

St Mary's Catholic Primary School

Early Years Offer



At St Mary's Catholic Primary School we recognise that the Early Years is a key period for development of the child's whole personality. Every child develops uniquely and we aim to provide learning opportunities based on their individual interests and needs. Our whole school values of; Collaboration, Service, creativity, confidence and independence are embedded and integrated into our EYFS curriculum every day. These values ensure pupils are learning in a safe, secure environment and have access to a curriculum which develops key characteristics on which they can build on throughout their learning journey in school and beyond. Parents play an essential role in the early years and we aim to work collaboratively alongside parents, drawing on their wealth of knowledge and expertise

We currently provide an Early Years setting for 45 children split between two classes. The children have an early years outside area and playground and access to the large school field behind. Having the local beach at the end of the road enables us to take a group of children to beach school every week. We also make the most of our local environment having a large park directly behind the school and a library less than a 5 minute walk away.

We recognise the unique identity of our school community with three overarching themes. These are:

 <p>Coastal</p>	 <p>Catholic</p>	 <p>International</p>
<p>We teach children about their local beach environment, the stewardship of it and the impact of our behaviours upon climate change and pollution.</p>	<p>We welcome children to our school family and the Catholic faith. We recognise each child as a unique individual with gifts and talents. We begin to support children to make a relationship with God and know they are loved by Him.</p>	<p>We teach children they are citizens of the local and global community. We recognise, value and celebrate the variety of ethnicities in our school exploring languages and cultures.</p>

We recognise that assessment is at the heart of promoting children's learning and is therefore a continuous process to inform the next steps for each child. We work in collaboration with parents and other professionals to ensure that children continue to develop and make progress with support from home.

Aims

Within the EYFS we aim to ensure

- Children access a broad and balanced curriculum that gives them the broad range of knowledge and skills needed for good progress through school and life
- Quality and consistency in teaching and learning so that every child makes good progress and no child gets left behind
- A focus on early reading through listening, story-telling and phonics teaching to enable the children to develop a love of reading and prepare them for their school life ahead.
- A close working partnership between staff and parents and/or carers
- Every child is included and supported through equality of opportunity and anti-discriminatory practice
- The values set out in our mission statement underpin everything we do