



Saint Mary's

RC Primary Academy



**We love, we learn, we grow;
walking with faith in the light of the Lord**

Headteacher's



Welcome

Did you know the word 'Catholic' means all-embracing? At Saint Mary's Roman Catholic Primary Academy, everyone is welcome! You may be Catholic, Christian, or another religion or have no religious affiliation at all; whichever applies to you, you are welcome at Saint Mary's.

We are an inclusive community and our school's ethos and mission are rooted within the Gospel. We pride ourselves on our Catholic values which are built upon love, hope, truth, peace and forgiveness. We are proud to be part of such a diverse community serving families of over 22 countries, speaking a variety of different languages.

We believe that difference is something to be celebrated. Our aim is to nurture the talents and potential within each individual, working together to achieve high standards.

Saint Mary's provides a broad and well-balanced curriculum, which prioritises children's wellbeing and nurtures a love of learning through a creative curriculum. We believe that it is important for all children to learn to read and write well and gain a good grasp of numbers and calculation whilst at primary school. We also strive to ensure our children leave Year 6 equipped with life skills for the wider world. Through RE, PSHE and the wider curriculum, we aim to teach our children the importance of treating all people with respect and, above all, how we ourselves would like to be treated.

Our staff are dedicated and hardworking, providing a safe and caring atmosphere rooted in faith. We work extremely hard to create a community spirit, and we very much hope you will choose to become part of it. We look forward to welcoming you to our Saint Mary's family.

Mrs Lisa Gleed-Thornley
Headteacher



Our primary Mission

We love, we learn, we grow;
walking with faith in the light of the Lord

Our Gospel values:

We are an inclusive community and our school's ethos and mission are rooted within the Gospel. We pride ourselves on our Catholic values which are built upon love, hope, truth, peace and mercy.

To achieve our full Christian potential, we all need to live out the Gospel values:

Love

A Christ-like love respects the talents of each person in our school.

Hope

Hope helps us to see a new life beyond our present one.

Truth

We should show God's truth in all we do.

Peace

We all know that if we love one another, peace will be all around us.

Mercy

We believe that mercy will be shown by the way we forgive others.

Saint Mary's Primary School was first established in 1861 on Saint Mary's Church grounds. It was established to educate the poor children of a large Irish community that settled in Boston in the late 1800s. The school then moved to our current site in 1983 and is now known as Saint Mary's RC Primary Academy.

It has always been a popular school with a family atmosphere and an excellent reputation for attainment, behaviour and the support that we give to our families and children.

Research-based, innovative, effective teaching and learning strategies are implemented to ensure an effective curriculum, that builds on prior learning and supports the needs of all pupils.

Our school is a vibrant, inspiring, dynamic and technological learning environment, where children's learning achievements are celebrated and shared. Our beautiful grounds are used to inspire learning in and outside the classrooms and offer trim trails, sports pitches, and large open, grassed areas surrounded by trees.

Our creative, child-led EYFS areas include sensory gardens and sheltered play for all weathers. Our libraries are well-resourced, imaginative and inviting, inspiring our love of reading.

'My child's teacher is approachable and friendly.'

Parent quote 2023



***The values and ethos of the school
combined with helping to reach children's
full potential in such a warm, caring,
disciplined manner is quite wonderful!***

Parent quote 2023



Our learning
environment

Our curriculum

Our aim is for every child to reach their potential as a unique, well-rounded individual and as a valuable citizen in our local, national and global community based on a Catholic Education that firmly places Christ at the centre of all aspects of school life.

We need to ensure that every child, no matter what background they're from, is fully prepared for the next stage of their education. It is essential that the children in our school have excellent communication skills, and this is a key feature of our curriculum.

We ensure that our pupils are fully prepared to thrive in the different curriculums offered by our various feeder schools in the area. In Boston, children have a choice of schools through a selective system.

We deliver The National Curriculum (2014) for all children and as a Catholic School, our RE curriculum is at the heart of what we do here at St Mary's and addresses wellbeing beyond the National Curriculum.

Finally, PE is of vital importance to our children. Here they can access a variety of experiences and learn new skills which will support them in growing into healthy, resilient young individuals that can make informed lifestyle choices.

Teaching and learning

Our teachers ensure that every lesson is planned so that pupils can be challenged and supported whatever their ability. Teachers track pupils' progress carefully and use this to inform their day-to-day and medium-term planning. Every class is supported by a teaching assistant who provides small group, individual support and challenge.

The school's curriculum is planned and sequenced so that new knowledge and skills build on what has been taught before and towards those defined endpoints, through retrieval practice and curriculum quizzes.

'Our teachers make lessons fun, and we learn lots of new things.'

Pupil quote 2023



Catholic social teaching is based on and inseparable from our understanding of human life and human dignity. Every human being is created in the image of God and redeemed by Jesus Christ and therefore is invaluable and worthy of respect as a member of the human family.

Saint Mary's RC Primary Academy, Boston's only Catholic school, is built upon the teachings of the Catholic Church and upon five key Gospel values: love, hope, truth, peace and mercy. We are incredibly proud of the diverse nature of our

school community, and we believe in giving all children, of all races and nationalities, a foundation for their dreams and opportunities worthy of their promise.

We work hard to develop and maintain a positive and active role within our community and we embrace, embed and live out the British values within all aspects of school life, including those of democracy, the rule of law, individual liberty, mutual respect and tolerance of those of different faiths and beliefs.

'Saint Mary's is an inclusive community. It lives out its' Catholic Values of 'Love, Hope, Truth, Peace and Forgiveness' with care and consideration for all.'

Nottingham RC Diocesan Education Service 2017

A young girl with dark hair in pigtails, wearing a dark blue school uniform with a white shirt and a yellow and blue striped tie, is smiling and holding a white flower. She is sitting at a table in a classroom. The background shows other children and classroom decorations.

Catholic social teaching
and
British values

Beyond the curriculum


At Saint Mary'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



Our curriculum is enhanced through additional opportunities to engage in individual and group activities. These include:

- **Instrumental music tuition**
We offer, piano, drumming, violins, choir, singing, wind instruments.
- **Engagement in achieving national awards**
- **Parish and community work**
- **Sporting events and competitions**
Such as netball, orienteering, hockey, capture the flag and cricket.
- **Trips, visits and inspirational visitors**
These include museums, the seaside, aquarium, local area visits, trips to London and the Year 6 residential to Derbyshire.
- **Ownership of Charity work**
We support Local charities such as Centre Point, Cafod, Mission Together, MacMillian and Children in Need.
- **Wraparound care with a wide variety of clubs of interest for children to attend**
Such as sports clubs, cookery, drama, Eco warriors and film club.

'We learn to respect differences.'

Pupil quote 2023



Achieving full potential and personal development

Pupils' personal development is a huge strength of our school. Pupils know what it means to be a good friend. They are interested in difference and diversity and learning about each other. Our pupils hold welcoming and inclusive attitudes and celebrate differences.

During their time at Saint Mary's our pupils are provided with a wide range of opportunities to develop their knowledge and skills in becoming a young leader and team member who make a valuable contribution to the school, parish, local and wider community.

Our pupils are encouraged to plan fund raising events which support local and global charities. Through our virtues we aim for them to be able to be courageous, charitable, kind, respectful, compassionate and resilient and have their voices heard.

Children learn about their rights through the rights respecting award. Our pupils know about protected characteristics and why these are important

'My child feels safe and happy at school.'

Parent quote 2023

Working with parents and carers

At Saint Mary's we greatly value working with parents/carers and respect and appreciate your opinions and contribution to continuing school development so that we can provide our pupils with the best possible education. We passionately believe in a strong and positive partnership between pupils, parents and our school.

Before starting school in the reception year, there will be an opportunity for new pupils to visit their class and parents/carers to attend an information meeting where they can ask any questions they may have. We offer parent workshops to support your child's learning as well as ESOL classes for parents who are new to English. If a child starts mid-year, there is an opportunity to meet the headteacher or senior, look around our school and meet their teacher.

Parents are encouraged to take part in our parent's association and charity events. Throughout the year parents are invited into school to share and celebrate their children's work and support various school and community events.

We want our parents/carers to feel as happy, secure and well-informed as possible when handing over their child to us.





Joining Saint Mary's

You are warmly invited to visit our school to look around, ask questions, meet the Senior leaders and teachers and see the children involved in their learning; this can be arranged by calling the school office and making an appointment. Please see our school website for upcoming open days which you are welcome to attend.

Children join Reception in the September after they turn four.

Applications for places in school can be made directly to Lincolnshire County Council via admissions. Visit our website for more information on admissions: www.bostonstmarys.co.uk/parents/admissions

'Pupils' personal development is a strength of the school. Pupils learn how to persevere and how to be courageous, charitable, kind, respectful and compassionate. Pupils know what it means to be a good friend. They are interested in difference and diversity. Pupils hold welcoming and inclusive attitudes.'

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