



St Marie's School

A Catholic Voluntary Academy for 4-11 year olds



"St Marie's is a lovely school full of wonderful, committed staff.."

Year 6 parent

St Marie's School

St Marie's is a wonderfully inclusive Catholic school, where children from a wide variety of backgrounds come together to learn, grow and flourish in a supportive, nurturing community.

We are very proud of our school. It is one in which all members of staff, parents and carers, pupils and governors play a full part in building a community dedicated to the development of every child.

We aim to offer pupils a range of exciting and intriguing opportunities that will provide them with an education of high quality, and a love of learning that will carry on into secondary school and adult life.

We want our pupils to achieve the highest possible standards, in an atmosphere where they can enjoy their learning, so that they emerge satisfied and stimulated young people, curious for knowledge and eager for life.

St Marie's is a Catholic Voluntary Academy, working in partnership with two other academies as part of the Our Lady Seat of Wisdom Umbrella Trust. It is a Christian community where the gospel values of truth, justice, love, peace and forgiveness are taught. These gospel values inspire and challenge us as we seek to ensure that they permeate all that we do in school. Prayer and worship are an important part of our daily school life. Through getting to know Jesus our children learn the importance of love and respect for all, and how these values are reflected in their own behaviour and attitudes.

We welcome visits to the school from prospective parents: It gives us a chance to celebrate what we are achieving! You can meet the children and staff and experience the real spirit and ethos that is St Marie's School.

Mr John Fernandes, Head Teacher





"Our children love and admire their teachers. They are inspired by them to do and be the best they possibly can."

Parent's letter to inspectors

St Marie's School Aims:

As a Catholic School we aim...

- to build a community based on Gospel values: love for God, love for one another, and respect for oneself, others and all of creation;
- to place Jesus Christ at the centre of our school life, in our relationships with each other, in our work and play, in all that we try to do.
- to provide the children who attend St Marie's School with an education that will fulfil their spiritual, moral, intellectual, physical, social and emotional needs;
- to help our children to strive for the highest academic standards.
- to encourage our children to think for themselves, to have confidence and to make informed choices.
- to embed in each child a love of learning that will last a lifetime; to experience excitement in discovery and wonder in the world that God has created;
- to help each child acquire knowledge, understanding and skills from a range of curriculum experiences
- to encourage children to respect and tolerate each other, to realise that everyone is equal and must be treated with dignity;
- to help children to appreciate their achievements and efforts, and those of others, through giving and receiving praise and recognition;
- to help our children develop a concern for others, particularly those less fortunate and needy.





“As a family, we were made to feel so welcome at St Marie’s it was almost like a homecoming.”

Parent of 3 children

Curriculum

At St Marie's, we believe that children learn best when they are happy, feel secure, and are motivated by exciting opportunities. To this end, we design our curriculum in such a way that different areas of learning link with each other so that activities that support learning are relevant and interesting.

When children start school, they follow the Early Years Foundation Stage Curriculum, a continuation of the learning that they will have been doing in Nursery placements. This is a play-centred curriculum, which recognises the importance of structured play in the development of the younger child.

As they move through school, we aim to ensure that pupils develop a solid foundation in Reading, Writing, and Mathematics, so that they can easily access all other areas of learning. Most of all, we aim to imbue children with a love of learning that will carry on throughout their lives.



Communication

We value our partnership with parents and carers, and recognise the importance of good communication to keep you fully informed.

When your child is first accepted into the school, we invite all parents and carers to a welcome information evening, where you are given a pack of useful information. We then have a 'visit morning' for parents and children, and staff members do a 'home visit' to each family just before entry to school in mid-September.

Newsletters are sent out each week, on a Friday, to keep everyone informed about what is going on in school. In addition, each teacher sends out a letter at the beginning of term, outlining the work planned for that term and detailing the routines of the class. A termly RE newsletter is also distributed.

We encourage parents to sign up to our communication system, which enables us to e-mail newsletters and other important messages directly to you, and to text you when an urgent message is required.

Meetings for parents are held, covering a variety of topics: An introductory meeting at the beginning of the year for Years 1-6; Parent and teacher meetings (with appointment times) in each of the first two terms; discussion forums led by the headteacher; family learning workshops: these are a few examples. At the end of each year you receive a detailed report about your child's progress.

Our school website is also a great source of news and information, acting as a reference point for parents and carers. It includes news about events in school, and has a dedicated page for each class.



School Vision Statement

Through working together, loving each other
And always doing our best,
At St Marie's
We will all become the amazing, unique individuals
God wants us to be.



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