

St. John's Catholic Primary School



School Prospectus

St. John's Catholic Primary School

Wingfield Road

Trowbridge

Wiltshire

BA14 9EA

Tel: 01225 752006

Fax: 01225 769606

E-mail: admin@st-johns-trowbridge.wilts.sch.uk

Website: www.st-johns-trowbridge.wilts.sch.uk

Head teacher: Mr Frank Toner

Deputy Head: Mrs Yvonne Wilkins

School Business Manager: Mrs Erica Pagan

The information in this prospectus is correct at time of printing but, may be subject to change.

A personal welcome to St. John's from our Head Teacher

Dear Parents

The Governing Body and I would like to welcome you and your child to St. John's Catholic Primary School. We hope that your association with us will be both happy and rewarding.

This prospectus has information about our school and its daily routine and will hopefully provide you with some of the answers to the many questions you will want to ask about St. John's School.

We strive to develop open, co-operative and positive relationships between the home and the school with parents and carers becoming active partners in their children's education. The partnership we develop is important to the growth of your child. We recognise that a child is deeply influenced by its parents and a Catholic school can build upon what you are doing at home.

With your help, and through the guidance of the Holy Spirit, we, at St. John's School, will endeavour to educate the heart, mind and body of the child you have entrusted to us.

I look forward to meeting and working with you in the future.

Yours sincerely

Mr Frank Toner
Head Teacher

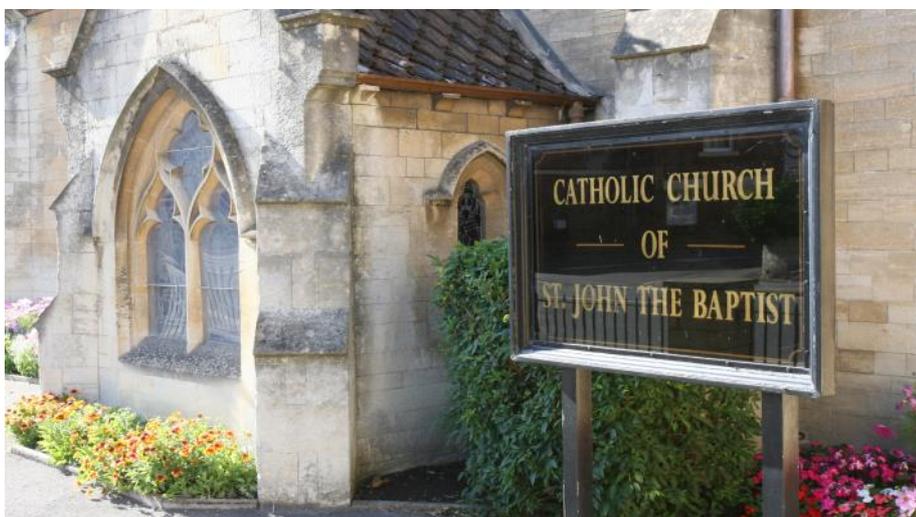
A Welcome from the Chair of Governors

Your children are the most precious gift God has given you and as parents you want the very best for them. In placing them at St. John's Catholic Primary School you are entrusting us with their spiritual and academic development.

Parents are the first teachers of their children and, at St Johns, we are constantly seeking to develop and improve the links between school, home and the parish so that your child can grow up in a loving community, which helps to cater for the whole person.

The Governors are committed to involving parents in every aspect of the life of the school and all your talents and support will be greatly valued. Our Lord Jesus Christ has an unconditional love for all of mankind. Love is at the core of all Christian principles and, at St. John's, love is the special ingredient which permeates all that is done to further the development of each child. Love is the force, which unites and strengthens. Love binds parents, children, teachers and the parish into a caring, sharing community.

Clare Farrow, Chair of Governors



Our Mission at St. John's

The Mission of St. John's Catholic Primary School is that of
Jesus Christ



Our Mission in Action

We live our Mission by:

- ensuring that our attitudes and values are transmitted through a curriculum that is consistent with the Catholic faith
- delivering a curriculum that is relevant, varied, interesting, stimulating, balanced and appropriate
- developing schemes of work and policies on teaching and learning, assessment and special needs which recognise that R.E. is an integral part of the curriculum
- developing sound teaching and effective classroom management strategies
- generating a positive attitude to learning where realistic expectations of pupils and high standards of work are expected
- using a variety of teaching approaches that reflect the needs of individual pupils
- participating in projects which focus on the needs of others including local and international charities.



A Brief History of Our School

The Sisters of St. John of God founded St. John's School in 1927. It began its life in an army hut in the Presbytery gardens with eleven pupils. Permanent buildings were erected in the 1930's.

In 1950 the formerly private school became state-aided. Its popularity meant that it soon became too large for the original site and so expanded to include buildings on Park Street, Innox Hall and the Pratten hut on the junior school site.

In 1968 the main junior classroom block was completed. After concerted efforts by school and parish a new school hall was built on the Junior school site and was completed in 1992.

In 2000 our long-term aim to amalgamate the Infant and Junior departments of the schools was realised. The infants now have a purpose built block which is directly joined to the junior department.

In 2003 we added a Reception playground and an additional Reception classroom to the school, bringing the total number of classes to eleven.

In 2005 we replaced the mobile classrooms with a new ultra modern block with enhanced facilities for art and practical work.

In 2012 a new Foundation Stage classroom was built together with an outdoor learning area. Additionally a new chapel, library and music practise rooms were completed.

Although the sisters of St. John's left the parish in the Summer of 2014, continuity with the 1927 Foundation continues to live on in the school.

School and Parish Links

Canon Liam from St. John's Parish Church is our school chaplain. He regularly visits pupils in classes and assemblies. All classes hold a class Mass and also a celebration assembly each year to which parents are warmly welcomed. There are also two services of reconciliation for pupils during the year led by Canon Liam, with confession in Advent and Lent. Pupils attend Mass in the school's parish church several times a year.

Members of the parish are regularly invited to the school to take part in joint activities. Copies of our weekly letter to parents are available in the church. The Weekly letter includes school-church links and activities. As well as being school chaplain Canon Liam is also a Governor.

The Bishop is responsible for all religious education in Clifton Diocese and for ensuring there is proper provision of Catholic schools for both children and young people. The Diocese owns all Catholic schools and the land on which they are built.



School Buildings, Facilities and Organisation

The main school building comprises 11 classrooms; 2 Foundation Stage, 3 Key Stage 1 and 6 Key stage 2 classes linked via the school hall. The Head's office and administrative office are situated just inside the main entrance.

St. John's is now fully accessible to people with a physical disability. Lawns surround the main buildings of the school. The site has flowerbeds, trees and shrubs to the front, a large playing field and two Tarmacadam playgrounds. There is also a large car park at the front of the building which is for staff use only. Our 'Playforce' outdoor activity equipment adds a new dimension to playtimes!



School Hours

Morning: 8.50 – 12.15

Afternoon: 1.10 – 3.15

Pupils should arrive no earlier than 8.40am as there is no adult supervision before this time. If arriving by car please do not park in front of the main gates as this needs to be kept clear for access by emergency services at all times.

Breakfast Club

At Breakfast Club children are offered breakfast and are able to play table top games. It encourages social interaction and healthy eating in a safe, calm and positive environment. Breakfast club is held in the school hall. All children must be signed in daily by their parent/carer and cannot be accepted before 8.00am.

Breakfast Club runs from 8.00am until 8.45am with food being served until 8.20am. If you would like further information or an application form please call into the school office.

School Meals and Lunch Breaks

All Foundation Stage and Key Stage 1 children are entitled to a free hot meal at lunchtime. If your child is in Key Stage 2 and eligible for free school meals please speak to the administrative staff or contact Wiltshire Council for an application form.

Sandwiches should be brought into school in a box labelled with the child's name. Fizzy drinks and glass bottles are not allowed.

Fruit should be pre-peeled if a child is unable to do it and stored in a separate plastic container.

Snacks

Pupils may bring fresh fruit for the morning playtime. All children in the Foundation Stage and at Key Stage 1 are given free fruit each day. Foundation children receive free milk daily up until their fifth birthday with the option to purchase after that date. They do not need to bring any additional food to have at play time.



Crossing Patrol

Our lollipop lady is positioned to see pupils safely across Wingfield Road. Her hours are as follows:

Mornings: 8.30 – 9.00

Afternoons: 3.00 – 3.30



The Curriculum

Our core subjects are English, Mathematics, Science Religious Education, ICT, and French (at KS2). The remaining subjects, called foundation subjects, are Technology, History, Geography, Music, Art, SMSC and Physical Education. From time to time parents receive leaflets on particular subjects to help them support their children's learning. We also have annual presentations of specific aspects of the curriculum. Parents are strongly encouraged to attend as these too will help them support their children's education at home.



Pupils With Special Educational Needs and Disabilities (SEND)

We are fully committed to implementing the Special Needs Code of Practice and we update our practice regularly in line with the current Education Acts. All children with special educational needs have a right to a broad and balanced education, one that includes full access to the National Curriculum.

We recognise the uniqueness of each SEND pupil and seek to celebrate their individual achievements as part of the process of developing self-esteem, confidence and learning-motivation. Parents are regularly informed about their child's progress in relation to individual learning targets. We seek to implement early identification and intervention in order to ensure best outcomes for all children. Further information on the procedures we adopt is found on our website. To make an appointment to meet our Special Educational Needs Co-ordinator please contact the school.

Pastoral Care and Discipline

We have a clear written behaviour and self esteem policy at the school, which is sent annually to each of our families.

Bullying is simply not tolerated and will be dealt with promptly and firmly.

Consultation and Reporting on Pupil Progress

Parents are invited to discuss their children's progress in both the autumn and spring terms. At the end of every school year parents receive a written report on their child's progress in specific subjects and other aspects of schooling. Parents are provided with information on the next stage of their child's education at the end of each academic year. Additionally, parents with children in Year 6 classes are advised of their children's SATs (Standard Attainment Tests) results at the end of the Summer Term.

Weekly Newsletter to Parents

During term time your child should bring home a copy of the Weekly Newsletter each Friday. This keeps you up to date with information on current and future events.

There is also a web site: <http://www.st-johns-trowbridge.wilts.sch.uk>



Complaints Procedure

We set great store in the relationship we have with parents. If you have concerns about anything that impacts on school life please contact your child's class teacher in the first instance or the Head teacher to discuss them.

The school has a written procedure for complaints. Under this procedure complaints fall into three categories:

Informal. most complaints can be resolved by discussing the problem directly with the child's class-teacher. If the matter cannot be resolved at this stage the next step is for the class-teacher and parent to have a meeting with the Head teacher.

Formal. if the complaint is not resolved by informal means it should be submitted, in writing, to the Governing Body. If the matter is still not resolved you may then, if you wish, write directly to the Chief Education Officer at County Hall, Trowbridge.

Finally. if you are not satisfied with the action taken by the Chief Education Officer you may then refer the matter directly to Ofsted at Ofsted National Business Unit, Royal Exchange Buildings, St. Ann's Square, Manchester, M2 7LA. Or telephone on 03001231231.

School Access and Parking

Parents are asked not to bring their vehicles into the school car park when dropping off or picking up their children. This is to ensure the safety of pedestrians. Please park on the roadway taking care not to obstruct driveways or cause inconvenience.

Parents and children should not use the main doors at the beginning or end of the school day unless for a pre-arranged appointment, or need to see the administrative staff.

All children must wait in the playground and enter through the side and back doors when the bell rings.

St. John's has an approved Travel Plan and is committed to encouraging healthy and safe travel to and from school.

Friends of St. John's

St. John's school has an active School Association called The Friends of St. John's. As a parent of the school you automatically become a member of the Friends. Every October the Annual General Meeting of The Friends of St. John's takes place and the Parents Committee of the association is elected.



We strongly encourage parents to attend Friends of St. John's meetings and to take an active part in the work and activities they carry out.

The Friends of St. John's regularly runs social and fund-raising events. These are not only enjoyable but also a very valuable aspect of our parish and local community life.