



St Joseph's Catholic Primary School

Shining in the light of Christ to be the best that we can be.



Welcome to St Joseph's Catholic Primary School

Foreword: Yvonne Wilkins, Headteacher, says...

A warm welcome for all

We are a happy, inclusive school where every child is a valued member of our St Joseph's family. Our strong emphasis on community means there's always a warm welcome for everyone at the school gates every single day.

A Christ-centred mission and strong values

The school's Mission is Christ-centred, and our SHINE values are interwoven through all we do. Our motto, above, forms the basis of these values. Every child is championed to be the best they can be and allowed to SHINE in the light of Christ - and to be a SHINING light in the world when they leave us.

A hidden gem at the heart of the community

Our strong links with the local community mean that the school is truly at the heart of it. We value the relationship between home, school and parish. Together, we all work with one common aim - to be the best WE can be. Only then can we expect the same of our children.

Broad and balanced curriculum

Our curriculum is broad and balanced, with a strong emphasis on the spiritual, moral and social development of our children. We believe that this is something which cannot be left to chance - we need to provide opportunities for children to learn about themselves, their faith and how they can help others.

Every day is an open day!

Get in touch

Our prospectus offers an introduction to our school's philosophy and culture, but you'll get a deeper sense of what we're all about by visiting us in person. Please call the school office on 01380 723084 for more information or to arrange a visit.



Chaplaincy Team

Our chaplaincy team are made up of children in Year 3-6 who are officially commissioned as chaplains to lead the prayer life of the school, being SHINING examples to others. They lead their peers in prayerful activities, provide support in living out the school's mission and support the most vulnerable and needy in our community.

Catholic social teaching

Catholic social teaching, at its core, is about respecting the dignity and worth of every human being.

Pupil leadership

Pupils take on leadership roles in various guises, giving them a chance to contribute to delivering the school's mission and lending a hand in caring for God's creation.

Religious education

At St Joseph's, Religious Education and collective worship are a big part of our daily lives and our curriculum. As a Catholic school, St Joseph's aims to enhance the spiritual development of its students by helping them grow in wonder and awe at God's creation.

Worship and community

The Catholic character of our school community

As a Catholic school, we believe that education should be about more than academic achievement. It should also be about fostering a sense of joy and wonder in the children who attend our school, as well as helping them to develop into happy, confident and responsible people who can contribute positively to society. The provision of spiritual and moral development is a key part of life at St Joseph's.

What Prayer Life Looks Like at St Joseph's

Gospel values

These values inform our actions in every aspect of school life and are reflected in our curriculum, which is designed to follow a Catholic approach to learning.

Chapel reflections

The children look forward to Chapel Reflections, which are based on the week's Gospel and planned by the children for other children.

Parent view

“I am so happy with the school, the teachers are so kind and amazing.”

“The teachers are all very approachable and know the children very well.”

“The Headteacher is brilliant - always there at the end of the day to say goodbye to the children by their names.”

“The school is kind, caring and supportive - my son loves it!”

“My son has SEN and has had lots of support...I am amazed at how much he has been progressing both behaviourally and academically.”

“I like the family environment.”

“There is a real sense of belonging which is lovely.”

“Caring ethos and approachable staff.”

“My daughter absolutely loves coming to school each day.”

“I like the sense of community and the partnership with the church.”

“Brilliant, warm and welcoming - words can't express the importance of the school ethos.”

Ofsted says:

“Adults are aspirational for all pupils, including those with special educational needs and/or disabilities (SEND).”

“Pupils are adamant that bullying does not happen. They are proud to be anti-bullying ambassadors.”

“Pupils are proud of the leadership roles they have, including chaplaincy team and house captains.”

“They experience a wide range of extra activities... raise funds for a range of charities and raise awareness of the importance of mental health.”

“The pastoral support for pupils and families, alongside the Christian values, are central to their work.”

“The curriculum supports pupils to be well-rounded young people who have the confidence to make a difference to their community and beyond.”



School day: settling in

School hours

Our gates open at 8:35 and a bell is rung to signal the start of the day at 8:45am. The school finishes at 3:15pm. Breakfast club costs £4 per session and starts at 7.30am each day and runs until school opens. Each child receives a healthy breakfast and can play or complete homework with staff supervision.

Uniform

A school uniform gives children a sense of belonging and of taking pride in their appearance. Our uniform is comfortable and practical - a Navy school sweatshirt or cardigan and standard grey and white uniform items. Second hand uniform is available through school and our PTA who hold regular uniform sales after school.

Our uniform is provided by local business and clothing suppliers OHM clothing.

School meals and snacks

We are hugely fortunate to have our own on-site catering team providing delicious fresh meals. We offer nutritious choices each day, and children are welcome to bring a packed lunch from home. We encourage following healthy eating guidelines and are a nut-free school. In Reception, Year 1 and Year 2 all children are entitled to a Free School Meal under the government's Free Infant Schools Meals funding.

Break-time and drinks

The government's Fresh Fruit and Vegetable Scheme supplies free fruit for children in Reception, Year 1 and 2 during morning break. All children under five are entitled to a free portion of milk each day at break time.

Clubs

We run a wide variety of after-school clubs to appeal to every child. Recent examples are:

Eco Warriors, Choir, Cross Stitch, Carnival club, STEM, Art and Drama.

A whole host of different sporting clubs including: Yoga, gymnastics, tag rugby, boxing, rounders and netball!

Inspiring and creative curriculum: foundations for success

Enriched curriculum: trips and visitors, P.E and clubs

Trips: We offer a wide range of activities, trips and experiences to broaden our children's horizons and deepen their learning. Our school trips include:

- Visit to the Houses of Parliament in London
- Forest school
- Canal and riverside trust science week
- Visits to local sites and museums.
- Hosting regular visitors such as police, Wessex water, authors, CAFOD, sporting workshops, Paralympians and yoga teachers as part of our wellbeing week.
- Devizes carnival
- Young Voices
- Woodland Adventure at Dauntsey's School

Residential visits: the children are offered a residential trip to PGL Liddington in Year 6. They ascend Jacob's ladder, descend an abseiling wall, try their hand at archery, rock climbing and the vertical challenge - and work together in team building exercises.

P.E.: We follow the National Curriculum for PE with each child encouraged to become physically confident and support their health and fitness.

Music: We engage with a variety of musical genres across the curriculum, including hymns, songs, rhymes and musical poetry and a wide variety of musical history from different cultures. During the school day, a range of private music lessons are available. Instruments that our pupils are currently learning include piano, guitar and violin.

Inclusion: a curriculum for all

We believe in equal opportunities for all, and that everyone in our school community deserves to be treated with respect, dignity and consideration. When we identify areas of difficulty, we use Quality First teaching to support children through scaffolding and learning aids. It may be that some students will need extra help outside the classroom as well. In that case, a support plan may be created by the SENCo, class teacher, parent and child.

Academic achievement

We are proud of our curriculum and the results it delivers. We provide meaningful contexts for learning, allowing children to be creative and imaginative and leaders in their own learning journey. PSHE and Gospel Values are woven throughout the whole curriculum, and we have a big focus on teaching life skills alongside academic subjects.



Admissions and getting involved

Admissions arrangements

Although St Joseph's Catholic Primary School is a Catholic School within the Diocese of Clifton it is 'Open to All' regardless of Religion.

Applying to Start School for the First Time

You must apply by January of the year when your child is due to start school. You can apply by completing an online application form through Wiltshire Council's website or by asking them for an application form.

In-Year Admissions

If you would like your child to attend St Joseph's Primary School and are transferring from another school, then you must apply directly to Wiltshire Council by calling 01225 713010 or visiting their website.

Supplementary Information Form

In addition to the formal application for any admission, the school also requires a Supplementary Information Form to be completed. This can be found on our website.

Getting involved

PTA

We have a thriving PTA set up to provide opportunities for the children that would otherwise not be achievable through our regular funding. Run by committed and passionate parents, carers and friends of the school community, the PTA has organised a variety of fundraising events such as discos, movie nights, Summer and Christmas fayres and regular tuck shops and second hand uniform sales.

Trustees

Our governing body is made up of an enthusiastic group of people drawn from the local Parish, the wider community, parents and members of staff. They help ensure we are supported and challenged and oversee strategic decisions. The trustees can be contacted via the school office.



Our Values, Ethos and Vision

Our SHINE values:

Spiritual - Jesus is our teacher and we follow in his Holy footsteps. we forgive each other and share His love with others, and we are responsible for looking after his Creations.

Harmony - In our St Joseph's Family, we live in harmony because we are sympathetic, compassionate, gentle peacemakers.

Inquisitive - In our learning, we are keen to discover new things and we are always curious about our wonderful world.

Never give up - We persevere when learning is tricky and encourage and support others in school and around the world so that all of God's people can be the best they can be.

Enjoy - We embrace learning joyfully and enjoy taking part in the rich, exciting curriculum with happy hearts.

“Pupils demonstrate the school's vision, ‘shine’, in all that they do.”

OFSTED Dec 2022



St Joseph's Catholic Primary School

St. Joseph's Place, Devizes, Wiltshire, SN10 1DD

Telephone: 01380 723084

Email: secretary@stjosdevizes.wilts.sch.uk

Web: <http://www.stjosdevizes.wilts.sch.uk>

Devised and produced by Stoneworks Education Ltd www.stoneworkseducation.co.uk

© Stoneworks Education Limited 2014-2023. All rights reserved.