



Prospectus 2023





St George's Church of England Primary School are proud to be part of The White Horse Federation Multi-Academy Trust

Welcome to

The White Horse Federation

The White Horse Federation was founded with the aim of improving the life chances and raising the aspirations of young people. The Trust believes in the power of a first-rate curriculum: such an education is the best foundation for helping young people to succeed and overcome social barriers, irrespective of their backgrounds or starting points.

The White Horse Federation runs a growing network of primary, secondary and special schools with clusters in Swindon, Wiltshire, Oxfordshire, and Berkshire. Working with young people who are often materially and socially deprived, The White Horse Federation seeks to provide a first-rate education and to raise ambitions at all its academies. I am a strong believer in the power of outstanding education to transform lives. It is a great privilege for me to lead The White Horse Federation and I work tirelessly to make sure we deliver the very best we can for each and every one of our pupils.

Our aim is for our students to leave our academies ready to take their place in the world - well-educated, motivated and with strong leadership skills, personally accomplished and determined to make a positive and lasting contribution to the world. We firmly believe that a child's background should not be a barrier to success and we are committed to delivering an education that broadens students' horizons in a truly transformative way.

Paul Smith

National Leader of Education
Chief Executive Officer





A Warm Welcome

Dear Prospective Parents,

We aim to provide the very best for every child in our school and to help them to reach their potential within a safe and secure Christian environment. Our current Vision is based on the school needs at the current aim and is based on: **“Be kind and compassionate to one another, forgiving each other, just as in Christ, God forgave you.”** Ephesians 4:32. St George's Church of England Primary School - supporting each other to courageously flourish, within our community, armed with our shield of Christian values. Be Kind. Be Compassionate. Be Forgiving.

All members of our school community sign up to our Christian vision and values, which underpin all we do at our school, from forming relationships to academic achievement and school improvement. Our vision and values are evident in the children's great attitudes towards their learning and everyone's positive relationships with each other in school.



Warm regards,
Candida Hutchinson
Principal



“My children love St George's. The school has such a friendly, community feel. Both my children, who are in different year groups, are supported to the best of their abilities through their learning journeys. Every staff member knows each child and it feels like a big family.”

“St. George's is a very happy place with amazing teaching staff. The children have exceptional values which can be seen in the way they behave and interact with each other every day. It is a positive and upbeat school which I would highly recommend.”

Our Vision and Values

Our school is a church school with strong Christian foundations. We aim to provide the very best for every child in our school and to help them to reach their potential within a safe and secure Christian environment. Our current Vision is based on the school needs at the current aim and is based on:

"Be kind and compassionate to one another, forgiving each other, just as in Christ, God forgave you." Ephesians 4:32

St George's Church of England Primary School - supporting each other to courageously flourish, within our community, armed with our shield of Christian values. Be Kind. Be Compassionate. Be Forgiving.

At St George's School, our curriculum pledge is:

- **We promise that we will have the highest expectations for all**
- **We promise we will uphold our school christian values**
- **We promise we will all be inspired, excited, engaged and curious learners**
- **We promise to nurture life long learning**

Our curriculum aims to provide for progression through a balance of knowledge and skills across a combination of discrete teaching and robust cross curricular links. It will be made accessible to all children in a fully inclusive manner.

The whole curriculum should also contribute to children's moral, social, cultural and spiritual development in support of our vision for the St George's school community.

We have six core values which stem from our vision and underpin everything we do at school. They are rooted in the scriptures and children are taught what Jesus teaches us in the New Testament about:

- **Courage**
- **Friendship**
- **Honesty**
- **Respect**
- **Forgiveness**
- **Kindness**

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Early Years Foundation Stage

At St George's Primary, your child will have their first taste of school life when they come for their two induction visits, which take place during the summer term before they start school, then the following September.

This enables us to get to know your child and for them to become familiar with the school setting before they start. To assist our new parents, we also hold a meeting in the summer term, which have been particularly useful for parents that are brand new to the school.

Once the new school year begins, the children have a graduated start, which builds up to full-time. We want to ensure that your child's transition into primary school is successful and positive so that they can begin this new journey with a flying start.

In the Early Years at St George's Primary School, we believe that every pupil is unique. We ensure all children have the opportunity to develop and learn in a safe and nurturing environment where play and learning is combined. Through practical learning experiences, we strive to equip children with a love of learning and a natural curiosity. We are committed to giving our pupils the best possible start to their school life, teaching skills that ensure their well-being now and success in the future.

We look forward to welcoming your child into the St George's family.



Our Curriculum



We are committed to inspiring children to become valuable citizens of the future, whose thirst for being lifelong learners is apparent.

Reading, writing, and maths sit at the core of what we do and as such are taught daily in a cross-curricular approach to ensure children's learning is as inspiring and engaging as possible. This means that we integrate other areas of the curriculum to provide a real purpose to children's learning.

Our goal is that every St George's child becomes an avid reader who has a genuine love for literature and escaping into a good story. Not only does reading widely help to support children as learners at primary school, but it also has the ability to unlock opportunities for children in adult life in terms of prospects and well-being.

We do not focus solely on the importance of being literate and numerate, but also aim to excite and inspire the next generation of scientists, computer programmers, artists, musicians, athletes, historians, and geographers with a range of topics that challenge them to think about the world in which they live.

At St George's, our topics are planned over a two-year cycle, and are either:

History

Geography

Art

Science - Based

To enhance the children's learning, we regularly utilise external expertise through inviting visitors into the school, or arranging day trips to museums, art galleries and the theatre, for example. We also arrange themed days to allow the opportunity to explore skills and concepts more deeply.

In addition to this, Kingfisher Class (Years 5 and 6) has the chance to go on a residential trip to provide the children with an opportunity to build self-confidence and independence away from family by partaking in various outdoor sports, team building skills, and challenges.



Celebrating Success

We believe it is vitally important for all children to feel successful and to have their efforts and achievements recognised and celebrated. We do this in a number of ways, including a 'Goldbook' assembly, where children are called up to have their achievements shared with the whole school.

Children also receive a certificate that identifies their success, which they take home to share with their family. Achievements might be of an academic, sporting, or creative nature, or reflect a demonstration of the school's values.

Throughout the week children may receive stickers, Class Dojo points/house points, be sent to the Assistant Principal for exhibiting good learning behaviours and demonstrating our values. It is always the effort that is rewarded, not simply the end result.

At St George's we also have a head boy and a head girl who are chosen because of their contribution to whole school life, their efforts with their learning, and their kindness and consideration towards others.

Q It's really nice to hear about other children's achievements in Goldbook, especially when you know how much effort they have put in. **Q**

Parent Partnerships

Working in partnership with parents is the key to success, so each term we share the topic elements to be covered on the class sections of the website.

At the beginning of each academic year, we hold a welcome meeting so the expectations of the class and how parents can support their child's learning, can be explained.

Parent-teacher meetings

We offer parent consultation evenings in the autumn and the spring and provide a written summary at the end of the year. We also hold open classroom sessions, where parents can come into school and look around the classrooms to see the learning that has taken place.

Please see attached Communication Plan.



Talking to teachers

Staff are also available after school if parents need any extra help or information.

Communication

We use email, texts and Class Dojo to communicate. We update the website regularly with news and pictures and a weekly update is produced each Friday.

Wrap Around Care

Wrap around provided by our partners PH Sports. Please book directly through their website: www.phsports.co.uk



Governing Body & Friends of the School

We have a committed PTA – Friends of St George's School (FoSG) – who organise a variety of activities including the Semington Slog (a 10k run), school discos, an annual Christmas fayre, jumble sales, and Easter chocolate bingo. The money they have raised money has been used to purchase some much-needed equipment, as well as providing extra additional items to enhance the children's school experience.

Examples of the things paid for include a complete new library, whole school trips, additions to the classroom resources and a regular end of term Friday treat for the children.

The governing body consists of a mixture of parents and interested members of the community and assist in the monitoring of standards, provision and recruitment.

Onto Secondary School

Many of the children from St George's School move on to Melksham Oak Secondary School, which is also part of The White Horse Federation. The children have the opportunity to attend various open evenings and taster sessions from Year 5 onward in order to gain an insight into life at secondary school. We encourage as many children to attend these events as possible.

There is also a transition programme that the Year 6 children take part in over their final term at St George's to aid that landmark move from Year 6 into Year 7. Not all of our pupils go onto Melksham Oak; some have chosen Lavington, Clarendon, or John of Gaunt in Trowbridge.

Whichever school children move on to, we encourage the take-up of taster days and visits and encourage a smooth transition by liaising with staff to ensure all relevant information is shared.

Special Needs & Disabilities

St George's is a fully inclusive school and will endeavour to meet the diverse needs of all children. We have a Special Needs Coordinator (SENCo) who works one day a week and is available to meet with parents before their child starts school to make sure all the necessary provision is in place.

The Special Needs Register is regularly reviewed to ensure that children who meet the threshold are included and support plans are put in place to make sure children have specific and achievable targets to work towards. Staff receive necessary training to help them support the varying academic, behavioural, and social needs of the pupils.



Joining Our School

Any parents who are considering St George's Primary School for their child's education are encouraged to contact the school to arrange a personal tour with the head of school.

Reception Applications

Applications for reception places should be made online through the local authority. A parent applying on faith grounds should contact the school, or look on the website for the appropriate faith form which should then be returned to the school.

<https://www.wiltshire.gov.uk/schools-learning-admissions-applying>

Applying for In-Year Admission

If you wish to move a child who has already started at a primary school, then this will need to be done using a special the current school.

Moving schools can feel daunting, so we encourage a half- or full-day visit beforehand. Staff will "buddy" new children with a good role model so that they quickly feel welcome and settled. We will also liaise with their previous school to make sure we have all the necessary information to help with their learning and help them quickly become part of the St George's family.

<https://www.wiltshire.gov.uk/schools-learning-admissions-applying>

Tours of the school are available on appointment.

Please phone the School Office on 01380 870 243 to arrange a date and time.

St George's School

Parent & Carer Communication Plan

At St George's School, we value strong communication and partnership working with our parents and carers. We aim to ensure that all of our parents and carers are aware of their child's academic progress, personal development and well-being, and are regularly updated with school updates.

At St George's School, our communication plan sets out how we will communicate with our parents and carers.

Communication	Detail	Frequency
Parents' Evening / Consultation Meetings	Parents' Evening / Consultation Meetings are held for all pupils twice a year. These are usually held at the end of Term 1 and Term 3. These consultation meetings are an invaluable opportunity to discuss a child's progress, targets, successes, attendance and possible additional needs.	Term 1 and 3. 10 minutes per child. Extended time to discuss any additional needs.
Reports	Parents and carers are provided with a written report from their child's class teacher at the end of a school year. Reports include reference to progress, attainment, attendance and a summary of how an individual child has achieved over the course of the year. A key will be sent to explain any terminology we may use.	Term 6 2 sides A4
Friday Round-Up Email	This email is sent every Friday. This includes key dates and reminders as well as important information and celebrations from our week in school.	Weekly every term
Letters	Letters are also used as a form of communicating information to parents and when consent is sought for activities, as and when required and are emailed.	As required
Curriculum Overview	Each class will send out a curriculum overview via Class Dojo of the learning that will be happening for the term for each subject.	Termly
Text messages, email and phone calls	Text messages and e-mail are used as a means of communicating messages with parents, as and when appropriate. Phone calls will be made where there is a concern linked to health, safeguarding or behaviour	As required
Class Dojo	Class Dojo is an app-based system that we use to share messages, information and great learning moments with parents as a whole school and as individual classes. Your child's class teacher will be able to allow you access to the relevant groups and photos	Weekly updates
Tapestry	Tapestry is similar to Class Dojo and is used for our Early Years children. This is also a fundamental tool in tracking and celebrating children's learning in the foundation stage. Both of these applications can be used to provide work for children if they are absent yet well enough to learn or if we have a need for remote learning	Weekly updates As required
School website	The school website is our main form of communication and publishes: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▶ Key policies, including statutory policies ▶ Curriculum ▶ Staffing ▶ Resources to support learning ▶ Contact details ▶ Statutory information required by the DfE 	The school website is updated regularly. All school letters and communications added to website weekly. Compliance updates as required.

Communication	Detail	Frequency
Additional meetings	<p>At times, it may be appropriate for the school to request additional meetings with a parent/carer or vice-versa. This may be, for example, to discuss the specific educational needs, safeguarding or behaviour of a pupil.</p> <p>Parents should contact the class teacher in the first instance to respond to. Then other school professionals may be invited depending on the matter to be discussed. This could be our Special Educational Need and Disabilities Leader, someone from our pastoral support team, Assistant Principal or Principal.</p> <p>Any meetings requested as above will be minuted on a discussion/meeting record form to reflect all views and to state any actions. These notes will be shared with all involved and include time frames for action.</p> <p>Any meeting will focus on the needs and impact for your child. Other children will not be discussed as this is inappropriate and a breach of GDPR regulations. All involved in the meeting must be treated with respect and behave professionally. All views should be heard without interruption or judgement.</p>	<p>As required</p> <p>All meetings and communications will take place within the hours of 7.30am - 5.00pm</p>
Communicating with school	<p>Class teachers will be available to welcome children into school at the start of the school day and this is not the best time to talk to class teachers.</p> <p>If you have general enquiry about the classroom or about your child, please contact the class teacher via Class Dojo or Tapestry. Please be aware that once the class teachers are teaching, they will not be able to respond immediately.</p> <p>If your enquiry requires an urgent response you should call the school office on 01380 870 243 or admin email admin@stgeorges.wilts.sch.uk</p> <p>If your enquiry is linked to a complaint, please contact the class teacher in the first instance. If your concern is not resolved, then contact the Assistant Principal or Principal through the school office. Further information can be found in our Complaints Procedure on our website.</p> <p>If your enquiry is regarding a safeguarding children concern, please contact the Designated Safeguarding Lead through the school office.</p> <p>If your concern is linked to an adult's behaviour towards children, please contact the Principal through the school office.</p>	<p>As required</p> <p>All meetings and communications will take place within the hours of 7.30am - 5.00pm</p>

It is important that the school has the most up to date e-mail address and telephone number for a parent/carer so that communication is received. Parents and carers can inform the school of any changes to their contact details through contacting our school office on **01380 870 243**.



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Proud to be part of The White Horse Federation Multi-Academy Trust | www.twhf.org.uk