourage an independent attitude from a very early age.

Early Years

In our Foundation Stage:

Nursery and Reception classes; We encourage the children to dress themselves, tidy up, collect and put away the resources they need to complete a task, and to begin to make independent learning choices. We give them all the guidance and support they need to move towards independence so that by the time they are ready to move on to Year 1 they have the organisational, cognitive and reflective strategies they need for the next stage of their learning journey.

Key Stage 1

Years 1 & 2:

Our children should now be well on the road to being successful little problem solvers, able with support, to make decisions, construct plans and begin to evaluate ideas. They will be encouraged to make simple decisions about their own learning for example: is this my best work? How can I make it better?

Key Stage 2

Years 3, 4, 5 & 6:

Our pupils develop the firm foundations they need to enable them to be confident, independent, reflective pupils who can independently tackle quite sophisticated problems, research, create and hypothesise. With the support of their Teachers they will be able to set themselves targets and make independent judgements as to whether these targets have been achieved. They will be able to prepare themselves for learning, collect the resources they need to learn and work to a time limit.

Learning to love.
Loving to learn.



Versatility

The ability to adapt to the challenges of the world is a vital life skill and so we foster this throughout our schools.

Early Years

In our Foundation Stage:

For our youngest children we will ensure that they have lots of opportunities to try new things, experience the wonders of the world, and for young children every new experience holds wonder.

Key Stage 1

Years 1 & 2:

We want them to feel confident and secure enough to be excited by change and ready for new challenges. We will increasingly take them out and about into the world, introduce them to new books, plays, teach them about others places and other cultures and equip them with the skills they need to face an ever changing world.

Key Stage 2

Years 3, 4, 5 & 6:

Our pupils' ability to adapt what they know to achieve successful outcomes should be second nature to them by the time they reach Key Stage 2, and as they continue to be faced with new exciting challenges so they will develop the skills they need to become lifelong learners brimming with curiosity and excited by change.



Persistence

The ability to keep going even when you find the going tough is a difficult but vital skill to accomplish if our children are to grow into successful young men and women. We have therefore developed a challenge based curriculum that develops and rewards persistence.

Early Years

In our Foundation Stage:

From their earliest days in school we encourage our children to 'have a go'. We foster a belief that one should not be afraid of failure but that it should be seen as a vital part of the learning process. We learn from our mistakes so if our little Nursery children put their shoes on the wrong foot it doesn't matter as long as they have another go!

Key Stage 1

Years 1 & 2:

Our children are encouraged to develop their ability to concentrate for longer periods and to begin with support to edit their own work and self-correct. Their learning is carefully scaffolded to give them the support they need to overcome obstacles and think logically.

Key Stage 2

Years 3, 4, 5 & 6:

Our pupils will be developing into confident problem solvers who will not only be able to overcome failure and adversity to achieve their goal, but will be able to constructively criticise and guide others to help them to achieve their goals. They will be consistently editing their learning and adapting their choices to achieve successful outcomes.

“Building the foundations for lifelong learning”



Aspiration

When children are encouraged to aim high they rarely fail to live up to expectations and we never limit our children by limiting our belief in them.

Early Years

In our Foundation Stage:

From the beginning we encourage children to 'reach for the stars', and we will support them every step of the way to enable them to achieve their goals. Our youngest children are provided with a rich, vibrant curriculum and all the resources they need to create, model invent and adapt.

Key Stage 1

Years 1 & 2:

We set aspirational targets for all our children and then painstakingly adapt our teaching to ensure that their learning is tailor made to ensure success.

Key Stage 2

Years 3, 4, 5 & 6:

The children will be supported to set their own targets and then plan how they will achieve them. We will encourage them to look outside the confines of our school to see what is available to them in the wider world so that they can begin to construct their dreams with the knowledge that anything worthwhile will involve hard work, determination and challenge.

Working in partnership with parents to create happy, vibrant schools based in faith and love



Collaborative

The ability to share our thoughts, talents and ideas makes us the success Trust that we are and we want to instil this in all of our children so that they can go out into the world as successful collaborative young people.

Early Years

In our Foundation Stage:

Very young children find it extremely hard to share and so our patient, talented staff will carefully and sensitively nurture their ability to share their space, their resources and their thoughts with others. They will be given lots of opportunities for group speaking and listening activities where they will learn the rules of etiquette for our society e.g. saying please and thank you, taking turns and very importantly being kind.

Key Stage 1

Years 1 & 2:

By now our children are well used to sharing and will now be given lots of opportunities for team work in all areas of the curriculum whether it be Maths where they will be playing simple maths games, Literacy where they might be reading together, or sport where they will be taught a wide variety of team games by our specialist sports coach.

Key Stage 2

Years 3, 4, 5 & 6:

Our pupils will have grown into competent, collaborative learners who are confidently able to work as part of a team to achieve successful outcomes. They are provided with a rich variety of opportunities to work collaboratively both within their class and within their school as well representing their school as we work collaboratively with the wider Catholic community.

“A broad, exciting curriculum that enriches the lives of our pupils”



Behaviour for learning

Our **Positive Behaviour Rules** are based around the belief that our children should be given the knowledge, understanding and self-control to manage their own behaviour in their interactions with the world around them.

Our expectations are that children should be safe, be responsible and be respectful and we teach them from Nursery onwards the rules that will enable them to be safe, be responsible and be respectful in the classroom, in the playground, in the dining room, in the toilets and cloakrooms and in the common areas of the schools.





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