



St Joseph's Primary and Nursery

Catholic Voluntary Academy





Headteacher's Welcome

At St Joseph's Catholic Primary and Nursery Academy, we are an inclusive, caring, learning community. Our vision is to provide the very best Catholic education for every pupil enabling them to be happy, resilient, ambitious, achieve highly and feel safe, respected and cared for.

We currently have 232 children on our roll, aged 3-11 years serving the localities of Ollerton and Boughton and surrounding areas. The school opened in 1963 and has benefited from several refurbishments and extensions with the most recent being 2018 with the creation of a school community room. The school strives to provide modern facilities and a learning environment in which our children can flourish. The school converted to an Academy in July 2015 and is part of the Our Lady Of Lourdes Catholic Multi Academy Trust working with other local Catholic Schools to strive for the best for all our children.

We feel our Mission statement 'Growing in Love, in the spirit of Christ, for the benefit of all' reflects all we stand for as a community. We put the example of Christ at the centre of all we do to help us grow socially, academically, spiritually, morally and physically in our learning and our friendships. We do this for ourselves as well as for the members of the school, parish, local, national and international communities in which we live.

As a result we have happy children with a love of learning who are well mannered and polite. Children respect each other and the world in which they live and they have a good reputation within the local community. The parents of our children share our desire for the best for all our children and recognise the need for a positive, open and mutually respectful partnership between home and school.

Mrs Elspeth Wilkins-Campbell
Headteacher



Our primary Mission

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The staff within the school are a dedicated team who hold the Catholic ethos at the heart of all that they offer.

Our children have the opportunity to explore a captivating curriculum that promotes good attitudes to learning, high standards and high achievements.

Our children are taught French as a Modern Foreign Language throughout the school.

All children have the opportunity to learn to play an instrument during their music lessons.

The indoor classroom is often taken outdoors and we are proud of our Forest Schools environment, outdoor classroom and school allotment area, where we grow food items which we share with our on-site kitchen.

We also have a wonderful 'Spiritual Prayer Garden', designed by our children and provides a fantastic space for them to take time out for prayer and reflection.

The school environment is welcoming and stimulating, reflective of the schools current teaching and learning.

'The school work tirelessly to support my child's learning. They always have the best interest of my child at the heart of all they do and go above and beyond.'

Parent quote 2023

'We love the extracurricular activities and wraparound care.'

Pupil quote 2023



Our learning
environment

Our curriculum

The curriculum is all the planned activities which we organise to promote learning and personal growth and development. It includes the formal requirements of the National Curriculum and guarantees that we as a school provide to develop the independence and responsibility of all of our pupils.

We ensure that all children have a broad, balanced and relevant education which provides continuity and progression and takes individual differences into account. We aim to teach our pupils how to grow into positive, responsible people, who can work and co-operate with others while developing knowledge and skills, so that they achieve their full potential.

The curriculum is based around clear intent, where children learn key knowledge within lessons which build up year on year. There is a strong focus on building on prior knowledge. We provide an engaging and exciting curriculum. All topic areas begin with a launch, where children are encouraged to bring to the topic their own experiences, this takes on the form of dress up days, project work and other mediums.

Teaching and learning

Lessons are planned showing progression across the year groups and build on prior knowledge. All classes are taught by a qualified teacher with teaching assistant support.

Children with additional needs are supported through adaptations to the curriculum and are a part of quality first teaching. Children's progress is tracked using the online system 'O Track' and lessons are modified based on assessment of prior learning.



Catholic social teaching and British values

Our school is very proud of its 'Outstanding' grade (CSI 2023) for Catholic Life. This is reflected in the way our children and staff put Christ at the centre of all that they do and the relationships they have with one another.

Our school understands that we live in a diverse society and we teach our children about the protected characteristic and the importance of upholding British values.

We have been successful in working towards the 'Live Simply' award, demonstrating what we can do to support environmental issues and work together with our global neighbours on projects including sustainability.



Beyond the curriculum

At St Joseph's, we value the uniqueness of all our pupils and establish an ethos that develops the 'whole child'.

Our pupils are encouraged to take risks and build resilience. They are encouraged to be inquisitive lifelong learners who question and explore the world around them.

Our nurturing staff recognise and support a diversity of needs relating to learning, health, mental wellbeing, behaviour as well as emotional and physical requirements ensuring that all our pupils feel safe, secure and are able to aspire to be the very best they can be.

Developing the whole child

Wraparound care

Our school offers wraparound care for our children including a subsidised breakfast club. Children are provided with breakfast and dinner and are able to continue their day in a fun and relaxed environment.

Forest Schools

Our school is proud of its Forest School. All pupils have an opportunity every year to engage with the Forest Schools programme at an age appropriate level as they move through school. Forest Schools is a child-centred inspirational learning process. It is a long-term programme that supports play, exploration and supported risk taking. It develops confidence and self-esteem through learner inspired, hands-on experiences in our beautiful natural and extensive outdoor learning environment.

Enrichment activities

Our school works closely with Mansfield Town in the Community to support the enrichment activities, operating the football club, interventions and offering exciting curriculum days.

Throughout the year all children from Year 2 upwards can have the opportunity to go on residential, these include activity holidays to Walesby, Gulliver's World, The Deep, Twycross Zoo and other educational day trips throughout the year.

'The school's work to promote pupils' spiritual, moral, social and cultural development has a good effect.'

Ofsted 2023



Achieving full potential

All children at St Joseph's are encouraged to achieve their full potential through offering a broad and balanced curriculum. Children with additional needs are identified early and supported through adaptations within lessons.

All children are encouraged to contribute to the wider school community through their role within the Catholic Life of the school for example, visits to the local care home, supporting parish/school links, raising funds for various class charities.

'The teachers are all very caring.'

Pupil quote 2023

Opportunities for personal development

Children are provided with opportunities to grow and show ambition. We encourage children to develop in confidence, reading in Mass, reciting poetry, leading liturgies, working as buddies for their peers and younger children.

Children are also given the opportunity to lead on:

- The School Council
- Become 'Agents for Change'
- Eco Warriors
- Playleaders
- Sports

All these extra roles and responsibilities empower the children to face the future with confidence.



Our community

Our parents and carers are encouraged into school and we offer an open-door policy. Our school's child and family support worker work closely with families to support the emotional health and wellbeing of all, promoting the school mission statement of 'Growing in Love, in the Spirit of Christ, for the benefit of all.'

Each half term, we offer celebrations of learning where parents are welcomed into school to share and celebrate the children's work. Families are welcome to assemblies and Masses.

The school also works with the local college offering adult course in conjunction with the school in activities such as agriculture helping grow food items that support sustainability.

Joining St Joseph's

We welcome visits to the school prior to making an application.

An application can be made through the local authority. Any questions can be directed to the school office by calling 01623 860392.



'The school's work to promote pupils' spiritual, moral, social and cultural development has a good effect'

Ofsted 2018

'St Joseph's Catholic life and mission is outstanding. It is deeply rooted in the community it serves. Care for the most vulnerable goes above and beyond, and is tightly bound to the school's mission statement, 'Growing in love, in the spirit of Christ, for the benefit of all'.'

Catholic Schools Inspectorate (CSI) 2023

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