



Welcome to St. Peter's Catholic Primary School



September 2024 Prospectus

'Building firm foundations for life'



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Welcome to our school

At St. Peter's:

Our children are kind, respectful and care about one another.

Our staff are dedicated and committed to ensuring that all of our children are resilient, confident and enthusiastic learners.

Our partnership with our parents and the wider community is at the heart of what we do.

Our children are challenged to achieve their best and we foster high standards through a broad, balanced and creative curriculum.

Our school is a very special and happy place to learn.

Our mission is to ensure that every child feels valued and reaches their full potential building firm foundations for life.

Mrs Lisa Kelly

Headteacher

About us

St Peter's is a two-form entry primary school in Leatherhead.

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 has a strong community of pupils, staff and families. The partnership that exists between home and school is integral to the success of our school.

"The school places no limits on what pupils can accomplish."

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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.

"Parent and parish links are exceptionally strong"

Diocesan Section 48
Inspection 2024

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 a choir who not only perform in school and the local community but also take part in local competitions and national events.

"The school provides an excellent education for all pupils. The curriculum is superbly structured to enrich pupils' learning across all year groups."

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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.

"Happy pupils take a keen interest in their learning. Across subjects, they excel in their work and achieve extremely well."

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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.

"Staff are swift to identify any additional needs and make meaningful adaptations to the curriculum when required. Their use of assessment is highly effective."

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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.

"They flourish in this highly ambitious, safe and inclusive community."

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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 4 and Year 5 children are paired with children in schools in America and Ireland and they work on collaborative projects over the year.



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.

"Pupils' behaviour in lessons and around the school is exemplary. They are extremely courteous to each other and to staff."

Ofsted June 2024



This coming spring, Year 5 will travel back in time to stay at a 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. The Sports Crew plan and lead activities in the playground.

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

"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 very proud of their school, where they feel a real sense of belonging. The warm, welcoming environment ensures that pupils feel loved, happy and valued as part of the St Peter's community."

Diocesan Section 48
Inspection 2024

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

"The philosophy to 'look after the whole family to look after the children' is evident in everything the school does."

Diocesan Section 48
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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. 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.

"Pupils' personal development is of very high quality."

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Our Results

Children achieve high standards at St. Peter's and their successes are reflected in our results.

End of Early Years Foundation Stage Assessment Data 2023 - GLD: 72%

KS1 Phonics Check – 2024 - Children reaching the required standard in phonics: Year 1: 92%

KS2 (end of Year 6) Validated Test Results - 2024

	Reading	Writing	Maths
Children reaching at least the expected standard	87%	77%	80%
Children achieving a higher level of attainment	40%	8%	27%

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.

"Staff at St Peter's truly embrace its mission statement and are a key part of the school's success. As one staff member put it, "the mission statement is the thread that permeates every aspect of school life."

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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

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