



St. Catherine's Catholic Primary School

Drovers Lane

Penrith

CA11 9EL

01768 864 612

admin@st-catherines.cumbria.sch.uk





Dear Parents,

Thank you very much for taking the time to consider St. Catherine's Catholic Primary School for your child's education.

A child's first educators are their parents and children's education begins in the home with the family. At school, we support the family and work together to create the security and love necessary for development, growth and learning. We very much value the partnership created between school and home.

Our school is a caring school where children can enjoy learning and where achievement in all aspects of life is celebrated. We establish the Gospel Values and teach our children the importance of treating everyone with care and respect. We aim to develop young people who are literate, numerate, have knowledge about the world, and above all, are confident and happy, with secure, moral standards. We want our children to develop caring, confident and tolerant attitudes and view themselves positively within our community.

Our school is fortunate in having an experienced, dedicated and enthusiastic staff. With your support, we feel sure your child will be happy and successful here.

This prospectus will tell you a little about our school and I hope you find it useful and informative. If there is anything else you would like to know, please do not hesitate to contact us or take a look at our website: www.st-catherines.cumbria.sch.uk

Rebecca Davies Headteacher



St Catherine's Primary School is a Catholic School for children of 4 to 11 years of age. We are part of the Parish of St. John Boste and in September 2024, joined the Mater Christi Multi Academy Trust.

The Catholic faith of the parish inspired the building of the school in the 1870s and continues to be a major part of its daily life and learning. We use the teachings of the Catholic Faith as the basis for our curriculum but it is not a requirement that you are a Catholic to attend our school; at present we are approximately 50% Catholic

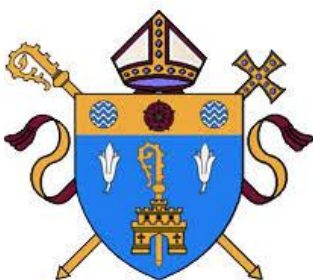


MATER CHRISTI TRUST LOVING, LIVING, LEARNING TOGETHER



We also have a number of non-Catholic Staff which helps us to be fully inclusive in our approach to RE and teaching skills for life. The school, next to the church in Drovers Lane, has flourished for over a hundred years.

We are very fortunate to have excellent facilities which include five classrooms, a large Hall, a library and Maths room. Outdoors, we have our own large playing field, a secure playground with a wooden Trim Trail, wildlife areas and a fully functioning allotment!



St. Catherine's has been judged to be 'Good with Outstanding elements' by the Lancaster Diocesan Inspectors and a 'Good' school by Ofsted.

St Catherine's continues to be a caring and inclusive school based on a strong Catholic ethos.

Pupils' behaviour is exemplary. Pupils feel safe at school.

Teaching across school is at least good with much that is outstanding.

Parents are highly supportive of the school.

Both reports, in full, can be found on the school website:

www.st-catherines.cumbria.sch.uk



School Organisation

These are our current classes. It does vary each year based on the intake number.

Class 1	Reception
Class 2	Year 1 and Year 2
Class 3	Year 3 and Year 4
Class 4	Year 5 and Year 6

Each class has a Teacher and Teaching Assistant support.

The School Day

The information below reflects the planned school day.

Reception and Key Stage 1: 8.50am – 12.00pm
1pm - 3:15pm

Key Stage 2 8.50am – 12.10pm
1:10pm—3:15pm



The school gate opens at 8.40am when teacher supervision begins on the playground. School responsibility for the children ends at 3.30pm when every child should have been collected, unless attending an after school club or activity.

School Uniform

White or Navy Polo Shirt with School Logo
Navy Sweatshirt or Cardigan with School Logo
Black or grey trousers or skirt
Black shoes

PE:

Indoors: T shirt, dark shorts and black pumps

Outdoors: T shirt, tracksuit and trainers.



Uniform is available from Sam Scott's, Lakeland Embroideries, which are situated in the town. All items of clothing, including shoes, should be clearly marked with your child's name. Hair should be worn in a tied back style to ensure faces are clear.



Our Curriculum

As we state in our Mission Statement and set out in the aims of our school; we want to provide our pupils with an exciting curriculum which will:

- challenge their abilities;
- build their confidence;
- establish their resilience and prepare them for life.



In Reception and Key Stage 1, there is a strong emphasis on phonics and reading as these skills are at the root of learning. The Maths and English skills are developed further through challenging topics, which the children themselves help devise; this ensures the children enjoy their time at school, learning in a variety of different ways.

We have clear assessment procedures in order to personalise lessons to best serve the needs of our children and parents are regularly invited into school to view learning in action and discuss their child's progress. We use a mentoring approach to assessment which establishes targets for learning and reinforces good attitudes to learning. St. Catherine's is an active member of the Eden Valley Sports Partnership and regularly takes part in competitions and galas.



Human Relationships & Sex Education is fully integrated into our RE and Science Curriculum. The policy, which was approved by the Diocese of Lancaster Education Service, is available on request.





SEND

Our school recognises the needs of all our students. If, through our extensive experience, your child was identified as needing support, parents would be fully consulted. Full details of our SEND policy are available on the school website or on request from school.

School Dinners

A healthy lunch is available, cooked on the premises. Special dietary needs can be catered for and all menus are available on the school website. School Meals are available free of charge up to the age of 7. Details of our school hub, the online ordering and payment service, are available at the Induction morning or from Diane, School Business Manager in the office. Your child can bring a packed lunch if you prefer.



Wrap around care



St. Catherine's operates a term time breakfast club from 8am – 8:50am. The cost is £4 per day.

We also operate a term time after school club Monday – Thursday inclusive, until 5:30pm. The cost is £7.50 per day.

Wrap around care should be booked a week in advance.



Attendance

We believe that if a pupil is to benefit from education, good attendance is crucial and the attendance of pupils is closely monitored by the Governors. Parents/carers are asked to contact the school as soon as possible in the event of absence. Please telephone the office, send an email or use the Arbor app to let us know before the start of the school day.

Authorisation for absence in term time can only be given in exceptional circumstances; Parents are reminded that holidays should be taken during designated school breaks.



Discipline and Behaviour

The school as a family, alongside our school values of respect, resilience and kindness, forms the basis of our approach to behaviour and discipline. We seek to recognise each child as an individual whose dignity as a person should always be respected. Good behaviour is expected and rewarded, in this way we foster the child's self-esteem. Adults strive to be good role models and deal with the children in an atmosphere of openness, honesty and forgiveness.

We aim to provide a safe environment where children are respected, yet can mature through experience. Teachers have a right to teach and children have a right to learn in a classroom where good behaviour is respected and encouraged.

The school needs to be able to rely on the support of parents with regard to attendance, dress and general behaviour. In cases of serious persistent misbehaviour where previous intervention has not succeeded, formal action will be taken, as specified in the school behaviour policy, ratified by the governing body. This may involve exclusion from school. A full copy of the school behaviour policy is available on request.



