



St Mary & St John Catholic Primary School September 2025

'In the light of Jesus, we learn to shine'.



A warm welcome back to all our school families and we look forward to settling all the pupils into the new routines and new classroom arrangements.

A big welcome to our new school families, our Reception pupils start their journey in school this week. We know they will soon get settled in and make lots of new friendships.



Welcome Back Everyone!

Please make sure your child arrives promptly for the start of the school day.

Children are **not allowed** on the main car-park area. Pupils need to line up with parents/carers either within the coned area towards the junior playground or along the infant path. Pupils must not access the area around the office area during the beginning and end of the day, enabling clear access for visitors to the office.

School Day

Start of the school day

The school gates open from 8.40am and the school day starts at 8.45am.

The three entry points are:

- Infants onto the infant playground
- Siblings through the front entrance of school
- Juniors through the junior entry gate
- The junior gates are open from 8.40am for **all** juniors (The gates are closed at 8.50am)

The school day starts at 8.45am for all pupils. Registration will close at 8.50am.

End of the school day

All classes (apart from reception—see below) finish the day at 3.15pm and the four exit points are as follows:

- Reception gate (opens at 3.10pm)
- Infants from the infant playground
- Juniors from the junior playground
- Sibling parents, with children in both Key Stages, are to collect infant pupils first then walk round to the junior playground.

Please note the school day starts at 8.45am and your child is expected to be ready in class to start learning by 8.50am. All classes take part in SODA (Start Of Day Activity) so it is vital that your child is in school for this time.

Any pupils that arrive after 8.50am will be marked as late.

Information will continue to be communicated via Class Dojo, Arbor and via the website such as

REFLECTION for the NEW SCHOOL YEAR

Dear Lord,

Unite us together in love as we embark on your work today, tomorrow and in this new school year.

Guide us in our recognition and respect of the many unique talents and gifts that are present in our school family.

Lord, help us to carry out your ministry and mission with love in our hearts.

Guide our thoughts, words and actions always in love and dignity.

Amen



Class Welcome meetings

Class welcome meetings will take place on Thursday 4th September at 2.30pm for year 1 to year 6.

This is an opportunity for you to meet your child's new class teacher and to find out about routines, homework etc or to ask any questions.

Please also remember we have an 'open door' policy' —this means you can call in any time to speak to an available member of staff!

Attendance Expectations

As you are aware, the government has now put in place new national attendance expectations including new penalty notices and stringent school systems to make sure pupils receive the best possible access to their education.

Please support schools high attendance standards by making sure you follow: the attendance policy, the national expectations and by always making sure you contact school, giving full details, when your child is absent from school.

Policies

The Safeguarding, Child Protection and Early Help Policy has been updated and can be accessed on the school website.

The Designated Safeguarding Leads are: Mr Atherton and Mrs Hitchen.

The Safeguarding Governor is Mrs Kearsley.

The Attendance Officer is Mr Atherton.

The SENDCO is Mrs Mitchell.

Uniform Policy and reminders.

School Uniform:

Grey school trousers or grey shorts (uniform not fashion trousers)

Sky blue polo shirt, school logo optional

Blue/grey check pinafore or skirt

Navy blue cardigan or sweatshirt with school logo

A blue and white checked/striped cotton dress can be worn in the summer months.

White/grey/black socks or grey/navy tights

Sensible black school shoes

PE Kit:

Appropriate indoor P.E. kit comprising school PE T-shirt (navy and school logo, although pupils can still use their white PE top from last year if it still fits them), shorts (navy) and regular trainers are required for all pupils. Pupils come to school dressed in their PE kit on PE days (specified by the class teacher). Pupils may wear their school jumper or school hoodie (logo recommended), tracksuit bottoms and/or leggings in black, grey or navy on these days.

Health and Safety

We are sure that you will support us in fostering best practice with regard to health and safety and so it is essential that no jewellery, with the exception of watches (no smart watches) to be worn in school. Earrings, rings and necklaces can cause injury when worn on the playground or during sporting activities.

Your child must not wear earrings for school (including non-uniform days). If your child does wear them to school then they will be, in the first instance, advised not wear them in school and parents will be informed.

If parents wish for their children to have their ears pierced this must be organised for the beginning of the long summer break so that the earrings can be removed at the beginning of the new academic year.

Long hair must be tied back and hair accessories should complement the school uniform, e.g. school colours – blue, grey, black, white. Nail polish must not be worn for school.

Please label all your child's uniform and check the labels regularly.

Pupils should bring their own water bottle everyday (apart from reception).

Please make sure school dinners are pre-ordered for pupils on the Evolve System. A good routine is to order the Friday before for the following week.

School diaries have been provided for all pupils and will continue to be used for home-school correspondence alongside Class Dojo. If you have any specific questions or require more detailed conversation please contact school directly to speak to the class teacher or the office for general queries.

Allergies—please remember some of our pupils have peanut allergies. Please avoid this product (e.g. peanut butter) if your child brings a packed-lunch or snacks to school.

Thank you for your support.