

# St Teresa's Catholic Primary School

*'Let us do little things well today.'*



## Welcome to Our School



# Welcome

Welcome to St Teresa's Catholic Primary School.

Choosing a school for your child is one of the most important decisions you will ever have to make. We hope that you will find this information interesting and informative, and that it will help you make this decision.

St Teresa's is a warm and caring school that concentrates on building positive relationships built on kindness, care and love; visitors often comment on the 'feel' of the school and how special the atmosphere is. St Teresa tells us: **"I know of no other means to reach perfection than by love. To love: how perfectly our hearts are made for this!"**



As a community, we share, inspire and motivate our children, so they can be their best selves. We set high expectations of our children and this includes their behaviour, attendance and mutual respect for one another. As a learning community, we believe passionately that education is life-changing and, as a school, we therefore strive to provide an exceptional education by providing a rich and varied holistic curriculum that stimulates intellectual curiosity and life-long learning.

At St Teresa's we consider ourselves a family, believing in the importance of home, school and parish community links. As Christian educators, we strive to ensure children excel holistically, not just academically or physically, but in faith and as individuals. Our children learn to love themselves, love each other, the world around them and to love God.

The community thrives when everyone is happy - pupils learn best when they feel safe and cherished, staff work hard to ensure that all pupils are uniquely nurtured, they know the children well and value their individual gifts and talents. Adults enjoy working here too, we pride ourselves on creating a collegiate community. Pastoral care for everyone is important to us, we endeavour to support children, staff and families, priding ourselves on being parent-friendly!

We warmly welcome all visits to the school so that you can see our wonderful pupils in action. Please do not hesitate to contact us if you would like to arrange a visit or have any further questions.

Mrs B Maguire  
Headteacher

*"Pupils enjoy coming to school because it is a welcoming place where teachers care about them as individuals and their progress as learners."*

*Ofsted*

# Mission Statement

We love God and each other and follow the example of St. Teresa of Lisieux.

We enjoy learning together and doing our best in a happy, healthy and welcoming community.

We learn to be responsible and caring citizens.



**“Let us do little things well today”**  
*St. Teresa of Lisieux*

# Religious Life of the School

Our most recent Diocesan Section 48 Inspection took place on 6<sup>th</sup> March 2019 and gave us an 'Outstanding' rating. The full report can be accessed via the 'Key Information' section of our website.

We follow the Religious Education Directory (RED) from Reception to Year 6. The children are given opportunities to explore their faith and grow closer to God. Staff ensure children are afforded the time to grow as 'Children of God' and develop a greater understanding of the importance of being caring and considerate members of the wider community.

Each Monday we celebrate assembly as a whole school, with a focus on a weekly theme. Each week, class based prayer and liturgy is celebrated, with the children taking on more leadership of the celebration as they move through the school. Whole school masses are celebrated each term in St Teresa of Lisieux Church and in the summer term, our parish priest visits each class to celebrate whole class masses.

We spend the equivalent of one half-term learning about other faiths and we have focused weeks exploring 'A Journey in Love' for our RSHE curriculum.

We encourage the children to do 'little things well' each week and their successes are celebrated in the weekly merit assembly and newsletter.

*"Pupils' spiritual, moral, social and cultural development is promoted exceptionally well through the stimulating and rich curriculum."*

*Ofsted*



# The Curriculum

The rigour we apply to our foundation curriculum matches that of our core curriculum.

Our curriculum is driven by curiosity and is vibrant, enquiry led, challenging, broad, exciting and creative. It engages, inspires and challenges pupils, equipping them with knowledge and skills to experiment, invent and create.

Our curriculum policy, individual subject policies and termly curriculum maps for each class can be accessed via the 'Curriculum' section of our website.



# Teaching and Learning

At St Teresa's Catholic Primary School, we aim to provide a broad, balanced and exciting curriculum, opening up a world of intellectual curiosity to our children. Igniting curiosity stimulates the brain, and we therefore engage pupils in all areas of learning by stimulating inquisitiveness - instilling a desire to learn, explore and think deeply.

A curious mind is a learning mind and, as such, we provide a broad curriculum by offering the full-range of National Curriculum subjects that we value equally, ensuring they are taught excellently; we provide balance by sequencing the content thoughtfully for progression in knowledge both disciplinary and substantive and the development of skills. Our learning is therefore sequential and cumulative as we focus on pupils knowing more and doing more as they progress through our school.

We value making learning memorable and therefore, theme lessons around inspiring ever-evolving topics and creative, exciting resources. We believe theming learning around topics makes the content meaningful, contextual and relevant for pupils. Having a cross-curricular approach enriches the balance and breadth of our curriculum, building learning by linking it together.



*"The work for individual pupils is planned exceptionally well because it is based on secure assessments of what each pupil knows and needs to learn next."*

*Ofsted*



# Early Years

Our Early Years provision is one of our greatest assets. We stimulate children's natural curiosity, nurture their capacity to learn, enable them to form respectful relationships and to express themselves as individuals. Activities are based on each child's individual strengths and needs and encourage them to develop their capacity for independent thought and self-expression – something that, in turn, helps to develop their self-confidence and love of learning.



*“Children in Reception make excellent progress in developing very positive attitudes to learning, respecting others and knowing that they must take responsibility for how they behave.”*

*Ofsted*

# Key Stage 1 and 2

Key stage 1 and 2 children are taught in a variety of settings so that children benefit from working in a range of different ways, enriched with new experiences.

Learning in all national curriculum subjects is enhanced by a cross curricular approach. We ensure that children's transitions are smooth and effective in ensuring they are prepared for the next stage of their education. We plan activities based on individual needs, providing timely support and intervention where needed, ensuring that all our children reach their full potential.





# Our Groups

## Mini Vinnies

Children are invited to join the Mini Vinnies. This group supports the R.E. Subject leader in her role and assist with preparing school masses, supporting collective worship, running prayer clubs and raising money for charity.

## Prefects

Children in Year 6 are invited to apply for the position of prefect. Our prefect team help the school to run smoothly and are role models, sharing the values of our school with other children.

## Global Warriors

Our Global Warriors are representatives from each class who work hard to ensure that the school is as ECO friendly as possible and that everyone takes responsibility to live by the St. Teresa's ECO Code.



*'Pupils take pride in belonging to their school community. They are polite to each other and to visitors. Many pupils have leadership roles in the school such as head boy and head girl or as members of the school council. They take their responsibilities seriously.'*

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# Enrichment Activities

As part of our vibrant curriculum, we offer a wide range of extra-curricular clubs including sport, creative arts, music and technology. A range of seasonal sports clubs are offered and delivered by staff and sports specialists from other outside agencies. These clubs not only provide opportunities to develop sporting skills but also emphasise the importance of teamwork, enthusiasm and perseverance.



Children in Year 6 are afforded the opportunity to take part in a residential visit. The residential is filled with activities designed to help children build confidence, learn new skills and strengthen friendships.





# Happy, Healthy, Safe

Our primary concern is for all children to thrive in an environment where they feel happy, safe and secure. The school ethos is built around values which encourage children to become responsible, respectful individuals with the enthusiasm, resilience and integrity to succeed in whatever they undertake.

Our approach to teaching and learning enhances the primary curriculum with a rich, varied and balanced programme of activities to inspire learning.



The importance of a healthy lifestyle is promoted throughout school. All children access a wide range of exciting sporting activities, encouraging them to understand the importance of an active lifestyle. Fruit is provided for children in EYFS and KS1 daily and a well balanced and healthy meal is available to all those choosing to eat school dinners at lunch time.

*'Pupils work very well together and show high levels of respect for each other's opinions and efforts.'*

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# Parents and Community

The strong family ethos that exists at St. Teresa's promotes close relationships with all our parents. We truly believe that it is essential to have a 'home-school partnership' in order to support and encourage learning to take place for each child in our care.

*'Give your child the best start you can and help build a foundation that will stand strong throughout life's many exciting and challenging journeys.'*

Regular communications and invitations to special events, ensure all our parents are informed of the details of school life. We genuinely listen to, and act upon, parental feedback and suggestions to ensure they feel valued members of the school community.

Our governors provide guidance to ensure our school and the children we teach continue to grow and thrive. Our 'Friends of St Teresa's' work tirelessly to ensure that extra funds are raised to support the teaching and learning and offer additional opportunities for all at St Teresa's School.

*'The school works extremely well with parents. They have very positive views of the school and almost all would recommend the school to another parent. Many parents are involved in the work of the school by helping with or running the extensive range of school clubs.'*

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