



# Sacred Heart Primary School

*with children at its heart*





# Welcome to Sacred Heart Primary School



## School day: settling in



### Foreword: Ms Joy Agbonlahor, Headteacher, says:

A big hello and welcome to our wonderful school.

#### Proud

I am extremely proud to be the Headteacher at Sacred Heart Primary School. It really is a very special place to teach. This prospectus has been designed to give you a flavour of some of the fantastic things that we do here.

#### Igniting an interest in the world

Our teaching is stimulating and creative and encourages our children to continue their education outside of school, and become lifelong learners. We want to ignite an interest in the world around them, and for that interest to lead to fulfilling and imaginative lives. Learning should be fun!

#### Pastoral care

Whilst academic achievements are an important part of life at our school, all our children also have the opportunity to also enjoy a wide variety of sporting and musical opportunities, as well as regular trips and residential visits. Our pastoral care is exceptional, ensuring all children are kept safe and are supported both inside and outside school.

#### Dedicated staff

I am also very proud of our exceptionally experienced and dedicated staff, who ensure that all our children are well supported to achieve their true potential and work hard with families to overcome any barriers to learning.

#### Parent partnership

Another very important part of our school is you, the parent! We champion the link between school and parent and work very hard to involve you in every step of your child's time here...and increase your child's enjoyment of learning.

#### Get in touch

If you wish to hear more about what we can offer your child, please contact us for more information or an appointment to meet me and visit the school. We welcome visits and love to show our school 'in action'. Telephone on 0121 557 1511 or email on [michelle.judge@sacredheartpri.com](mailto:michelle.judge@sacredheartpri.com)



### School hours

Our school day starts at 8.45am and ends at 3.20pm.

### Breakfast club and after-school provision

We have a before and after school club on site, run and managed by '4 Community Trust'. The breakfast club runs from 7.30am to 8.35am. The after-school club runs from 3.20pm to 6pm.



### Uniform

It is our policy that children should wear uniform when attending Sacred Heart Primary School. The governing board agrees with the Department for Education which states that 'school uniform plays a valuable part in contributing to the ethos of the school and setting the appropriate tone'. The school uniform consists of:

- Blue sweatshirt/cardigan with/without the school logo on.
- White polo shirt or cotton shirt with collar.
- Black/dark grey skirt/trousers.
- Black/grey pinafore dress.
- Black/grey/white socks or tights.
- Black sensible school shoes (no trainers or boots).
- Waterproof coat.
- In summer: blue check summer dress/short sleeved shirt/grey/black school shorts.

All clothing is available from local shops and markets, and school clothing with our logo is available from [myclothing.com](http://myclothing.com).

### School meals and snacks

Fresh hot meals are cooked on the school premises each day in our fantastic, state of the art kitchen. Some children prefer to eat a packed lunch, and the school must be informed if your child is staying

on the school site for this. If your child is in Reception, Year 1 or Year 2, they are entitled to a Free School Meal due to the universal Infant Free School Meals scheme.

#### Free school meals

If you think you may be entitled to claim free meals for your child, a form is available from the school office or on the Sandwell Council website.

#### Milk

Children under five are entitled to free milk and other children in school may purchase it. If you wish your child to have milk with their lunch at school, please order it from [www.coolmilk.com](http://www.coolmilk.com). Parents of children aged under five must still order milk via the website.

#### Fruit and snacks

Children can bring a healthy nut-free snack and refreshments from home, and they have access to drinking water at all times. Crisps are not allowed at break time. Drinks from home must be in unbreakable containers, not glass, and we do not allow fizzy pop as a drink in school.

Early Years Foundation Stage and Key Stage 1 children have time to eat fresh fruit, which is delivered to our school. There is no charge for this. This is a government-run scheme to encourage children to develop healthy eating habits.



# Creative curriculum: foundations for success

## Building courage and independence

At Sacred Heart Primary, the consideration of our local community is the foundation on which we build our curriculum. Our primary focus is to raise aspirations, foster a sense of personal pride in achievement, and provide a purpose and relevance for learning.

We want a curriculum that inspires courage, builds resilience, encourages independence and develops high-quality communication with children using ambitious vocabulary in their day to day lives.

## Literary emphasis

The love of reading and literature is a key priority in every subject that we teach. Purposeful, quality first texts which foster the school's values of resilience, resourcefulness, respect and responsibility are linked throughout our curriculum. Language is at the heart of our curriculum.

## A love of language

From the moment our children join us in the Early Years Foundation Stage, we provide them with opportunities to learn and embed ambitious language, enabling them to articulate themselves in today's society. As children progress through school, we aspire for them to understand and use language in a whole host of new ways.

## The curriculum is divided into three stages

- 1 **Early Years Foundation Stage:** from ages 0-5
- 2. **Key Stage 1:** from ages 5-7
- 3. **Key Stage 2:** from ages 7-11

## Early Years

The Early Years Foundation Stage Curriculum is based on the Government's Early Learning Goals with seven areas of learning:

- Personal, Social and Emotional Development
- Communication and Language
- Physical Development
- Literacy
- Mathematics
- Understanding the World
- Expressive Arts and Design

## Key Stages 1-2

Areas of the curriculum are:

- English
- Maths
- Science
- Art & Design
- Computing
- Design & Technology
- Geography
- History
- Languages (Spanish)
- Music
- Physical Education
- Religious Education



# Enriched curriculum: inspiration days, trips and visits

## Educational visits and residential trips

To further enrich our curriculum and to help children learn independence and develop confidence, we offer a range of activities and visits throughout the year, both locally and further afield. This includes educational visits and visitors to the school. Some examples of these include:

- The theatre.
- The local library.
- The zoo.
- The law courts.
- Roman history visitors.

A voluntary School Fund donation of £5.00 is collected for the year which is used for these. This also reduces trip costs for you. Payments must be made on the ParentPay website at the beginning of the year.

## Residential trips

In Year 4 and 6, our children have the opportunity to take part in an offsite, overnight residential.

## Inspiration days

Topics are used each term to engage and motivate children in their learning. At the start of each term, the children get to experience a fun day of activities during an 'Inspiration Day'. For example, if the topic is 'The Romans' we might look at roman artefacts and have visitors come in, or if it's 'Caribbean Day' we might celebrate Caribbean food and music.

## Cultures, religions and beliefs

The aim of these is to consolidate learning, embedding and applying key skills, and to also educate the children on other cultures, religions and beliefs.





# Inclusion: a curriculum for all



## Special educational needs

Special educational needs At Sacred Heart Primary, we provide the opportunity for all children to learn no matter whether they have a learning, behavioural, emotional or physical difficulty, and we endeavour to make the curriculum accessible to all children. Sometimes children find difficulty in a particular area of learning. If this is the case for your child, you will receive a letter and a meeting will be rearranged with the SENDCo to discuss what support your child needs.

### Pupil passport

All children that are placed on the Special Needs Register will receive a Pupil Passport which is an ongoing document between teachers, parents, pupils and external agencies. Targets are set from teachers, external agencies and our assessment tracker, which are reviewed every term at parents' evening.

The class teacher will plan work that is appropriate to the child's level of ability. They make sure that every child, even though they are having difficulties, can still do the class work at their own ability level.

Sometimes children have even greater needs. If this is the case, we ask specialist teachers to assess your child and give

us a report. You will be notified of this. You will also be given the opportunity to discuss the outcome of the report with the SENDCo and specialist teacher if necessary. The report will highlight ways we can support your child in order for them to succeed.

### Education, Health and Care Plan

Some children's needs are so great that they have to have an Education, Health and Care Plan (EHCP). Children who have an EHCP receive funding depending on the severity of their needs. This enables them to receive support from a Learning Support Practitioner (LSP) on a one-to-one basis, and the LSP works alongside these children and supports them through their time in school with us.

## Gifted and talented children

We recognise that all children are individuals with their own specific needs, gifts and talents. Children who are identified as being exceptionally able or talented, are monitored and provided with stimulating and enriching lessons appropriate to their needs. Opportunities are sought for such pupils to meet and work with similarly gifted pupils in the area.

# Behaviour and self-development



## Structured support framework

At Sacred Heart Primary, we follow Behaviour Recovery. Behaviour Recovery is an educational alternative to exclusions. It provides a positive and structured support framework for pupils, staff and parents. Its primary aim is to get children's behaviour back on track as quickly as possible to enable them to return to their learning. It incorporates the clear use of boundaries that lead to consistent consequences if breached.

### High self-esteem and psychological wellbeing

Its ultimate purpose is to support the development of positive and healthy pupils who have a strong sense of self-efficacy when managing situations they find challenging. The net result is a stronger sense of empathy and care for others, combining positive feelings with high self-esteem and psychological wellbeing.

### Rewards

There are five stages, and these will be recorded on a chart displayed in the classroom. Children who stay on green weekly are rewarded with half an hour of green time (reward of their choice in the classroom). Half termly, children are rewarded with an afternoon of baking, laptops, sports etc, and finally, those children that stay on green yearly are taken on a day trip out.

## A home/school partnership

There is a homework policy in school, and every child will be given homework from an early age. This may be in the form of reading in the Early Years Foundation Stage.

All children will be expected to complete their homework tasks to support their classwork, and every parent/carer is asked to support their child when doing their homework. Parents, working closely with all of us in school, will ensure that every child gets the best from their education.





# Your child's achievements



# Clubs...sport and music



## Feedback, assessment and planning

At Sacred Heart Primary, we believe marking should provide constructive feedback to every child, focussing on successes and improvements against learning objectives, enabling pupils to become reflective learners and helping them to close the gap between current and desired performance.

### Targets

We set individual targets for each child, and parents will receive progress slips throughout the year to help them understand how their child is doing.

## Parent evenings and open-door policy

Feedback is provided to parents via parent consultation evenings. We also have an open-door policy where leadership and staff always welcome parents and carers to come and speak to us regarding their child's learning.



## Wide range of clubs

We have after school sports activities that change throughout the year, and children of all abilities are invited to attend these classes. At the moment, we are running a multi-skills club through 'Sports Plus Scheme' which supports PE teaching at Sacred Heart currently. Other examples of after-school clubs include:

- Art Club.
- Baking Club.
- Football.
- Reading Club.
- Music Club.

## Sport

It is vital for healthy adult life for children to become active participants in sports and physical activities. At Sacred Heart Primary, we believe that our PE curriculum enables opportunities for pupils to become physically confident in a way that supports their health and fitness. Opportunities to compete in sport and other activities build character and help to embed values such as fairness, determination and respect.

All children take part in team games, athletics, gymnastics and dance and are taught the skills to participate in these areas.

### Swimming

We take the teaching of swimming and water safety very seriously, particularly as there are a number of canals in our local area. All children in Years 3, 4, 5 and 6 go swimming throughout the whole school year.

We use money given to the school through the 'PE and Sport Premium' to ensure that this happens for all Key Stage 2 pupils.

### Sports coaching

Our own Sports Coach delivers specialist coaching to pupils and we can offer (at some time or other) multi-skills, athletics, football, cricket, tennis, tag rugby, tri-golf, gymnastics, netball, self-defence, cheerleading and bench ball.

## Music

Through music teaching, we aim to engage and inspire pupils to develop a love of music and their talent as musicians, and so increase their self-confidence, creativity and sense of achievement.

### Key Stage 1

In Key Stage 1, our children are taught to use their singing voices, play instruments, listen to music, and experiment with sounds.

### Key Stage 2

In Key Stage 2 our children are also encouraged to play and perform in solo and ensemble contexts, using their voices and playing musical instruments with increasing accuracy, fluency, control and expression.



# Admissions...and getting involved

## Admission Sacred Heart Primary School

We are very proud of our wonderful school and all that it has to offer. We strongly recommended that you contact us directly to arrange a visit as we would love to show you around.

### Applications

At Sacred Heart Primary, we follow Sandwell Metropolitan Borough Council's School Admissions Policy. Sacred Heart admits children to Reception at the beginning of the Autumn Term once they reach the age of 4.

Prospective parents are invited to make an appointment to visit the school when considering applying for a place here at Sacred Heart, and they can do so by contacting the school office on 0121 557 1511 or via email to the Headteacher's PA, Mrs Judge: [michelle.judge@sacredheartpri.com](mailto:michelle.judge@sacredheartpri.com). After this initial visit, parents need to apply to the local authority for a place at the school, whether or not they live in the catchment area.

### Contact Sandwell's School Admission Team

- Visit: <https://www.sandwell.gov.uk/schooladmissions>.
- Ring us: 0121 569 6765.
- Email us: [annual\\_schooladmissions@sandwell.gov.uk](mailto:annual_schooladmissions@sandwell.gov.uk).
- Write to us: School Admissions Service, Customer Service Centre, York House, 91 Granby Street, Leicester, LE1 6FB.

## Getting involved

### Voluntary helpers

We really value parent support at all major events throughout the year. If you feel able to offer your support in some way, please do not hesitate to contact us. When we need help in a specific area, we will usually put out a request by the Parent App. The parents/school partnership is really important to us, and we really value parent contributions at all major events throughout the year.



### PTA

Our Parent-Teacher Association (PTA) is growing. This is a thriving group, which raises funds for the school and holds social events for the children and adults. The funds raised are used for improving the school and purchasing equipment. Everyone is welcome to join this group and the variety of their events appeals to all tastes. Generous PTA contributions make the environment for the children much more stimulating and enliven their education. The staff and governors are grateful for their enthusiasm and continued interest.

### Governors

Our governing body provides strategic leadership, taking long term decisions and planning ahead. This includes budgeting for the income received by the school from a variety of sources and how that income will be spent in the school. The school has an improvement plan and progress against this plan is reported to the governing body regularly. The school operates with a number of policies and procedures, and these are approved by the governing body and reviewed on a regular basis. The governors can be contacted through the school.



# Our School Values

Our school values are at the core of everything we do. They underpin our teaching and learning, and provide an environment which prepares our pupils as confident, happy citizens.



with children at its heart





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