



St. Catherine's
RC Primary School

Key Information for parents and carers

Be who God wants you to be and so set the world on fire

September 2025

0161 445 6359

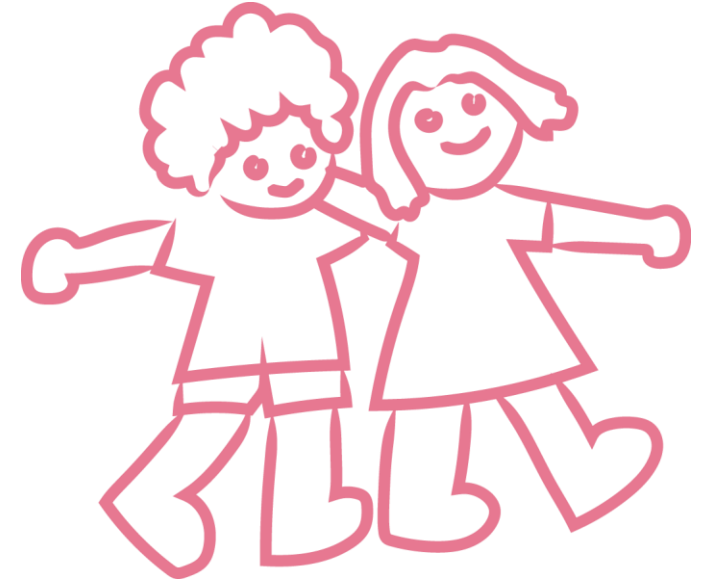
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St. Catherine's
RC Primary School



Our School Values: Compassion

Our School Mission and Vision

Our School Mission and Vision

Our school community is rooted in the Gospel and the vision of St. Catherine of Siena.
This inspires each of us

*'To be who God wants us to be
and so set the world on fire.'*

We are called to love one another as we seek to be the best
in all that we learn and do.
We celebrate and nurture the gifts, talents and skills of everyone.
We commit ourselves to grow together in faith, love and service.

Shape the
whole person

Strive for
excellence

Create
inspiring
learning
spaces

Build
community

This means that we:

- Recognise and nurture the talents, skills and strengths in everyone
- Appreciate our uniqueness as individuals and support our vulnerabilities
- Encourage growth in Spiritual, Moral, Social and Cultural terms through our development journey
- Live and grow together in faith
- Look outside ourselves, seeing our role within the wider world
- Grow in confidence, inspiring each other

This means that we:

- Lead by example
- Are passionate about continuous learning
- Ensure every single child achieves their fullest potential
- Deliver a high quality curriculum which results in high standards
- Support every member of the community to help them to flourish
- Never give up: building resilience and perseverance

This means that we:

- Providing high quality, inspirational learning environments and facilities
- Meet the needs of the whole school community
- Listen to the needs of those who use our school
- Develop Stewardship – looking after what we have and respecting God's world
- Are creative in our use of resources

This means that we:

- Develop close collaboration with partner schools and other organisations
- Strengthen the links between home and school – working together and supporting each other
- Build strong relationships with our parish and broader community
- Reach out to those in need with compassion and love' becoming missionaries of the Word in action

Our School Core Values

Our Core Values underpin school life. Each child is allocated to a core value group and they earn 'core value points' to contribute towards group totals, which are shared in Friday's celebration worship each week. Termly prizes are awarded for the core value group with the most points.

Each half-term, we focus more deeply on one particular core value.



What's special about St. Catherine's?

Staff are very warm and welcoming. They make learning fun and adapt well to our daughter's strengths and support her when needed. Our daughter is always happy to go to school and really enjoys it!

Comprehensive approach to children's development that keeps them focused, interested and happy.

It's more than a school, it feels like a family.

Children are happy.

The teachers are tremendous. My son has come on so much and the relationships the children have with their teachers make the school special.

What's special about St. Catherine's?

The personal family feel and friendliness and warmth of all the staff is special.

The empathy of the staff is well-balanced with professionalism and expectations of the children.

Community - I've noticed how each child is helped to feel special, not just by the teachers but the wider school community.

"The level of support my child has had from every member of staff is outstanding!"

"I just really like how all the teachers appear to love their jobs and put their heart into it. I feel so blessed to have my children at St Catherine's."



St. Catherine's
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Our School Values: Love



Leadership and Staff Structure

Leadership Structure

Headteacher
Miss Quiligotti

+ School Business Manager
Mrs Hartley

Deputy Headteacher
Mrs Glennon

Assistant Headteacher
Mrs McCormick

Assistant Headteacher
Miss Jones

Phase Leaders – not in place currently

Senior Leader Responsibilities

Miss Quiligotti Headteacher	Mrs Glennon Deputy Headteacher	Mrs McCormick Assistant headteacher	Miss Jones Assistant Headteacher	Mrs Hartley School Business Manager
• Strategic lead • Designated Safeguarding Lead • Attendance • Staff appraisal • Professional development	• Teaching and Learning • Religion Lead • Pupil Premium • Assessment • Pupil Progress	• SENDCO (EYFS/Y1) • Reading Lead • Pupil induction • Transition into EYFS • Admissions • PTA • Volunteers • Student teachers	• Senior Mental Health Lead • PSHE/Relationships & Health lead • Personal Development • Rights Respecting • School Council	• Finance • Health and safety • Staff induction • Premises • School administration

Other Members of Staff and Adults

Mrs Hartley
School Business
Manager
(and part of the Senior
Leader Team)

Mrs Kelly and Mrs
Fetherston
School Administration
Team

Mrs O'Toole
Pastoral Support and
Family Liaison Leader

Ms Rosario
Special Educational
Needs and Disabilities
Co-Ordinator (SENDCO
for Years 2-6)

Specialist Languages Teacher
Mrs Taylor

Specialist Music Teacher
Mrs Dewsnap

Caretaker
Mr Clarke

Lunchtime Organisers

Kitchen Staff

School Governors

Cleaning and Site Staff

Volunteers

Peripatetic Music Teachers

Updates This Academic Year

- Jubilee Year 2025 – ‘Pilgrims of Hope’
- The Salford Diocese Jubilee Anchor (a symbol of hope) will be in our school at the end of September/early October
- 2025-2026 parent calendar now available
- ‘Essential Spelling and Word Knowledge’ programme being introduced in Key Stage Two
- Rights Respecting Lunch Time Charters, in collaboration with children and staff

Pastoral Support and Family Liaison Leader

Our Pastoral Support and Family Liaison Leader, Mrs O'Toole, is a key role within our school and she is available to help our children and families with a wide range of support and advice.

This includes:

- Safeguarding
- Early Help referrals
- Attendance and punctuality
- Signposting for further advice and support within Manchester
- Representing St. Catherine's at multi-agency meetings
- Supporting our school behaviour policy

Special Educational Needs and Disabilities Co-ordinators

Ms Rosario works at St. Catherine's two days a week as our Special Educational Needs and Disabilities Co-Ordinator (SENDCO) for Years 2-6.

Mrs McCormick is our Assistant Headteacher at St. Catherine's and is responsible for SEND in EYFS and Year 1.

Both SENDCOs ensure high-quality and effective support for all children on our school SEND register. They also work closely with staff and parents/carers where there are concerns regarding possible special educational needs so that all children are best supported so that they can reach their potential in school.

What should I do if I have a concern?

1. Your child's **class teacher** is the first person to speak to for any concerns you have regarding learning, health, friendships, child worries, etc.
2. If you have spoken to your child's class teacher and are still concerned, we invite you to speak to our **Assistant Headteachers**, Mrs McCormick or Miss Jones, or our **Deputy Headteacher**, Mrs Glennon.
3. If you are still concerned, we invite you to speak to our **Headteacher**, Mrs Quiligotti.

If you are unsure who is best to speak to, please just ask. There are lots of other members of staff in our school who may be best placed to help you rather than class teachers and our school leaders.

What should I do if I have a concern?

There may be times where you have a concern or question that do not relate directly to your child's learning in class. There are other staff members in school who are also available to help you:

Staff Member	Role
Mrs Hartley	School Business Manager
Mrs Fetherston and Mrs Kelly	Administration Staff
Mr Clarke	School Caretaker
Mrs O'Toole	Pastoral Lead
Ms Rosario/Mrs McCormick	School SENDCOs
Miss Jones	Senior Mental Health Lead

How should I contact staff?

If you have a brief question or concern, please feel free to speak to your child's class teacher at the end of the school day. If we feel we need longer to help you or may need to discuss your concern away from children, we may suggest a phone call or meeting to discuss further. Please remember that staff priority at this point is dismissing their class.

If you need to email a member of staff, we ask that you do this by emailing the school office, who will then direct your email to the relevant member of staff and ensure any information is actioned as needed. **Parents should not contact staff members via their direct emails** unless authorisation has been given by the Headteacher, and this will only be granted in exceptional circumstances.

If you would like to speak to a member of staff over the phone, please ring our school office and they will ask the relevant member of staff to call you at their earliest convenience.

admin@st-catherines.manchester.sch.uk

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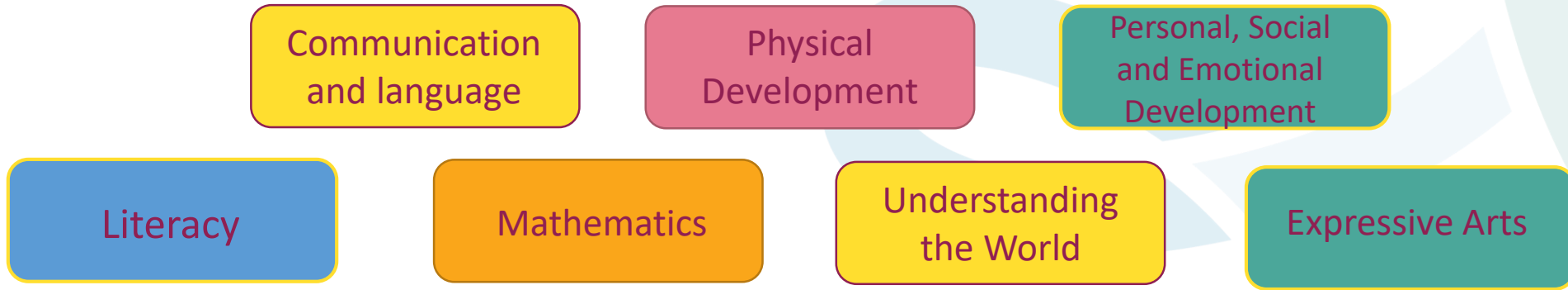
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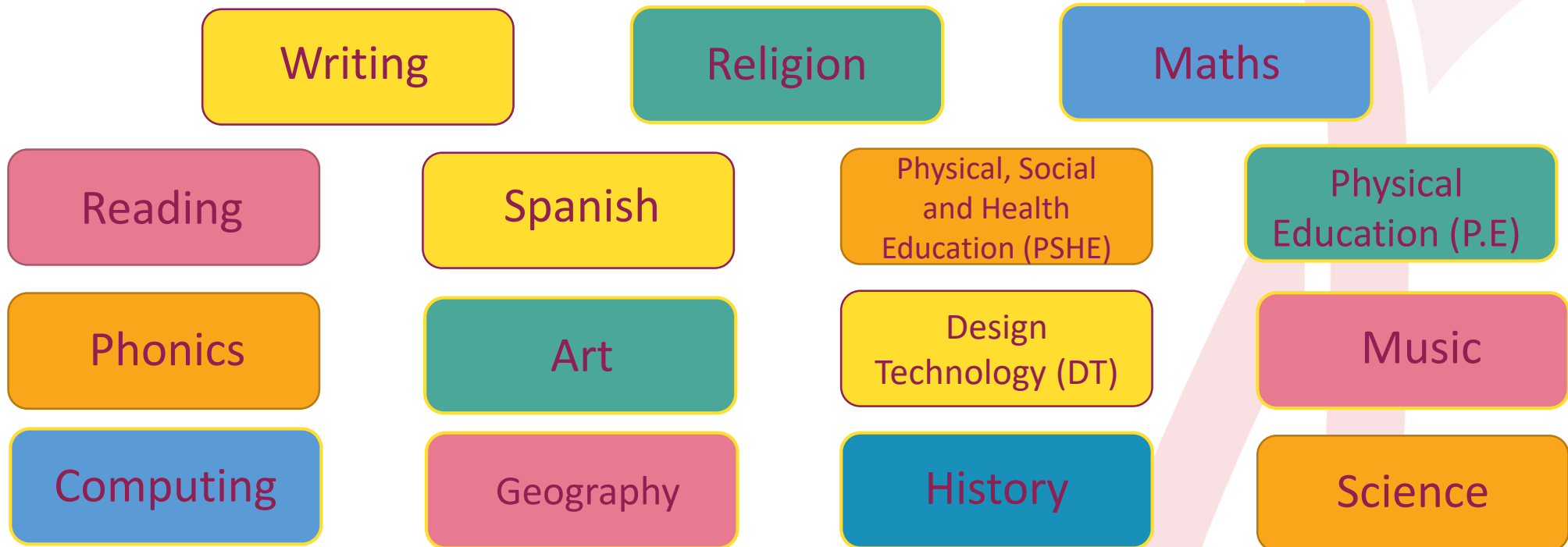
Our School Values: Inspiration

Our Curriculum

EYFS Seven Areas of Learning



KS1 and KS2 Curriculum Areas



Religion

Our Religion learning incorporates many aspects of school life, including:

- Religion class teaching, following in line with the new Religious Education curriculum directory
- Child-led collective worship (now known as 'Celebration of the Word')
- Staff-led collective worship (now known as 'Celebration of the Word')
- 'Big Question Time' with Father John
- Year group and phase Masses
- Whole School Masses
- Sacramental teaching
- 'Other Faiths' Weeks
- Mission and Vision days
- Catholic Life books



Rights Respecting School

St. Catherine's is a Rights Respecting School and holds the RRSA Gold Award, the highest Rights Respecting award a school can achieve.

- We ensure our children know and understand their rights, as set out in the United Nations Convention of the Rights of the Child
- We incorporate rights across our curriculum
- We promote and encourage a range of forms of student leadership
- We educate our children about the United Nations and how/why it was formed
- We educate our children about children who do not have access to their rights and how we can help
- We educate our children about the role of adults as 'duty bearers' and how they ensure we have access to our rights, along with government responsibility too



Specialist Curriculum Teaching

Spanish: taught by Mrs Chidgey (KS1) and Mrs Taylor (KS2)

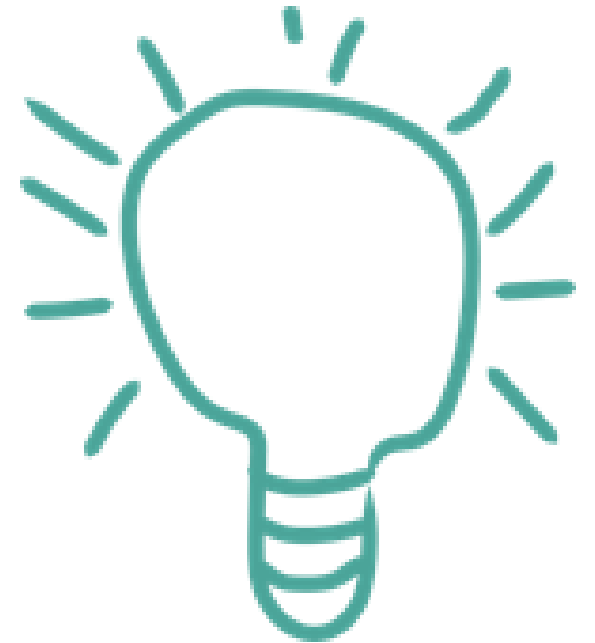
- Real-life opportunities to develop Spanish language, including Google Meets with our partner Spanish schools, visits to Nigrán, Spain in Year 5 and annual visits from our two exchange schools in the Summer Term

Music: taught by Mrs Dewsnap (Nursery – Year 6)

- Full coverage of music curriculum
- Choir in Years 4-6

Physical Education: specialist teaching in different areas of the P.E. curriculum, including gymnastics and dance.

- Extracurricular sporting opportunities and clubs, in and out of school time
- Dedicated sports coach who leads continuous professional development for teachers



Reading & Phonics

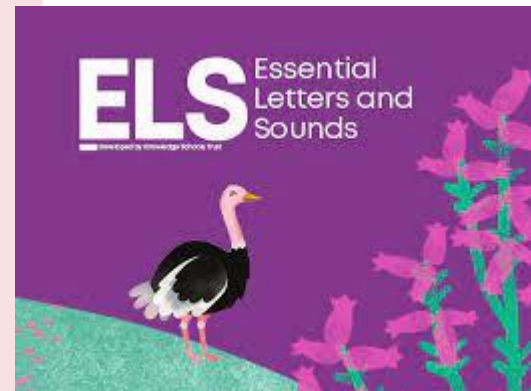
Our school phonics scheme is called Essential Letters & Sounds.

Getting all children to read well, **quickly**

Essential Letters and Sounds is specifically taught in Nursery, Reception and Year 1, however, some children continue to receive phonics interventions after this time to ensure a secure basis for reading fluently and accurately. Year 2 follow the ELS Spelling programme and as of this year, Years 3-6 follow Essential Spelling & Word Knowledge, both of which have been designed to support learning as a next step after children have completed their phonics learning.

Essential Letters and Sounds is a Systematic Synthetic Phonics (SSP) programme, **validated by the Department for Education**. By distilling Letters and Sounds to its purest form, – its essence – we ensure every phonics lesson is taught to the highest standard. Essential Letters and Sounds is an SSP where only the **essential elements** are included. The name reflects the key principles of the programme; **simplicity and consistency**.

Keep Up rather than Catch Up



How Can I Find Out About My Child's Curriculum?

[Home](#)[Classes](#)[About Us](#)[Key Information](#)[Parents](#)[Faith Life](#)

Curriculum

A Curriculum Guide for Parents

[Year Group Long Term Plans](#)[Subject Curriculum Statements](#)[Subject Progression](#)

2025-2026 Long-Term Plans will be available on our website soon.



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Our School Values: Perseverance

Attendance and Punctuality

Attendance and Punctuality

	Nursery	Reception	KS1 and KS2
Start of Day	8.45am	8.35-8.45am	
End of Day	3.15pm	3.15pm	

Good attendance and punctuality are vital to your child's education and to help them reach their full potential.

Your child should only be absent from school if they are unwell. Absences must be reported to the school office by 8.45am.

Children in Reception – Year 6 should be in class by 8.45am.

Parent and Carer Expectations

- Make sure your child attends every day on time
- Contact the school to report your child's absence before 8.45am on the day of the absence (and each subsequent day of absence) and advise when they are expected to return
- Provide the school with at least **two** emergency contact numbers for your child
- Ensure that, where possible, appointments for your child are made outside of the school day
- If your child has vomited or has diarrhoea, they should be absent from school for 48 hours
- Fill in the 'Exceptional Circumstances Leave of Absence' school form if you are requesting a leave of absence for your child.

School Expectations

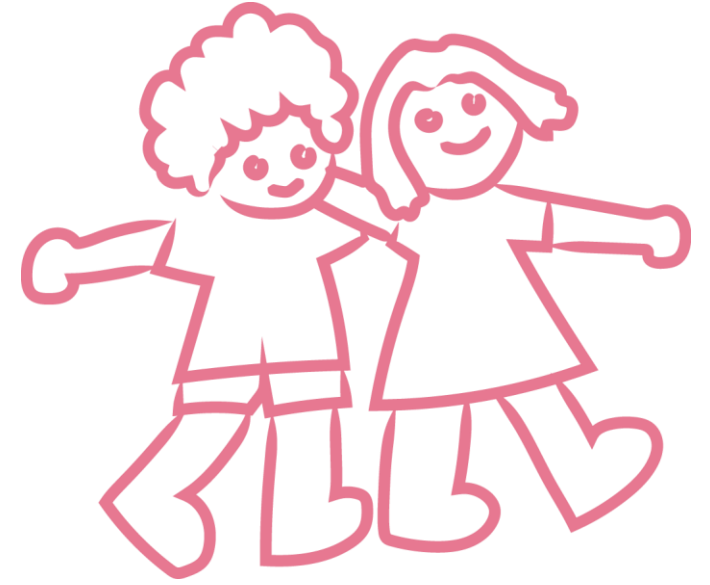
- We record children's attendance twice a day
- We may carry out a home visit if a parent has not contacted us with a reason for absence, in line with our attendance and safeguarding policies
- We review attendance and punctuality regularly
- We will follow up with children after an absence to see how we can support them where needed
- We provide regular attendance and punctuality reports to teachers and leaders
- Follow our attendance policy regarding escalation where attendance meets our thresholds
- We celebrate attendance as part of our weekly celebrations.

School Expectations

- Intervene promptly to offer support to parents/carers and children to ensure attendance and punctuality see rapid improvements
- Organise meetings with parents/carers where attendance is a concern, in line with our Attendance Policy, and implement attendance/punctuality support plans to improve attendance rapidly
- Follow the Local Authority Penalty Notice Protocol when a child is absent and this has not been authorised by the school



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Our School Values: Compassion

Our strengths and next steps

Our Strengths	What we're working on
Pastoral support and nurturing environment	Increasing the number of children across school achieving age-related expectations in Writing and Maths, including by improving feedback
Spanish teaching (International Schools Award)	Implementing key changes to the Religious Education curriculum, in line with the new Religious Education Curriculum Directory
Teaching of children's rights (Rights Respecting Gold Award)	Continuing to improve behaviour across school, particularly at lunch time
Quality of Catholic Life across school	To further develop the learning opportunities and curriculum offer in school for children with more complex and diverse needs
Vibrant curriculum to meet our children's needs	Providing wider opportunities to further develop reading for pleasure
Good teaching and learning	Improving the transition from Early Years to Year 1
Other specialist areas of teaching, such as Music and P.E. professional development	Continuing to ensure our rights respecting approach is well-embedded across school



St. Catherine's
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Our School Values: Respect

Other School Information

Funds

School Fund	Diocesan Building Fund
Suggested donation of just over £1 per week (£60 per year)	£26 per year per child
• voluntary donation to the school which helps provide resources • Amount is a guideline but it is entirely at your own discretion how much you would like to donate to the school • This can be paid through School Spider • School Fund contributes towards improvements that directly affect our children such as: the school environment, playground, libraries, sensory rooms, whole school experiences, etc.	• Paid to Salford Diocese to ensure ongoing building improvements for schools within the Diocese • This is payable in September each year • Here at St Catherine's we have really benefitted from this fund previously, and continue to do so with planned building work for this academic year, so it really does make a difference to our children.

Healthy School and School Meals

- All children in KS1 (Years 1 and 2) are able to have a free school meal each day at lunch time, as well as fruit or vegetables for a snack at break time
- In KS2, children should bring their own snack into school (this must be fruit, vegetables or breadsticks)
- Healthy school meals are provided in school or children are allowed to bring in their own packed lunch
- We recommend packed lunches are balanced and healthy to provide children with the sustenance and nutrition they need to thrive in school and life

Medical and Health Information

- If your child has asthma, please ensure they have an in-date inhaler in school, along with an up-to-date asthma plan
- Asthma plans should be updated annually (the beginning of a school year is a great time to do this)
- Please ensure you notify the school immediately regarding any changes to medical or health information, including food allergies
- Please ensure the school office has at least **two** contact numbers in case we need to contact you, especially regarding your child's health

Parent and Teacher Association (PTA)

As a parent of a child at St. Catherine's,
you are a member of the PTA.

Get involved!

- Social events
- Fundraising
- Charity work
- Lots more!

Come along to one of the PTA meetings
to find out more.

6 REASONS TO JOIN OUR PTA!

FOR THE CHILDREN

BECOME A ROLE MODEL TO
SHOW YOUR CHILD YOU
VALUE THEIR EDUCATION.

THE EVENTS WE PLAN WILL
IMPROVE YOUR CHILD'S
SCHOOL EXPERIENCE.



FOR YOU

VOLUNTEERING IS A
REWARDING EXPERIENCE

WE PLAN TO HOST MANY
SOCIAL EVENTS TO RAISE
MONEY AND ALSO TO ENJOY
EACH OTHERS COMPANY.



FOR THE SCHOOL

HELP THE SCHOOL TO RAISE
FUNDS.

HAVE A VOICE IN THE
PURCHASES THAT ARE MADE
TO SUPPORT THE CHILDREN.



BE CONNECTED

THERE IS NO BETTER WAY OF
KNOWING WHAT'S
HAPPENING IN SCHOOL.

MEET OTHERS THAT SHARE
THE SAME COMMON GOALS
TO HELP IMPROVE THE
SCHOOL.



IT IS FUN!

WE AIM TO ENJOY
OURSELVES IN ALL OUR
ROLES.

FROM PLANNING EVENTS
TO RUNNING A STALL IS
EXCITING!



KEEP THE PTA GOING

AS PARENTS LEAVE SCHOOL
WE NEED TO KEEP THE
COMMITTEE GOING.

COME JOIN OUR FRIENDLY
TEAM AS MANY HANDS
MAKE LIGHT WORK!



How Can I Find Out More?

- School Website
- Facebook Page: 'St Catherine's RC Primary'
- Parent Weekly Updates
- Half-Termly Newsletters
- Parent and carer presentations
- School calendar
- Meetings with staff
- School policies





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