

St Mary Queen of Martyrs VC Academy



Prospectus 2016/17

A guide for Parents and Carers

Be the best you can be - Jesus loves you always.

Headteacher: Mrs P A Graham

Assistant Headteachers: Mrs A McIntosh
Mr J Rogers

Chair of Governors: Mr P Harris

Parent Governors: Mrs Astrid Longhorn

Number on roll: 364 (including Nursery)

School Classification: Academy
Part of a Multi Academy Trust
Primary Coeducational day school

Safeguarding:

Child Protection and Safeguarding Co-ordinators – Mrs Monahan and Mrs McIntosh

Child Protection and Safeguarding Governor – Mr Mc Nally

Child Protection and Safeguarding overall responsibility – Mrs Graham

St Mary Queen of Martyrs Academy recognises that protecting and safeguarding children and young people is a shared responsibility and depends upon effective joint working between agencies and professionals that have different roles and expertise. All staff, students, volunteers and governors at St Mary Queen of Martyrs Academy have a duty to safeguard and promote the welfare of children. The need for guidelines and procedures is important to ensure that this is done with understanding and clarity.

Our school aims to protect and safeguard every child in our school by keeping vigilant, adopting a 'could happen here approach' and ensuring that the guidelines and procedures in the Child Protection and Safeguarding policy are carried out.

School Daily Sessions:

Registration begins at 8.50am

Maths: 9.05am

Foundation subject: 10am

Morning break: 10.45am

Literacy: 11am

Lunchtime: 12 o'clock

Afternoon session: 12.55pm - 3pm

Foundation Stage (Nursery) Sessions:

Morning: 9am - 12 o'clock

Afternoon: 12 o'clock - 3pm



School Term Dates 2016/17

Autumn term 2016: Wednesday 7th September - Friday 16th December
Midterm holiday: Break up Friday 21st October – Return: Monday 31st October

Spring Term 2017: Tuesday 3rd January – Thursday 6th April
Midterm holiday: Break up Friday 17th February – Return: Monday 27th February

Summer term 2017: Monday 24th April - Friday 21st July
Midterm holiday: Break up Friday 26th May – Return: Monday 5th June

The school curriculum

St Mary Queen of Martyrs offers a varied and culturally enriched curriculum for its pupils. We teach the National Curriculum subjects in accordance with current DfE requirements.

Our core subjects are:

English
Maths
Religious Education
Science
ICT



Our foundation subjects are:

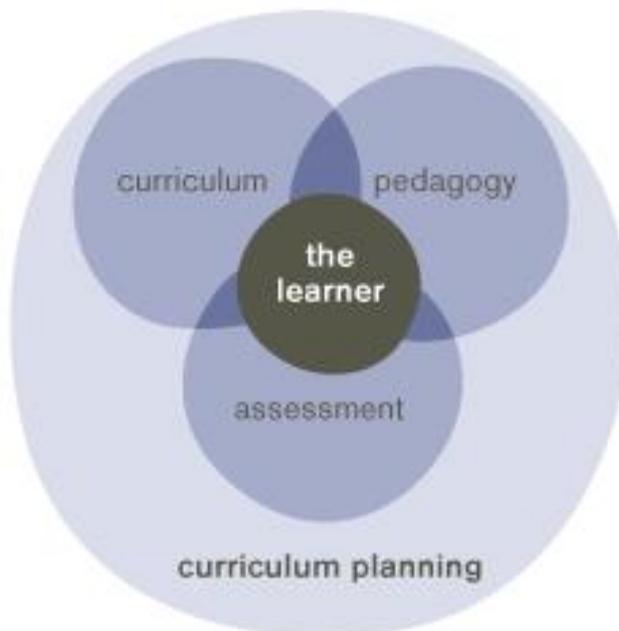
History
Geography
PE
Design and Technology
Art
Music

All foundation subjects, wherever possible, are taught with a cross curricular approach, through thematic based topic work. We pride ourselves on our specialist music provision in Key Stage 2 where all children have an opportunity to play a musical instrument. Teachers work extremely hard to plan for the delivery of all subjects that recognise each child's entitlement to appropriate learning opportunities. This includes purposeful assessment and record keeping and the importance of good interpersonal relationships within the whole school family.

Curriculum planning:

The school follows the current Literacy and Numeracy frameworks and have creative topic based curriculum throughout the school. There is also a Policy statement for each National Curriculum subject and for Religious Education. The policy statement shows how an individual subject is planned for, resourced and taught throughout the school so that:

- the school is true to its Mission Statement and
- continuity and progression in learning is paramount.



Religious Education and Collective Worship policy:

The school uses the Roman Catholic Religious Education programme called 'Come and See'. This is used from Foundation Stage to Year 6. **Collective Worship** themes and acts of worship develop from this programme. The school also uses 'Statements to live by'. These are weekly statements that are discussed during collective worship and used in circle time as a point of discussion. These statements support the Catholic ethos of the school and the way in which we live as good Christians. The school's Policy Statement for Religious Education may be viewed at the school, on request.

Catholic Foundation:

Religious Education is taught throughout the school in accordance with:

- current guidance from the R.C Bishop's Conference of England and Wales
- the Trust Deed of the R.C Diocese of Middlesbrough.

The Catholic faith is taught and nurtured within a framework of respect for other Christian beliefs and other faiths of the World. Two hours per week is devoted to the teaching and learning of Religious Education.



Relationships and Sexuality Policy:

Relationships and sexuality is an integral part of our whole school Health and Education and National Curriculum Science programmes. The school adopts a deliberate role in the teaching of sexual development to all pupils. The school has adopted the 'Journey in Love' scheme for teaching relationship and sexual development from Year 1 to Year 6. This has been approved by the Diocese as an ongoing way of teaching personal relationships. A copy of the school's Relationship and Sexuality Policy may be viewed on request at the school.

Special Curricular Arrangements:

The school adopts and adheres to the Special Educational Needs and Disability Act 2001.

Special Needs and Disability Co-ordinator: Mr J Rogers
Special Educational Needs and Disability Governor: Mrs Sandy Smith

All staff are trained to be sensitive to children's differing learning needs and aptitudes. We pay particular attention to preserving and promoting all pupils' confidence and self-esteem. All classroom work is planned within the concept of differentiation. Please see our website for our SEN policy and SEN offer document.



Additionally, some children may warrant being entered into the Special Needs register. This enables those particular pupils to receive extra support which precisely meets their needs. Parents of children who are considered for inclusion on the Special Needs Register are consulted and involved in all discussions and decisions. Outside agencies such as the School's Psychological Service are employed to advise and work with staff for the benefit of all children on the register.

The Organisation of Education:

Children are grouped in four Phases: Foundation Stage (Nursery and Reception), Phase 1 (three parallel Year 1/2 classes), Phase 2 (four parallel Year 3/4 classes) and Phase 3 (four parallel Year 5/6 classes).

Children are taught in Year groups for English and Maths.



Homework:

The school expects every child to enjoy at least ten minutes of reading practice to an adult at home every day. Each child will be given at least one piece of Maths, Literacy, Science and Topic work in a four week cycle which will be related to the work done in the classroom to reinforce children's learning. This is expected to be returned to school the following week, completed to a high standard. We expect the homework to be checked by an adult before it is returned to school. Reading, times tables and spelling lists are weekly on-going homework tasks.

Pastoral Care:



Immediate responsibility rests with the class teachers (or during lunch break, with the Lunchtime supervisors) but all adults are expected to assume responsibility when a child presents a need for care. Particular difficulties are referred to the Headteacher. The school operates a fair and inclusive policy with regard to all pupils and staff.

More Able pupils:

The More Able policy is intended to support the following aims:

- to raise the aspirations of all pupils
- to have high expectations of achievement for all students
- to promote greater enterprise, self-reliance and independence for all Pupils

Extra-Curricular Clubs:

At St Mary Queen of Martyrs Academy, we offer a wide range of clubs for our pupils. We believe this enriches their education and life experiences. Currently, we offer:

Rugby, Football, Cross Country, Netball, Badminton, Indoor Games, Photography, Science, Knitting, Glee club and Irish dancing.

School Discipline:

The school operates an assertive discipline policy and restorative practices. School rules are made for the safety and wellbeing of everybody in the school family. Rules are displayed on the walls of each room and each corridor. Children are reminded of the rules on a formal basis at assembly at least once per term and if the need arises, when the rules are deliberately broken by individuals.

The school's Policy Statement on Behaviour and Anti Bullying can be viewed on request. It emphasises a positive attitude to behaviour matters i.e we concentrate our interest and praise on good examples of good commendable and acceptable behaviour, thereby hoping to dilute the attraction of misbehaving in any noticeable way.

Complaints:

All complaints should be made in the first instance to the Headteacher. Arrangements for consideration of complaints under Section 409 of the Education Reform Act are outlined in the Complaints Procedures Booklet compiled by the Local Authority. This can be viewed at school on request.

School Uniform:

Every child is expected to wear school uniform every day as follows:

- Maroon cardigan/ jumper (with logo)
- Maroon and pale blue tie
- Pale blue polo shirt
- Mid grey school trousers for boys and girls
- Grey school skirt/ pinafore for girls
- Pale blue gingham dresses are optional for the summer months
- Grey, navy or white socks/ tights
- Black plimsolls/ Sandshoes
- Our grounds warrant the need for clean black indoor shoes (e.g plimsolls) which may also be used for indoor P.E.

Our school uniform can be ordered online from CS Enterprises.

P.E Kit:

Plain white t-shirt, black or navy shorts, trainers are needed for outdoors. Children can wear tracksuits or other suitable P.E attire for the winter months.

General:

Make-up and jewellery (including earrings) are not permitted at school, except for a watch. The watch must be removed during P.E lessons for safety.

Hair: children are expected to have natural hairstyles. Colour and gel is **NOT** permitted.

Every piece of clothing must have the child's name on it.



Pupil Routes:

At the age of eleven, our pupils transfer, in general, to three senior schools:

- St Mary's College
- Winifred Holtby Technology College
- Kingswood High School

Charging for school activities:

The Policy Statement on Charging may be viewed on request at the school. In summary, the school passes on a registration fee for optional extra instrumental tuition supplied by outside tutors.



Social Inclusion:

To create a fair and just school community, that promotes social inclusion, community cohesion and equality, that respects diversity and which challenges and acts upon discrimination and big inequality including bullying. We are committed to combating all forms of discrimination.

Looked After Children:

There is a designated teacher for looked after children who will report annually to the governing body with regards to procedures and practices for looked after children.

Rates of Authorised and Unauthorised Absence:

Total number of registered pupils of compulsory school age: 312
Attendance figures for the academic year 2015/2016:

Autumn: 96.8%, Authorised absence: 2%, Unauthorised absence: 1.09%

Spring: 96.6%, Authorised absence: 3.1%, Unauthorised absence: 0.7%

Summer: 95.4%, Authorised absence: 2.4%, Unauthorised absence: 2.09%



Arrangements for arranging term time holiday:

Parent/carer to contact the school for an interview before the holidays booked to be held the last Friday of every month. Notes of interview to be made on an official form including decision made and returned to the school office, with any documentation provided by the parent/carer. A letter will be sent to the parent/carer to confirm the decision made during the interview.

Further procedures for unauthorised leave:

If a parent/carer does not take the child out of school for leave: no further action will be taken.

If the child is taken out of school: the absence will be recorded as unauthorised. A referral will be made to the local authority.

Disclaimer:

The information given in this prospectus was valid in September 2016. It is possible that there could be changes affecting either the arrangements generally described in this Prospectus or any particular part of them before the start of the school year 2016/17 or in the subsequent years. Parents wishing to contact the individual members of staff all governors named in this leaflet are advised to check the details with the school any changes beforehand.



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