

St Marys Catholic Primary School
'Learning together in Faith and Love'

ST. MARY'S CATHOLIC PRIMARY SCHOOL



Home School Agreement

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1 The Standard of Education Provided

1.1 We aim for high achievement for all our children. On entry to the Reception Class, children will be assessed to provide a baseline from which we start to measure their progress and development throughout their time at school.

1.2 Children's progress will be formally assessed at regular intervals. This information will be used to set targets for the children every term and at the end of Key Stages. These whole-school targets will be published to parents as will our success in achieving them.

1.3 Children entering school at a later stage will bring with them their records and reports from previous schools. These will be used to assess their level of achievement on entry to St Mary's School and to set targets for further development. Should these records not prove adequate for this task, a formal test will be administered to establish their current level of achievement, and appropriate targets set.

1.4 Children who have special educational needs will have specific targets addressing their needs. These will be expressed either within an Individual Education Plan (IEP) or A Statement of Special Educational Needs. These IEPs are shared with parents, as is the progress made in achieving them. The Statement of Special Needs is reviewed annually.

2 The Ethos of the School

2.1 The ethos of St Mary's School can be found within Our Mission Statement, Our Aims, and Our Objectives. The full contents of these statements are to be found in our school prospectus.

2.2 In summary, children come to school to learn. We want our children to reach their full potential. We have high expectations of our children in all that we do or are. We have high expectations of ourselves as educators and are committed to our own learning and development. Everything we do is for the benefit of the children. For this reason, we expect to work closely with you and rely on your support and co-operation.

2.3 All our work is carried out within the context of our Catholic Faith which places God at the centre of all reality. We provide, therefore, a stable, secure, hardworking and Christian environment where children feel happy, valued and encouraged to lead a life that is rich and meaningful.

3 Religious Education

3.1 The whole school experience, not just the timetabled RE lessons, promotes the religious growth and development of our children. They will be taught the skills and knowledge of

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religious education and, in particular, the teachings of the Catholic Faith. Close links with the home, school and parish are essential in sharing our faith life with the children. Parents are expected to participate fully in preparing the children to receive the sacraments of Reconciliation and The Eucharist. Parents are expected to ensure regular attendance of the children at the parish Sunday Liturgy and to support the children in their School Liturgies.

3.2 The school and parish will support such parents with a recommendation for a place at a Catholic Secondary School when transferring from Primary School.

4 Regular Attendance on Time

4.1 It is important for your child's future that he or she makes the most of his or her time at school. This means going regularly and turning up on time. It is also important that young children are collected on time. Are you aware of the following?

- By law you are responsible for making sure that your children are educated between the ages of 5 and 16.
- If your child is registered at school, he or she must go to school on time every day during term-time, unless there is a good reason (such as illness). If they do not go regularly, you may be fined.
- It is your responsibility to tell the school if your child cannot attend.
- If attendance problems do develop, the school will expect you to help their staff and the education welfare service to solve the problems.
- You do not have the right to take your children on holiday in term-time. The headteacher must agree this before any holiday is booked. The headteacher is also restricted in the amount of time he or she can authorise and must have a very good reason for doing so.

5 Discipline and Behaviour

5.1 You have a very important role in encouraging your child to behave well, and your influence is critical in shaping your child's attitude and behaviour.

5.2 Your child is expected to keep the school's 'Golden Rules' and, as parents, you are expected to support the school in maintaining good behaviour and discipline.

The Golden Rules are simple:

- We show **respect** - we speak politely and follow instructions
- We are **gentle**
- We are **kind** and **helpful**
- We **take care of** property
- We **try our best** with our learning and let others get on with theirs
- We are **honest** and **take responsibility** for our actions

5.3 The school behaviour policy states that there will be internal exclusions for children challenging behaviour which is described as 'red zone' behaviour.

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6 Home Learning

6.1 Doing home learning helps children to develop important skills, in particular those of independent learning. The Government recommends regular homework for all children from Year 1 upwards. As parents, you are expected to support your child with their homework and to support the Home Learning Policy.

6.2 The school will consult you about any changes to the home learning arrangements.

7 Information Schools and Parents Will Give to One Another

7.1 Good communication between the home and the school is essential. You will be given the opportunity to meet formally with your child's class teacher each term. In the third term of each year you will be provided with a written report of your child's progress and will have an opportunity to discuss it with the class teacher. The children in Year 2 and Year 6 will also be provided with their child's SATs results in keeping with national requirements. It is also important to make sure that you tell the school about any issues that might affect your child's work or behaviour.

8 School Uniform

8.1 St. Mary's is a uniform school. It is essential that all children attending St. Mary's comply with the uniform policy, ensuring that they have appropriate hairstyles and correct uniform at all times.

School uniform helps children to have a sense of belonging and identify with the school. Research suggests that the consistent implementation of a uniform policy impacts on the achievement and behaviour of pupils. It encourages a strong sense of identity and community and supports an inclusive and high achieving learning culture.

This Home-School Agreement has been approved and adopted by the Governing Body on an annual basis

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Home-School Agreement

Parents are requested to sign the agreement to show that you understand and accept it. Your child may also sign this agreement if he or she is old enough to understand it.

You are asked to keep the agreement at home for future reference and to return this signed declaration to school.

Parents Names: (Print clearly) _____

Signatures: _____

Child's Name: (Print clearly) _____

Signature: _____

Date: _____