



Welcome to St. Peter's Catholic Primary School



2021-22 Prospectus

'Building firm foundations for life'



Contents

- 1) Welcome to our school
- 2) About us
- 3) Catholic Life
- 4) Developing the whole child
- 5) How we learn
- 6) Enriching Children's Learning
- 7) Student Voice
- 8) Clubs & Activities
- 9) Our Facilities

Welcome to our school

At St. Peter's we work hard to make our school a happy and exciting place. We strive to create an environment where all our children can know and love God. We believe that by developing a child's skills and self-confidence, we create a culture that allows each child to develop to their full potential. Our constant focus on the progress of every child leads to excellent academic results.

St Peter's is a great school. In fact, St Peter's was judged as 'Outstanding' in all areas in our latest Ofsted and Diocesan inspections (2017).

We look forward to working with you to provide your child with the very best start in life.

Mr Richard McKenzie
Headteacher



About us

St Peter's now has two classes in each year group, after our expansion in response to the increasing demand for school places in our local area.

We are a Voluntary Aided school, which means that the Governing Body is responsible for maintaining the Catholic ethos of the school. Our school primarily serves the Catholic communities in the parishes of Ashted, Leatherhead, Fetcham, Effingham and Cobham. However, we welcome parents and children from all denominations and backgrounds.

St. Peter's was inspected by both Ofsted and Diocese of Arundel & Brighton in 2017 and was judged to be Outstanding in all areas. Most importantly, both inspections recognised the well rounded nature of the education we provide. Our success reflects the dedication of our staff, children, parents and everyone involved in the St. Peter's

"The school prepares pupils for life in modern Britain exceptionally well by teaching them about people with different backgrounds, characteristics, cultures and beliefs while maintaining a distinctly Catholic ethos."

Ofsted 2017



Our mission statement is at the core of all that we do; we believe that an education at St Peter's is one that is focused on:

'Building firm foundations for life'

- We achieve our best
- We care for others
- We grow in faith

"And I tell you, you are Peter. And on this rock I will build my church."

(Adapted from Matthew 16:8)

Catholic Life

As a Catholic School, Christ is at the centre of all that we do at St. Peter's.

Together with home and parish, our school is a place where children experience the Gospel and the Church as a community of God's people and grow in understanding of the world and themselves. We believe that each of us was created in God's own image with our own unique skills and talents.

Families join us for many liturgical celebrations, such as Harvest Festival, May Procession and our Christmas service at St Michael's, Ashted.

Our parish priests visit the school to celebrate Mass, provide support for curriculum areas and to join us for a variety of events.

"School and parish links are strong and much appreciated by parents; one commented, We feel very lucky to have the school in our parish."

Diocesan Section 48
Inspection 2017

We make time in each day to come together in collective worship to give thanks to God for all that is good in our school and in our world.

We teach children about prayer and give them opportunities for reflection throughout the school day. We strive to include all children in worship, encouraging them to take part through reading, discussions and singing. We ensure that the topics explored during our worship are relevant to the children's lives and presented in a way that is easy for them to understand.



Developing the Whole Child

At St. Peter's we support and challenge each member of the school community to develop their unique spiritual, physical, creative and intellectual potential. We offer a broad education which prepares children for life in 21st century Britain.

Our focus is not solely on children's academic achievement and there are many opportunities for pupils to excel in music, art, drama and physical education at St Peter's. We have a range of sports teams and take part in local matches and race fixtures.

We have Key Stage 1 and Key Stage 2 choirs who not only perform in school and the local community but also take part in local competitions and national events, like the 'Young Voices Concert' at the O2 arena.

"Pupils who have special educational needs and/or disabilities are very well catered for and make rapid progress because of the high quality leadership of their provision. Parents are confident that their children achieve well."

Ofsted 2017



At St. Peter's we enrich and extend the educational experience of able pupils by planning challenging tasks and activities in class. We also have a number of programmes designed for children who require additional support with learning. These range from support within class to specialist reading, mathematical and language interventions as well as support for emotional and behavioural needs.

If you have any concerns about your child, the class teacher or the SENCO (Special Educational Needs Co-ordinator) will always be happy to meet with you to discuss them.

How We Learn

Learning in our Early Years classes is a joyous journey of discovery. Children are active participants in their learning, acquiring new knowledge and skills, developing their thinking, taking and managing risks and working independently and in groups.

In the Early Years, children have a daily structured phonics and maths session which teach new skills and knowledge. The children also spend long periods of time in exploratory play, where they use their new knowledge to interact with their classroom environment, supported and extended by our excellent staff.

Carefully planned experiences across the curriculum capture the children's imagination and build on their developing skills across the year.

"Children get off to a superb start to their education in the early years.

Interesting and exciting activities, both indoors and outdoors, help children to develop a wide range of learning skills and behaviours, quickly and enjoyably."

Ofsted 2017

Children are able to work inside and outside in all weathers. They have opportunities to cook, make art and music and create with modelling equipment and woodwork. Resources to inspire children to read, write and explore mathematical concepts are always available. The children also have a weekly apparatus session where they develop balance and coordination and can climb, hang and swing.

When children need to, they are able to help themselves to a healthy snack from a selection of fruit, vegetables or toast which they prepare and serve themselves. Milk and water are also always available.



How We Learn

As children transition from Early Years into Key Stage One their learning adventure continues. We continue to build upon the characteristics of effective learning and the children's eagerness to be independent in their own learning.

At the start of each topic teachers plan key activities which meet National Curriculum objectives, but will also allow opportunities to follow the children's interests and for collaborative work between children.

Children's days are a carefully planned blend of teacher led sessions, small group work, independent practice tasks and time for children to demonstrate and deepen their learning by choosing how to access a range of opportunities both inside and outside.

Leaders have designed an inventive curriculum that is broad, balanced and topic based.

The provision (*in KS1*) makes effective use of the outdoor learning spaces and closely mirrors the most successful practice from the early years, building on the pupils' growing independence.

Younger pupils are absorbed by the independent activities they



Our Key Stage One classrooms are dynamic, well resourced learning spaces. They share a large outside area which children are able to access throughout the day.

Children have opportunities to; experiment with scientific concepts, engage with computing, make artwork, experience the natural world, design and create structures and models, explore scenarios through role play and learn how to cook simple recipes. Resources to support and extend the children's reading, writing and mathematical concepts are always available to use.

Children are encouraged to have a healthy snack e.g. fruit, vegetables, toast or breadsticks when they are hungry and they prepare and serve this themselves.

How We Learn

As children move into Key Stage Two, the style of learning becomes more formal but remains focused on inspiring experiences and opportunities for children to collaborate together.

Our curriculum is organised so that children deepen their understanding by regularly revisiting key knowledge and concepts at increasing levels of complexity and challenge.

Children enjoy rich opportunities across all subjects. Classic children's literature inspires writing and a love of reading, scientific enquiry deepens children's thinking, individual sports and team games provide physical challenge, music and art allow children to express themselves creatively, journaling and meditation supports children's well-being and gives them time in a busy week to reflect.

"Classrooms at St Peter's are characterised by a sense of mutual respect and a determined attitude from pupils, who want to do their best. Teachers have high expectations of all pupils, and a strong belief that pupils are all able to make rapid progress."

"Pupils throughout the school demonstrate exemplary attitudes to their learning"

We have invested in technology to support children in becoming modern, global citizens. All children in Key Stage 2 have access to their own Chromebook which they use in school as part of their day to day learning, but can also take home should the need for remote learning arise.

We use this technology to support our work with our Global Collaboration partners. Our Year 5 children are paired with children in schools in America and Spain and they work on collaborative projects over the year. We have also developed partnerships with schools in the Far East and have hosted groups of students from China in our classes for a week.



Enriching Children's Learning

Each year sees a range of activities both in school and on trips which enhance and extend the children's learning. We strive to give children 'real life' experiences wherever possible and last year hosted theatre groups reconstructing The Great Fire of London, Viking and Roman life, an inflatable planetarium, animal handling sessions and cookery workshops.

The best 'real life' experience comes from getting out and about, so wherever possible we plan trips for classes that link to their learning. In the last few years we have visited safari parks and Stonehenge; watched productions at the theatre and cinema, encountered the past through visiting various museums and explored the history and geography of our local area.

Along with day visits we also offer children in Years 5 and 6 the opportunity to take part in a residential visit.

"At St Peter's I have been on many exciting trips. My favourite was going swimming in Year 4 because I got to learn something new each week."

Year 6 child



This coming spring, Year 5 will travel back in time to stay at a resorted Norman Castle for two nights. While they are there, they will learn through first-hand experience about how people lived and worked at that time, as well as taking part in a Medieval themed banquet.

Year 6 visit an outdoor education centre offering a wide variety of adventurous activities such as abseiling and dragon boat racing. Not only does this visit give children the opportunity to try activities that we could never offer in school, it also is an excellent way for the class to work together in teams and develop their interpersonal and problem solving skills.

Children as Leaders

At St Peter's, children know that they are a valued part of our school family and that their ideas and opinions matter to us. They are supported and trusted to lead and organise activities for each other and in service to the wider community.

Whatever their passions, children from all year groups have opportunities to get involved with the running of the school. The School Council meets regularly to discuss ways to make our school even better.

The St Peter's Pals plan liturgies and care for our Prayer Room, a space which is open for children during break times. Science Ambassadors promote activities around the school and help to organise Science Week.

Children in Year 6 take on additional leadership positions in many areas as House and Sports Team Captains, play leaders and Our World

"The buddy system between Year 6 and Reception is lovely!

The older children seem to take such pride in helping the younger pupils settle into school life."

St Peter's Parent

One of the greatest responsibilities that the older children have is that of a Buddy. Each year, our new Reception children are matched with a buddy from Year 6. The older children write to their new buddies before they join us telling them all about life at St Peter's. Then, in September they are there to help them settle into school life.

The buddies spend time together in the classroom forming friendships, they eat lunch together so that the older buddies can help the younger ones and they play together on the playground. The older buddies also join their younger partners for the Welcome Liturgy and the Nativity performance. It is a very special relationship.



Supporting Our Communities

Children at St Peter's care deeply about the communities that they are part of. Children, of all ages often suggest fundraising or a charity that means something to them.

As part of their Business Enterprise week, teams of Y6 children are given a start-up grant and challenged to make as much money as they can at our Enterprise Fair. Each team decides which charity they would like to donate their profits too and recent examples include the British Heart Foundation and Shooting Star Children's hospices.

Children plan events as part of the Fairtrade group (part of St Peter's Pals), leading Fairtrade Fortnight activities, the Big Breakfast, St Peter's Bake off, as well as smaller events such as selling Advent calendars and the Mother's Day secret shop.

"Pupils are aware of their gifts and readily offer them in the service of others. They are proactive in charitably supporting those in the local, national and international communities who are less fortunate or in trouble. "

Diocesan Section 48
Inspection 2017

Clubs and Activities

There is never a dull moment at St Peter's and we are proud of the various extra-curricular activities available for children.

With free clubs led by our staff team, dance, sports and activity groups led by specialists and musical tuition running before, during and after the school day as well as wrap around care from 7.45am -6pm, we're sure that there is something to suit everyone!



Partnership with Parents

It isn't just your child who becomes part of the St Peter's family and working in partnership with our parents is a key priority at St Peter's. We have an 'open door' policy at school. Parents are always welcome to contact their child's teacher to discuss any aspect of their child's school experience.

We share information about how your child is progressing in their learning and what their next steps will be with parents regularly and hold two parents evenings each year. We use an online learning journal called Tapestry across the Early Years and Key Stage 1 to share pictures, videos and observations of the children's work with parents.

We hold a number of workshops for parents each year, including an opportunity to meet your child's new teacher and information sessions about Reading, Phonics, Maths, Relationship Education

"All members of the school community are valued and included. Parents and carers are welcomed and encouraged to participate in the life of the school."

Diocesan Section 48
Inspection 2017

and e-Safety. We also host courses for parents who would like to develop their own skills in a range of areas.

Parents work in partnership to support our school in many ways. Volunteers are always welcome, for example coming in to school to hear readers or help to change reading books. Our walking bus is run by a group of parents who were keen to help reduce the number of cars on the road. We encourage parents to get involved with our fantastic parents group, the Friends of St Peter's, who have helped to develop and expand our facilities over the years through their fundraising efforts.



Our Facilities

St. Peter's has extensive grounds with large , well equipped playgrounds and sports fields. Children in all year groups make use of our fantastic outdoor facilities including a pond and environmental area which supports our science learning and an amphitheatre for outdoor gatherings as part of their everyday learning.

Our Early Years and Key Stage 1 classes all have their own outdoor learning spaces attached to their classrooms, so that they can freely access a range of learning experiences including caring for our animals.

Inside school, our hall has a fully equipped stage which provides an excellent facility for productions. Our cosy library is a place where children can enjoy reading and researching. We also have a dedicated music room and spaces for small groups to meet and work together.

"Playtimes are calm and positive. Pupils manage their own behaviour exceedingly well and engage in positive play."

Ofsted 2017

Our Results

Children achieve high standards at St. Peter's and their successes are reflected in our results. Following the National Covid Lockdowns, all statutory assessments in schools were cancelled for July 2020 and July 2021. The figures below and on the following page are for the last set of statutory assessments, which were held in June 2019. Where National Average figures are available for comparison, these are shown in brackets

Early Years Foundation Stage—2019

Children are deemed to have attained a 'Good Level of Development' (GLD) if they have reached at least the expected standard in all of the Prime areas of development as well as the specific areas of Literacy and Maths.

Percentage of pupils attaining the 'Good Level of Development' measure: 95.1% (71.8%)

KS1 Phonics Screening Check—2019

The check whether children have reached the required standard in phonics skills and knowledge. Children who do not meet the standard in Y1 are screened again at the end of Y2.

Children reaching the required standard: Year 1: 98.3% (82%) Year 2: 100% (91%)

KS1 (end of Year 2) Teacher Assessment Data—2019

	Reading	Writing	Maths
Working towards Expected /Pre KS level	10%	13%	13%
Working at Expected level	60%	67%	60%
Working above Expected level/ at Greater Depth	30%	21%	28%
Total % of children working at or above Expected level	90%	88%	88%

KS2 (end of Year 6) Validated Test Results—2019

	Reading	Writing	GPS	Maths
Children reaching at least the expected standard	84%	91%	100%	94%
Children achieving a higher level of attainment	53%	31%	66%	59%
Average test scaled score	108	n/a	112	110

Pupils meeting expected standard in reading, writing and maths:

St Peter's: 78% Surrey: 70% National: 65%

Pupils achieving at a higher standard in reading, writing and maths:

St Peter's: 25% Surrey: 14% National: 11%

Joining Our School

Parents wishing to apply for a place at St. Peter's should complete Surrey County Council's School application process which is found online at www.surreycc.gov.uk

Parents are asked to also complete a Supplementary Information Form, to be returned directly to the school, by the closing date for applications.

These forms collect essential information to allow the school to put all applicants in order of priority for admission, using the school's Admissions Policy. The Governing Body of a Catholic school is responsible for deciding the order of priority for admissions to their school. A copy of our Admissions Policy and the Supplementary Information Form can be found on our website or can be obtained from the school office.

"St Peter's has a strong and well-established leadership and teaching team, who are forward looking and aspirational both for the whole school and the individuals they serve within it."

Diocesan Section 48
Inspection 2017



At St. Peter's we consider the safety and well-being of the children to be paramount. We have a number of policies and procedures to help ensure this is the case and these are available on the school website. Our Inclusion and Accessibility Plan, along with a copy of our Special Educational Needs policy, are also available to view on our website. If you would prefer a paper copy of any of the information or policies mentioned in this prospectus please contact the school office.

We look forward to welcoming you and your child to St Peter's.

St Peter's Catholic Primary School

Grange Road, Leatherhead, Surrey

KT22 7JN

01372 274913

office@stpeters-leatherhead.surrey.sch.uk

www.stpeters-school.co.uk

Facebook: @Stpeters70