



ST WALBURGA'S CATHOLIC PRIMARY SCHOOL FOR CHILDREN AGED 4 - 11

'St Walburga's is deeply rooted in its Gospel values. Pupils feel cared for and happily come to school. They achieve well academically'
OFSTED 2020



As St. Walburga's school family we walk in the footsteps of Jesus by ...



welcoming all

servicing God and one another



learning to be the best we can

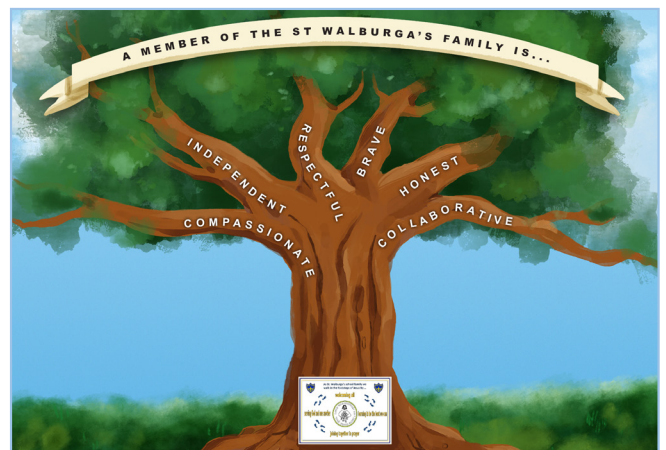
joining together in prayer

OUR VISION

Our school is a learning community, rooted in Gospel Values. We want our children to be supported to become well-rounded, confident and respectful individuals, who are instilled with a life-long love of learning, a sense of social justice, and who are constantly striving to be the best they can be.

Our Mission Statement is at the heart of our school, and reflected in every aspect of our school lives.

In 2019, the staff and children worked together to identify the values that should be the focus for every member of our school community, in their learning and interactions with one another and the wider community. Each of these values is strengthened and supported with scripture.



'Compassionate, independent, respectful, brave, honest & collaborative'
St Walburga's Learning Values

WELCOMING ALL

As Headteacher of St Walburga's School, I would like to take this opportunity to welcome you. I hope that this prospectus gives you a brief insight into the life of our school – and I encourage you to visit us to find out more. Originally founded in the town centre in the 1870s, St Walburga's School is the longest established Catholic primary school in Bournemouth. The school moved to its current site in 1929 and we continue to welcome children and families from all over Bournemouth to join our 'School Family'. Our vision is clear – we want our children to achieve well academically, to become well-rounded, caring individuals who can make purposeful contributions to society. Respect, friendship and support are at the heart of all we do, and can be witnessed in the interactions and relationships within the whole school community. We see every member of our school family as a unique individual – created in the image and likeness of God. We work with parents to ensure that every child is given the chance to achieve their best, academically, emotionally, spiritually, and socially.

Please do not hesitate to contact us to find out more about our school.

Veronica Woodward
Headteacher



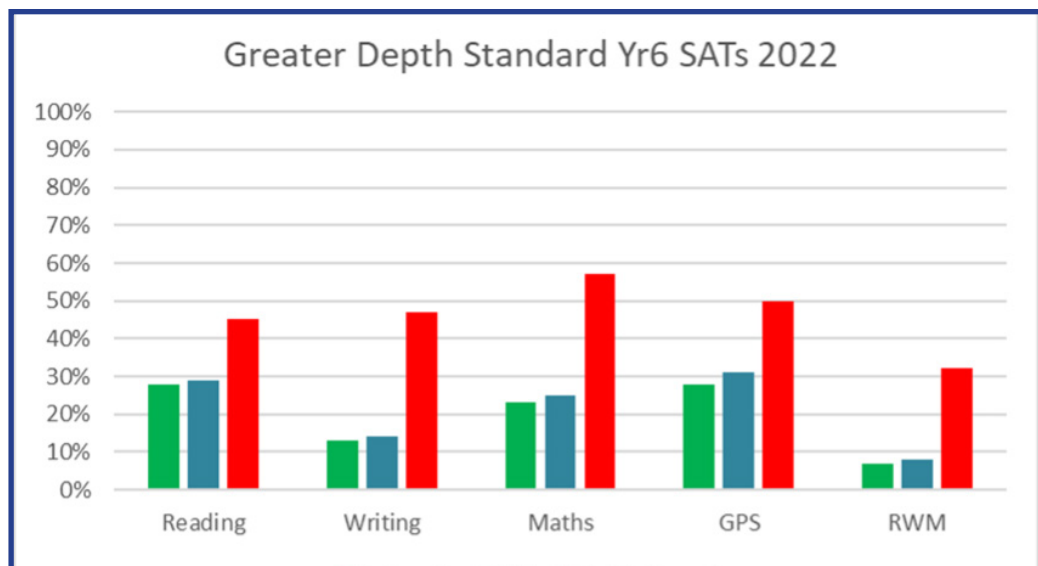
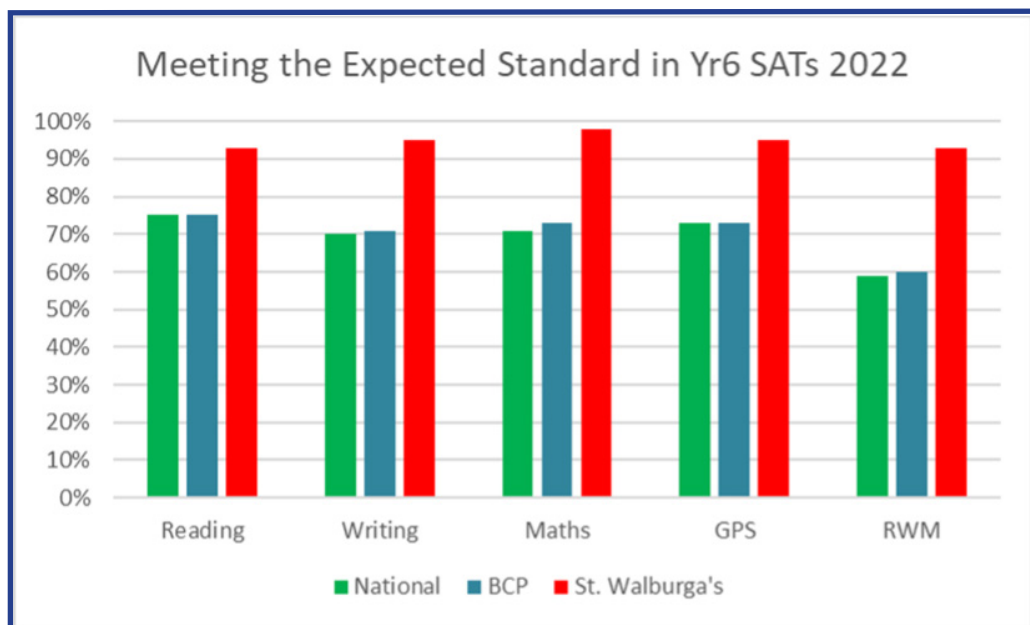
'The over riding feeling is that all children are loved and cared for as in a family'
Parent questionnaire

LEARNING TO BE THE BEST WE CAN BE....

Highlights from our 2022 data from OFSTED Primary Inspection Data Summary Report:

- Key Stage 2 attainment of the expected standard in reading (93%) and the high standard in reading (45%) was significantly above national and in the highest 20% in 2022.
- Key Stage 2 attainment of the expected standard in writing (95%) and of greater depth in writing (47%) was significantly above national and in the highest 20% in 2022.
- Key Stage 2 attainment of the expected standard in mathematics (98%) and of the high standard in mathematics was significantly above national and in the highest 20% in 2022.
- Key Stage 2 attainment of the expected level in science (95%) was significantly above national and in the highest 20% in 2022.
- Key Stage 2 attainment of the expected standard in the English grammar, punctuation and spelling test (95%) and in the high standard of the English grammar, punctuation and spelling test (was significantly above national (50%) was significantly above national and in the highest 20% in 2022.
- The percentage of children meeting the phonics expected standard in Year 1 (83%) was above national (75.8%) and BCP (78.2%)
- The percentage of children achieving a good level of development at the end of the Early Years Foundation Stage (77%) was above national (65.2%) and BCP (68.5%)

RESULTS FOR 2022...



OUR CURRICULUM

As a Catholic school we provide a Catholic Christian education, based on the life and teaching of Jesus Christ, in which the values of the Gospel underpin all aspects of school life. Our children experience a broad and balanced curriculum, which is enriching and challenging, and develops spiritual, academic, social and emotional growth.

Our curriculum reflects the local context of our school, the knowledge and skills which the pupils need to be effective members of the community, and the high ambitions we have for all pupils. The content of our curriculum is based on the requirements of the National Curriculum 2014 for Key Stage 1 and 2, and the Early Years Foundation Stage Statutory Framework 2012 (revised 2021).

As part of our Personal, Health and Relationships Education (PHRE) programme, we plan opportunities for the children to learn about staying safe, and promoting their mental and physical well-being. We also plan for and promote the British values of Democracy, Rule of Law, Individual Liberty, Mutual Respect and Tolerance.

The curriculum is delivered using a wide range of approaches and resources. Teachers have the responsibility for planning and delivering lessons in their classes. Curriculum coverage is mapped against long term plans, and the teachers regularly review and revise their approach and the content of their lessons to reflect the interests and needs of their pupils.

AIMS OF OUR CURRICULUM

GENERAL ETHOS:

Creating happy memories, enjoyment, fun and developing a love of learning with a sense of friendship and community.

RELATING TO SELF:

Developing self-esteem, confidence, health and striving to be the best you can be. Developing spirituality and a relationship with God.

RELATING TO OTHERS:

Utilising Catholic Social Teaching. Developing friendships, relationships, teamwork and a sense of responsibility

MANAGING LEARNING:

Improving your own learning, communication skills and computing.

THINKING SKILLS:

Developing creativity, problem solving and resilience.

MANAGING SITUATIONS:

Managing conflicts, disappointments, time, resources and risks.



'Pupils talk confidently about what they have learned and can make links between different subjects'
OFSTED 2020



SERVING GOD AND ONE ANOTHER

Catholic Social Teaching is at the heart of our curriculum, and as well as providing the children with a wealth of opportunities to serve others within the school, local and worldwide communities, we ensure that the children have an understanding of the 7 principles of Catholic Social Teaching through the Caritas in Action scheme of work.

We encourage our children to develop an understanding of their roles and responsibilities in our community, and to identify and take opportunities to have an impact on the lives of those around them.



'Staff help pupils to make an active contribution, both to their local community and further afield'
OFSTED 2020

OUR RECEPTION CLASS

GETTING OFF TO A GREAT START!

Each September, we admit 60 children to our two Reception classes. You need to complete the application process for your child by January 15th of the year your child is due to start – there are two parts to this process: an online application to BCP Admissions and an additional set of paperwork specific to our school. If you are unsure about the process, please contact the School Office.

Starting school is a big step – both for your child and for you as parents. Our aim is to support you and your child at every step of the transition process, and to make starting school a happy and memorable experience.

Once your child has been offered a place with us, we will be in touch with details of our transition arrangements. Children are invited to attend two 'stay and play' sessions, which gives them the opportunity to see their classroom, meet

their teacher and to begin to form friendships with their classmates. Parents are also invited to attend these sessions – practical information will be shared, and you will have the opportunity to order uniform, find out more about our school lunch provision, and meet other parents. These sessions usually take place in June and July.

In the week before your child starts school in September, the Reception staff will come to visit your child at home – this gives your child another chance to meet their class teacher and teaching assistant, this time in their own home environment.

Prior to your child joining us, our staff will meet with staff from your child's pre-school setting. This is to gain information about your child and help us to have a greater understanding of their needs. We also encourage you to tell us about your child's particular needs.



The Early Years Foundation Stage is the phase of learning from a child's birth to the end of their Reception Year in school. Your child's first year in school will be a continuation of the learning they have been doing in nursery or playgroup. The main aim of this phase is to underpin all future learning.



We work closely with you to support your child during this important first year. We encourage communication with parents, primarily through the 'Tapestry' app, so that we can share the milestones in your child's Learning Journey with you. Our Reception classrooms and outside area are set up to promote learning, build positive relationships and enable your child to learn and develop. We are constantly reviewing and revising our provision and curriculum to ensure that we are giving our children the strongest start possible in their early years.



OUR SCHOOL DAY

Our school day is from 8.40am to 2.50pm, with a morning break, lunch break and break for the younger children during the afternoon.

The school gates open at 8.25am, children should not come to school prior to this time unless they are attending a club. School staff are there to meet children on the gate after this time, and to take any messages which you wish to pass on to their class teacher.

Our SWOOSH (St Walburga's Out Of School Hours) breakfast club opens at 7.30am – children have the opportunity to enjoy a healthy breakfast and activities prior to starting the school day. If you wish to use this facility, you can book it via WisePay (subject to availability).

Children must be at school by 8.40am – arriving at school promptly really helps children to maximise their learning experience as they have an opportunity to see their friends, and settle into class before their learning begins for the day.

As described previously, our curriculum is broad and balanced, and children have opportunities to learn in a variety of ways. We often teach through a topic or text-based curriculum, but will always adapt our planning to ensure that children have the opportunities to acquire the skills they need at every stage of their learning. In addition to the subject content of our lessons, we ensure that the children have the opportunity to develop the learning behaviours and values at the heart of our curriculum –

Developing resilience, making connections and, above all, embedding a life long love of learning.

Our system of marking and feedback ensures that children receive the support and challenge they need to make progress in their learning. For those children who need extra support on a regular basis, we offer a wide range of interventions. We have teaching assistants in every class, many of whom have been trained to provide specialist support. Our SENCo monitors the progress of every child throughout the year, and works closely with parents to support children at every stage of their learning, seeking advice from external agencies when necessary.

At morning play, children are encouraged to enjoy a fruit snack – for children in Reception and KS1, this is provided. Older children are welcome to bring their own fruit – but we are a nut free school!

At lunchtime, your child can bring their own packed lunch from home, or you can order a packed lunch or hot meal from our school meals provider – Forerunner. This must be booked in advance, and is available to order through WisePay. The service is nutritious and tasty, and the children enjoy eating hot lunches in the school hall. The menu offers a choice of vegetarian or meat main, plus a jacket potato option for each day. For Reception and Key Stage 1 children, a meal can be booked free of charge. Key Stage 2 children need to pay a small cost, unless eligible for free school meals.

If you think your child may be eligible for free school lunches, please contact the school office or the BCP student support team on 01202 456201.

School ends at 2.50pm for all children apart from those who are taking part in organised activities after school hours. Parents will need to arrange for their child to leave the premises promptly. Parents of children in Year 4 and above can apply for a 'Walkers Pass' for their child - this enables their child to leave the premises unaccompanied to walk home or meet their parent away from the school. All other children will not be allowed to leave the school premises without an adult.

We offer a range of after-school clubs and activities for children, some run by school staff and some by external providers. These may vary from term to term. You can see the current provision on our website. For example, clubs offered have included dance, multi sports, football, cricket, rugby, Latin, Art club and STEM club. These clubs generally run from 2.50pm to 4.00pm.

Our SWOOSH club also operates after school until 5.45pm, subject to availability. Children have the opportunity to access a range of activities and enjoy a healthy snack in a safe and friendly environment. This is available to book via WisePay.

We ask all parents to work with us to ensure the safety and well being of the children throughout the day. Please contact the school office as soon as possible if there is any change to the usual arrangements for drop off or collection of your child, or if you would like to make an appointment to discuss your child's learning with the class teacher.



CARING FOR OUR CHILDREN AND FAMILIES

Promoting positive mental health and well being for all our children, families and staff is a priority in our school. We operate an open-door policy, and encourage parents to share any concerns they have about their children, however trivial it may seem – we really believe that a problem shared is a problem halved! You can phone or email the office at any time, and your child's class teacher, a member of the Senior Leadership team, or a member of our Pastoral Care team will get back to you as soon as possible.

Our Pastoral Support Worker, Mrs Symes, has a wealth of experience and can provide lots of help and support with any concerns that you may have about your child.

Our PHRE curriculum is based on the Coram-SCARF materials which help children explore emotions and make healthy choices in their lifestyle and relationships. We also use the 10-10 resources, recommended by the Diocese of Portsmouth, to support our children in learning about healthy relationships.

We have two specially trained Emotional Literacy Support Assistants, who can provide specific support programmes for those children who are experiencing more complex emotional difficulties. Our Rainbows programme offers fantastic support for children experiencing bereavement or loss through separation or divorce.

Whenever possible, we invite parents in to school to find out more about their children's learning and to join us in Masses, liturgies, and celebrations. One high spot is our Bring and Share Supper in November when we celebrate the culture and diversity of our school family – and share a lovely meal together!



JOINING TOGETHER IN PRAYER

The prayer life of our school is central to developing the spirituality of the children, their relationship with Jesus and with each other, and is the golden thread which underpins our Mission and Vision.

We pray, informally and formally, throughout our school day. In addition to daily class worship, children take part in Masses and assemblies. Our 'Prayer Buddies' enable our children to share their spiritual journey with their friends in other year groups – older children are able to model and share their experiences with younger children, but are also open to learning from them. They form a special bond, which often endures beyond their time at our school.

Our Mission Statement heroes – shared in whole school assemblies – provide children with role models who embody our school values. We also celebrate our House Saints – St Francis, St Bernadette, St Anne and St Joseph; and share the achievements of those children who have been trying hard to follow our Mission Statement by learning to be the best they can be, and by serving God and one another.

Father Bern, Parish Priest at the Annunciation and St Edmund Campion, is a regular visitor to school, celebrating Mass with us. Deacon Barry also joins us on a regular basis, enabling us to share Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament. We also invite priests from other parishes in our pastoral area to support us with the Sacrament of Reconciliation for Key Stage 2. Sister Maria from the Handmaids of the Sacred Heart of Jesus Convent in Boscombe has worked with our Year 2 children to support them in preparation of class liturgies.

We have a very active Worship Council – representatives from each class in Key Stage 2 who help in the organisation of special prayer days and liturgies in school, and who help to look after our Prayer Garden.



'Great Catholic teaching, values and morals which shine in the children and ethos of the school'
Parent questionnaire

HEALTHY LIVING

Through our PHRE – SCARF curriculum, we encourage children to learn about making healthy choices in their diet and lifestyle. The food element of our Design & technology curriculum encourages children to research and prepare healthy food, and to consider the environmental impact of their food choices.

We offer children a wide variety of sporting activities, both through the taught curriculum and through a range of extra-curricular activities available throughout the school. We encourage children to take part in competitive sport, and attend local competitions and leagues for netball, football, swimming and rugby among other sports. Our teams have been extremely successful in a variety of competitions over recent years – but have also been commended for their sense of fair play. We want our children to understand the positive impact that sport and exercise can have on their physical and mental wellbeing, both now and in the future.



ENRICHMENT

As part of our commitment to engage children in their learning, our aim is to provide the children with an enriching curriculum, both through taught experiences and through extra-curricular activities. Whenever possible, we offer the children opportunities to experience live music – both as audience and as participators. Every year group has the chance to take part in a drama performance in front of parents and friends during the school year. We try to bring the curriculum alive for children through relevant learning outside the classroom and through welcoming inspiring visitors into school.



NEXT STEPS FOR OUR CHILDREN

When our children leave us at the end of Year 6, many continue their Catholic education at St Peter's secondary school in Southbourne. We also have a large number of children who move on to the local Grammar Schools – Bournemouth School for Girls and Bournemouth School. In recent years, an increasing number of children have chosen to take the next steps of their educational journey at other local schools, including Winton, Glenmoor, Avonbourne, Bishop of Winchester and the Bourne Academy. Whichever school you choose for your child, we will do our best to help your child make a smooth and successful transition to their new school. We are always pleased to hear news of our former students, who always remain a part of our school family. It is a testament to the bonds formed in those early years that many of our current school staff are former pupils who have returned to St Walburga's to help share our vision and mission with younger generations.



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'I love the genuine feeling of caring, love and support displayed to the children
by the staff – Thank you'
Parent questionnaire