

PROSPECTUS 2022-2023



St Benedict's

Catholic Primary School

Welcome

You are warmly welcomed to St Benedict's Catholic Primary School. St Benedict's is a one-form entry primary school nestled in beautiful surroundings in the town of Handforth. We are a welcoming, inclusive family school with a strong Catholic ethos built on love and kindness, a sense of community and a commitment to excellence for all children in our care.

We are very proud of our children – they are bright, energetic, kind and helpful and always strive to do their best. The team of staff all work hard in partnership with supportive and engaged parents, to nurture children and to ensure they receive an excellent education, which encourages children to become lifelong learners.

Our curriculum is broad and balanced and children have many varied and exciting opportunities whilst they are with us. We strive to ensure all children achieve their potential in a kind and caring atmosphere.

We do this by nurturing each child's uniqueness and responding to individual needs. We want each child to be successful in their learning and to make a meaningful contribution to the world when they leave us.

Come and visit us to learn more!

Kind Regards,
Hannah McGuire (Headteacher)



'As unique individuals, we do our best at work and play for the love of God and others.'

From the Start

The Reception year provides an excellent foundation for your child. The nurturing environment means we can quickly establish your child's individual needs and cater for them to ensure that they make a great start to their learning journey with us.

The reception team are kind and calm and help children (and parents) settle in smoothly. Each child is paired up with a year 6 Buddy to help them feel confident and welcome in school.

Reading is at the heart of the curriculum in Reception. Phonics and reading is taught very well and children make great progress in the first year of school.

We encourage a love of reading and a passion for stories; children are surrounded by books and opportunities to read.



Learning at St Benedict's

At St Benedict's, children love learning and strive to achieve their potential in every aspect of the curriculum. Through their learning, the children will be inspired by exceptional individuals to make a difference in their society. We develop lifelong learners who are equipped with skills that allow them to flourish and have an impact on their own and others' lives.

The National Curriculum underpins our work here at St Benedict's but we have used it as a starting point and have built upon it to create our own bespoke curriculum maps for each half term.

Topics are always enriched by high quality texts meaning children are able to understand their place in the world and their value to society.

Reading is essential in all parts of the curriculum and opportunities are provided for all children to enjoy subject specific texts each half term. To embed a wide knowledge and vocabulary base, we link our foundation subjects to our themes resulting in a more thorough understanding for the pupils.



'Our Curriculum is ambitious and our children remember what they learn'

OFSTED, February 2022

We have an excellent teaching team who ensure that all subjects are taught to a high standard and OFSTED noted that :-

‘Teachers have good subject knowledge of the subjects that they teach. They explain subject content clearly so that pupils understand what to do’

OFSTED, February 2022

At St Benedict’s we value all subjects and we pride ourselves on tailoring our provision to meet the needs and give opportunities to all children, especially the most vulnerable, in line with our Catholic social values.

We are passionate about sport and have been awarded the Platinum School Games Award for our commitment, engagement and delivery of sport and PE. We employ sports coaches to advance children in a variety of sports at lunchtime and specialist Yoga, Dance, Cricket and Gymnastics coaches to enhance the curriculum lessons.

‘I love being in the choir because it is exciting and fun and I have learnt lots of new songs!’

Georgie, Year 2



We take part in competitions with other schools - these sports include: football, netball, athletics and cross-country. Children in years 3 and 4 have swimming lessons in the Summer term. We have strong links with Handforth Tennis club and we are fortunate enough to be able to use their courts for lessons. Our field is perfect for athletics in the summer.

Spanish is our school language and our pupils love to learn about the history, traditions and culture as well as learning the language. Lesson time learning is reinforced with an optional lunchtime club.

We have many talented musicians at St Benedict’s and are proud of our school band (‘The Elastic Band’) who perform in assemblies, at church and at the Wilmslow Music Festival. We have an excellent school choir who sing at Mass each month and have taken part in Rotary events and the Cheshire Show. We offer after school music clubs including keyboard, ukulele, guitar and recorders. Our curriculum time music lessons are bolstered by music specialists and year 5 perform with the Halle Orchestra.



Support for your child

We are very proud of our pastoral care at St Benedict's. Our Catholic ethos lies at the heart of our pastoral care and all staff ensure that children feel supported and nurtured. Children are taught to interact with each other and learn how to treat each other well. Children are encouraged with positive reinforcement – we ensure children are praised and highlighted for their achievements and *'They are keen to live up to the high expectations that leaders have for their learning and behaviour. Pupils behave well and try their best in lessons.'* (OFSTED, February 2022).



Building resilience and confidence

'Being a House Captain is a privilege and I am really proud to help younger children to make good choices'

Scarlett, Year 6

As a small school, our children grow in confidence and by the time they are in key stage 2, they are very keen to have roles of responsibility. We have an ever-increasing list of roles - from School Councillors, to Sports Ambassadors, Diversity Defenders, Mini Vinnies, and Pond protectors.

We are especially proud of TEAM Benedict who are given the privilege of wearing purple jumpers to highlight the role they take in school – from leading assemblies to reading in Church and at school events. We also have House Captains whose role it is to inspire and mentor the younger children to fulfil the one school rule - RESPECT.



'As unique individuals, we do our best at work and play for the love of God and others.'



St Benedict's Catholic Primary School

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For all enquiries please contact the school office in the first instance.

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To apply for a school place: www.cheshireeast.gov.uk/schools/admissions/admissions.aspx