



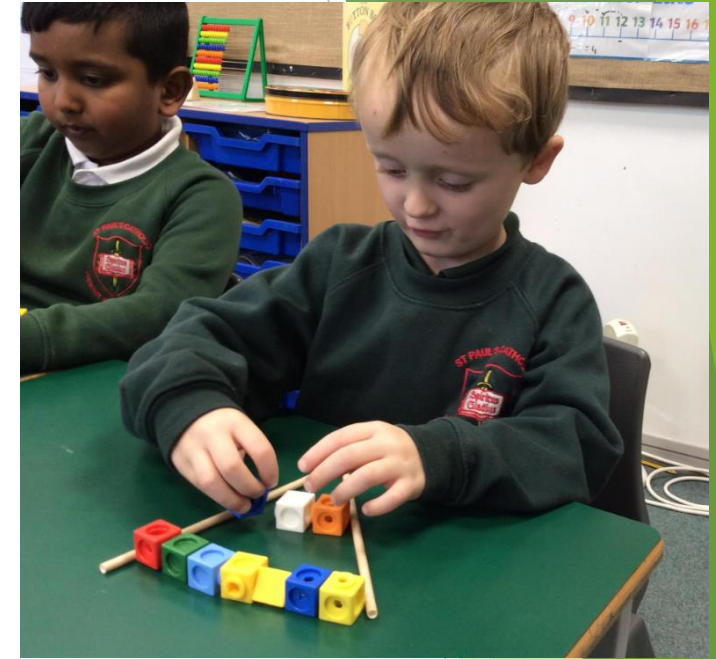
St. Paul's Catholic Primary School



'Growing In God's Love To Be The Best We Can Be'

*Provision for 2yrs-11yrs
ALL ARE WELCOME*

Welcome to St. Paul's Catholic Primary School



Foreword:

Mrs Lomax, Headteacher, says

I am delighted to welcome you to St. Paul's. We are proud to be an inclusive school with a determination to provide an excellent education for all the children in our care.

Christ-centred

As a Catholic school we place Christ at the centre of our learning and we encourage children to be the very best they can be; growing, learning and loving in a safe and secure way. We teach faith values in all aspects of school life.

Our Teaching

We encourage our children to try new things, to be creative, to be resilient and to constantly strive to improve to ensure we grow in God's love to be the best we can be.

Our teaching is stimulating and creative and encourages our children to continue their education outside of school and become lifelong learners.

Improve Outcomes

We offer many opportunities for independent and collaborative learning, enabling every child to reach their full potential and to build resilience, to cope with life and celebrate success.



Pastoral Care

Whilst academic achievements are an important part of life at our school, all our children also have the opportunity to enjoy a wide variety of sporting and musical opportunities and visits. Our pastoral care is exceptional, ensuring all our children are kept safe and are supported both inside and outside school. We have a Family Support Worker in school to help families and a school dog.

Dedicated Staff

I am very proud of our skilled and dedicated staff, who ensure that all our children are well supported to achieve their true potential and work hard with families to overcome any barriers to learning. We value school improvement and are committed to providing the highest quality teaching possible to allow successful life-long learning to take place

Parent Partnership

Another very important part of our school is you, the parent! As you will see, by reading the parent and pupil stories within this prospectus, you and your child are very important to us. We champion the link between school and parent and work very hard to involve you in every step of your child's time here.

Get in touch

To make an appointment to visit, or to simply ask us a question, please email admin@stpaulsalnwick.co.uk or ring 01665 602547 and one of our admin staff will be happy to help.

Our School Day



Opening Times

Main School

Morning:

8.45am - 12.00 noon

Afternoon:

12.55pm - 3.15pm

We operate a 'soft start'.

Children can access classrooms from 8.35am. Registration is at 8.45am.

Wraparound Care

Breakfast Club

This runs from 8am daily and costs £2.00 per session. A healthy breakfast is provided. This provides a good start to the day for those who require extended childcare provision.

After School Club

This is available from 3.15pm-5.30pm with pricing differentiated for length of time required. Children are provided with a healthy snack.

Uniform

We expect the children at St. Paul's to come to school clean and neatly dressed. A school uniform provides the children with a sense of belonging, a good attitude to learning and a respectful environment.

Please see our website for photographs and details of the uniform suppliers.

We try to recycle uniform and staff operate a swap shop on a yearly basis. Spare uniform is available subject to availability throughout the year.

School Meals and Snacks

School meals are prepared and cooked on the premises by our friendly and helpful kitchen staff. Our school dinners are packed with fresh, tasty and healthy ingredients.

Free School Meals

Universal free school meals are provided to all children in Reception and Key Stage One. Free school meals are available to older children whose parents are in receipt of certain benefits.

Snacks

Children in Key Stage 1 are entitled to a free piece of fruit each day. Older children may bring a piece of fruit from home or purchase fruit from our Healthy School Ambassadors.

Milk

Milk is free to children under 5yrs. Subsidised milk is also available for other pupils for a small charge.

Little Lambs and Nursery



Opening Times

Morning:

9.00am - 12.00 noon

Afternoon:

1.00pm - 3.00pm

Pre-School

We offer 15 -30 hours provision from the age of 2years in our Little Lambs and from the age of 3 years in our nursery.

Wraparound Care

Breakfast Club

This runs from 8am daily.

A healthy breakfast is provided. This provides a good start to the day for those who require extended childcare provision.

After School Club

This is available from 3pm-5.30pm with pricing differentiated for length of time required. Children are provided with a healthy snack.

Uniform

We expect the children at St. Paul's to come to school clean and neatly dressed.

A school uniform provides the children with a sense of belonging, a good attitude to learning and a respectful environment. Nursery children are expected to wear a school uniform as part of transition to statutory education.

Please see our website for photographs and details of the uniform supplier.

We try to recycle uniform and our PTA are keen to operate a swap shop on a yearly basis.

School Meals and Snacks

School meals are prepared and cooked on the premises by our friendly and helpful kitchen staff. Our school dinners are packed with fresh, tasty and healthy ingredients. All children are invited to stay for lunch. This experience helps develop social and independence skills.

Snacks

Children in Little Lambs and Nursery are provided with a free piece of fruit each day.

Milk

Milk is free to children under 5yrs.

Curriculum: R. E. S. P. E. C. T.

Intent:

At St. Paul's we pride ourselves on knowing our children and the skills that they will require to be successful within our school community and the wider world.

Our curriculum places a strong emphasis on the children being numerate and literate, but the heart of our curriculum is focused on developing the whole child. With Christ at the centre of everything we do, the children will develop their own personal faith journey and their own unique abilities.

They will learn to respect themselves and each other whilst developing resilience and confidence in an exciting curriculum that will continue to inspire, motivate and challenge them; enabling them to achieve happiness.

We use a RESPECT curriculum which, through a thematic approach, embraces the learning and application of skills across the curriculum. We have enlisted the services of Commando Joe's to support the development of our curriculum. Commando Joe's provides a character learning journey that we have personalised to the needs of our children.

It encourages them to think critically and develop a mindset that thrives on looking at themselves and others from different perspectives.

The programme contributes to cultural, physical, moral and social well being and play a part in extending each child's understanding of British values. It has been carefully designed to inspire and motivate our children in challenging and engaging ways while providing a wide range of opportunities.

Developing each and every character that comes through our doors is our underpinning focus and we aim to provide our children with the opportunity to make intelligent, informed decisions with the hope that they are able to take ownership of their actions.

Building character within St. Paul's will gift our children with the skills to contribute to wider society whilst also enabling them to be academically capable. Developing their emotional intelligence is at the forefront of our curriculum and we believe this will give our children the best opportunity of achieving successful careers and relationships.



Curriculum: R. E. S. P. E. C. T.



Maths:

We want our children to become confident mathematicians who are able to apply their knowledge to problem solving and explain their reasoning.

Reading:

Reading is central to everything we do. We foster a love of reading throughout the curriculum and provide our children with fun, exciting activities and experiences to inspire them to read for pleasure.

Writing:

We believe that great readers become great writers and therefore our curriculum is enriched with high quality, engaging texts.

Aims:

- To provide opportunities that encompass a wide range of purposeful learning experiences and activities.
- Accessing coherent and sequential learning.
- Inspiring children to do their best and have ambition to achieve.

Leading and being led to achieve outcomes.

Engaging in deep thinking to support their decision making and actions.

Rationale:

- Teaching the basic skills and then providing opportunities to apply these through careful planned activities to engage and promote the use of specific character traits.
- Specific, carefully selected curriculum links to the Commando Joe's character cards to ensure learning is purposeful.
- Giving the opportunity for children to have experiences they may not otherwise have had.
- Promoting the 'want' to learn and develop a growth mindset.
- Encouraging the use and development of problem solving skills.
- Application of basic skills, promoting working at greater depth.
- Encouraging children to identify the skills needed independently.

Behaviour and Personal Development



Discipline

We recognise the importance of self - discipline when it comes to developing the whole child. Everybody is encouraged to take personal responsibility for their own actions and to acknowledge that there are consequences for all actions chosen.

A positive, growth mindset approach is encouraged to allow each individual to grow in God's love to be the best they can be.

Children's efforts are praised and perseverance is modelled to build resilience in our learners.

Happy and caring

The teachers are firm but friendly and provide a safe, secure, happy and caring atmosphere where children can mature freely and confidently. A place where they learn to make decisions and be trusted to carry out tasks in a responsible manner.

School Rules and Rewards

A whole school dojo system is in operation. This promotes growth mindset behaviours, with a focus on each individual trying to be the very best that they can be. All dojos are awarded for living out our school RESPECT values. Certificates are awarded on a weekly basis for living out these values.

Children who collect five dojos for Resilience, Empathy, Self-awareness, Positivity, Excellence, Communication and Teamwork in a term receive a special award.

Class dojo is used to communicate positive and negative behaviours with parents. At St. Paul's we strive to stay on green and aspire to achieve a Golden Dojo.



Enriched Curriculum: Trips and visits



Trips

Teachers plan educational visits throughout the year to further enrich our children's education and curriculum learning. Our children enjoy trips to places such as:

- Centre for Life - Newcastle,
- Alnwick Castle and Gardens
- Holy Island
- Whitehouse Farm - Morpeth
- Local library / Barter's Books / Ballifgate Museum

Residential & Visitors

Older children have the opportunity to go on residential trips in Key Stage 2. These tend to be adventurous activity holidays or city breaks.

Children learn independence, build relationships and develop confidence.

Additionally, we arrange visits to the school by theatre groups and those with professional expertise such as singers, artists and musicians etc.



I can't wait to go on my first trip!

Inclusion: Meeting the needs of all.

At St. Paul's we are proud of our school community and committed to eliminating all forms of discrimination and racism. Our school roll includes some children with Special Educational Needs.



Special Educational Needs

We offer every pupil, including children with special educational needs, a broad and balanced curriculum to enable them to make the greatest possible progress, in partnership with parents and with support from the appropriate agencies. Children who may have special educational needs are identified as early as possible, monitored and given individual consideration and attention.

Access

We have an Equal Opportunities Policy and do not discriminate against any individuals. We actively promote a caring ethos within our school. Our building is fully accessible and meets all existing requirements for children and adults with physical disabilities as laid down under the Disability Discrimination Act 1995.



Gifted and Talented

The school aims to provide opportunities for all pupils to reach their potential, to extend and develop individual excellence and aptitude and to recognise and celebrate the range of pupils' gifts, talents and abilities.

Attainment and Progress



Assessment

Teachers regularly assess children's attainment and progress over the course of the school year. They use the acquired knowledge to identify where each child is on their learning journey and to plan for future teaching and learning opportunities.

Children are formally assessed at the end of the Early Years' Foundation Stage (Reception class) against the Early Learning Goals.

SATS

At the end of Key Stage 1 (Year 2 class) children are assessed in Reading, Writing, Maths and Science by their teachers.

At the end of Key Stage 2 (Year 6 class) children sit Standard Assessment Tests (SATs) in Reading, Spelling, Punctuation, Grammar and Maths. Writing is teacher assessed and moderated by the local authority. All are measured against national standards.



Reporting

There is an opportunity to meet with your child's teacher to discuss their progress and achievement.

Parents will receive an interim report in the Spring term with targets for development.

All parents receive an annual written report from the class teacher at the end of the summer term which provides information about your child's academic achievement and summarises their personal and social development.



Extended Curriculum

The school holds many extra curricular activities throughout the year during lunch time and after school.

These activities are run by school staff and external coaches.

Recent examples include:

Football

Cricket

Rugby

Multi Skills

Dance

Mini Vinnies

Chess

Knitting

Craft

Netball

Choir

Instrumental tuition



Catholic Life

St. Paul's is a school where we value the importance of loving God and loving one another. We believe it is important to learn more about our faith and differing faiths too.

It is a place where we listen to and reflect upon scripture. We lead by the example of Christ, always trying to be the very best that we can be.

Our daily practice reflects our mission statement: 'Growing in God's Love to be the best we can be.'



We are part of St Paul's parish community and we often join together to celebrate God's work.

The Sacraments of Reconciliation and First Holy Communion are celebrated as a parish, journeying together and learning more about Christ as we grow.

School and class masses and liturgies are prepared by the teachers and children and are led by Fr Stephen Watson, our parish priest. Parents and parishioners are invited to join all of our celebrations.



Whole School collective worship takes place each week and the gospel is shared and discussed by all. Children are encouraged to live out the gospel in all they do.

Collective worship takes place daily within each class setting and children engage in faith development and understanding at their own level.



Catholic feast days are celebrated and the children enjoy developing their own spirituality through planned prayerful activity days, prayer trails and engaging in quiet reflection at prayer stations around school.

Admissions



Admission to Little Lambs and Nursery

Applications for a place in Little Lambs (two year old provision) or Nursery class must be made directly to St. Paul's School.

Please note that admission to Nursery does not give any priority of place in Reception and applications must be submitted at the appropriate time.

Admission into Reception

The Governing Body is the Admissions Authority for St Paul's and is responsible for taking decisions on applications for admissions. Children are admitted into Reception in the September following their fourth birthday.

Applications must be made through Northumberland County Council.

Admission into other year groups

If you are considering St Paul's for your child, you may find it helpful to arrange an informal visit to the school. Please contact the office to arrange an appointment where we will be very happy to show you around our school.

Applications

Please ask about applications at the school office. You will need to register and apply for a place for your child online by contacting Northumberland County Council Admissions Team.

Getting Involved



Parent Teacher Association

We have an active PTA, which raise additional funds for the children. Every parent is automatically a member, the function of which is to develop closer links between the parents, teachers and local community and to provide financial support towards educational resources and equipment. The events that are organised vary from year to year.

Do you want to be actively involved in the PTA?

The success of our PTA depends on a continual cycle of parental involvement. We welcome any ideas for fundraising and encourage parents and carers to share these with us.

Information about meetings are shared with parents, and you can find more information on the school website. Please come and share your talents with our school!

Volunteers

We value the contribution of parents and family and we actively encourage your help during the school day. Parents and family help with a variety of activities which include reading with our children, helping children to choose library books, sewing, cooking, and acting as extra pairs of hands on educational visits. We accept all help gratefully. All volunteers must have a DBS check before they commence work in school.

Governors

We have a full and active Governing Body, which includes parent governors as well as representatives from staff and the parish community. The governing body has a range of duties and powers and a general responsibility for the conduct of the school with a view to promoting high standards of educational achievement including setting targets for pupil achievement, managing the school's finances, making sure the curriculum is balanced and broadly based, appointing staff and reviewing staff performance and pay.

Vacancies for Parent Governors are advertised as they arise.

If you are interested in becoming a Governor, please contact the school office.

Mission Statement

St. Paul's Catholic Primary School is a vibrant Christian community at the heart of which is a love for God. It respects the uniqueness of the individual made in God's image and loved by him and this is immersed in our core values of faith, respect, resilience and happiness.

- ▶ We aim to deliver a high standard of education which challenges all, based on the understanding that the whole person is celebrated and inspired to contribute.
- ▶ We aim for excellence in the daily life of our school, where together we live, love, learn and celebrate.
- ▶ In working outwardly, our partnership with parents, our parishes, other schools and the wider community, will benefit.
- ▶ We will endeavour to provide open and supportive communication which fosters effective, caring relationships between all.

“Growing in God’s Love to Be the Best We Can Be ”



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