

Welcome to St Mary's RC Primary School



Starting in Reception
September 2021

Welcome



Miss Pluckrose
Head Teacher



Miss Swan
Early Years Lead
Reception Class Teacher

Due to Covid-19, some of these arrangements in this presentation may be subject to change.

You will be informed by email of any changes to these arrangements.

Please make sure the school has an up to date email for you.

Starting School at St Mary's

At St Mary's we understand that starting school can be daunting for children and their parents.

To make your child's transition as smooth as possible, we work hard to ensure that their first year, including their first week, are a safe, happy and exciting experience.



St Mary's Mission Statement

St. Mary's RC School is committed to providing the best possible education for all children and to developing each child's full potential.

The teachings of Christ inform all our efforts and the way in which we treat one another.

We seek to provide an orderly, stimulating environment in which effort and personal success are rewarded, special gifts are catered for and needs are met.

In order to fulfil our Mission we share these core values:

love and mutual respect

dedication and loyalty

justice and fairness

honesty and trust

the living of our faith

high expectations of each other

a commitment to a culture of continuous self improvement

an affirmation of each other's talents

a willingness to co-operate and share our gifts for the good of all

What Do We Expect of Children?

All pupils at St Mary's are expected to:

- Behave well while in school
– *listen to adults and do as they ask - follow the school rules at all times.*
- Be respectful towards others and the school environment
– *act and speak respectfully towards all adults and other children in school – take care of their classroom and play areas.*
- Do their very best in every lesson
– *listen to the teacher and work hard to improve their knowledge, understanding and skills.*
- Tackle challenges enthusiastically
– *be resilient and don't give up when things get hard.*
- Wear their uniform with pride
– *and correctly! – keep everything tucked in and remember PE kits.*
- Do their homework
– *each time it is given and complete it properly, handing it in on time.*
- Find enjoyment at school
– *take every opportunity to develop their talents and gifts and share them for the benefit of others.*

What Do We Expect of Parents?

All parents at St Mary's School are expected to:

- support the school's Catholic ethos and its Mission
– help your child to understand their faith and their relationship with God by praying with them and attending Mass regularly.
- support the school in all it does to help their child
– including attending parents' meetings, liturgies and school events.
- ensure their child behaves well
– help your child to understand and obey class and school rules.
- support their child's learning
- by reading with them and helping them with homework.
- bring their child to school every day and on time
– ensure that appointments and holidays are booked for out of school time.
- ensure that their child wears the correct uniform
– ensure that your child brings all that they need for school each day.

The Early Years Foundation Stage Curriculum

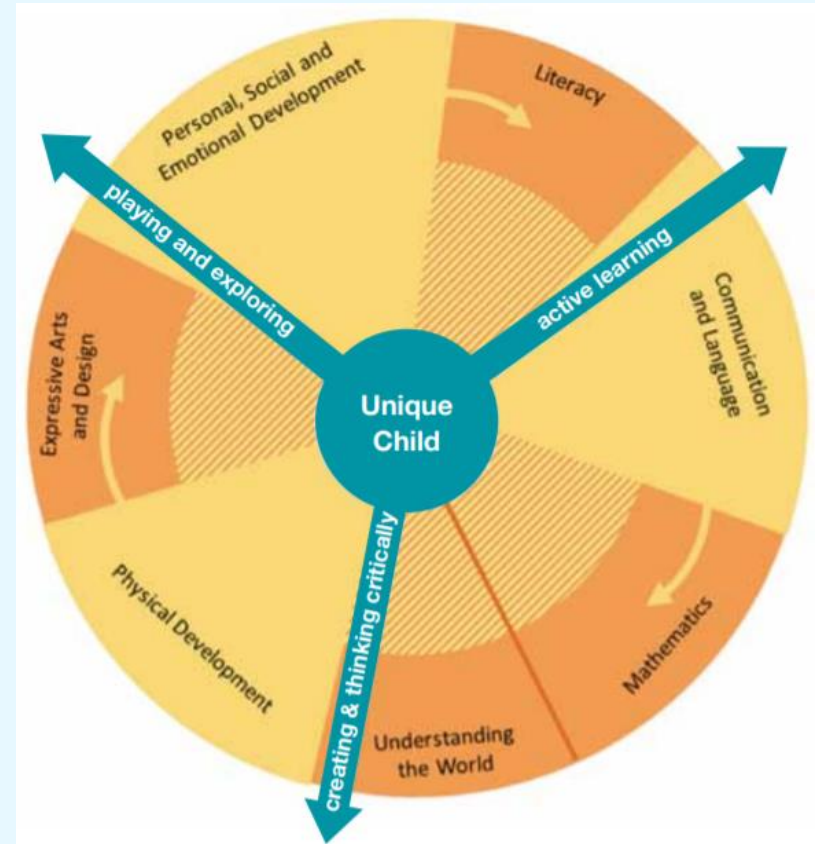
Seven areas of learning:

Prime areas:

- Communication and Language
- Physical Development
- Personal, Social and Emotional Development

Specific areas:

- Literacy
- Mathematics
- Understanding the World
- Expressive Arts and Design



How Are Children Taught?

The areas of learning are taught through:

- Planned purposeful play
- A balance of adult-initiated and child-initiated play and activities
- Hands on learning
- Whole class 'carpet time'
- Small group activities
- 'Choosing time'



Reception – Assessment

- Reception Baseline Assessment (RBA)
 - A statutory assessment to be taken by children during their first half term in reception.
 - The assessment is short and is done 1:1.
 - The assessment consists of practical tasks, using physical resources.
 - Used as a starting point to measure children's progress.



Reception – Assessment

- Early Years Foundation Stage Profile (EYFSP)
 - Staff will make observations of your child throughout the year.
 - Observations are used to give a well-rounded picture of a child's knowledge, understanding and abilities and their attainment against expected levels.
 - Each child's level of development is assessed against the early learning goals.
 - The EYFSP is shared with parents at the end of the year.

Before Starting- July

- You and your child will be invited to a 'Stay and Play' next week after school (13th and 14th July).
- A chance to meet the Reception teachers and see the 'Outside Area'.



Before Starting- September

‘Meet the Teacher’ Meetings:

- We will invite you and your child to an individual meeting with their teacher on Thursday 2nd or Friday 3rd September.
- You will be informed before the end of this school year of the date and time of this meeting.
- The meeting will last approximately 15 minutes.
- It will give you the opportunity to discuss your child’s interests and the opportunity to discuss any concerns you may have.



Your Child's First Few Weeks

- To support the children to settle in well, their first week will be a phased start.
- Say goodbye to your child promptly to minimise distress. We will look after them!

Date at school:	Time in school	Lunch arrangements
Monday 6 th September	9.00-12.00	
Tuesday 7 th September	9.00-12.00	
Wednesday 8 th September	9.00-1.30	Lunch at school
Thursday 9 th September	9.00-1.30	Lunch at school
Friday 10 th September	9.00-1.30	Lunch at school

- From Monday 13th September the children will attend from 9.00am until 3.30pm.



Uniform

Please make sure your child has the correct uniform.

Some requests and reminders...



- black school shoes with Velcro fastenings
- red ties that are pre-tied on an elastic band
- trousers with an elasticated waistband (no belts)
- a navy (or black) coat without patterns or a logo
 - navy blue shorts, white round neck t-shirt and black plimsolls for PE
- A sensible 'school' haircut – no shaved heads, shaved patterns, mohawk cuts etc. Long hair should always be tied back.

School Lunch

- The governors expect every child to have a school lunch.
- Lunch is freshly prepared every day on site in our kitchen.
- There is always of choice of main meal and dessert.
- Vegetables are always served and there is also a salad bar with a choice of salads.
- Children with a range of allergies can be catered for.



Essentials...

- All uniform should be clearly labelled with your child's full name (fabric sewn in labels are recommended)
- Please put a spare change of underwear and socks in your child's PE bag
- Your child needs to be able to get changed for PE independently
- Your child needs to be able to use a knife, fork and spoon correctly and independently
- Your child needs to be confident to ask to go to the toilet, use the toilet properly and wash and dry their hands

What can you do to prepare your child for starting school?

- Share stories
- Talking with them
- Counting
- Nursery rhymes
- Using a pair of scissors
- Putting their own clothes and shoes on
- Tidying up at home

Supporting your child in their first year

- We recommend that you read with and to your child for at least 5-10 minutes every day
- Encourage your child to try their best with their home learning
- Ask your child about their day at school and speak to their teacher if you have any questions or concerns
- Read any correspondence from the school – letters, newsletters, website etc



Home Learning

Reading:

- Book for your child to read
- 'Own choice' book for you to read to your child

Weekly Challenges:

- Phonics sounds
- Red words (sight words)
- Discussing topics
- Practical tasks



St Mary's School Life

- St Mary's is an outstanding School. Children are happy and do very well here.
- There is broad curriculum and many opportunities to take part in clubs before, during and after school.
- Visits and visitors enhance children's learning.
- We have a strong commitment to our local parish communities particularly between the school and St. Mary's Church
- Our parish priest, is a regular visitor to school.
- Parents fully support and participate in school life.



Opportunities to be involved in school life

- Supporting your child and ensuring they behave well and listen well in school
- Talking regularly with their teacher
- Attending liturgies and special events
- Attending special events to raise funds
- All parents automatically become members of the P.S.A. (Parent Staff Association) when their child joins the school
- We ask parents to let us know if they can share any skills, talents or interests that would benefit the children

Q and A

Any questions?
Any advice?

Uniform?

After school
clubs?

School
lunch?

??????????

Trips?

ParentPay?

Liturgy?

Teachers?

Thank you

We look forward to welcoming
you and your child to
St Mary's School in September



St Mary's website www.st-marys.lambeth.sch.uk