

Learning to love loving to learn





#### Welcome to St Joseph's School

We are a forward thinking, successful and joyful school, where diversity is prized and everyone is valued. Our motto 'learning to love, loving to learn' embodies our school ethos, underpinned by Christian values in our vibrant Catholic community.

We have enthusiastic and hardworking children as we provide a well-rounded, stimulating education that develops them intellectually, morally, socially and spiritually. Our children's strong personal development contributes effectively to the progress they make.

As a small, friendly school our children feel secure as we aim for the school to be seen as an extension of their family. We cultivate strong, open, warm and supportive relationships between children and staff where children feel confident to thrive in their learning.

Our expectations are high and aspirations without limits: we encourage the children to do their best at all times and become the best learners they can be.

Emma Cashier Headteacher

### Why Choose St Joseph's Catholic School?



**Inclusive Practice** 

We pride ourselves on having excellent pastoral support and inclusive practice embedded in a nurturing environment. On school site we have play therapy; two mental health first aiders, trained bereavement support workers (Catholic Children's society) alongside Emotional Literacy Support Assistants, two emotional assistance school dogs and all staff trained trauma informed practice. We also have a number of dedicated Learning Support assistants and a strong pupil voice within the school where children are encouraged to share their thoughts and feelings as an individual, as part of a small group and collectively. We have pupil ambassadors for School Council, ECO Team, Faith council, Digital safety, mental health and wellbeing, sports captains, library leaders and many more! In all we do we place an emphasis on Catholic values being central to all aspects of school life.

#### **Sports**

We have a specialist sports coach who not only teaches the PE curriculum with clear skill progression but also embeds sportsmanship across the school and competition throughout the school day including lunchtimes. We have strong links within our community with Year 3 children attending Southfields Academy weekly for their swimming lessons. Whilst we also have strong links with Chelsea football club, Harlequins Rugby club and Wimbledon tennis.

#### **Outdoor Learning**

We are lucky to have plenty of space to enable many opportunities to take learning outside the classroom; including our ECO and pond area.

#### Music

We place a strong focus on providing a wide range of musical opportunities, recognised in our accreditation of the Music Mark Award. With instrument and vocal clubs and musical and drama productions, including our Year 5 pupil's annual performance at the Royal Albert Hall. Pupils in Year 4 learn to play the trumpet and children in years 4/5/6 have the opportunity to learn; Baritone, French Horne, Trombone and violin.

#### Languages (Latin, Italian and Portuguese)

Our curriculum language offer is a distinguishing feature of the school. All children have the opportunity to learn a range of languages within our curriculum as well as after school clubs. All pupils in KS2 are taught Latin weekly with EYFS and KS1 pupils taught Italian. In addition all children from EYFS to KS2 are taught Portuguese weekly.

#### **School Clubs**

We offer an extensive range of extra curricular clubs, including a range of sports from multisports to STEM to languages (French, Spanish, Portuguese and Italian), music (choir, brass or





## **Our School Vision**

Our school values underpin St Joseph's learning community; our vision, our strategy, our implementation. We don't have school rules we have 'school attitudes' based on the beatitudes depicted in the visionary image.

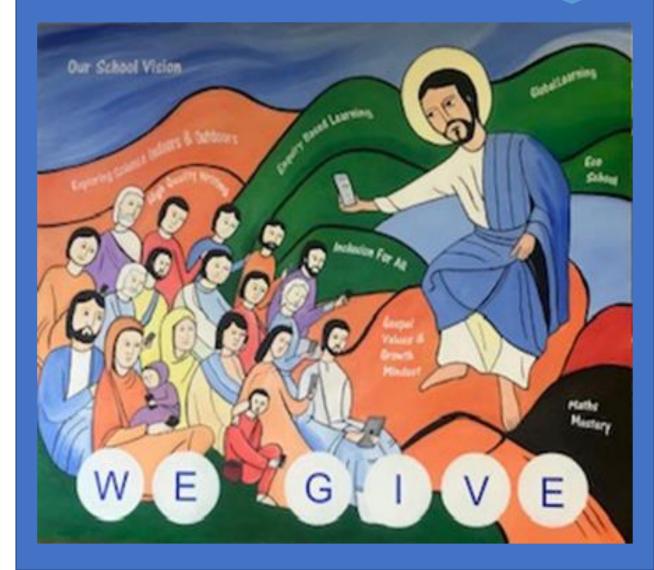
Our 'WE GIVE' curriculum designed specifically for St Joseph's prioritises the development of the whole child which is fundamental to inspiring lifelong learning across different environments and communities, locally, nationally and globally. Academic excellence is achieved through the combination formal learning styles and wider educational experiences where all feel safe and supported.

We are good role models who inspire through a love of learning and are motivated to make a positive impact on each others lives; embraced by our school motto 'Learning to love loving to learn'. Working together to continually strive to remove the barriers of success and fear of failure.

Research skills and child centred learning are important in developing children's self-reliance, independence and ability to identify, investigate and solve problems. Our enquiry based approach to learning fosters curiosity, engagement and deeper learning by making links and connections.

Our inclusive practice ensures inclusion is invisible, yet targeted and effective enabling all children to be successful and to thrive. Strong personal development contributes effectively to the progress the children make. Diversity is prized and everyone is valued.







## Children's version of our Mission Statement

Our Mission Statement in the words of the children; created by the Faith

Council

At St. Joseph's Primary School we have a dream that together we hope to achieve whatever we wish for when we grow up and live our lives to be like Jesus.

We always try our hardest to love, protect and take care of others and we don't leave anyone out – we include everyone. So everyone has a chance to learn and never give up to reach their goals.



# Our Mission Statement



We are the Architects of the future, building lives on the firm foundations of the gospel values

Inspired by Christian values we aim to provide love and security within a curriculum designed to meet the complex needs of all individuals, in order to prepare them to take their place in the ever changing world of today and tomorrow.





### **Our School Values**

As a Catholic School we seek to live out the values of Jesus Christ in our daily lives. We promote these values by our words and actions and Catholic doctrine and practice therefore permeates every aspect of the school's activity. We provide a Catholic curriculum, which is broad, balanced, relevant, meaningful and inclusive recognising that every child is unique and is created in the image of God (Genesis 1:27). Our curriculum is designed to enable every child to discern their vocation and to be well-equipped to follow it as active citizens in service to the world.

At St Joseph's we recognise not only the importance of helping children to flourish academically but also spiritually, morally, socially and culturally, so we teach 22 values explicitly. These values reflect the views of the whole school community and aim to fully prepare our children for life in British society and for their role as citizens, able to make the strongest possible contribution to the Common Good of all. Through a two year cycle, these values are taught in depth to enable our children to gain a greater understanding of what it means to live a good life and our teaching draws on examples from the life of Jesus and his welcome and inclusion of all and thus underpins our teaching of British values.



To provide a comprehensive, inclusive and structured, academic curriculum that leads all our children to achieve mastery and develop a love of learning.

Our curriculum has been strategically sequenced, and carefully designed with the child's learning journey in each subject during their time at school at the forefront. Knowledge and skills have been progressively organised so that pupils build on what they already know, ensuring that they are appropriately challenged and have a secure understanding of their learning. Curriculum content is kept relevant and engaging to the children at St Joseph's School.

School motto: 'Learning to love, loving to learn'

To provide pupils with a wide range of meaningful, enriching experiences; to curriculum is designed with develop as informed, active and responsible global citizens who aspire and inspire.

Our curriculum is enriched with many exciting experiences and opportunities, broadening childrens' perspectives and encouraging confidence in what is new and unknown. This rich cultural capital, together with our distinct Catholic vision and British values, is planned to ensure that our children are personally successful, and independent thinkers; ready for their journey of lifelong learning.

**School Mission Statement**: 'We are the Architects of the future, building lives on the firm foundations of the gospel values'.

St Joseph's Catholic Primary &

Nursery School offers a

challenging, stimulating and

extensive curriculum. This

4 goals in mind:

To deliver skillful learning experiences to aid understanding, and to assist new learning to alter longterm memory

Our curriculum ensures content is explicitly taught, with frequent opportunities for retrieval of previously learnt content. It recognises that learning is a change to long-term memory; nothing is learned unless it rests in pupils' long-term memories. Carefully designed inclusive provision enables all our children to acquire the skills, knowledge and concepts relevant to their future. Our curriculum teaches our children to The Curriculum have ownership of their learning and grow as

independent learners.

School motto: 'Learning to love, loving to learn'

To assist pupils to become avid readers and articulate learners, speaking with confidence and fluency in a variety of situations

Pupils are provided with a vast range of engaging, challenging and varied texts that help them to access a huge depth of curriculum knowledge. Pupils are encouraged to read prolifically, and we aim to inspire a lifelong love of reading in all our children. Our curriculum ensures subject-specific vocabulary is explicitly taught which allows pupils to express themselves in a sophisticated, mature way.

**School Mission Statement**: 'We are the Architects of the future, building lives on the firm foundations of the gospel values'.

#### Curriculum Overview: "We Give" a curriculum designed for the children of St Joseph's Catholic School

Our holistic curriculum aims to rapidly progress each unique pupil...

W

#### <u>**W</u>orld Wide** Knowledge</u>

The global learning dimension of the curriculum motivates all pupils to develop a wider knowledge of the world, and to deepen their understanding of world events. Building on our International Schools accreditation and alongside our Catholic Social Teaching, the children are taught to embrace their role as global citizens to aspire and inspire others. Through pupil leadership our pupils are given opportunities for pupil voice initiated enterprises.

E

#### Enquiry-Based Learning

The curriculum is based upon a series of questions, placing the emphasis on the pupils role in the learning process. It encourages each pupil to engage with the ir learning in an active way instead of just sitting and listening. This approach is all about asking questions and and being curious. It is strategy to enable pupils to construct knowledge through a process of observation, investigation, and discovery.

G

# **G**rowth mindset & metacognition

Having the right mindset and providing pupils with the skills to become lifelong learners is fundamental to our curriculum. Pupil's are encouraged to face challenge with positivity, resilience and determination whilst also enabled to understand how they learn best; personalising strategies. Through this visible learning pupils are given the capacity to become drivers of their learning.

### Inclusivity

We put measures into place that ensure our inclusion is invisible, yet targeted and effective. The child's voice and the parent's voice are intrinsic to this process. Therapists work seamlessly to provide individual/group development. Wide range of on site therapies on offer to meet each pupils individual needs. Therapists include: Play therapy, Art/ Lego Therapy, Educational Psychologist (EP) & Bereavement support.

V

#### Values Education

The 'Value of the Month' is embedded in our faith life of the school by the gospel and British values. Interwoven throughout the curriculum and prominent in assemblies and circle time, it integrates opportunities to develop social, moral, cultural and spiritual development in the followings of Christ. Each value is linked explicitly to a Bible story for pupils to enact in daily school life; understanding how each value is represented in modern day life.

E

# Enriching Experiences

The school environment has been carefully designed to create a variety of learning experiences to stimulate curiosity and engage learners. Enhanced curriculum enrichment is evident through our languages provision ( Portuguese, Italian & Latin), specialist PE teacher, enhanced music provision. Further enriching experiences take place through a variety of school trips and workshops/visitors as well as after school clubs offering.

as a result our innovative enquiry-based curriculum design is underpinned by:

Global Citizenship

Academic Achievement

Behaviour for Learning

Wellbeing

**Christ-Centered** 

Social and Life Skills



## **W**orld Wide Knowledge

Following our work leading a cluster of schools within the UK and abroad to undertake project based work relating to the United Nations sustainable goals, we hold global citizenship core to our wider curriculum.

Pupils are empowered to assume active roles, both locally and globally, in building more peaceful, tolerant, inclusive and secure societies. This is achieved through our Catholic Social Teaching, CAFOD club and ECO Team as well as local community links such as Pines Care home and Sparkle intergenerational Programme.

In accordance with our mission statement 'We are the architects of the future, building lives on the firm foundations of the gospel values' are wider curriculum offering and engagement in awareness raising events enables our children to know their role as a global citizen and the difference they can make builds a stronger future.

Click <u>here</u> to see some of the media coverage





# **Enquiry-Based Learning**

The design of our Learning Challenge curriculum is of a cross curricular approach to teaching and learning without tenuous links. Each half termly theme is underpinned by an overarching enquiry question and supported by key text rich in literature. Our schools pedagogical approach enables children to make links in their subject knowledge and understanding including prior learning which allows our children to build connections and embed a deeper level of learning. We provide engaging lessons which inspire and motivate children to take responsibility for their own learning. In addition to subject specific skill progression this provides the children with relevant and curiosity driven critical thinking skills.

The enquiry process is based around four phases:

- Interaction Question posed
- Clarification fact finding
- 3. Questioning deeper understanding
- 4. Design/Justification Higher level thinking skills

At the end of each topic the children have the opportunity to reflect on their learning and draw their own conclusions before answering the termly question.





## **Growth mindset & metacognition**

Having the right mindset can be the biggest barrier to overcome in unlocking a child's potential. We promote a sense of worth and self-confidence. When mistakes are made, we treat them as opportunities for learning. We try to provide children with the skills and belief to realise they can grow their ability and are not just told they can. Children also develop their attitude to facing challenge in their learning, risk taking and enjoy applying themselves.

Growing independent learners enables our children to be able to not only identify how they learn best but have the freedom, space and creativity to demonstrate their learning to match their learning needs. This provides the children with the fundamental skills they need to become lifelong learners harnessing individuality, innovation and vision.

# **Inclusivity**



At St Joseph's we work hard to ensure that every member of our school community-pupils, parents, staff and visitors- feel safe and included. We are an inclusive school; ensuring inclusion is invisible, yet targeted and effective, enabling all children to be successful and thrive. We focus heavily on a child's well-being and developing a child as a whole; their individual abilities or needs are supported so all children can be the best learners they can be.

In addition to targeted academic learning support we also engage a range of strategies, on-site therapies and a range of provisions in order to challenge at an appropriate level and to provide support to overcome barriers to learning. For example:

**Emotional Literacy Support assistants** 

Beanstalk readers
Mental health first aiders
Lego Therapy
Drawing and Talking
Play therapy
Speech and Language Support
Rainbows and Sunbeams (bereavement support)



...and not forgetting Abou and Kooki our school dogs. They are both registered Emotional Assistance Dogs.

## **Values Education**

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# E

# **Enriching Experiences**

Our curriculum has been carefully designed to build upon our diverse context, providing a vast range of experiences enabling our children to develop their thirst for learning. We do this through a varied programme of visits, a menu of clubs and through the strong links we make with individuals and cultural groups.

For example as part of our Latin programme in KS2 the children receive a termly Storytelling workshop and in Year 6 our children visit Cambridge University inspiring future aspirations.

We make the most of learning opportunities afforded by our London locality to visit the many museums, galleries and places of interest which are a short bus or train journey away. We also provide opportunities for our children to experience learning further afield, for example, a residential trip to East Sussex to take part in teamwork activities from archery to a zip wire through the forest!



# Early Years Learning Little Joe's



Early years learning at St Joseph's is characterised by the happiness and success of its pupils that offers a wide, up to date and exciting curriculum with a caring, ordered and friendly environment.

The pastoral care of the children is of prime importance to us: we want every child to look forward to coming into school and to regard it as a safe, happy and exciting place to be.

There is a strong family ethos in our school and we work together as a team (parents, children and teachers), to ensure that every child has the best possible start.

Our setting allows children to discover the excitement of learning, the rewards of achievement and the ability to acquire life skills through the seven areas of learning in the EYFS. With its bright, colourful, well-planned and busy environment, we also encourage every child in the development of their skills; attitude and understanding that will help them to become confident, active members of a diverse and constantly changing society.

Learning is planned in line with the Early Years Foundation Stage Statutory Framework, which divides the learning into key areas:

Communication and Language

**Physical Education** 

Personal, Social and Emotional development

Literacy

**Mathematics** 

Understanding the World

Expressive art and design

# Early Years Learning Little Joe's

During the time your child is in the early years you should see the marked changes in his/her ability to:-

- 1. Concentrate and communicate
- 2. Co-operate and develop social skills
- 3. Share and manage feelings
- 4. Help other children and empathise
- 5. Develop early reading, early writing and early number skills
- 6. Develop physical skills both large body movements and small
- 7. Choose to undertake activities and complete the tasks
- 8. Reason and develop problem solving and information processing skills





We want to encourage lifelong learners from the second the children walk through the school gates. We therefore encourage strong relationships between home and school. Twice a week parents are invited into the Early Years setting to spend time with the children reading together at the start of the day.

We aim to develop the spiritual, emotional, intellectual, physical and social development of each and very child irrespective of race, class, gender, culture, language or disability.

## Early Years Pedagogy Little Joe's

We follow the revised EYFS curriculum and **careful sequencing** helps children to build their learning over the time they are with us, from entry in to Nursery until the end of Reception.

We know that young children's learning is often driven by their interests and adapt our planning to take this into account.

Through our strong emphasis on the **characteristics of effective learning:** playing and exploring, active learning, creating and thinking critically, we aim to give children the skills to become successful learners.

We put great emphasis on **early reading and early maths skills**. Adults share and talk about books with the children, aiming to develop a lifelong love of reading. There are frequent opportunities to develop reasoning skills in maths.

St Joseph's is a "talk rich" school with a strong emphasis on communication and language. Through high quality provision and staff knowledge, we ensure that children get the best start on their journey to become confident in their speaking and listening skills.

The children experience a **language rich environment**, engage actively with frequent stories and are encouraged to share their ideas.





Children are taught new vocabulary to support their learning. Sentence stems are taught to enable children to articulate their ideas and explain their learning.

Our environment and curriculum reflect the diversity of our community enabling pupils to see positive role models. This supports their belief that they too can achieve.

We teach all children to have a **growth mind-set**, empowering them with the confidence to have a go, to learn from mistakes and to keep trying and improving.

Regular visits and events enrich our curriculum.

In the EYFS our environments are planned to enable pupils to **develop independence**. The resources are labelled clearly and accessible to the children, so that they are able to make choices and plan their own learning.

Children's **special educational needs are identified quickly** and all children receive any extra help they need to progress well in their learn

## **School Hours**

Little Joe's 8.45 - 9.00am to 12.15pm Morning Session Only Nursery age children 8.45 - 9.00am to 3.30pm Full Day (including lunch)

12.30pm to 3.30pm Afternoon Session Only

Reception age children 8.45 - 9.00am to 3.30pm. Full Day (including lunch)

KS1 & KS2 8.45 – 9.00am to 3.30pm

There is a staggered start to the day from 8.45am – 9.00 am for all year groups including Little Joe's. The register is taken promptly at 9.00am.

#### Arrival at school:

The school gates currently open at 8.45am where a member of staff the senior leadership team will meet the children as they enter the school to start the day. On arrival to school the children are welcomed into their classroom by their class teacher. There is no need to wait before entering the classroom. The soft start helps provide a calm start to the day. The school gates currently close at 9.00am.

Late arrivals should be brought to the main entrance where they will be registered and collected by a member of staff.

Please always arrive and collect your child promptly to avoid distressing your child and disruption to the rest of the school.

If your child is unwell, please let the school office know in the morning that they are unable to attend that day.



#### At the end of the school day:

Children should be collected promptly from the classrooms. Pick-up times are supervised by members of staff, with children remaining inside the classrooms until a parent or carer is present. Staff will wait with children for 5 minutes after the scheduled pick-up time. After that children must be collected from the School Office and parents or carers will be called. The class teacher or school office must be informed if your child is being collected by another person and this must be done in writing. Please ask the class teacher or office to provide the form for you to complete and sign.



# First Day of the School Year

Children who are completely new to the school will be sent a welcome letter including your child's start date. Children should go straight to their classrooms where they will be met and welcomed by their new teacher.

If you have any concerns about your child settling into Little Joe's for example if they have not attended an Early Years setting please let the members of staff know during the home visits in September and a personalised approach to settling in can be arranged.

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## The School Day

8.45am – 9.00am Arrive at school

9.00am Registration

9.30am Whole school collective worship (Nursery children attend when ready)

9.50am Indoor and Outdoor Learning

12 noon Lunchtime (Nursery pick up if not staying for afternoon sessions)

12.30pm Outdoor Playtime

1.15pm. Indoor and Outdoor Learning

3.30pm End of School day (School gates will open 3.25pm – 3.35pm)

The Nursery intake of Little Joe's operates on two half-day sessions with 26 children in each session. There are full-time places available.



## **School Meals**

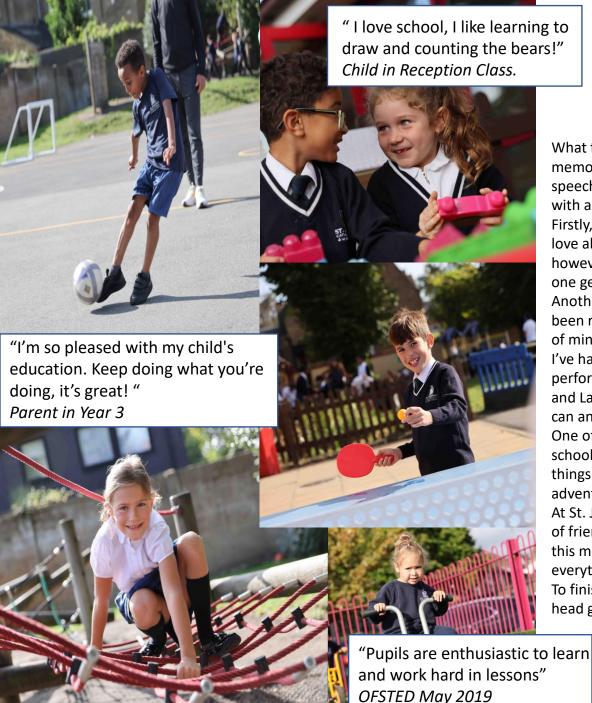
We have a duty of care to ensure all children receive a balanced and nutritious meal and can cater for particular dietary requirements. Children can have a hot school lunch or bring their own packed lunch There is a wide choice and on most days the children may choose from two hot dishes or an extensive salad bar. There is a selection of puddings, with fresh fruit always on offer. A vegetarian option is always available.

Parents are asked to inform the school of other dietary requirements by completing and returning the Medical and Dietary Information. Parents are given these in their induction packs on accepting a place at the school. These are also accessible from the school office.

The children are supervised during lunch, and are served by a member of staff who knows their dietary requirements and who can encourage the children to try new foods rather than dismiss them upon sight. Staff model and monitor manners and behaviour for our younger pupils.

In Little Joe's and KS1 children are provided with a fruit snack and milk. Milk is universal until the age of 5 (unless opted out) but can be bought thereafter.





## **Our Head Girl's Leavers Speech**



What thoughts come to mind when I look back on my time at St. Joseph's? What amazing memories and experiences stand out? I had trouble thinking about this when I was planning my speech because it's hard to sum up St. Josephs in a few paragraphs, but I've managed to come up with a few ideas and put them into a speech.

Firstly, I'd like to talk about what makes St. Joseph's so unique and special. One of the things I really love about St. Joseph's is the small school community, a lot of schools have more classes per year, however at this school we have one class per year which means that there are fewer pupils and no one gets lost in the crowd.

Another thing that makes St. Joseph's special is the focus that we have on growth mind-set, it's been really helpful the whole 8 years that I've been here, since nursery, to always have that frame of mind thinking that you can give everything a go, and that hard work will accomplish any dream. I've had lots of fabulous experiences. I don't know how many other year 6 classes could say they've performed on the stage of the Royal Festival Hall, visited Cambridge University, learnt the trumpet and Latin and met the Minister for Education and a famous film director. But I know that our class can and I thank St Joseph's for offering me all these opportunities.

One of my favourite and also most recent memories of my time at St Joseph's has to be last week's school journey. It was an extremely exciting trip where we all got to work together and try new things. We took part in loads of fun activities including swimming, rock climbing and forest adventures.

At St. Josephs I haven't just learnt what I needed to know for SAT's, I've also learnt the importance of friendship and kindness and that has helped me throughout the past Eight years. I'd like to take this moment to thank all the teachers that have helped me in my time at St. Josephs, I appreciate everything that you have done for me.

To finish this speech I want to mention how much of an honour it's been to represent the school as head girl, I've loved every bit of it, it's been amazing.

