



St Paul's C of E Primary School

Early Years Handbook

2021

JUSTICE



RESPECT

TRUST



COMPASSION



FORGIVENESS



As a Church of England school, we aim to help children develop an understanding of the Christian faith and the teachings of Jesus Christ, encouraging them to follow the commandments to 'Love God' and 'Love your neighbour as yourself.'

We try to ensure that Christian values, which are largely shared by other world faiths, are at the heart of everything we do in school. We recognise the importance of the following values – peace, love, hope, joy, gentleness, thankfulness, patience and kindness but we have chosen five that we feel to be essential to our school :

We want our pupils to believe in themselves, and in God, so that they have the confidence to overcome barriers in order to achieve, to the best of their ability, whatever they aspire to.

Welcome

Welcome from the Principal

It gives me great pleasure to welcome our new starters to St Paul's, a small, friendly primary school in the heart of Salford. We are proud of our reputation of being a family-feel school and hope that you and your child will soon feel part of our school community.



We are a single-form entry school with a maximum of 30 places in each year group from Reception to Year 6, including 30 full-time places in Nursery.

We have are part of Vantage Academy Trust and closely work with other schools across Vantage Academy Trust to ensure that our pupils have access to the best possible learning environment, teaching and resources so that they leave us well prepared for secondary school and life as a global citizen in today's society. More details about the Trust can be found on their website -

<https://vantageacademies.co.uk/>

We look forward to working alongside you and your child as they embark on the first important step of their education and hope that this will relationship will continue to grow and strengthen as your child moves through school.

Thank you for choosing St Paul's

Miss Wendy Budsworth - principal

Due to the current situation with COVID-19 we are unable to complete our usual transition policy including New Nursery meetings, stay and play and home visits. Hopefully this booklet will help you to gain an insight into Early Years at St Paul's. If you have any questions, please contact us on stpaulscrosslane.ceprimary@salford.gov.uk or 0161 850 2455



The Early Years Staff

Welcome to St Paul's C of E Primary. My name is Mrs Allard and I am the Early Years Lead here at St Paul's, and teach the Reception Class. I have been at St Paul's for over 15 years and look forward to meeting you and your child.



Mrs Bamford

Part time Nursery teacher



Miss Rawsthorne

Part time Nursery teacher



Miss Bradshaw

Teaching Assistant



Miss Horner

Teaching Assistant



Mrs Barlow

Teaching Assistant



Miss Craddock

Teaching Assistant

Our School Day at St Pauls.

All Nursery children will start school on a **full-time** basis in September. Children will be invited to start in small groups over the course of the first two weeks, this will give staff and children the opportunity to get to know each other and be safe due to COVID-19.

Reception children will start **full-time** in September, on Monday 6th September.

Please note: due to COVID-19, we will continue to follow guidance from the Government and start dates and pre-start meetings will be announced in due course. Please keep up to date via our website and social media pages.

Early Years' doors open at 8:45am where we welcome the children and start the day with yoga and dough disco. Nursery children will enter through the Nursery door and Reception around the corner at the Reception door.



Nursery carpet

Reception carpet

We then start phonics at 9am. It is really important that you ensure your child is in school on time every day so that they do not miss out on important learning. Throughout the morning we have a literacy focus and the children enter continuous provision up to lunchtime at 12:30.

The afternoon session begins at 1:30 with a maths focus before the school day finishes at 3:10pm

We ask for nursery and reception parents to stand back away from the doors, when collecting their child, to enable staff to hand over safely and quietly.

Snack shop and Lunchtime.

The children can access the snack shop in the morning from 9:45 to 10:30am, where there is a selection of fruit and breakfast foods available, free of charge, alongside milk and water.

Lunchtime takes place from 12:30-1:30pm in the unit.

Children can have a school meal or bring a packed lunch from home. If you think you are eligible for free school meals please see the link below.

<https://www.salford.gov.uk/schools-and-learning/free-school-meals/>



Menus area available on the school website.
All reception children are entitled to free school meals.
All Early Years children are entitled to free milk.

Uniform

Boys Uniform	Girls Uniform
Grey trousers	Grey skirt/pinafore/trousers
Royal blue school sweatshirt	Royal blue school sweatshirt or cardigan
White school polo shirt or shirt	White school polo shirt or blouse
Plain socks	Plain socks or tights
Summer option: Grey shorts	Summer option: Blue gingham dress



Please make sure your child is wearing suitable shoes and brings a coat. Wellies are also recommended to be kept in school. Children will also need a P.E kit, black shorts, white t-shirt and pumps.

Please make sure that ALL uniform is clearly labelled (this will be regularly checked by EYFS staff), PE kit in a labelled bag. Spare clothes including underwear also to be labelled and kept in school.

The Vantage Academy Trust will provide all new starters with a jumper or cardigan.

What is the Early Years Foundation Stage?

The Early Years Foundation Stage is the stage of education for children from three to the end of the Reception year. The Early Years Foundation Stage Curriculum is based on the recognition that children learn best through **play and active learning**.

The curriculum is organised into seven areas of learning:

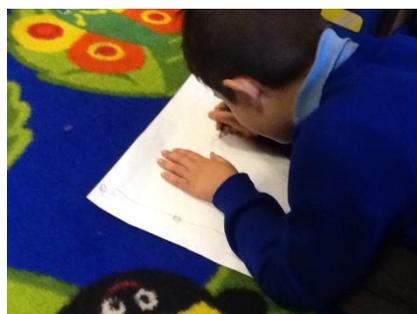
1. Personal and social education
2. Physical
3. Communication and language
4. Literacy
5. Maths
6. Understanding the world
7. Expressive arts and design.



The children have daily phonics lessons using the Read Write Inc scheme, initially learning listening and attention games, moving onto learning individual letters and sounds.

There are daily literacy and maths sessions linked to our topics, which we share on a half termly basis. We believe it is important for the children to have an input in what they learn.

We place a great emphasis on using quality texts as a stimulus for learning and encourage children to read and write independently.



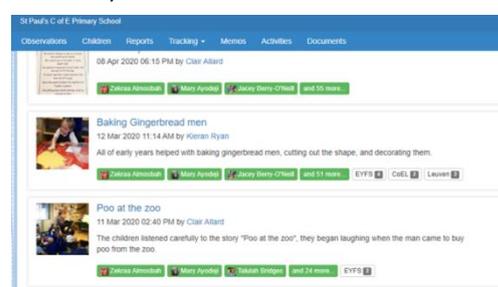
In Maths we follow the Power Maths scheme and Numberblocks to enrich our curriculum.



We follow the IEYC (The international Early Years Curriculum) with amazing topics like "To the Rescue" "Once upon a time" and "Ocean Treasures." These promote personal learning goals of: enquiry, adaptable, resilience, ethical, communicator, empathetic, thinker and collaborator.

Monitoring progress

In order to record the individual progress during pupils' time in Early Years, each child will have their own profile using an online app called Tapestry. This is a record of observations based on the seven areas of learning made by the foundation stage staff. Tapestry is used on parents' evenings to demonstrate what your child can do and the progress that they have made during the term.



Home/School communication

We like to stay in contact with parents in the following ways:

- Half-term newsletter about topics
- Absence Notification / Phone Call – our Learning Mentor, Miss Robinson or her assistant, Mrs Cooney, will phone parents of all pupils who are absent from school if we have not had a phonecall or email to say why they are not in school.
- Other Issues e.g. health, family arrangements etc.
- Online: Twitter, Facebook, Arbor App, Seesaw

It is important that school have up to date contact details, including email addresses.

If your child is absent from school please let us know as soon as possible. Good attendance is important in Early Years as it allows children to establish a good start to their education and good routines for the future.



The Arbor in-app messaging system is the only way (apart from emails) that school will send out messages from September so please make sure you download this app.

[Getting ready for school](#)

There are videos available online (see below) to support you in getting your child ready for school, with hints and tips on routines, toilet training etc.. We do have a changing policy that states two members of staff will change children. Children will also clean their teeth following lunchtime and will be able to access the Salford Imagination Library, for free, where a book is delivered to your house each month. We would also recommend accessing website such as the ones below to get your child ready for school.

https://www.home-start.org.uk/Pages/Category/big-hopes-big-future?gclid=EAlalQobChMIrpf1r7e96QIVSznVCh1BTA4UEAAYASAAEgLP5_D_BwE

https://www.parentkind.org.uk/For-Parents/Parent-Hub/Supporting-Learning?gclid=EAlalQobChMIrpf1r7e96QIVSznVCh1BTA4UEAAYAiAAEgLc5fD_BwE

<https://www.oxfordowl.co.uk/for-home/starting-school/getting-ready-for-primary-school/>

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/cbeebies/grownups/how-to-prepare-your-child-for-primary-school>