



St. John's Church of England Primary School

Working together to build a firm foundation
for Learning and Caring

*'Therefore everyone who hears these words of mine and puts them into
practice is like a wise man who build his house on the rock'*

Matthew 7:24-25



LOVE	PEACE	WISDOM	HOPE	FRIENDSHIP	HONESTY



St. John's Church of England Primary School

Working together to build a firm foundation for learning and caring

I'm delighted to share with you our happy and supportive learning community, where we recognise and develop the unique gifts and personal qualities of all.

Our mission is a simple one: to provide an outstanding education which equips our children with the confidence to love learning, as well as the care and respect for others which will ensure their lifelong success.

Our Christian values support all of our work, and our committed team of staff and governors make sure that every child feels nurtured, respected and proud to belong to the St. John's family. We wish every child to live life to the fullest and to fulfil our mission to provide 'a firm foundation for learning and caring'.

We know that choosing a school for your child is one of the most important decisions you make as parents; we hope this prospectus and a visit to our school will give you a flavour of who we are.

Danielle West-Gaul,
Headteacher

Ofsted praised the school in 2016 by saying:

"This is a friendly and happy school in which to work and play. Children in the early years get off to a cracking start...You are able to focus relentlessly on leading the development of teaching...Work from artistic and creative activities are all around the school buildings."

Larger school, small feel

With over 400 pupils on roll and 60 pupils in our nursery, it might seem like St John's is a large and overwhelming environment for a young child. However, we are very proud of the exemplary relationships between pupils and staff and individual attention that children receive. All who visit our school note how at ease and confident our pupils are. In the Early Years, high levels of staffing ensures that children have the support that they need to get off to a flying start. Our Ofsted inspection of 2016 stated that 'staff are excellent role models for pupils' and praised our 'community spirit'.

Church links and values

As a Voluntary Aided primary school founded by the Church of England, Christian values are at the heart of all we do. Children take part in daily worship, visit St John's Church regularly, and in Key Stage 2 attend Anglican mass every term.

Our church school inspection in 2015 judged the school's effectiveness to be 'Outstanding' in all areas.



Pastoral Care and Safeguarding

Our school takes the safeguarding of pupils seriously. The safeguarding message threads through all aspects of our work, from how we employ new staff to children playing on the playground. We strongly believe in fostering an atmosphere of respect and mutual support to help children to be the best they can be. We listen to children and keep them safe.

Finding the Star in Everyone

We believe that primary school should give pupils experiences to help them know their favourite subjects, strengths and future ambitions. As a result, we offer a broad and enriched curriculum where children receive opportunities to develop artistically, creatively, scientifically and physically as well as academically. We offer high quality teaching and enrichment weeks for Art, Drama and Sport, as well as opportunities to access specialist teachers in partnership with local secondary schools.

Parent Partnerships

We can't do this without you! You and your child are very important to us. You will be invited into school to share your child's achievements once a term for 'Learning Celebrations' and to see your children's assemblies, plays and sporting events. Our staff are highly visible at the start and end of day and we welcome your feedback through our 'Parent Forum' and Ethos committee.

Life at St John's

School Hours

8:20am – 3:00pm

Breakfast Club

We run a breakfast club from 7.30am which provides a safe and nurturing environment for your child. A healthy breakfast choice is available including cereals, toast, fruit juice and milk. The club runs Monday to Friday during term time and we are able to take children from Nursery to Year 6. The cost of the club is £2.50 per session (7.30am – 8.30am).

School meals

Children have the choice of being able to bring a packed lunch or purchase a healthy and nutritious school dinner. School dinners are cooked on-site in our school kitchen.



Menus from our caterers are on our school website and currently cost £2.50 per meal. For children in the Foundation Stage, and Years 1 and 2, the Government provides free school meals. For older children, you need to be in receipt of certain benefits (please see the Main Office for more information).

School Council

We have a School Council made up of class representatives who meet regularly with the Headteacher and other staff to discuss pupil's views and provide feedback on current issues.



Curriculum

What we teach

Our curriculum covers the essential knowledge and skills of the National Curriculum 2014 and the Early Years Foundation Stage. We tailor our curriculum to the needs and interests of pupils and we have adopted a number of innovative learning programmes, such as the Singapore approach to mathematics teaching and the highly praised “Jigsaw” curriculum for personal, social and health education. We follow highly structured approaches to the teaching of phonics, reading, handwriting and spelling.



Beyond the classroom

The curriculum extends beyond traditional learning in lessons. We offer every class the opportunity to take part in ‘Forest School’ sessions which help children not only to enjoy our wonderful forest but to learn collaboratively, take risks and challenge themselves physically. Our trained forest school leader plans sessions which enrich children's classroom topics. They love it!

Learning for Life- “Achievosaurus”

We use these little creatures to teach children the learning attitudes and behaviours that will help them to be successful. They include being an “Askoraptor” by being curious, and a “Tryatops” by showing resilience.



For more information about the curriculum please visit our curriculum pages on our website.

Lunchtime Provision

Recognising the importance of play in children's lives, we have worked hard to promote positive and quality play opportunities and have transformed the lunchtime period with our introduction of the zoned areas which the children sign up for each day.



Zone 1: The front playground provides creative play opportunities linked to role play, imaginative story-telling, music and performance.

Zone 2: The field provides the open space necessary for children to let off steam, develop physical skills and refine sporting techniques. This is a zone where future sports people develop their craft!

Zone 3: The middle playground promotes the development of large motor skills with the use of balls, racquets, hoops, skipping ropes and various other items of equipment. This is where the Huff & Puff trolley can be accessed and a range of physical skills can be practised and refined.



Zone 4: A smaller zone catering for quieter activities such as drawing, model making, garden games and small world play.

Zone 5: Here loose parts, supplied by the scrap store, can be used to develop imaginative play and water is a regular and popular feature for children to become engaged with.



Early Years Foundation Stage

The Principles of 'The Early Years Foundation Stage' are:

Every child is a unique child, who is constantly learning and can be resilient, capable, confident and self assured

Children learn to be strong and independent through the development of positive relationships

Children learn and develop well in enabling environments, where their experiences respond to individual needs

Children develop and learn in different ways and at different rates

These principles underpin our everyday practice in Reception at St John's.



School Uniform

Winter

White collared shirt
St. John's tie
Grey trousers, skirt or pinafore
Grey socks or grey tights
Grey V-neck jumper
Black shoes

Summer

Grey shorts
White collared shirt
St. John's tie
Purple and white checked dress
Grey or white socks

PE uniform

Purple St. John's t-shirt
Black shorts
Black daps (indoor)
Trainers (outdoor)

Hair accessories must be appropriate for school - no oversized bows or novelty hair bands. All earrings must be studs.

Norton Sports and Camping supply our uniform and are located on the High Street, Midsomer Norton.

www.nortonsportsandcamping.co.uk



Opportunities

Forest School

Forest School at St John's is a fully inclusive, holistic approach to learning which helps our children reach their full potential. In all weathers and through all seasons, we will explore our naturally stunning environment with an aim to build confidence and resilience in, and curiosity about, the world around them.



Cooking

We are extremely lucky to have a large dedicated cookery room and all pupils have a termly cookery slot, which includes teaching about the importance of a balanced diet and healthy lifestyles.

Trips

Here at St. John's we are committed to providing the best educational opportunities for all our pupils. We believe that school trips can provide a real stimulus for class based learning and bring subjects to life..

Examples of trips include:

- An EYFS local walk and supermarket visit
- Midsomer Norton Railway
- Carymoor Environmental Centre
- Longleat
- Pilgrim Day at Wells Cathedral
- Roman Baths
- Midsomer Norton Nature Reserve
- We The Curious, Bristol
- Places of Worship for other faiths.



Residential

We also offer residential trips for our Year 4 and Year 6 pupils. These trips foster independence, team work, communication, community spirit, improved social interactions, and help build relationships.

Other Opportunities

Young Voices at the O2:

Each year we provide the opportunity for our school choir to be involved in a choir of over 7500 children. After months practice the children attend the Young Voices concert at the O2.

Dance Umbrella:

The Dance Umbrella is the flagship event of the Bath & North East Somerset School Sport Partnership. It brings together young people from across the authority in a celebration of dance and movement. The event provides pupils with the opportunity to perform in front of a live audience in the impressive backdrop of the Bath Forum.

Special Educational Needs

At St John's, we strive to support all our children and enable them to reach their full potential at school. In order to do this, many steps are taken to support them through their learning journey. Quality teaching is vital; however, for some children, there are occasions when further additional support may be needed to help them achieve their targets. This support may be for educational, emotional, behavioural or physical needs.

Provision for children with special educational needs is monitored closely and reviewed every term. The need for additional support or interventions is discussed with parents/carers to ensure there is mutual support for the child.

Our SENDCo, can be contacted via the school office.



Equal Opportunities

As a Christian learning community, St John's C of E Primary School is committed to upholding the biblical principle that all human beings are made in the image of God and, as such, should be welcomed, accepted and valued as unique individuals of equal value and dignity. We do not tolerate discrimination of any kind. We are proud to have achieved the Bath and North East Somerset Inclusion Quality Mark.



We endeavour:

- to ensure that every adult and child is treated fairly and has equality of opportunity to participate fully in the life of the school;
- to ensure that our school is a safe and secure place for everyone;
- to recognise that people have different needs and understand that treating people equally does not always involve treating them all the same;
- to make sure that people from different groups are consulted and involved in our decisions, for example, through talking to pupils and parents/carers, and through our School Council.

Sport and Physical Education

Every pupil receives regular PE lessons in accordance with the national curriculum. In addition, the school offers a range of extra-curricular clubs, which include sporting and non-sporting activities. There are additional activities provided at lunchtime by Ian Groves Sports, who are qualified coaches.



Sport clubs include football, netball, dance, tennis, gymnastics and rounders. We also offer tennis, golf, cricket, athletics, street dance, multi sports and many more...

GOLD Sports Mark Award

The School Games Mark is a government led awards scheme launched in 2012 to reward schools for their commitment to the development of competition across their school and into the community. We are very proud that St John's has achieved the Gold School Games Mark for our commitment, engagement and delivery of competitive school sport!



Clubs

Other extra-curricular clubs include pottery, mindfulness and cooking.

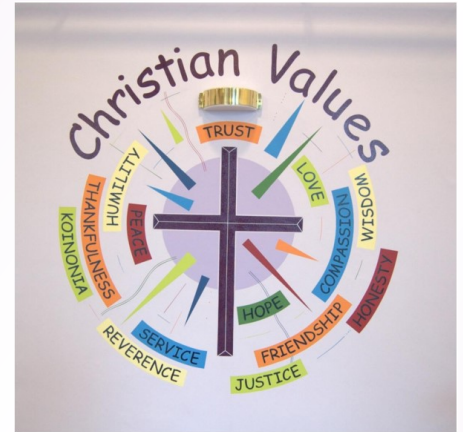
Music

Music is enjoyed throughout the school during normal school lessons and music clubs. Optional music tuition from peripatetic teachers can be arranged.



Our Ethos & Values

The Christian values and principles we adhere to as a school identify us as a community. The 6 values chosen have been carefully selected by the community so that everyone understands the purpose and meaning of each, and is clear about individual and collective responsibility towards upholding such principles. These values are depicted in the school hall, and we are reminded to give focus and context to the values during our times of collective worship. This is a very visual representation of our expectations of each other and the way in which we carry out our daily interactions.



Admissions

The admissions process for Reception entry is administered on our behalf by Bath & North East Somerset Council.

In-year applications may be made direct to the school and offers are dependent on there being spaces available.

Our Admissions Arrangements and details of our Admissions Over-subscription Criteria are available via our website and also the BANES website.

Prospective parents and pupils are encouraged to visit our school to observe lessons and to talk with staff and pupils.

We hold Open Days during the autumn, and are also more than happy to arrange appointments for visits throughout the year.

Please do not hesitate to contact us with any questions you may have about joining the school.

Contact Us

St. John's Church of England Primary School
Redfield Road
Midsomer Norton
RADSTOCK
BA3 2JN

Tel: 01761 412019

Fax: 01761 414914

E-mail: office@stjohnsmnsn.co.uk

Web: www.stjohnsmnsn.co.uk