St Mary and St Peter Catholic Primary School Prospectus 2026/27









St Mary and St Peter Catholic Primary School
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Head of School Mrs A Goddard
Executive Headteacher Mrs H Armstrong

Chaplain: Alvan Ibeh
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Dear Parents, Carers and Visitors,

Welcome to St Mary and St Peter Catholic Primary School!

I am delighted to welcome you to St Mary and St Peter Catholic primary school's brochure. Through it, we hope to provide you with an insight into the high quality provision offered within our school. I hope that you will find plenty to interest you, be that as an existing member of our school community or someone who is looking to find out more about the school.

The staff, governors and I are committed to working together to provide the highest quality education to develop the whole child, rooted firmly in our distinctive values as a Catholic primary school. We are proud of our curriculum, which teaches children the key knowledge and skills of the national curriculum and allows them to apply it in engaging and exciting learning opportunities. This successful approach means we build a love of learning in our children.

At the heart of St Mary and St Peter's is the belief in family. We are a school family recognising each individual as a loved and valued member of that family. We also recognise that we are part of God's family and our school is able to enrich children's understanding and experiences of being a member of God's family. Our work with our children holds each family integral to its aims and mission. We take every possible opportunity to support our families as they bring their children up either as practising Catholics or in sympathy with the teachings of the Catholic Church.

Our school is welcoming and friendly. We value parents and carers and work in partnership to secure the best outcomes for our children. You are invited to contact us or visit at any time to discuss your child's needs.

We are a forward-thinking school and are continually looking to improve and develop our practices and our staff. Whether through the use of technology, outdoor learning or the Arts we constantly seek to provide memorable learning. Each year we improve our school further through development plans informed by research and best practice taken from other schools.

Our aim is for our children to enjoy learning and be the best that they can be in all that they do. Our children are wonderful ambassadors, so if you would like to know more about our school family, our children would be delighted to welcome you to our school.

Mrs A Goddard
Head of School

Mrs H Armstrong
Executive Headteacher

Our School



St Mary and St Peter is a Voluntary Aided Co-educational Primary School for children aged 4 – 11 in the main school, which is part of the St John the Baptist Multi Academy Trust. We also have a nursery for children aged 3 and 4 years of age. Our school is enriched by close links with St Mary's in Lowestoft, our other Catholic schools within the MAT and our local and global communities.

All class rooms have an interactive whiteboard, reading area and prayer area. There is a large hall which is used for assemblies, school meals, PE lessons and school Masses. There is also a spacious library, ICT suite and Pastoral room.

The school has large, safe and secure grounds. This includes an EYFS outside area with play apparatus, sand pit and water area. In the main school playground, the children have access to a large playing field, trim trail, outside canopy area and our prayer garden. Our wonderful PTA continue to support improvements.



The school community

Friends of St Mary and St Peter

We have an active group of committed and dedicated parents who form the PTA. If you are a parent of this school you are automatically a member of the Association. The committee works closely with the Head of School and staff members and organise a range of functions and events that are of interest to children, parents, staff and the wider community. In doing so it raises funds to help with many activities and projects in this school. Meetings of the Association are advertised in the school newsletters.
For further information, please contact our PTA Chairperson via the school.

Parent helpers

Our parent helpers are a great asset to our school, by supporting in class activities, accompanying school trips and supporting our pupils with one to one reading.
If you are interested in volunteering, please call into the main school office where your name will be added to a list. Any time given to support children in this way is very valuable. All parents/carers that volunteer to help will need to sign a Volunteers Code of Conduct, which includes a confidentiality clause. The school requires parent/carer helpers to be subject to the usual Safeguarding checks.

Our Mission Statement

Our learning adventure will see each and every one of us thrive in God's love as we set sail for success.

School Vision

We believe that even with God's love we can sometimes experience challenges. Just like our patron saints, Mary and Peter, they experienced difficult times in their life that took strength and perseverance to overcome. At our school, we value this challenge and encourage children to experience it, knowing that together with our support and love, they will experience a successful outcome be it in an academic subject or through social experiences. We are all exploring our own talents and each day we **'Set Sail for Success'**

School Values

We have 4 core values that we embody in all that we do:

Believe, Love, Respect and **Trust**. With Christ at the centre of all we do we Believe and Trust in Him to help us to show Love and Respect to all.

A Catholic School

St Mary and St Peter is a Catholic school, founded for the education of children from Catholic families. About two-thirds of our current children are Catholics. However, we also welcome children from families of any faith or none. What is important is that you agree with our guiding principles which are based on the teaching of Jesus Christ:

- Cherishing the special nature of each child as a unique human being made in the image of God, providing the care to ensure enjoyment and success in learning, and meeting individual needs.
- Fostering children's sense of personal responsibility, and their ability to stand up for what they know to be right.
- Enabling children to develop relationships through showing generosity, honesty, tolerance and forgiveness.
- Encouraging a concern to help others, both locally and globally, and to care for the environment.

Children learn to live by these values through their daily life as part of the school community. There are frequent opportunities for children to show they care, both formal and informal. Our aim is that, whatever their religious background, all our children should become 'people of goodwill' with a lifelong commitment to creating a more perfect world.

Other aspects of children's experience are more specifically Catholic. Children learn about prayer and worship in their classes, in daily whole-school assemblies and, on special occasions, in our local parish church of St Peter. Worship is always presented in a way that is suitable to children's ages. We are sensitive to the needs of our non-Catholic children, who are never made to feel 'different'.

We hold regular celebrations of the Mass, where the whole school community can come together. We always welcome parents to attend, whether or not they are themselves Catholics.



Religious education lessons are based on the syllabus drawn up by the Diocese of East Anglia. The syllabus encourages children to engage with ideas and the implications of faith. Topics are wide-ranging and include a study of other major world religions. Children also learn about sexuality within the context of Catholic teaching, in a way that is appropriate for their stage of development. We aim for children to accept their own and others' sexuality in a positive light, and to develop relationships in which love, dignity and responsibility are central.

We support our two local churches that sit within our wide parish, St Peter's and St Mary's, in preparing Catholic children for the Reception of First Holy Communion and the Sacrament of Reconciliation.

Staff at our school

Mrs Helen Armstrong Executive Headteacher
Mrs Abigail Goddard Head of School

Teaching Staff

Miss Lisa Cooper	Nursery Teacher
Miss Amber Brooks	Reception Teacher/Early Years Lead
Mrs Amelia Rebecca	Year 1 Class Teacher (Monday to Wednesday)
Mrs Natasha Hardman	Year 1 Class Teacher (Thursday & Friday)
Mr Louis Rebecca	Year 2 Class Teacher
Mrs Olivia Saunders	Year 3 Class Teacher
Mrs Sarah Steele	Year 3 and 5 Class Teacher – SLT
Miss Sophie Ellcome	Year 4 Class Teacher (Monday to Thursday)
Miss Emma Wigg	Year 5 Class Teacher
Mrs Elinor Rampersaud	Year 4 Class Teacher (Friday)
Mr Andy Petersen	Year 6 Class Teacher
Mr Chris Lambert	SENCO - SLT

Non-Teaching Staff

Miss Catherine Daniels	Teaching Assistant
Mrs Julie Green	Teaching Assistant
Mrs Carol Graham	Teaching Assistant
Mrs Marion McKenna	Teaching Assistant
Mrs Lisa Gooch	Teaching Assistant
Miss Monika Prawdzik	Teaching Assistant
Miss Tracey Jowett	Teaching Assistant
Miss Tiffany Hannant	Teaching Assistant
Mrs Barbara Michorczyk	Teaching Assistant
Mrs Sarah Rawling	HLTA
Mrs Tanya Phair	HLTA
Mrs Lucy McNab	Teaching Assistant
Mrs Linda Turbot	Breakfast Club
Miss Lynn McGregor	Pastoral Learning Mentor and DSL
Mrs Sue Coe	School Secretary
Mrs Alex Tudorica	School Support Manager
Mrs Julie Green	Office Assistant
Mr Kevin Lawrence	Caretaker

Governing Body

Here at St Mary and St Peter Catholic Primary school we have an active and enthusiastic Governing Body who is responsible for the governance of the school with the aim of promoting high standards of educational achievement.

It is an unpaid democratic body responsible for the overall running and organisation of the school and acts as a 'critical friend' by asking challenging questions to be sure that the school is providing the best possible education.

The Governing Body consists of Foundation Governors appointed by the Bishop, Staff Governors elected by the staff and Parent Governors elected by the parents. Governors are allocated different responsibilities to monitor the overall effectiveness of the school.

Our school Governors are:

Executive Headteacher	Mrs Helen Armstrong
Head of SMSP	Mrs Abigail Goddard
Staff Governor	Miss Amber Brooks
Chair of Governors	Mr Jeremy Gaskill
Foundation	Mrs Beryl Edwards
Foundation	Mr Tom Langan
Foundation	Ms Anna Glynn
Foundation	Mrs Janet Brooks
Foundation	Mrs Joanne Arnold
Vice Chair of Governors	Mr Simon Gilbert-Barnham
Parent	Mr Matthew Evans
Parent	Ms Hannah MacKender

Structure of the school day

Our Day – Main School

8.30 am – 12 noon	Morning session
12.45 pm – 3.00 pm	Afternoon session

07:45 - 08:30	Breakfast Club
08:30	Start of School Day
08.50	Registration
10:20 - 10:35	Morning Break
12:00 - 12:45	Lunch
15:00	End of School Day
15:00 - 16:00	Afterschool Club

Children should arrive in class at 8:30am. The gate is closed at 8.50am after which time children will be marked as late. Parents are asked to collect children promptly at 3.00pm or at 4.00pm if attending an afterschool club.

We are an "All Weather School" and will send the children out to play at break and lunch, unless we deem it unsafe due to extreme weather conditions e.g. Thunder and lightning, very heavy rain etc. Please send your child with appropriate outerwear assuming that they will probably be going outside.

Assembly Times

Monday	10:35	Liturgy
Tuesday	10:35	Key Stage 2 Assembly
Wednesday	13:00	Key Stage 1 Class Assembly
Thursday	09:05	Class Assembly
Friday	10:35	Mass/Hymn Practice
Friday	14:25	Praise Assembly

Nursery times

8.30 am – 11.30 am morning only
8.30 am – 3pm full day





Breakfast Clubs

Breakfast Club is open to children from Reception to Year 6 between 07.45 and 08.30 each day with a cost of £3.00 per session.

Breakfast of toast, cereal and juice is provided for children arriving before 8.00 am only. At 8.30 am children go to their classrooms.

All Breakfast Clubs must be booked using the online Wisepay facility. Booking is required by 12pm on the Friday before the week the club is required. This ensures we have the correct staff to pupil ratio.

After School Clubs

We offer an exciting and varied opportunity for children to take part in After School Clubs which are available to children from Reception to Year. Clubs are booked on a half-termly basis and are limited to a first come first serve basis. All bookings for clubs are made using the Wisepay. The cost of clubs provided by the school staff is £3.00 per club but where outside companies provide clubs the prices will vary.

School lunches

Hot, nutritious and healthy meals are provided at a cost of £2.61 per day or free if your child in is Reception, Year 1, 2 or entitled to financial criteria based free school meals.

All meals must be booked online using the Aspens-Select system. A password and details of this will be provided to you on admission. Lunches must be ordered before 7.30am each day. You are however advised to order meals in advance in block

If meals are not ordered then a packed lunch must be sent in.

Alternatively, children may bring a healthy packed lunch. Parents sending packed lunches are expected to provide everything your child will need to eat it, for example plastic spoons and forks. Packed lunches must be healthy – no nuts, fizzy drinks, chocolate bars etc. Please do not send your child in to school with cans or glass containers.

Drinking bottles must only contain water – no squash or fizzy drinks.

Admissions

Main School

The school is primarily for the education of Roman Catholic children between the ages of 4 and 11 years. There is no defined catchment area. The Governors are pleased to accept non-Roman Catholic students provided the parents agree to support the ethos of the school and there are places available at the time of application.

Standard application forms are issued by the Local Authority Children's Services Department. Parents wishing to apply for a place at St Mary and St Peter Catholic Primary School (whether as a first, second or third option) should also complete the school's application and supplementary information forms and return them to the school office as soon as possible together with the child's original baptism certificate (copies will not be accepted) from the Roman Catholic church. Children who were baptised in another Christian church and subsequently received into the Catholic Church will be treated as those originally baptised into the Catholic Church.

Our Nursery

Our school Nursery is open every morning during the main school term time and is our Early Education offer. We have the same calendar dates as the main school.

We have a Nursery Teacher who is supported by other staff throughout the morning sessions.

Early Education is offered to families 38 weeks of the year. The funded hours can be claimed (to the maximum available)

- Mon 8:30 to 11: 30
- Tues 8:30 to 11:30
- Wed 8:30 to 11:30
- Thurs 8:30 to 11:30
- Fri 8:30 to 11:30

Afternoon sessions are available in the nursery from 11.30 to 3.00. These can be funded from 30-hour funding if there is entitlement, tax credits or payment to the school directly. Mrs Tudorica can give you further information regarding this.

If you are interested in applying for a place in our Nursery, you need to get in touch with Mrs Tudorica or Mrs Coe in the main school office. Either pop in to speak with them or call them on 01493 445117.

We do not have a specific Admissions policy for nursery but should we be over-subscribed our criteria for offering places would be the same as for our Reception class detailed in our Admissions Policy.

Establishing a partnership

Parents Evenings and Reports

We believe that we can best help your child by establishing a firm partnership between home and school.

Parent consultation evenings are held twice a year - during the autumn and spring terms. Other Information Evenings may be held from time to time, for example about National Assessment arrangements. Towards the end of the summer term you will receive a detailed written report on your child's progress. This can be followed up with a meeting with the class teacher if necessary.

The class teacher will be the point of contact for most day-to-day matters. However, the Pastoral Lead and Head of School will be very happy to meet with parents about more pressing concerns connected with their child's welfare and progress although we do stress that you discuss issues with class teachers in the first instance.

Particularly for the youngest children, there are opportunities for parents to share information with teaching staff at the beginning or end of the school day. However, we ask parents not to linger in the school after 8.50 am so that we can get teaching underway.

Parental Involvement in School

We greatly value voluntary help from parents for school visits, sport, library and some classroom activities. Whether you have a specific skill to share or just wish to help generally, you will be very welcome. Volunteers always work under the supervision of a teacher and undergo a DBS check before they can begin work in school.

Homework

In line with government recommendations, we expect all children to read at home on a daily basis. The youngest children should spend about ten minutes sharing stories with an adult. As they grow older and their reading becomes more independent, the time should increase to twenty minutes.
Children will be set other homework tasks such as times table practice and weekly spellings.

Please ensure that you support your children by setting aside time for homework, and ensuring a quiet place to work. We also ask that parents sign the home-school contact books ('School Diaries') to confirm that homework tasks have been completed.

Contact Book - *School Diaries*

At the start of every school year, all children are given a home/school contact book called a School Diary. This must come into school every day without fail and it is a vital tool in developing a successful partnership between home and school. Parents and school staff must use the School Diary to relay important messages to each other in the first instance. Further communication can be arranged if necessary. Any change of arrangements regarding collection of your child at the end of the day must be written in this diary. Please do not ring the office at the end of the day. The School Diary is also where children record any reminders they need to share with home as well as their homework tasks and to record daily reading.

Newsletters and School App

Parents are informed via the school app regarding any school new, events and important updates etc. This is then supplemented with our monthly newsletters which are posted on the school app and put on the school website, so that parents can keep up to date with school events - paper copies are available on request.

Information about special events, such as school visits, will be sent by letter via email. We also use text messaging to communicate short or immediate messages.

Please ensure that the contact details we hold are up-to-date, by informing the school office of any changes.

St Mary & St Peter Catholic Primary School is committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children and young people and expects all staff and volunteers to share this commitment.

Parent Café and Stay and Play

Nursery and Reception host Phonics stay and play sessions each term in the EYFS class room.

Both these events are a great opportunity for parents to come into school to have the opportunity to be creative with their child/ren and get an insight into the curriculum.

These dates are published in advance on the school app and in the monthly newsletter.

Developing a love of learning

The National Curriculum

We recognise that a firm grasp of literacy and numeracy skills underpins all learning, and teaching in these areas is given the highest priority. For example, all children have a daily session to develop their understanding of phonics.

The school follows the new National Curriculum. We have our own set of very diverse and child-centred plans to deliver the national curriculum. We supplement these with additional activities to enrich learning so that it is directly relevant to the needs of our children. These plans ensure that the full requirements of all subjects are met, by linking them into thematic units with clear subject learning goals.

Early Years Foundation Stage

Children in the Nursery and the Reception Year follow the Early Years Foundation Stage Curriculum. We aim to establish a strong partnership with parents from the beginning, so that together we can cater for children's individual needs. We recognise that all children are unique, and that they learn in different ways and at different rates.

All learning activities are carefully planned to extend children's capability in a wide range of skills. This enables all children to grow in confidence, self-assurance and

resilience. In all activities, particular emphasis is placed on developing children's use of language.

The Nursery and Reception classes work closely together, sharing the same well-resourced learning space, indoors and out. This provides a safe and stimulating environment where children can explore their world, develop their creativity and make positive relationships with adults and other children.

Religious Education

Every child is respected as an individual, some of whom are Catholic, or are practicing in another faith or who do not practice in any religious faith. All members of our school are recognised as being at different stages of their own 'journey in faith'. As a Catholic school, we have various duties with regard to the Catholic faith and religious development of all of our pupils. It is part of our mission to ensure that all children are enabled to maximise their potential. Ultimately, it is through the education of Gospel values that we help children to understand how these are part of our everyday lives and help us feel a sense of belonging as part of a wider faith community.

Social and Emotional Aspects of Learning

We give systematic attention to key aspects of children's social learning and emotional well-being. Weekly lessons address such areas as understanding another's point of view, working in a group, sticking at things when they get difficult, resolving conflict and managing worries. Acquiring these skills helps children to gain a positive attitude to their learning and to their behaviour. The themes are not covered in isolation, but relate to other features of school life, such as the Junior Leadership Team, circle time and the playground buddy system.

We have recently developed our school's provision to include systems and practices that are developed through the 'Thrive' approach. In doing this, we aim to ensure that we offer everything we possibly can to meet every child's individual social and emotional needs, whatever these may be. The aim of this is to reduce any problem that a child may have that prevents them from learning as well as they could. By removing these barriers, children can access learning as easily as possible and make the best progress possible.

St Mary & St Peter Catholic Primary School is committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children and young people and expects all staff and volunteers to share this commitment.

The curriculum

EYFS (Nursery and Reception)

In the early years setting at St. Mary and St. Peter Catholic Primary School our aim is for children to be united in God's love to become happy, confident, well rounded individuals with a love for learning. Our children are provided with a safe and stimulating environment that fosters independence and enables them to learn through play, to explore and express their own ideas knowing that they are valued. We are committed to providing the best possible start to their school life, and deliver this through following The Early Years Foundation Stage 'EYFS' which supports children from birth to five years across seven areas of Learning and Development:



The Prime Areas

- Personal, Social, and Emotional Development.
- Communication and Language.
- Physical Development.

The Specific Areas

- Literacy.
- Mathematics.
- Understanding the World.
- Expressive Arts and Design.



The EYFS Characteristics of Effective Learning are embedded in all that we offer:

- Playing and exploring - engagement
- Active learning – motivation
- Creating and thinking critically - thinking



Through our provision we nurture positive attitudes, teach new skills and give the children high quality practical learning experiences ensuring their well-being and success both now and in the future.

'To think, to feel, to do' - Pope Francis

For more information about the EYFS and how it is delivered in the nursery and reception class please make an appointment to see our EYFS lead.

Year 1 to Year 6 Curriculum

St Mary and St Peter Catholic Primary School follows the National Curriculum in all subjects.
Our new curriculum focuses on breadth of study and a balance of subjects and skills. High standards in all subjects are insisted upon.
Full policies on all of the curriculum areas are available in school. However, a brief description of each curriculum area follows.



English – Reading

At St Mary and St Peters, we aim for our children to develop a love of books and reading for pleasure; not just at school but as a skill for life. We prioritise the importance of immersing the children in a rich reading culture which securely underpins our whole school curriculum.



Basic reading skills are taught through synthetic phonics Read, Write, Ink and the program of study. Children then continue to embed a greater level of understanding through developing a range of comprehension skills. Also underpinning this is a focus on language development and the understanding and use of a rich range of vocabulary.

This is achieved through daily DEAR (Drop Everything and Read) time and the more focussed teaching of guided reading sessions. The reading culture is then enriched by staff understanding the importance of sharing books and the power of storytelling. Likewise, through the award of earning class 'home reading' rewards and children being able to visit and borrow books from the school library.

Overall, we are passionately committed to providing the best opportunities for all children to achieve their full potential. We understand that reading provides the crucial foundation for this and to develop pupils with broad horizons who are empathetic analytical thinkers.

English – Writing

At St Mary and St Peter, our aim is to give all children the skills required to communicate effectively. We encourage the children to feel passionate about writing by supporting them to feel confident in their ability. Writing should be purposeful, and we create these opportunities by writing across the curriculum. We enjoy the writing process, not just the finished result, and strive to improve our writing through the use of phonics, grammar, spelling and punctuation. We give the children the chance to argue, persuade, explain and create pieces in order to express their thoughts and feelings. We want the children to be inquisitive, thoughtful and creative thinkers and communicators of the world. Our school creates a love of literacy which is taught enthusiastically, encouraging children to share their ideas with each other and the wider community.

Maths

At SMSP we want all of our children to be confident and creative mathematicians. We teach mathematics daily covering all areas of the National Curriculum including number, shape, space and measure. We aim to develop children's fluency, reasoning and problem-solving skills to prepare them for a wider range of opportunities later in life and ensure they have the skills they will need.

We teach mathematics by using a range of concrete resources (i.e. Numicon, Base Ten, place value counters etc.) so that children have a true concept of the value of number. We also use a variety of pictorial and abstract representations to further develop fluency. All children in all age groups will have access to these models and equipment, either to support their learning or prove their answers in a variety of different ways.

Children are encouraged to explain their thinking with their peers to develop understanding and use their metacognitive skills to unpick a question. We celebrate misconceptions and view mistakes as a learning process.

Every day the children get to practice their mental skills before using and applying these in more complex problems both in Maths lessons and within the broader curriculum (i.e. Science, D&T, Computing etc). We are passionate about ensuring each of our children has a love of Maths, enabling them to become better problems solvers, communicators and decision makers later in life.

RE

At SMSP we use The Curriculum Directory for RE in Catholic Schools as the foundation of our RE programmes of study. St Mary and St Peter uses the Diocesan Primary Religious Education Curriculum to fulfil our aims and objectives. This uses two schemes of learning "Come and See" and "The Way, The Truth and The Life" and include 2 weeks of learning about Judaism and 2 weeks of a second faith. This Curriculum offers opportunity for the children to develop deepening understanding by the use of cyclical themes that link to the liturgical year. RE is timetabled to provide 10% of the teaching time in the school day and where applicable links are made with other curriculum areas.



Our Religious Education follows the same high-quality provision of teaching and learning as we offer in the rest of the curriculum, as laid down in our teaching and learning policy. We believe that all children should have the opportunity to experience religion through a broad and varied range of opportunities including: Art, Music, Artefacts, Collective worship, the natural world, Visits and visitors, opportunities to ask and respond to 'Big Questions', Relationships and Sex Education.

Relationships Education and Health Education

We teach Relationships Education and Health Education within the context of a Christian understanding of human sexuality rooted in the wisdom and teaching of the Catholic Church.

Given that RHE (Relationships and Health Education) has become a statutory subject for all schools from September 2020, we are embracing "the challenges of creating a happy and successful adult life" by giving pupils knowledge "that will enable them to make informed decisions about their wellbeing, health and relationships" (DFE Statutory Guidance).

We will deliver this teaching through a programme of study called "Life to the Full". The framework of the programme is taken from the Model Catholic RSE Programme by the Catholic Education Service, which has been highlighted by the Department of Education as a work of good practice.

"Life to the Full" is taught by revisiting the same topics at an age-appropriate stage through their school life. The children's learning includes:

- personal health
- physical and emotional wellbeing
- strong emotions
- private parts of the body
- personal relationships
- family structures
- trusted adults
- growing bodies (including puberty, periods and life cycles)
- the dangers of social media
- where babies come from
- an understanding of the Common Good and living in the wider world.

The entire teaching is underpinned with a religious understanding that our deepest identity is as a child of God - created, chosen and loved by God. We make sure that this learning is fully inclusive of all pupils and their families, whatever their circumstances or personal life choices.

Science

At SMSP we want our children to be naturally curious and care about the world around them. Our curriculum has been developed to ensure full coverage of the National Curriculum and to foster a sense of wonder. We are committed to providing a stimulating, engaging and challenging learning experience. We recognise the importance of science in every aspect of daily life, with links to all other areas of the curriculum and global issues both current and future as stewards of God's creation. As one of the core subjects taught in primary schools, we give the teaching and learning of science the prominence that it requires.

We teach science through practical experience, such as observing, hypothesising, testing, measuring, recording and explaining. This is delivered by the child's class teacher to create opportunities investigation and application in context and clear links with the other areas of the curriculum. The structure is based upon the National Curriculum and various areas of science are covered across the school. These include: Scientific Investigation that specifically looks at the skills necessary to understand how to set up an experiment in all topics of science; Life Processes and Living Things which involves the biology of plants and animals, life processes, human biology, classification and ecology; Materials and their Properties introduce the children to a broad study of materials: rocks, minerals and soils; types of materials and their uses; chemical reactions and the theories, which explain the properties of materials; Physical Processes involves a study of electricity and magnetism, light and sound and closely related ideas on forces.

Reference is made to a study of the solar system and the Universe. We look for opportunities for to revisit and extend the children' s knowledge. Our approach is enquiry based, balanced with provision of core knowledge and skills practise.

MFL

At St Marys & St Peters Catholic Primary School we are very aware of the importance of learning a Modern Foreign Language. We believe that the learning of a foreign language provides a valuable educational, social and cultural experience for all pupils in our care. Pupils develop communication and literacy skills that lay the foundation for future language learning. They develop linguistic competence, extend their knowledge of how language works and explore differences and similarities between the foreign language and English. Learning another language raises awareness of the multi-lingual and multi-cultural world and introduces an international dimension to pupils' learning, giving them an insight into their own culture and those of others.

The learning of a foreign language provides a medium for cross-curricular learning and for the reinforcement of knowledge, skills and understanding developed in other subjects.

Our aims are to teach pupils to:

- understand and respond to spoken and written language from a variety of authentic sources
- speak with increasing confidence, fluency and spontaneity, finding ways of communicating what they want to say, including through discussion and asking questions, and continually improving the accuracy of their pronunciation and intonation.
- can write at varying length, for different purposes and audiences, using the variety of grammatical structures that they have learnt
- discover and develop an appreciation of a range of writing in the language studied.

In St Marys & St Peters we do this by teaching French throughout the school.

In KS2 pupils have 30-minute weekly lessons using quality online interactive resources. They have opportunities to write in French on a weekly basis.

In Early Years and KS1 teachers introduce French to children by teaching the children to answer the register in French, playing games in French and introducing children to basic vocabulary such as the days of week, numbers to ten etc. They also learn how to sing French songs. Children in KS1 spend at least 20 minutes a week learning French and as opportunity arises French is incorporated into a range of activities.

Design and Technology

At St. Mary and St. Peter Catholic Primary School, Design and Technology is delivered practically where children develop knowledge and skills in design, structures, mechanisms, electrical control, as well as using a range of materials

including food. They learn to think creatively and solve problems to design and make products for a purpose.

Wherever possible DT is linked to other subject areas such as mathematics, science, art and computing, thus enabling pupils to notice connections and patterns in their learning. Our provision encourages pupils to be active learners, developing the confidence to take risks and promoting their resilience to persist with a project when challenges occur.

They develop their own personal skills and knowledge of a wide range of materials and equipment through their work, and they learn to evaluate by identifying what works well, and through discovering what could be improved on in their own and others designs.

Geography

Our new Geography curriculum will allow children to develop a comprehensive understanding of local, regional and world environments. Through fieldwork, mapping and research, children will study these places in depth and gain an understanding of human and physical features. We want children to show an awareness of current global issues and the role they play to shape responsible and conscious citizens for the future. Finally, we want to celebrate the diversity within our world through an understanding of the people, animals and environments within it.



Our Geography curriculum has been divided into 3 keys areas to allow children to develop these geographical skills:

- Autumn – Local Geography: Children will develop knowledge of the human and physical features in the locality of our school through fieldwork and mapping.
- Spring – Place Knowledge: Children will learn about the wider world including Europe, North America and South America.
- Summer – Biomes: Following on from our spring topic, children will find and study the world's biomes in detail.

History

The past influences all aspects of daily life, so we hope that by learning about the past, the children will have a good understanding of significant people, events and periods of time that have shaped today's society, and that they will develop a sense of self-identity through the study of world history and local heritage.
We aim to inspire children's curiosity and develop skills that enable them to ask questions, make connections and use a wide variety of evidence to develop and challenge their historical knowledge.

In Key Stage One, children are taught to understand chronology by sequencing events and will broaden their vocabulary to include words and phrases that will enable them to talk about and describe events through different mediums.
In Key Stage Two, children will continue to learn about different time periods in British History, the Wider World and Ancient Civilisations. Children will build on skills learnt in Key Stage One and explore how to compare different sources of evidence and look at their suitability in how they portray the past, which will enable them to develop their own sense of perspective of this time, the people and events.

Music

Music is a way in which we celebrate our faith and bring us together as a school community. Through our music curriculum, we aim to encourage children to express themselves creatively using musical instruments and their voices, develop an understanding of music terminology, learn how to work collaboratively and broaden knowledge of music from around the world.

Within the Early Years, children are exposed to music through a combination of adult-led and self-selected play activities. Throughout the school in EYFS, Key Stage One and Key Stage Two, a specialist music teacher delivers weekly lessons. Children at our school are given the opportunity to showcase their talents and perform in assemblies, productions and school and community concerts.

Computing

At SMSP we believe that computing is essential for children to thrive in later life. We offer a broad and creative computing curriculum that ensures that children become digitally literate – are able to use, and express themselves and develop their ideas through, information and communication technology – and are able to access the online world safely and respectfully.

We provide one hour of dedicated computing time each week, and have access to a full suite of desktop computers as well as a set of iPads for each key stage, to help our children learn essential skills creatively and effectively.

Computing has deep links with mathematics, science, and design and technology and provides insights into both natural and artificial systems and our networked computer suite is able to access programs which enable the children to transfer their skills, into other areas of the curriculum. All classes are equipped with interactive whiteboards, DVD players and cameras. Through the use of good ICT provision we educate all children with ICT skills they can use in their daily lives, today and in the future.

PSHE

Children are taught on a daily basis the importance of key values. In our PSHE lessons, we build on these and encourage children to be empathetic, respectful and free-thinking. We discuss key issues in a safe environment, challenging stereotypes and supporting the children in developing their own values and beliefs. We teach the children to value and embrace individuality, encouraging everyone to have the strength to be themselves and communicate their thoughts respectfully.

We strongly believe that the children are the next leaders, thinkers, achievers, and innovators of our world and we support them with key decision-making skills which they will continue to develop throughout their lives.

PE

At SMSP we value PE as a key part of physical and mental wellbeing. We provide a broad and balanced curriculum that teaches our children the necessary skills to engage in a wide variety of cooperative and competitive games. This provides our children with the opportunity to become physically confident in a way which supports their health and fitness as well as encourage character building and the values of fairness and respect.



The school has good facilities for both indoor and outdoor sport with ample equipment to provide good quality PE lessons as well as equipment to help children develop their skills in dance and gymnastics. Every class has a dedicated two hours per week of PE lessons as well as opportunities to further develop their skills in a variety of extracurricular clubs.

Classes from Year 4 to Year 6 take part in swimming lessons on a rota basis throughout each academic year. We aim to have all children confident, happy in the water and able to swim a variety of strokes with many swimming at least 25 metres by the time they transfer to Secondary School.

Please note that we do expect all children to wear PE kit (see uniform section). We also insist that children place importance on their safety and that of others.

Therefore, no jewellery is permitted to be worn during any PE or swimming session. It is advised that all jewellery is removed at home on the day of your child's PE lesson.

Art Through the use of Art and Design, children become creative, individual thinkers who can present their ideas using different art forms as a way of understanding and responding to the world. Children are encouraged to be free in their exploration of the elements of pattern, texture, colour, line, tone, shape, form and space which ensures fun, engagement and enjoyment in art.



Our school wishes to develop the children's use of technique and provide them with access to different artists, crafts people and designers whilst also encouraging them to gain ownership of their own artistic style. We wish to support the children in discovering a life-long appreciation of art, which inspires them to continue to improve their skills long after they leave primary school.

SEND

The Governors and staff recognise that all children have a right to a broad, balanced, relevant and personalised curriculum. We aim to create a happy, educationally exciting and positive environment in which all pupils can develop their full potential with our support. We recognise that children are individuals and that each one has needs special to him or her. Our entire staff team (including the Head of School, Special Educational Needs Coordinator, Class Teacher, Pastoral Learning Mentors, Teaching Assistants and our Parent Support Worker) together with families work to ensure that every child's needs are successfully met and that each child receives the personalised provision they may need.

If you would like to read a copy of our School Local Offer, our School Information Report or our Special Educational Needs Policy for the support of children with additional needs, including that for children with an Education, Health and Care Plan, please see our website.

School uniform

The items of our school uniform are listed below:

	Uniform	Summer Uniform
Boys	Grey Trousers White Polo Shirt (logo option available) Red Jumper/sweatshirt/cardigans (with or without school logo) Grey Socks Black Shoes (no trainers or shoes with logos)	Grey Shorts or Trousers White Polo Shirt (logo option available) Red Jumper/sweatshirt/cardigans (with or without school logo) Grey Socks Black Shoes (no trainers or shoes with logos)
Girls	Grey Skirt/Tunic/Trousers White Polo Shirt (logo option available) Red Logo Jumper/sweatshirt/Cardigan (with or without school logo) Grey or Red Tights or Socks Black Shoes (No ankle/high boots or trainers)	Red and White Gingham Dress Red Logo Cardigan/sweatshirt or Jumper (with or without school logo) White Socks Black Shoes
PE	Plain white t-shirt Plain black shorts Trainers Plain black jogging bottoms or leggings (no logos), and a plain red/black sweatshirt(no logos) for outdoor PE lessons when the weather can be changeable (these will be needed in school for most of the year). No Jewellery is to be worn for PE.	

All items of uniform may be purchased from Harrisons Schoolwear, 73 Southtown Road, Great Yarmouth.Telephone no. 01493 662214
https://hschoolwear.co.uk/Primary.html

- No jewellery is permitted except a simple wrist watch, and one pair of small stud earrings (which must be removed for PE)
- Long hair must be tied back at all times
- No Make-up – this includes Nail varnish

Head lice can be a problem in school. We ask parents to check their child's head regularly and if necessary treat immediately. If children have live lice in their hair parents may be required to take their children home to treat them.

There will be no defined period of time when children can wear what is most often referred to as a 'summer uniform.' They will be able to wear whatever clothing is listed above when they choose so that they can be as comfortable as possible in school.

General Appearance

A high standard of personal appearance is expected of all pupils. Earrings may not be worn for PE and should be removed by child beforehand or not worn at all on PE days. Adults at school are not permitted to remove earrings. Hairstyles should not

be extreme; this includes unnatural colours and patterns shaved into the hair. Hair accessories should be discreet and functional.

Attendance

To give your child the best possible opportunity to learn, it is essential that he or she attends school regularly and punctually. We do expect all children to arrive at school on time. Legally we are required to monitor absences. We work regularly with our attendance officer and if your child's attendance falls below the school average you will be invited to a meeting to discuss ways to improve it.

If your child is absent from school please telephone to let the office know in the morning of the first day of the absence. There is an answering machine if the office is busy.

Holidays during term time will not be authorised, however exceptional personal circumstances i.e. close family bereavement/funeral, can be discussed with the Head of School when authorisation may be given.

Parents can be fined for taking a child out of school during term time without the school's permission. They could receive a fixed penalty notice if absent from school for 4-5 consecutive days (9 sessions).
https://www.norfolk.gov.uk/education-and-learning/schools/behaviour-and-attendance/attendance/fixed-penalty-notice-for-absence

Before contacting the school, parents should consider how the absences will affect their child's education. National statistics show ten days of absence in any academic year have a negative effect on attainment.

Further guidance can be found on the Norfolk County Council's main website:
https://www.norfolk.gov.uk/education-and-learning/schools/behaviour-and-attendance/attendance/school-attendance

Daily items

All pupils have their own pegs on which to keep their coats and bags. We have limited space in the cloakrooms and would ask that all children's bags be kept to a reasonable size. Children only need to bring their PE kit, water bottle and packed lunch (and swimming kit if swimming). All the materials they need to use in the classroom will be provided for them. Please do not bring pencil cases.

All water bottles must be names and only contain water – no juice or squash.

Children are not allowed to bring mobile phones to school at any time or on school visits. Except children in year 5 & year 6 if they are walking home, but a permission slip must be filled in for both walking home and mobile phones, phones then must be given to the class teacher on arrival to school, which are kept securely and they are given out again at the end of the day. No use of phones is permitted on the school site.