



St Mary's
Catholic Primary School

Learning and Loving, Caring and Sharing through the Message of Christ



ST MARY'S
CATHOLIC PRIMARY

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ST MARY'S
CATHOLIC
PRIMARY

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Contact Details:

St Mary's Catholic Voluntary Aided Primary School
Lea Road, Wrexham, LL13 7NA

Telephone:

(01978) 352406

Email:

mailbox@stmarys-wxm-pri.wrexham.sch.uk

Website:

www.stmarys-wxm.co.uk

Headteacher:

Mrs Rachel Acton
B Ed. (Hons) NPQH

Chair of Governors:

Mrs Liz Davies

Chief Officer Education and Early Intervention Services WCBC:

Mrs Karen Evans
16 Lord St, Wrexham
Tel: (01978) 297505

Diocesan Director of Education:

Mrs Wendy White
Tel: (01978) 290344



A very warm welcome to St Mary's Catholic Primary School



Dear Parent/ Carer,

Choosing the right school for your child is one of the most important decisions that you will make. As parents, you want your child to be happy, safe and to receive the very best education in order that they may grow in their faith and be encouraged to develop as ambitious, independent learners.

At St Mary's, we celebrate and nurture each child as an individual and recognise the importance of positive relationships and how this affects the quality of pupils' learning experiences.

St Mary's is a Catholic Voluntary Aided School providing Nursery and full time education for baptised Catholic children or children baptised in another faith whose parents wish them to be educated within a happy and successful Catholic environment.

Our dedicated and forward-thinking staff have a shared commitment to providing high quality care, support and guidance for all pupils at St Mary's. We all work together to strive for the highest levels of achievement and well-being and value the progress made by each and every member of our school community.

We are pleased to be able to offer a very comprehensive 'wrap around' care facility run by a very dedicated committee. Our 'Cool Kids' Club' offers a 'Breakfast Club', 'Stars' (afternoon rising 4s club), a 'Tea-Time club' and a 'Holiday club'. We also have an active 'Friends of St Mary's' group and parents are encouraged to play an active part in the life of the school in many different ways.

Parents are kept fully informed about their child's progress and about school events and activities in the weekly newsletter, via email, via the school's social media accounts and the Seesaw App, during parents' evenings and via the on-line calendar.

Please do not hesitate to contact the school if you would like to arrange a visit. We would be very happy to provide a guided tour of our wonderful school.

We look forward to working in partnership with you for many years to come.
Yours faithfully,

Mrs R F Acton, Headteacher



Scan this QR
code to access
our website.







About our School

St Mary's Catholic Primary School is situated in the centre of Wrexham and was first established in 1893.

The school provides English medium education for children aged 3-11 years. Welsh is also taught to all pupils as a second language. The school has served the Cathedral parish of Wrexham and the parishes of Llay and Rossett, Ruabon, Llangollen, Chirk and Corwen for over a hundred years and we are very proud of our history and traditions.

In the Foundation Phase, we currently have one Nursery class and two mixed Nursery and Reception classes, where the Nursery aged children attend for the morning session only and go home at 11:30am. We also have one Year 1 class, one Year 2 class and one mixed Year 1 and 2 class.

In Key Stage 2, we have one Year 3 class and one Year 4 class, one mixed Year 3 and 4 class and two single year group classes in Years 5 and 6.

Lower Foundation Phase (Children aged 3-5 years)

Early Years- Nursery- Puffins (Mrs Myers)

Early Years– Nursery and Reception Penguins (Mrs Jones) Parrots (Mrs Wilkinson)

Upper Foundation Phase (Children aged 5-7 years)

Year 1 Wrens (Mrs Astbury)

Year 2 Owls (Mrs Roberts)

Year 1/2 Robins (Miss Davies)

Lower Juniors (Children aged 7-9 years)

Year 3 (Yr 3 Clywedog) Mrs Binnerley (Maternity leave) Miss Edwards

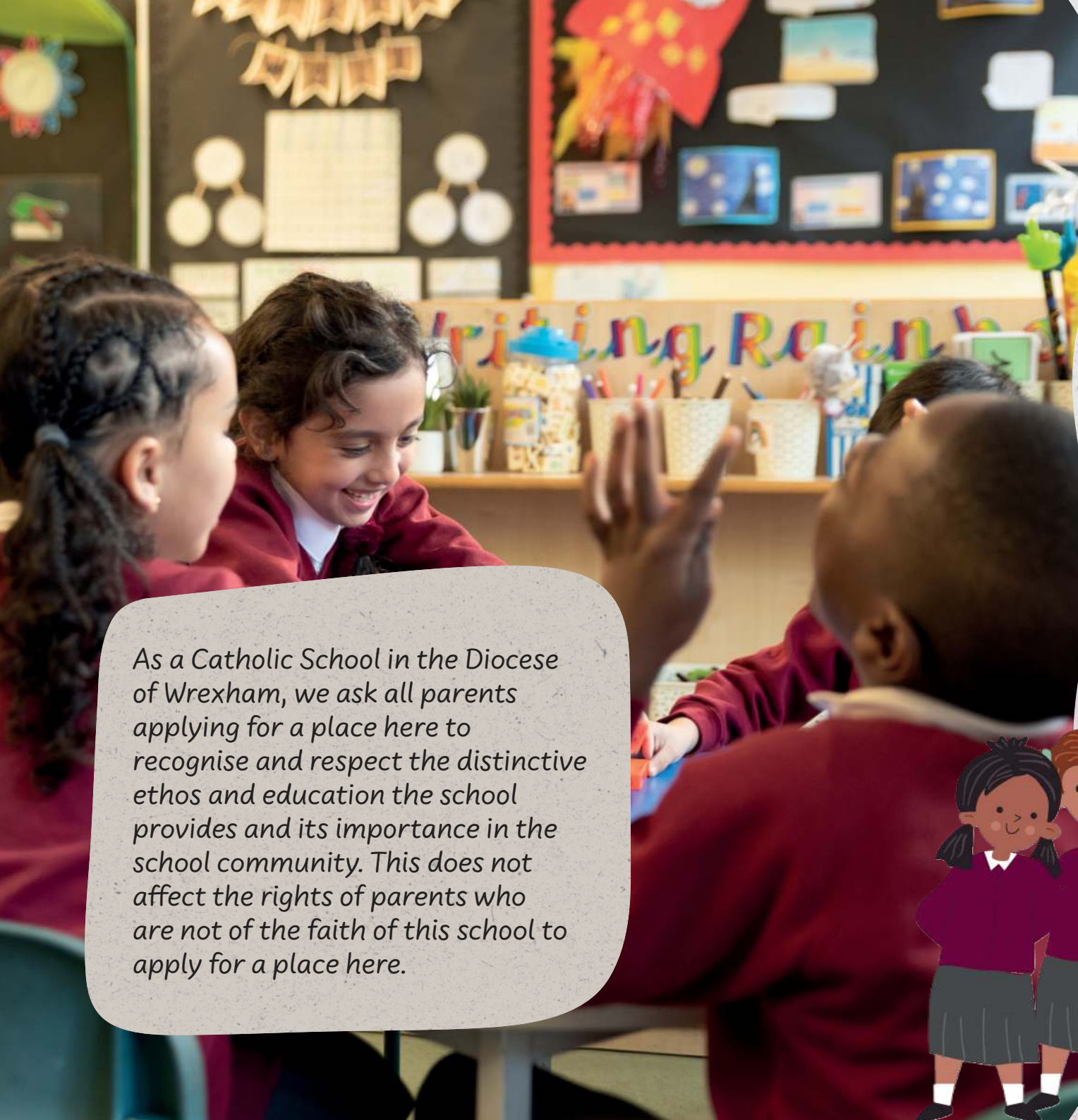
Year 3/4 (Yr 4 Conwy) Mrs Worsnip/ Mrs Edwards

Year 4 (Yr4 Alyn) Miss Gillett

Upper Juniors (Children aged 9-11 years)

Yr5 Dovey- Mrs Sinclair Yr 5 Gwenfro –Mrs Robertson Yr 6 Gwaun- Mr O'Toole Yr 6

Dyfrdwy– Mrs Hall



Admissions

Admission forms can be obtained from the school and they can be completed online. N.B. School forms must be returned to the school.

Admissions for Reception Class 2023- Online admissions open: 29/9/22 Close 18/11/22

Admissions for Nursery Class 2023- Online admissions open: 04/1/23. Close 17/2/23

(For further details of, please refer to the school Admissions Policy available on the school website)

As a Catholic School in the Diocese of Wrexham, we ask all parents applying for a place here to recognise and respect the distinctive ethos and education the school provides and its importance in the school community. This does not affect the rights of parents who are not of the faith of this school to apply for a place here.

Our school is so cool, we get to learn about so many things



Teaching Staff

Headteacher



Mrs. R. F. Acton
B. Ed (Hons) NPQH

Assistant
Headteacher
Penguins



Mrs. N. Jones
BA (Hons) QTS

Assistant
Headteacher
Gwaun



Mr. K. O'Toole
Dip. H.E. B.Ed (Hons) NPQH

Religious Education Coordinator
and Teacher/Student Mentor TLR
Parrots



Mrs. E. Wilkinson
BA (Hons) QTS

Pupil Voice Coordinator
School Council
Gwenfro



Mrs. L. Robertson
BA (Hons) QTS

Pupil Voice Coordinator
ECO / Healthy Schools TLR
Robins



Miss. S. Davies
BA (Hons) Childhood Studies
PGCE

Leader of Teaching
& Learning TLR
Alyn



Miss. H. Gillett
LLB, PGCE



**ALN
Coordinator**



Mrs. R. Williams
BA (Hons) PGCE

Puffins



Mrs. C. Myers
BA (Hons) QTS

Robins



Mrs. K. Binnersley
BA (Hons) QTS

Owls



Mrs. R. Roberts
MEP BA (Hons) QTS

Wrens



Mrs. E. Astbury
LLB, LLM, PGCE

Clywedog



Miss. K. Edwards
B.Sc (Hons) QTS

Conwy



Mrs. R. Worsnip
B. Ed (Hons) CCRS

Conwy



Mrs. R. Edwards
BA (Hons) PGCE

Dovey



Mrs. M. Sinclair
B. Ed (Hons) CTC (CCRS)

Dyfrdwy



Mrs. C. Hall
BA (Hons) QTS
PG Cert (Dyslexia Research
and Practice & ATS)

Support Staff

Senior
Teaching Assistant
Penguins



Mrs. G. Davies
NNEB

Puffins



Mrs. M. Williams
City & Guilds Level 2

Puffins



Mrs. A. Hack
Level 2

Parrots



Mrs. S. Williams
CACHE Level 3

Wrens



Mrs. B. Talkowska
BA (Hons)

Robins



Mrs. T. Wright
City & Guilds Level 3

Owls



Miss. E. Green
Level 3

Year 3/4



Mrs. N. Trawally
NNEB

Years 5/6



Ms. M. O'Connell
QCF Level 5 Diploma

Intervention Support
Teaching Assistant



Mrs. S. Keighley
BA (Hons) PCET

**Intervention Support
Teaching Assistant**



Mrs. S. Hough
NVQ Level 3

**Learning Support
Teaching Assistant**



Miss. P. Glover
City & Guilds Level 2

**Learning Support
Teaching Assistant**



Mrs. B. Hayward
BA (Hons) Early Childhood
Studies

**Learning Support
Teaching Assistant**



Miss. K. Darbyshire
NVQ Level 3

**Senior Midday Supervisor
(Foundation Phase)**

Mrs T Wright Mrs B Pugh

**Senior Midday Supervisor
Key Stage 2**

Mrs N Trawally

**Lunchtime Supervisors
Foundation Phase**

Mrs G Davies Mrs B Talkowska
Mrs B Pugh Miss P Kelly
Mrs B Hayward Mrs M James
Miss K Darbyshire Mrs S Williams
Miss E Green Mrs K Davies

**Lunchtime Supervisors
Key Stage 2**

Mrs P Kelly Mrs B Pugh
Mrs S Hough Miss P Glover
Mrs A Hack

Kitchen Staff

Mrs C Price (Cook) Mrs A Jones

Caretaker & Cleaning Staff

Mr S Stazicker (Caretaker)
Mrs M Weir
Mrs A Hack

**Learning Support
Teaching Assistant**



Mrs. M. James
NVQ Level 3

**School
Secretary**



Mrs. B. Pugh

**School
Secretary**



Mrs. K. Davies

Cool Kids' Club

Mary-Anna O'Connell
(Co-ordinator)

Bea Talkowska
Paula Kelly
Sarah Jones
Aneta Jarominiak
Poppy Glover
Nichola Trawally
Angela Hack
Kazia Darbyshire
Mel Price



The Governing Body

<i>Mrs Liz Davies</i>	<i>Chair of Governors Foundation Governor</i>
<i>Mr Benjamin Sidney</i>	<i>Vice Chair of Governors Local Authority Governor</i>
<i>Mrs Rachel Acton</i>	<i>Headteacher</i>
<i>Fr Nicholas Enzama</i>	<i>Foundation Governor</i>
<i>Mrs Rachel Penman</i>	<i>Local Authority Governor</i>
<i>Mrs Donna Tait</i>	<i>Foundation Governor</i>
<i>Mrs Esther Bennington</i>	<i>Foundation, Safeguarding and ALN Governor</i>
<i>Mrs Claire Davies</i>	<i>Foundation Governor</i>
<i>Mr James Yoxall</i>	<i>Foundation Governor</i>
<i>Mr David Subacchi</i>	<i>Foundation Governor</i>
<i>Mrs J Barlow</i>	<i>Foundation Governor</i>
<i>Mrs Laura Robertson</i>	<i>Teacher Governor (Elected)</i>
<i>Mrs Gill Davies</i>	<i>Non- Teaching Staff Governor (Elected)</i>
<i>Mr Ian Watson</i>	<i>Parent Governor (Elected)</i>
<i>Mrs Rebecca Hughes</i>	<i>Parent Governor (Elected)</i>
<i>Mr John Droog</i>	<i>Clerk to the Governors</i>
<i>Mrs Wendy White</i>	<i>Diocesan Director of Education</i>

School Values and Ethos

St Mary's is a very happy, friendly and welcoming school. We are very proud of our school and our Mission Statement; 'Learning and Loving, Caring and Sharing- Through the Message of Christ' is lived out each day at St Mary's by pupils and staff alike.



Learning and Loving
Caring and Sharing
through the message
of Christ

Our school is a happy
community where we
are loved and valued as
individuals

As disciples of Jesus, we
learn together, pray together
and celebrate together as
one in God's love.



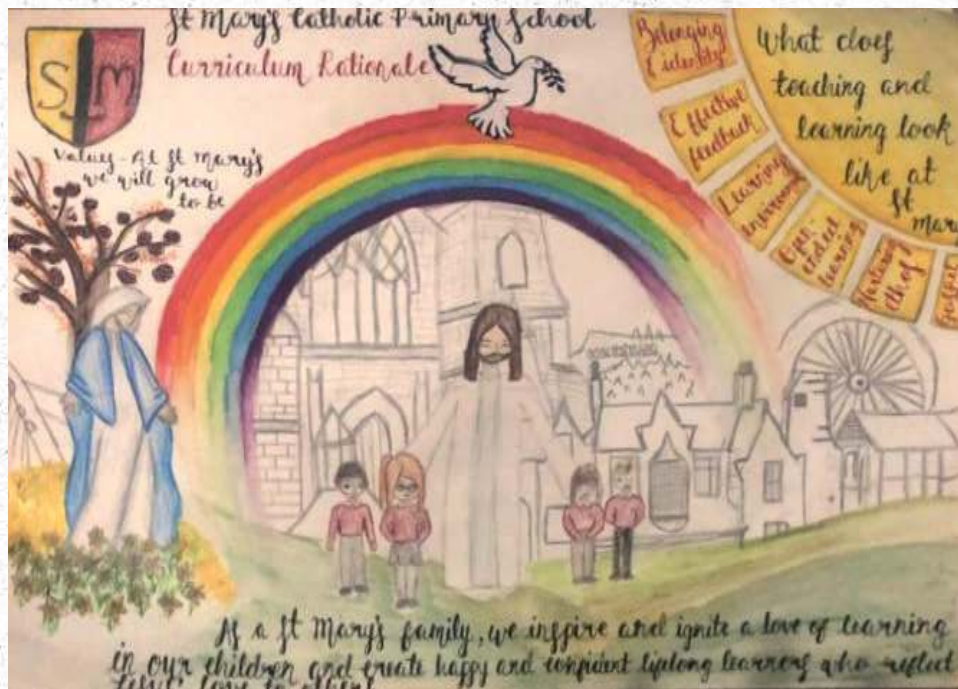
Together with parents/
carers, the parish and
the wider community,
we prepare our children
to live and build God's
kingdom on earth.



Our Shared Vision

'As a St. Mary's family, we inspire and ignite a love of learning in our children and create happy and confident lifelong learners who reflect Jesus' love to others.'

Our Shared Vision has been informed through consultation with our children, our staff, our parents, our carers and our wider Parish community.



(Original design produced by our children)



School Aims

As a school, we recognise that parents are the primary educators in developing their child's understanding of their faith. We value each child as an individual; made in the image and likeness of God.

As a Catholic school, our mission is to teach our pupils in the Catholic faith and nurture each individual child to develop to their full potential; spiritually, morally, academically, socially and physically and to ignite their passion for learning.



We Will:

Offer learners experience of life in an inclusive community founded on Gospel values

Have a commitment to high standards and very clear expectations of the staff, pupils and the environment in which we all learn

Support parents in their responsibility for the academic, physical, spiritual, moral and religious education of their children in accordance with the teachings of the Catholic church

Support the social and emotional development of all our pupils

Enable pupils to make progress towards the Four Purposes

Provide opportunities for pupils to practise their skills in real life situations

Encourage pupils to take responsibility for their own learning

Encourage independence and active learning

Encourage collaboration and cooperation

Celebrate achievement and foster positive self-esteem

Celebrate and value differences

Create a stimulating teaching and learning environment

Use a blend of pedagogical approaches to promote problem solving, creative and critical thinking

Reinforce cross-curricular responsibilities including Literacy, Numeracy and Digital Competency

Focus on identifying each individual pupil's strengths, achievements, areas for improvement and, if relevant, any barriers to learning

Effectively track pupil progress from their starting points to ascertain the next steps required to move the learning forward, including any additional challenge and support required

Respond to the individual needs of all pupils, including those with an Additional Learning Need (ALN) or Medical Need

Embed assessment into day-to-day practice in a way that engages the learner and makes it indistinguishable from learning

Use assessment for learning principles and support pupils to develop a growth mind-set

Religious Life of our School

Religious Education 'Come and See' 'and spend the rest of the day with him' (John 1:39)

As a Catholic school, God is at the very heart of all we do. The rites and practices of the Catholic Faith are reverently upheld in the school and participation in these rites and practices is offered to all our children. It is our role to recognise each individual's worth and to teach the message of the Gospels. Gospel values of trust, honesty, forgiveness, self-respect, self-discipline and loving and caring for one another are an integral part of everyday life in the school.

Our School Mission Statement 'Learning and Loving, Caring and Sharing - through the message of Christ' supports our children in carrying out those Gospel values.

- Growing closer to God through prayer and worship
- **Showing respect, love and care for everyone and everything**
- **Giving of our best in all things**
- **Sharing fully in the Catholic life of the school and beyond**

We are actively involved in our local parishes and our parish priest comes to say Mass, prays with the children and helps them to appreciate and understand the value of their faith and the part they play as members of their parish community.

Relationships and Sexuality Education

The school governing body has approved use of 'Life to the Full' published scheme of work which is in line with the new statutory relationships and sexuality education code commissioned by the Catholic Education Service (CES) and pays regard to the Welsh Government RSE curriculum.



The scheme offers a developmental programme to promote the holistic growth of children's understanding of human relationships following the teachings of the Catholic faith. It is underpinned with the understanding that our deepest identity is as a child of God – created, chosen and loved by God. The programme is fully inclusive of all pupils and their families and supports the delivery of a developmentally appropriate curriculum for all.

Life to the Full offers a platform of creative resources that engage, inform and inspire our children and includes interactive video content, story-based activities, a wide range of teaching tools, original worship music and an accompanying programme of classroom prayers.

Life to the Full builds on the essential partnership between home, school and church so that all children are fully supported.

Section 50 Diocesan Inspection

Diocesan Inspectors from the Diocese of Shrewsbury, appointed by the Bishop of Wrexham visited the school in December 2019 to conduct a full inspection of Religious Education and the Catholic and prayer life of the school.

The school is extremely proud of the inspection judgements which reflect the outstanding behaviour and attitudes of our children, the very high standards they achieve in Religious Education and the high quality prayer and Catholic life offered by the school.

Inspection Area	Judgement
Overall Judgement	Outstanding
Outcomes	Outstanding
Provision	Outstanding
Leadership and Management	Outstanding

Copies of our inspection reports can be accessed via school website.

Inspection Area	Judgement
Standards	Excellent
Well-being and Attitudes to Learning	Excellent
Leadership and Management	Excellent
Teaching and Learning	Good
Care, Support and Guidance	Good

Estyn Inspection

Following our Estyn Inspection, we were invited to prepare two Effective Practice Case Studies to share on the Estyn Website in relation to implementing the new curriculum and involving all staff in school improvement.

Please follow the links below to each case study:-



Implementing personalised curriculum



Including all staff self evaluation process

Welsh Government School Categorisation

Since the introduction of school categorisation in 2014, St Mary's Catholic Primary School was categorised as a **GREEN** school.



Llywodraeth Cymru
Welsh Government



Welsh Government defined green schools as **'Highly effective, have a track record in sustaining a high level of learner outcomes, demonstrate resilience at all levels and are challenged to move towards or sustain excellence.'**

Child Protection and Safeguarding

The Department for Education and Welsh Government guidance makes it clear that schools and colleges have a very important role to play in the protection of children against any form of abuse.

This is confirmed by the policy of Wrexham County Borough Council, which sets out the necessary procedures to be followed by all members of staff.

Site Security

The safety and security of all children at St Mary's is of paramount importance. We have installed high quality CCTV and security equipment for the gates and doors so that all children remain safe during their time at our school.

All school buildings are connected by telephone. All visitors should access school via the intercom gate, sign in and report to the main entrance.

All school staff at St Mary's Catholic Primary School have a legal duty to refer concerns about the well-being of pupils (physical and emotional) to the Children's Services (Single Point Of Access) department for further advice.

Parents will be informed of the school's intention to refer issues to Children's Services, wherever possible.

The designated members of staff responsible for child protection within the school are:



Mrs R Acton
Child Protection/
Safeguarding Officer



Mrs N Jones
Deputy Child Protection/
Safeguarding Officer



Mr K O'Toole
Deputy Child Protection/
Safeguarding Officer



Mrs E Bennington
Child Protection/
Safeguarding Governor



For the safety and general well-being of all pupils, your child will only be released to an adult, other than their parent, when we have been informed in school.



Our Personalised Curriculum

At St Mary's we offer rich and exciting experiences which are authentic, ambitious, empowering and fully inclusive. Pupils' wellbeing is central to the school's philosophy and ethos. We are committed to developing a curriculum which enthuses and inspires all of our pupils to become mature, ambitious, capable and independent learners.

We have a strong emphasis on the acquisition and application of skills and knowledge through experiential and active learning. All children contribute to their curriculum, ensuring that they have ownership over their learning. We enable our pupils to make sense of growing up in contemporary Wales and of issues which will be important in their future. We allow learners to develop an appreciation of the ways identity, heritage and cynefin can influence them emotionally and spiritually, and help build their sense of self and of belonging.

Our curriculum is all that the learner experiences in pursuit of the Four Purposes which are the shared vision and aspiration for every child. It is not simply what we teach, but how we teach and crucially, why we teach it.

We promote the Christian virtues (character strengths) and shape personal values, rooted in the Gospel of Christ, and expressed in the teachings of the Catholic Church. Fostering these character strengths, enables learners to develop, in alignment with the Four Purposes. Our inclusive approach encompasses an entitlement to high-quality learning experiences for every child in the context of the United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child.

Our curriculum places emphasis on equipping young people for life. It is engaging, broad, balanced and relevant to our learners. It ensures progression and continuity for the pupils and provides opportunities for children to acquire knowledge, skills and experiences.

Progression in learning is at the heart of our curriculum design. In selecting curriculum content, we use the principles of progression to inform our approach to progression. Using the Statements of What Matters, broad, open-ended whole school topics that ignite the pupils interests are planned. These support our pupils to realise the Four Purposes and acquire the integral skills which underpin them.

Pupils then work individually, collaboratively with 'Talk Partners' or in groups to decide what they would like to learn according to the planned What Matters Statements. To ensure progression, the information is collated and the pupils' ideas are mapped to the Descriptions of Learning and Progression Steps. A series of 'Big Questions' are formulated from the pupils' plans, ensuring that learning is exciting, real and purposeful. These are used to create 'Challenges', which are holistic, rich learning experiences with Literacy, Numeracy and Digital Competence carefully interwoven.

There is a strong emphasis on using workshops, visitors and visits (including virtual) to enhance our pupils' learning and experiences. Pupils work independently or in groups on their challenges. They often have the freedom to choose how they complete challenges. Seesaw is extensively used across the school as an online portfolio of pupils' learning experiences and as a platform to engage families in their child's learning. Across all Areas of Learning, the application of Numeracy, Literacy, Digital Competency, Welsh, Religion, Values and Ethics (RVE) and Relationships and Sexuality Education (RSE) is robustly planned for.



Teachers provide effective 'live' feedback to support and extend learning. Effective use is made of assessment for learning strategies such as pupil-generated success criteria, toolkits, working walls, learning powers and zones to support pupils' independence. Teachers provide higher-order vocabulary for each 'Big Question' to immerse the pupils in rich language so that they can discuss and engage with the topic at the highest level.



Our school is so cool, we get to learn about so many things

Our Inclusive School Environment

Equal Opportunities

It is recognised that people do not have an equal starting point. The school is committed in all its thoughts, systems and practices to ensure equal opportunities for all involved in our school community. All members of staff ensure that everyone is treated equally and that everyone has the same opportunities regardless of disability, gender, race or colour, ethnic origin, age or background. The School's Equality Plan sets out our objectives, a summary of what we hope to achieve and the steps we will take to deliver those objectives as an employer, as an educational establishment and as part of our local community. This is available on the school website.

Inclusion and Additional Learning Needs

St Mary's is a fully inclusive school where children 'thrive harmoniously together.' We recognise the uniqueness of every individual and the contribution that each individual brings to our school community – we are God's special children growing together in faith, love, knowledge and understanding. We work together with children and their parents to ensure that regardless of any difference or difficulty all children receive the best quality education.

Whole school 'Universal Provision', excellent teaching strategies, classroom organisation and differentiation are in place to deliver a broad and balanced curriculum. Many children will make significant progress with this provision in place.

Occasionally, it may be necessary for children to receive additional support to make sufficient progress in their learning. Children may receive additional support in a range of areas under the term 'Universal Targeted Provision'. "Small steps targets" will be agreed by all involved

in the child's learning and regular monitoring of these targets will be conducted in a child centred way. The school work very closely with a variety of outside agencies such as the Speech and Language Service, Inclusion Service, Educational Psychologist Department, CAMHS and others to support and seek guidance where required.

If a child does not appear to be making progress, then Additional Learning Provision (ALP) may be required. These children will require an Individual Development Plan (IDP).

The IDP will be created through collaboration with all involved in the child's learning and will detail what has been identified for the child's needs to progress. A description of their needs, how they can best be supported and what is important to and for them will be detailed. It will describe how St Mary's will aim to support the child's Additional Learning Needs (ALN).

English as an Additional Language

Children for whom English is an additional language may be supported by the WCBC EAL service who are a team of specialist teachers and teaching assistants, including bilingual team members. The EAL service works with schools to provide support for pupils' language development and access to the curriculum. Before pupils access support from the service, parents and carers' consent will be sought.

Wrap Around Care

Cool Kids' Club

Cool Kids' Club is run externally to the school by a very valued voluntary committee and is staffed by appropriately qualified play workers.

Cool Kids' Club is pleased to offer a 'Breakfast Club', 'Stars' (Afternoon Nursery Plus group), 'Tea-time Club' and 'Holiday Club' to support working parents with high quality child care. (Charges apply)

As part of the Nursery application process, parents are asked to submit a deposit of two weeks fees to secure their place in clubs.

Please be advised that parents must comply with our school Health and Safety policy with regards to parking, picking up and dropping off children.

Cool Kids' Club

Please see the school website for further details. If you have any queries please contact Mary-Anna O'Connell, Co-ordinator on 07985 900 660 or 07985 900 661

Mary-Anna O'Connell (Co-ordinator)

Bea Talkowska

Paula Kelly

Sarah Jones

Aneta Jarominiak

Poppy Glover

Nichola Trawally

Angela Hack

Kazia Darbyshire

Mel Price

Looked after children

Mrs Williams (Additional Needs Coordinator) is the designated member of staff with responsibility for Looked After Children.

Well-being and Nurture Groups

It is so important to us that each child enjoys their time at St Mary's and has the appropriate support to flourish. We offer a range of well-being and nurture Groups to support pupils experiencing a range of difficulties that may impact on their learning or emotional well-being. Parental consent will always be sought before children are involved in these groups.



Pupil Voice Groups

Messengers of Christ

Our 'Messengers of Christ' are pupils from Year 2-Year 6 who have been nominated by their peers to further enhance the Catholic Life of our school.

The Messengers of Christ meet each week to discuss ways in which they can develop the Catholic life of the school. They also offer a weekly prayer group session. The prayer group session is open to all children and staff and is a wonderful voluntary opportunity for the school community to come together in prayer. Prayer sessions are planned and led by the Messengers of Christ and they offer a wide range of prayer opportunities both indoors and outdoors e.g. meditation, reflection, praying the Rosary, Stations of the Cross, traditional prayers.

School Council

At the beginning of each new school year a new School Council committee is elected. Pupils from Year 1 to Year 6 have the opportunity to stand as School Council representatives for their respective year groups. Two pupils per year group are voted in during a 'Secret ballot' in a school 'polling office'. School Council meetings take place once every half term. These meetings are attended and coordinated by the whole school School Council/ Pupil Voice Coordinator. The School Council take an active role in planning and deciding how the school can be developed or enhanced. They make an annual action plan linked to the School Development Plan, and liaise with appropriate personnel including their peers, teachers and outside agencies, as appropriate and ongoing progress is provided by School Council representative at each Full Governors' Meeting. The School Council committee organises fundraising events to raise money for their chosen charities each year and actively promote the school mission statement in their work. They are a very valued part of our school community.

Super Ambassadors

At the beginning of each year, children are invited to apply to become a Super Ambassador. St Mary's elects 2 children during the Pupil Voice elections in September. Super Ambassadors have three jobs:

- Inform other pupils in their school about the Commissioner and her powers
- Make sure other pupils know about children's rights under the UNCRC
- Do special missions for the Commissioner in their school

Information collected by the Super Ambassadors has a real impact on children's rights in Wales. The scheme provides an exciting and interactive way for children at St Mary's to learn about their rights, in accordance with the UNCRC, which underpins the Welsh Government's vision for education.

The scheme supports the Four Purposes of the developing curriculum in Wales, providing meaningful opportunities for children to develop as healthy, confident individuals and participate as ethical, informed citizens in our school and on a national level.

Criw Cymraeg

Children in Years 1-6 apply to become a member of the Criw Cymraeg and are voted to represent their year group by their peers. Their aim is to further improve the amount of Welsh used throughout our school, both within classes and around the school. Each week, the Criw Cymraeg introduce new Welsh language patterns for everyone to use. They are currently supporting the whole school to achieve the Bronze Award in the Siarter Iaith Cymraeg Campus.

Eco Schools

St. Mary's has been an Eco School for many years and we currently hold Eco Schools Platinum Status which is the most prestigious Eco Schools Award. The aim of the Eco Schools Initiative is to empower students to be the change that our sustainable world needs by engaging them in fun, action-orientated learning. Each year a new Eco Committee is elected and priorities are set for the year. Meetings are attended and coordinated by the Eco/ Healthy Schools Pupil Voice Coordinator and ongoing progress is provided by Eco Committee representative at each Full Governors' Meeting. The Eco Committee represents the views of the whole school and act as the focus to push forward actions and discuss progress. The eight areas of Eco Schools are:

Litter	Waste	Energy	Water
School Grounds	Global Citizenship	Transport	Healthy
Living			

Healthy Schools

At St. Mary's we are also proud to call ourselves a 'Healthy School' and are working hard towards achieving the Welsh Network of Healthy Schools National Quality Award. We take a holistic approach to health and wellbeing activities.

We believe that if a pupil is happy, safe and secure and they enjoy a wealth of health and wellbeing experiences, they will become successful learners, healthy, confident individuals, ethical, informed citizens and enterprising, creative contributors. We welcome the support of our families as we endeavour to promote healthy lifestyles.

Playmakers

Children in Year 5 are invited to become Playmakers and are voted into this position by their peers. Playmakers are specially trained in a range of important leadership skills and are trained in ways to organise space and play equipment in order to set up and facilitate playground games.

Pupil Librarians

Children in each Key Stage 2 class are invited to apply for a position as a Pupil Librarian. The Librarians run the school library and ensure that all classes have access to a wide range of high quality reading material. They also organise events such as book sales, storytelling sessions, craft sessions making bookmarks and story bags.



"Many pupils take an active role in a wide range of effective pupil voice groups. As a result, they develop outstanding leadership and communication skills and high levels of confidence."

Estyn 2019

Parents as Partners

At St Mary's we value the importance of working in partnership with parents for the benefit of all our pupils. Strong communication is vital to ensure maximum involvement.

There are a variety of ways in which parents are kept informed about their child's education during their time at St Mary's. Parents' 'workshop-style' information sessions and individual parents' evenings are held throughout the year to inform parents about our rich and engaging curriculum and about the expectations of each year group, their child's progress and individual learning targets.

Parents are encouraged to take an active role in their child's education at St Mary's and we are always happy to arrange an additional appointment, where appropriate, to discuss any issues/ concerns regarding their well-being or progress.

A weekly newsletter is emailed to all parents and regular updates are emailed to parents and communicated via the school's Twitter account (@stmaryswxm) Facebook account, Instagram account and on the school website. The Seesaw App is also regularly used by teachers as an on-line portfolio to share children's learning experiences, communicate class news and school information to all families.

Home School Agreement

Our Home School Agreement outlines the school's educational aims and responsibilities, the school's expectations for pupil involvement and the respective parental responsibilities to support this. It forms an agreement to work in partnership to ensure the best for all of our pupils.

Homework

At St Mary's we believe that homework is a valuable opportunity for children to consolidate or to refine their learning and to develop independent research skills at an age appropriate level. We recognise and value the importance of quality 'family time' for all children and therefore ensure that homework set is always purposeful and plenty of time is allocated for its completion.

We feel that it is very important for children to establish a healthy balance between their school work, homework, after school clubs and a social life, in order that they become healthy, confident individuals. We recognise that after a long and very busy day in school, all children need time to relax and spend time with their family.

We recognise our effective partnership with parents and value their contribution when supporting their child to complete homework tasks. Parents are always fully informed about the nature of their child's homework and the Seesaw App is often used to ensure clear and effective communication.

A school-based digital device loan system is in place to enable all children equal access to homework, research based tasks and during periods of remote learning.

(For further details, please refer to the school 'Homework Policy' which can be viewed on the school website.)

Extra-Curricular Activities

Teachers and Teaching Assistants offer a wide range of extra-curricular activities/ clubs during lunchtimes and after school. These activities change every term depending on the weather and the availability of staff and pupil interest. The school participates in a variety of inter-school activities including: football, netball, tennis, rounders, swimming and athletics competitions.

Please be aware that staff offer all of these clubs voluntarily, during lunchtimes and after school. We ask for your support in collecting your child promptly at the end of each session.

All tuition is free except for clubs where consumable items are required. E.g cooking club (a small weekly charge may be applicable)

School Visits

School educational visits and trips are organised throughout the school year to support and enrich learning across the curriculum. When organising school trips or visits, costs are always kept to a minimum. The school invites parents to contribute to the cost and all contributions are voluntary. If we do not receive sufficient voluntary contributions, we may need to cancel a trip.

All payments should be made via the ParentPay online payment system using individual log in details.

Charging and Remissions

The school operates a charging policy, which sets out the general principles and specific conditions under which charges may be made. It strives to maintain the free nature of education in the curriculum but highlights areas where some curricular activities/ educational visits/ trips may require parental contributions. The policy is available on the school website.

School Transport

The school is served by a number of school buses operated by various contractors who are appointed by the local authority. Children living 2 miles (up to age 8) 3 miles (8 and over) away from school on a LA designated route are eligible. Please contact the School Transport Department for further details. Please note, the LA is responsible for issuing bus passes. Children are only permitted to travel on the bus for which they have a bus pass.

If you experience any problems in relation to school buses please contact the Headteacher or Assistant Headteachers for minor issues and for more serious issues the School Transport Department.



School Information

Gates and Collection

Gates open at 8.45am

Gates close at 8.55am

Dropping off your children Reception, Year 3, 5 and 6

Enter via the Top Block gate

Exit via the drive

Nursery, Year 1, 2 and 4

Enter via Lea Road gate

Year 1, 2 and 4

Exit via Bus gate

Lessons Begin at 8.55am

Collecting your children

Gates Open at 3.15pm

Children released at 3.15pm

Reception, Year 3, 5 and 6

Enter via the Top Block gate

Exit via the drive

Nursery, Year 1, 2 and 4

Enter via Lea Road gate

Exit via Bus gate

For the safety of everyone,
please do not bring your car
down the drive.

Session Times

In the morning, the school gates are open from 08:45. There is a one way system in operation for parents to drop off children with their teacher at their designated class/ drop off point. It is very important that all children arrive on time for lessons to begin at 8:55am. The school gates are closed at 08:55 prompt.

In the afternoon, the school gates are opened at 15:15 where parents are permitted to wait in a designated area outside their child's classroom / yard. Children will be handed over to parents at 15:15 and parents should follow the one way system to exit the school site.

Session times	MORNING		AFTERNOON	
NURSERY	08.55	11.30		
FOUNDATION	08.55	12.00	13.00	15.15
KEY STAGE 2	08.55	12.30	13.30	15.15

Autumn Term

Term Opens:

Thursday 1st September 2022 - Staff Training day
(School opens to children Friday 2nd September)

Term Closes: Thursday 27th October 2022

Friday 28th October 2022 - Staff Training day

Term Opens: Monday 7th November 2022

Term Closes: Thursday 22nd December 2022

Friday 23rd December 2022 - Staff Training day

Spring Term

Term Opens:

Monday 9th January 2023 - Staff Training day
(School reopens to children - Tuesday 10th January)

Term Closes: Friday 17th February 2023

Term Opens: Monday 27th February 2023

Term Closes: Friday 31st March 2023

Summer Term

Term Opens:

Monday 17th April 2023 - Staff Training Day
(School reopens to children - Tuesday 18th April 2023)

Term Closes: Friday 26th May 2023

Term Opens:

Monday 5th June 2023 - Staff Training Day (School reopens to children - Tuesday 6th June 2023)

Term Closes: Thursday 20th July 2023

School Meals

Full time children can have a healthy school meal (hot dinner or packed lunch) or they may bring a healthy lunch and drink (no glass containers/ cans/ fizzy drinks please.) As an Eco School, we ask children to use minimal plastic and take their sandwich packaging/ litter home where it can be recycled.

The WG Universal Free School Meals (Sept 2022) offer is currently available to all children in Reception class and will be rolled out to all primary aged children over the next 3 years.

Payment and Free meal entitlement

All payments should be made via the ParentPay online payment system using individual log in details.

The on-line free school meals application form can be accessed via the school website.

Secondary Education

St. Joseph's Catholic and Anglican High School in Wrexham is the school where most of our parents choose to send their children after completing Year 6. We celebrate very strong links with St Joseph's and we are always pleased that our children leave us to continue their education in faith.

We have excellent transition arrangements with St Joseph's to ensure a smooth transfer of relevant information at the end of Key Stage 2.

Parents will be informed about transfer details when your child starts in Year 6.



School Uniform

WINTER



WHITE SHIRT
WHITE BLOUSE
OR POLO SHIRT

BURGUNDY
JUMPER OR
CARDIGAN

GREY SKIRT
GREY CULOTTES
GREY TROUSERS
OR GREY PINAFORE

WHITE/GREY
SOCKS OR TIGHTS

BLACK SCHOOL SHOES OR BOOTS
NO HIGH HEELED/STRAPPY SHOES

SUMMER



WHITE
SHORT SLEEVED SHIRT
BLOUSE OR POLO SHIRT

BLUE & WHITE GINGHAM
SUMMER DRESS
GREY SKIRT
GREY CULOTTES
GREY TROUSERS
OR GREY PINAFORE

WHITE/GREY
SOCKS OR TIGHTS

BLACK SCHOOL SHOES
OR SENSIBLE DARK COLOURED SANDLES

P.E.



BURGUNDY
T-SHIRT

BLUE SHORTS

WHITE/GREY
SOCKS

BLACK PLIMSOLES
OR PUMPS

Jewellery. For safety reasons, jewellery should not be worn in school. Only one pair of small stud earrings may be worn in ears. Tattoos and transfers are not permitted at St Mary's. Children may wear a watch to school and, as with all personal property; it remains the responsibility of the child. The school cannot be held liable for any loss or damage. (Watches may be given to a teacher for safekeeping during PE, for example.)

School Uniform

WINTER



WHITE SHIRT OR
POLO SHIRT

BURGUNDY
JUMPER

GREY TROUSERS

GREY OR BLACK
SOCKS

BLACK
SCHOOL SHOES
NO TRAINERS

SUMMER



WHITE SHORT
SLEEVE SHIRT OR
POLO SHIRT

GREY TAILORED
SHORTS

GREY OR BLACK
SOCKS

BLACK
SCHOOL SHOES
NO TRAINERS

P.E.



BURGUNDY
T-SHIRT

BLUE SHORTS

GREY OR BLACK
SOCKS

BLACK PLIMSOLES
OR PUMPS

Hairstyles. In support of our school uniform policy, we also ask that hairstyles are kept sensible and in line with our excellent standard of dress. Shoulder length hair should be kept tied back at all times. Shaven heads (including extreme variance in hair grades and shaved lines in the hair), hair colours, tramlines, excessive spikes, fancy designs etc. are not acceptable and are not part of our school uniform policy. Parents will be contacted where hairstyles do not comply with this policy.



Friends of St. Mary's (PTA)

The school has an active Friends' Association. All parents, carers, grandparents and friends of the school community are actively encouraged to be a part of this group. The Friends' committee organise a variety of social and fundraising events for both adults and children and this generates a considerable amount of money each year to spend on a range of resources for the benefit of all our children. The Friends' Committee usually meet once every half term and everyone is warmly invited to attend any Friends' meeting. The Annual General Meeting is held at the beginning of the new school year and we are always delighted to welcome new members to the team. Elections to the committee take place at this meeting.

Governors to Parents' Meeting

A Governor/Parent meeting is only convened if requested by Parents.

Complaints Procedure

We recognise the importance of building and maintaining excellent relationships with parents/ carers in order that all children enjoy their time at St Mary's and gain the most from their education. Sometimes issues arise with your children and it is always best to talk to member of staff so that a resolution can be reached as soon as possible. The reception/ office staff will always organise a mutually convenient appointment for you to speak to a teacher if necessary.

(Please see our Complaints procedure on the website for further details.)

Behaviour

We are extremely proud of the excellent behaviour and conduct of St. Mary's pupils and this is something that is very often commented upon, both within the school and out in the wider community.

Estyn commented that the children's behaviour is an 'exemplary feature of the school.'

All staff have very high and consistent expectations of all pupils and we have very clear systems in place to promote, reward and celebrate good behaviour in school.

'Ready, Safe and Respect' are our whole school rules which are understood and followed by all. Reward slips, stickers, stampers, Headteacher awards and certificates are all ways in which pupils are rewarded for their adherence to our school good behaviour policy.

Where pupils' behaviour is deemed to be unacceptable, appropriate sanctions will be put in place, in line with our school policy. Parents will be kept regularly informed, as appropriate and strategies will be put in place to provide support as necessary.

For further information regarding our Good Behaviour Policy, please refer to the school website.

Attendance Matters

In St Mary's, we actively promote and encourage all pupils to achieve 100% attendance and we expect all pupils to attend school every day, as long as they are fit and healthy to do so. We recognise the vital role that parents play and that there is a need to establish strong links and both clear and regular communication systems to enable this to happen.

We are charged by the Welsh Government to ensure attendance is as high as possible. Attendance figures are monitored by the school's Educational Social Worker who will intervene where attendance figures are deemed to be a concern.

All absences, apart from illness must be authorised by the Headteacher.

All holidays taken during term time, except in exceptional circumstances, will be unauthorised. An 'Absence Request' form (exceptional circumstances only) can be downloaded from the school website for 'time limited' authorised absence, only in exceptional circumstances.

Please note: The Local Authority now has the power to issue fixed penalty notices (fines) to families for unauthorised absences. (Please see Attendance Policy via the school website).



"Estyn commented that the children's behaviour is an 'exemplary feature of the school.'"

Medical & First Aid information

Illness

If your child is ill, please contact the school as soon as possible. A telephone call/ email is sufficient initially, with a letter upon their return to school. In the case of medical appointments, please supply an appointment card/ official letter.

If your child is ill at school, we will contact you to take him/ her home. Please ensure your telephone number and any emergency contact numbers are kept up to date.

Should your child need hospital treatment, we will contact you immediately and either take your child to A & E, advise you to take your child to A & E or, in an emergency, we will call an ambulance.

Medication

Children who suffer with Asthma must have an inhaler in school at all times (please ensure that it is kept in date.) Please provide school with your child's Asthma medical card for information.

No oral medication can be routinely administered by school staff. If a child needs medication, a form needs to be signed giving permission for school to support the child when administering their own medication.

For 4 doses of antibiotics or similar per day, parents may come into school to administer medicine during the day, providing staff are advised in advance. If your child has a specific medical condition/ Health Care Plan requiring medication, please contact the Headteacher.

Headlice

Headlice is a problem that arises from time to time in every school. If you notice a living louse/lice on your child's head, please treat their hair immediately with the appropriate solution. (The whole family will also need to be checked/ treated if necessary.) The School Nurse can advise you on the most appropriate shampoo to use if you request such information. We request that hair, shoulder length or longer, is always tied back to ensure infestation is kept to a minimum. Should a member of staff notice head lice in your child's hair, you will be contacted to take your child home to be treated. Once treatment has been applied, your child will be able to return to school.

School Health Checks

The school nurse and other health professionals will examine your child during his/her time in school and parents are always advised of this in advance in order to obtain consent. Vision, hearing and dental inspections are undertaken as required and you will be notified of the results by the relevant service.

First Aid

School staff are trained in Emergency Paediatric First Aid. Cuts and grazes are regularly attended to by a member of staff on duty. Any serious injuries will always be reported to parents. Parents will always be advised of head injuries/ facial injuries (usually via a phone call) and will receive a 'Head Injury' note outlining any treatment given.

Safety in the Sun

During the summer term, in particular, we ask that you provide your child with a sun hat to wear during break times/ outdoor activities. Please apply sun cream before bringing your child to school, preferably 8/ 12 hour creams. Otherwise, please send some sun cream, clearly labelled with your child's name for them to reapply it during the day.

Dogs

For Health and Safety reasons, no dogs are permitted on school premises, with the exception of guide dogs. This offence carries a fine of up to £1,000.

No Smoking

We have a no smoking policy in and around the school, therefore smoking (including the smoking of 'e-cigarettes') is not permitted.

Inclement Weather

In the event of heavy snow, parents will be informed via an email 'Alert' and a message will be posted on the school and LA website and broadcast on the local radio station. If the forecast is bad, please make sure arrangements are in place to collect your child from school as we may have to close during the day and will contact you via email and Seesaw to inform you.

(Please ensure school is kept informed of your current contact details)



Privacy Notice

To meet the requirements of the Data Protection Act 2018 and Article 6 and 9 of the GDPR 2018, schools are required to issue a Privacy Notice to children and young people and/or parents and guardians summarising the information held on record about children and young people, why it is held, and the third parties to whom it may be passed.

This Privacy Notice provides information about the collection and processing of children's or young people's personal and performance information by the Welsh Government, Wrexham Local Authority (LA) and St Mary's Catholic Primary School.

St Mary's Catholic Primary School is the data controller.

The collection of personal information

We collect information about children and young people and their parents or legal guardians when children and young people enrol at the school. St Mary's Catholic Primary School also collects information at other key times during the school year and may receive information from other schools when children and young people transfer. We process the information we collect to administer the education we provide to children and young people. For example:

- the provision of educational services to individuals;
- monitoring and reporting on pupils'/children's educational progress;
- the provision of welfare, pastoral care and health services;
- the giving of support and guidance to children and young people, their parents and legal guardians;
- the organisation of educational events and trips;
- the planning and management of the school.

Welsh Government, Local Authority (LA) and Diocese.

The Welsh Government receives information on school pupils normally as part of the Pupil Level Annual Schools Census (PLASC) and the

Diocese receives information normally via the Catholic Census. The Welsh Government may receive information on children who attend LA funded early years provision in non-maintained settings. The Welsh Government uses this personal information for research (carried out in a way that ensures individual children and young people cannot be identified) and for statistical purposes, to inform, influence and improve education policy and to monitor the performance of the education service as a whole. Examples of the sort of statistics produced can be viewed at: www.wales.gov.uk/statistics

The LA also uses the personal information collected to do research. It uses the results of this research to make decisions on policy and the funding of schools, to calculate the performance of schools and help them to set targets. The research is carried out in a way that ensures individual children and young people cannot be identified.

In addition the Welsh Government and LAs receive information regarding National Curriculum assessment and public examination results and attendance data at individual pupil level.

Personal information held

The sort of personal information that will be held includes:

- personal details such as name, address, date of birth, child/young person identifiers and contact details for parents and guardians;
- information on any special educational needs;
- information on performance in internal and national assessments and examinations;
- information on the ethnic origin and national identity of children and young people (this is used only to prepare summary statistical analyses);
- details about children's and young people's immigration status (this is used only to prepare summary statistical analyses);
- medical information needed to keep children and young people safe while in the care of the school

- information on attendance and any disciplinary action taken;
- information about the involvement of social services with individual children and young people where this is needed for the care of the child/young person.

How long is your data stored for?

Personal data relating to pupils at St Mary's Catholic Primary School and their families is stored in line with the school's GDPR Data Protection Policy. In accordance with the GDPR, the school does not store personal data indefinitely; data is only stored for as long as is necessary to complete the task for which it was originally collected.

Organisations which may share personal information

Information held by the school, Early Years providers, LA and the Welsh Government on children and young people, their parents or legal guardians may also be shared with other organisations when the law allows, for example:

- other education and training bodies, including schools, when children and young people are applying for courses or training, transferring schools or seeking guidance on opportunities;
- bodies doing research for the Welsh Government, LA and schools/Early Years providers, as long as steps are taken to keep the information secure;
- central and local government for the planning and provision of educational services;
- social services and other health and welfare organisations where there is a need to share information to protect and support individual children and young people;
- various regulatory bodies, such as ombudsmen and inspection authorities, where the law requires that information be passed on so that they can do their work;
- the Office of National Statistics (ONS) in order to improve the quality of migration and population statistics

In some cases, pupil data will be outsourced to a third party processor; however, this will only be done with your consent, unless the law requires the school to share your data. Where the school outsources data to a third party processor, the same data protection standards that St Mary's Catholic Primary School upholds are imposed on the processor.

At St Mary's Catholic Primary School we share minimal pupil/parental information with third parties such as:

- SIMs/ ONE system- Schools' information management system
- Class Dojo & Seesaw – parent's email address or mobile number (to access the apps), unique student Seesaw ID
- Hwb – pupils' names and email addresses
- ParentMail- parent's email address or mobile number
- Online purchasing- parents' name/part of credit/debit card number, bank details
- Flipgrid- pupils' names and email
- Skype classroom- teachers' email, children's first name, school location & name
- Twitter- pupils' initials, school name, location
- Website- photos, first name, school name, location, staff names
- Tempest- class names
- Ram Leisure- pupil full names

We will inform and ask for permission if we have to share data with other third parties.

Children and young people have certain rights under the Data Protection Act, including a general right to be given access to personal data held about them by any "data controller." The presumption is that, by the age of 13, children and young people have sufficient maturity to understand their rights and to make an access request themselves if they wish. A parent would normally be expected to make a request on a child's behalf if the child is younger.

Other information

The Welsh Government, LA and school place a high value on the importance of information security and have a number of procedures in place to minimise the possibility of a compromise in data security. The Welsh Government, LA and school will endeavour to ensure that information is kept accurate at all times. Personal information will not be sent outside the United Kingdom.

Welsh Government have also issued a Privacy Notice for individuals included in the School Workforce Annual Census (SWAC). To see the document, go to: <https://gov.wales/school-workforce-annual-census-swac-privacy-notice>

Your rights under the Data Protection Act 1998

The Data Protection Act 2018 gives individuals certain rights in respect of personal information held on them by any organisation. These rights include:

- the right to ask for and receive copies of the personal information held on yourself, although some information can sometimes be legitimately withheld;
- the right, in some circumstances, to prevent the processing of personal information if doing so will cause damage or distress;
- the right to ask for wrong information to be put right;
- the right to seek compensation if an organisation does not comply with the Data Protection Act 2018 and you personally suffer damage;

- in some circumstances, the parent or legal guardian of a child or young person may have a right to receive a copy of personal data held about a child/young person in their legal care. Such cases will be considered on an individual basis where the individual concerned is deemed to have insufficient understanding of their rights under the Act.

- You also have the right to ask the Information Commissioner, who enforces and oversees the Data Protection Act 2018, to assess whether or not the processing of personal information is likely to comply with the provisions of the Act.

Seeking further information

For further information about the personal information collected and its use, if you have concerns about the accuracy of personal information, or wish to exercise your rights under the Data Protection Act 2018, you should contact:

- the school
- your LA
- The Welsh Government's data protection officer at the Welsh Government, Cathays Park, Cardiff, CF10 3NQ;
- The Information Commissioner's office help line on 01625 545 745 or 0303 123 1113;
- Information is also available from ico.gov.uk.

Disclaimer

All information contained in this Prospectus is correct at the time of publication. The Headteacher and Governors reserve the right to make any alterations they feel necessary.

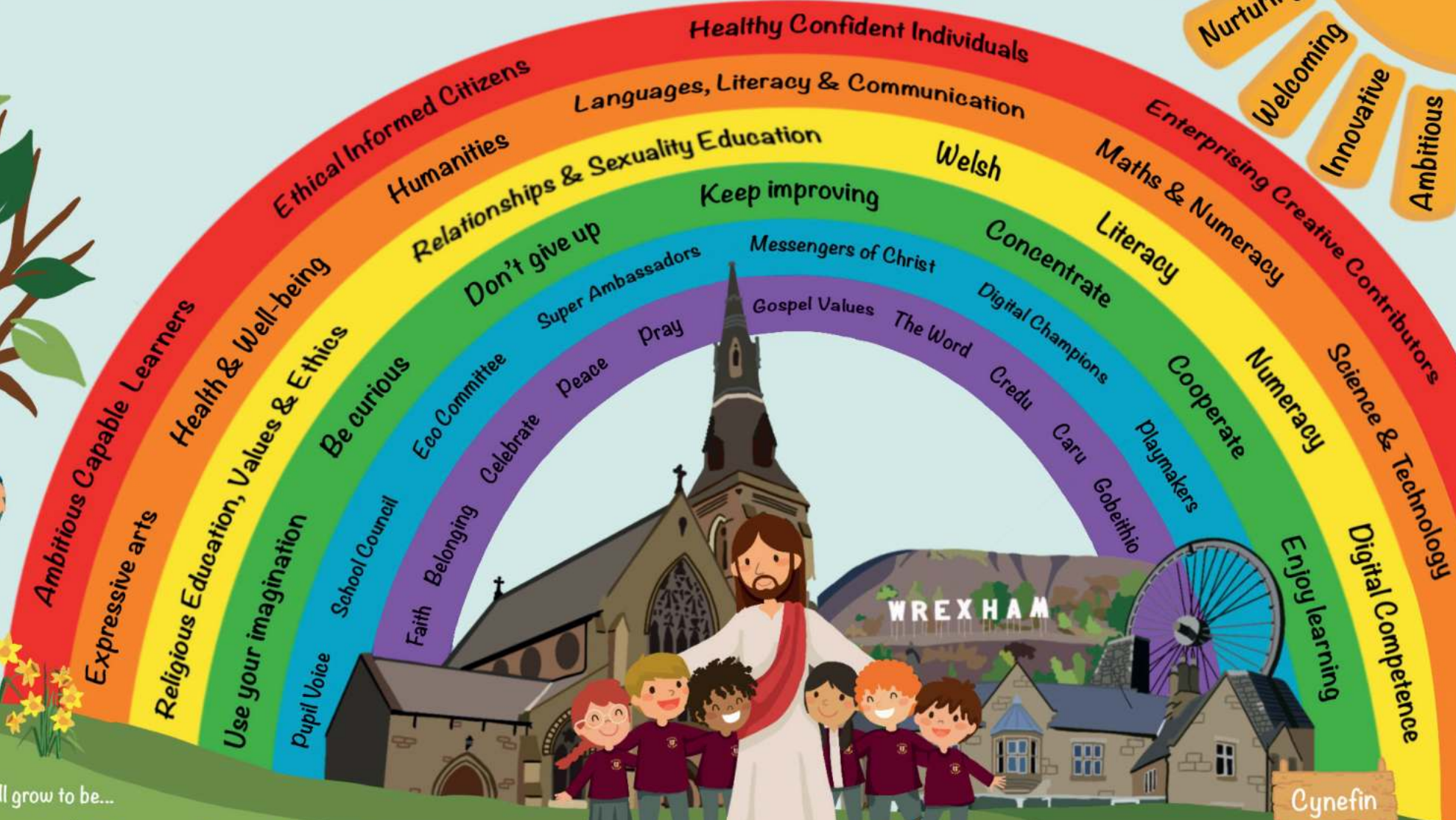


St Mary's Catholic Primary School Curriculum Summary



At St Mary's we are...

- Inclusive
- Diverse
- Nurturing
- Welcoming
- Innovative
- Ambitious



WREXHAM



At St Mary's we will grow to be...

- confident
- ambitious
- honest
- kind
- helpful
- respectful
- proud
- hapus

Our Vision

As a St Mary's family, we inspire and ignite a love of learning in our children, and create happy and confident lifelong learners who reflect Jesus' love to others.



St Mary's
Catholic Primary School

Learning and Loving, Caring and Sharing through the Message of Christ

St Mary's Catholic Voluntary Aided Primary School, Lea Road, Wrexham , LL13 7NA

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