St Mary's Catholic Primary School

School Prospectus 2026 – 2027



Learning Together in Faith and Love

Welcome from the Executive Headteacher and the Head of School

Dear Parents/Carers,

We are delighted to welcome you to our vibrant and nurturing school community.

At the heart of St Mary's school is the clear commitment to Catholic values, where every child really does matter. The education that our pupils receive here has Gospel Values at its core. Our motto 'Learning together in Faith and Love' really works here. At St Mary's Catholic Primary School, we recognise that we are all part of God's wonderful creation and therefore are all special. We learn to respect one another as we prepare for the life in the wider world. Our school community is united by our faith in Jesus, whose message we live by and teach. We recognise, respect and celebrate our diversity.

At St Mary's we place great importance on the development of the whole child. Through our Mission Statement, with Jesus at the centre, we foster an environment that helps children develop their social and moral code as they build their sense of uniqueness and self-worth as an individual. We believe all children deserve the opportunity to nurture their individual talents and to achieve their true potential. We ensure that children are well prepared for life in modern Britain by developing life-long learning skills and attitudes that enable them to face new challenges calmly and positively.

Our curriculum is designed to challenge and motivate and ultimately ensure that learners progress academically and become successful and confident individuals. Our aim is that the best learning opportunities will be provided regardless of ability, race, age or gender.

Ultimately, our desire and vision for our children is to instil a love of learning in the hope that this in turn will ensure they leave St Mary's Catholic Primary School as well-rounded individuals who are fully equipped to deal with the opportunities and challenges that they will face in the future. We look forward to meeting you and having the opportunity to work alongside you in the years to come.

Best Wishes

Ms G Hampton (Executive Headteacher) and Ms M Tusting (Head of School)

Our School History – A Proud Heritage of Faith, Learning and Community

St Mary's Catholic Primary School has a proud history of serving families in North Kensington, providing generations of children with a nurturing education rooted in Catholic faith and Gospel values.

Originally established as separate Infant and Junior Schools, St Mary's developed into the primary school we know today, welcoming children from Nursery through to Year 6. Throughout its history, the school has remained committed to providing a caring, inclusive and supportive environment where every child is valued and encouraged to achieve their full potential.

In January 2021, St Mary's entered a new chapter in its history by forming a federation with St Charles Catholic Primary School, strengthening opportunities for collaboration, shared expertise and the continued development of Catholic education within our local community.

Today, St Mary's is proud to be a vibrant, diverse and welcoming school, where our rich heritage is reflected in our strong sense of community, our commitment to inclusion and our mission of Learning Together in Faith and Love.

Our Federation with St Charles Catholic Primary School

St Mary’s School is federated with St Charles Catholic School.

Although both schools work closely together under one Governing Body, sharing resources, expertise and training opportunities,
We still maintain our own identities and characteristics as two separate establishments.

The School Governors' Federation Ethos Statement

As Governors we acknowledge our responsibilities as strategic leaders to ensure every child, in St Charles' and St Mary's Schools, is given the best possible opportunities to reach their full potential, spiritually and academically. We do this by promoting high standards of educational achievement, pastoral care and by modelling the values proclaimed in the Gospel in both communities.



Mission Statement

"Learning together in Faith and Love"

St. Mary's Catholic Primary School exists to serve the Roman Catholic families of the Parish of Our Lady of the Holy Souls, Kensal New Town and other local parishes as well as other families in the local communities.

The aims of our schools are:

- To promote Christian values where children live, learn and celebrate the teaching of Christ.
- To provide a curriculum which is broad, balanced and meaningful and where children can experience enjoyment and fulfilment.
- To promote the highest standards of teaching and learning within the framework of the National Curriculum
- To develop in each child a sense of achievement, value and self-worth and to achieve the standards of which they are capable.
- To help our children acquire the skills of independent learning and make sufficiently rapid progress.

- To provide a safe and secure environment where children feel valued, and where they respect, help and care for each other.
- To involve parents in all aspects of their child's education and promote good home/school partnership.
- To develop in our children awareness and respect for the different cultures and religions represented in society and their responsibility to the wider community.
- To foster the continuing development of staff, parents and governors in serving the community.

St. Mary's Values

These values underpin all areas of our school community:

Kindness

Respect

Tolerance

Honesty

Responsibility

(for ourselves and our world)

Co-operation

These values are based on the quote from the Bible:
'Treat other as you would like to be treated' Matthew 7:10



School Organisation
St Mary's school is a 1-form of entry Catholic primary school admitting children from the age of 3 to 11 years.

Early Years Foundation Stage
Nursery
Children aged 3 to 4 years can access 15 or 30 hours of **free** nursery provision (depending on eligibility). If you are not eligible, there is the opportunity to buy additional hours depending on availability.
Nursery runs from 8.45am to 3.15pm – Monday to Friday.
Morning session 8.45am to 11.45am
Afternoon session 12.15pm to 3.15pm.
For more information, please join us at our information meetings in November or check the admissions page on the school website.

Reception
Reception aged pupils are admitted on a full time basis in the September of the academic year of their fifth birthday.

Key Stage 1 & Key Stage 2
The main school consists of mixed ability classes, which are organised according to the children's ages. Children, whose birthdays fall within a particular year, (September to August) are grouped together in one class.





Admissions

St Mary's Catholic Primary School is a Catholic Voluntary Aided School established for the education of Catholic children. Responsibility for the admission of pupils rests with the Governing Body whose criteria for admission should be read in conjunction with the mission statement and the statement of aims and identity included in this prospectus. Accordingly, the governors will consider applications for admission made on behalf of eligible pupils by parents who are prepared to give positive support to the aims and identity of this Catholic school.

The Governors intend to admit up to 26 pupils into Nursery and 30 pupils into Reception in the school year which begins September 2027.

All applications for a Reception place are made online centrally to the London Borough of Kensington and Chelsea on a Common Application Form (CAF). You must also complete the school's Supplementary Information Form and return to the school.







The School Day at St Mary's

Please find below a copy of our general school timetable. Please note that there are times in the week where teachers may adjust their timetables to accommodate special activities, trips and other enhancements to the curriculum.
During themed weeks and assessment weeks, slight changes may also occur.
In EYFS and KS1, pupils also have an afternoon break. This is at the teachers' discretion.

The School Day

The school gates open at 8.45am. Registration takes place at 8.55am. School ends at 3.30pm.

Nursery

The children access 15 or 30 hours of free nursery provision (depending on eligibility). There is the opportunity to request additional hours depending on availability.

Nursery hours are from 8.45am to 3.15pm – Monday to Friday.
Morning session 8.45am to 11.45am
Afternoon session 12.15pm to 3.15pm

Reception 8.45am to 3.15pm
Key Stage 1 8.45am to 3.20pm
Key Stage 2 8.45am to 3.30pm.

Children will not be dismissed at any other time or venue other than the school, unless prior notice has been given to the parents. Teachers requiring children to participate in out of school activities, will give advance notice to parents.
The school gates will open at 8.45am for the children to enter.
If you are unable to collect your child at the given times for each key stage, please inform the school office in advance of the alternative arrangement you have made for your child's collection.
Latecomers will be recorded in the late book in the school office, which is scrutinised by the Educational Welfare Officer during their termly visits.





Safeguarding

Safeguarding is an umbrella term for the responsibility we have to ensure that children in our care are kept safe from harm and this includes promoting the welfare of these children. This means we have a duty to protect children within our setting from abuse and maltreatment. It includes child protection, recruitment of suitable staff, medication, accidents, illness and emergencies, suitability of the premises and equipment and health and safety.

St Mary's School is committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children and we expect all staff and volunteers to share this commitment.

We have a number of policies and procedures in place that contribute to our safeguarding commitment, including our Safeguarding and Child Protection Policy, which can be viewed in the Policies section of our website or in the School Office. We use CPOMS for monitoring safeguarding, wellbeing and all pastoral issues.

We actively support the Government's Prevent Agenda to counter radicalism and extremism.



Geraldine Hampton
(Executive Headteacher)



Magdalena Tusting
(Head of School, DSL)



Claire Browne
(Assistant HT, Deputy DSL

Catholic Life and Mission of St Mary's

St. Mary's Catholic Primary School exists to serve the Catholic families of the Parish of Our Lady of the Holy Souls, Kensal New Town and other local parishes as well as the local communities.

Our school and parish community is united by our faith in Jesus. We uphold and promote catholic ethos and values in all aspects of the school life.

At St Mary's, we encourage everyone to live, learn and develop in faith and love. We respect and celebrate each other's differences.

At St Mary's, we recognise that we are all part of God's wonderful creation and therefore are all special. We learn to respect one another as we prepare for the life in the wider world. Our school community is united by our faith in Jesus, whose message we live by and teach. We recognise, respect and celebrate our diversity. We uphold and promote catholic ethos and values in all aspects of the school life.
Our Catholic ethos is at the centre of all we do; and at the same time, we seek to ensure that all pupils have an understanding of the diverse religious cultures in our world today. We respect and celebrate each other's differences.
Throughout the year, our children have opportunities to participate in prayer, liturgies and Religious Education lessons, challenging and supporting them to develop in mind, body and spirit. We also learn about all major religions around the world.

At St Mary's we encourage everyone to learn, grow and flourish in Faith and Love.





Faith Ambassadors at St Mary's Catholic Primary School

These men were sent out by Jesus with the following instructions:
"Go and preach; the Kingdom of Heaven is near!" Mt 10:57

By living out our school Mission Statement 'Learning Together in Faith and Love', we ensure that the Gospel values are central to everything we do and say in our school community.

The children who become Faith Ambassadors are selected for this special vocation because they are a shining example to their friends and actively live out their faith as modern day disciples.

Faith Ambassadors meet monthly at lunchtimes with Mrs Tusting. Our Faith Ambassadors are an integral part of our school community who help strengthen pupil's faith and spread God's word.



Catholic Social Teaching at St Mary's

"The commitment and contribution to the Common Good and social justice are outstanding. Pupils are extremely proud of their school and are able to describe their responsibility to the wider community. The overall commitment and contribution to the Common Good and social justice are outstanding. Pupils are extremely proud of their school and are able to describe their responsibility to the wider community." ***Section 48 Inspection***

Catholic Social Teaching is based on the belief that God has a plan for His Creation, a plan to build his kingdom of peace, love and justice. We believe that God has a special place in the Creation for each and every one of us.

We all have to play our part in God's plan. Our part in this plan involves every aspect of our lives, from the things we pray about, to how we live as responsible global citizens. We are all called to live and work for the common good; we are called to treat everyone as brothers and sisters, sharing this wonderful world, our common home.

At St Mary's our Mission Statement 'Learning Together in Faith and Love' is underpinned by our school Values and Golden Rules, derived from Jesus' message to us all: "**In everything, do to others what you would have them do to you**. . . ." **Matthew (7:12).**

"Pupils' understanding of the call to human flourishing is embedded and pupils can demonstrate this in discussion about their stewardship and responsibilities as young Catholics" ***Section 48 Inspection***





Pupil Voice at St Mary's
We have various groups of pupils representing all our children and regularly sharing their ideas so that everyone feels heard at our school.
Every year the Head Girl and Head Boy, Deputy Head Girl and Deputy Head Boy and Prefects are chosen in Year 6 to represent the school and to support children across the school in their social and emotional development.

We also have democratic elections every year to select representatives to the School Council.

To support Catholic Life and Mission of the School we have 8 Faith Ambassadors, who are selected yearly from Year 5 and Year 6 pupils.

We have a very enthusiastic and committed Eco Council, who lead the school in green initiatives, including recycling, saving water and energy.

Special Educational Needs at St Mary's Schools

At St Mary's we firmly believe that all children are entitled to follow a broad and balanced curriculum. Some children need extra help because of learning difficulties, physical disabilities, or emotional and behavioural needs.

The school has screening procedures for identifying and assessing children's educational needs. We have a Special Needs Co-ordinator who works alongside the Class Teachers and Learning Support Assistants to plan the educational provision for children with special educational needs. Parents and carers are regularly consulted and kept informed.

SEND Vision

At St Mary's Primary School, we believe passionately in the importance of **inclusion** and **equality** for all children and strive to ensure that these values are at the heart of our SEND practices.

We will always involve parents and children in key decisions, as well as planning and reviewing progress; we know that parents are the first educators of their child and that we need their knowledge and co-operation to plan effectively.

We are committed to providing expert support and resources for children with SEND to fulfil their individual potential and to be fully included in our curriculum offer.

Our starting point is to guarantee a whole -school approach to providing for the needs of children with SEND. In other words, we make sure that all staff have the knowledge and skills to support all children, including those with SEND, throughout our School.

Equal opportunities

The ethos of our school is based upon Christ's commandment to love God and to love our neighbour. Therefore, implicit within our teaching is that all children regardless of gender, age, race, creed or ability are treated equally and encouraged to work in harmony with respect for one another. At St Mary's Catholic School, we encourage an atmosphere of love, understanding and tolerance.







Curriculum

Our rich and diverse curriculum allows children to become fully absorbed in their learning and make links between subjects, topics and themes. We constantly review our curriculum to ensure that it is relevant and of interest to the children, providing them with the knowledge, skills and understanding required for the next stage of their development after primary school.







Music at St Mary's – Nurturing Talent, Creativity and a Love of Music

At St Mary's, music is an important and much-loved part of school life. We are proud of our vibrant music provision, led by our talented, enthusiastic and passionate Music Teacher, Ms Alena, who inspires children to discover the joy of music, develop their creativity and grow in confidence.

Alongside our rich and engaging Music curriculum, pupils are encouraged to explore their musical talents and have opportunities to learn a musical instrument in school from Year 3 onwards. Through individual music lessons, encouragement and dedicated support, children are able to develop their skills, discover new interests and achieve their personal best.

We are particularly proud of our pupils' achievements in the prestigious Associated Board of the Royal Schools of Music (ABRSM) examinations. With Ms Alena's guidance and encouragement, our young musicians have achieved outstanding results in piano examinations from Grades 1 to 3, including three Distinctions and seven Merits – a wonderful testament to their hard work, commitment and musical talent!

Music is also at the heart of our school community. Throughout the year, children have opportunities to showcase their talents through Christmas and Spring concerts, school assemblies and special celebrations. These performances bring great joy to our pupils, families and staff, while helping children develop confidence, teamwork and a sense of achievement.

Our music provision is further enriched through a variety of musical activities and experiences, giving children opportunities to explore different aspects of music, develop their individual talents and share their gifts with others.

As a Catholic school, we recognise music as a beautiful way of expressing joy, faith and gratitude. Through singing, performing and making music together, our children experience the importance of creativity, collaboration and celebrating the unique gifts and talents of every individual.

At St Mary's, we believe that every child has a musical voice, and we are committed to helping each one discover and develop it.

Assessment
Regular assessment of pupils' work is carried out by the class teacher and monitored by the senior leadership team.
Statutory assessment

- Early Years Foundation Stage profile assessment (end of Reception)
- Phonics Screening test (end of Year 1)
- Multiplication Tables Checking (Year 4)
- Key Stage Two SATs (end of Year 6)

The end of key stage 2 assessments take place in May. All other assessments and checks take place in June.

Statutory Outcomes 2025 - 2026

Below are the headline results from the statutory assessments taken in 2026.

2025 Early Years % of pupils achieving a Good Level of Development	81.8%
% National	72.3%

2026 Year 1 Phonics Screening Pass	88%
% National 2025	80%

2026 Year 2 Phonics (retakes)	80%

2026 Optional Key Stage 1 assessments	**Reading**	**Writing**	**Maths**	**Science**
Percentage achieving expected standard	65%	60%	65%	75%
Percentage achieving standard in Kensington and Chelsea	77%	72%	76%	
Percentage of pupils achieving the higher standard	5%	0%	5%	
Percentage of pupils achieving the higher standard in Kensington and Chelsea	21.6%	18.3%	23%	

2026 Average score on Multiplication Tables Check	21.6%
Percentage of pupils achieving full marks	48%
Percentage of pupils achieving full marks nationally	37%
National average	21%

2026 Key Stage 2	R/W/M	Reading	Writing	Maths	Punctuation, Grammar & Spelling
Percentage achieving expected standard	73%	82%	73%	86%	77%
Percentage achieving expected nationally	63%	75%	73%	75%	74%
Average scaled score		105		104	104
Average scaled score nationally		106		105	105
Percentage of pupils achieving the higher standard	10.5%	45%	18%	14%	23%
Percentage of pupils achieving the higher standard nationally	9%	31%	13%	27%	30%
Science – percentage achieving expected standard	School 82%	Nationally 82%			

Homework

At St Mary's Catholic Primary School, homework is seen as a vital part of the learning process. A homework timetable is attached to the termly class curriculum letter.

Best Start Free Breakfast and after school clubs

Our Best Start Free Breakfast Club runs from 7.45am every day. We offer substantial breakfast for all pupils who attend.

There are a variety of after school clubs on offer. An 'After School Club' timetables are available from the school office.

Behaviour

The school has a positive attitude towards behaviour. Good manners and respect for other people and their property are expected at all times. Children are encouraged to take pride in their work and their appearance. School rules are explained to the children and we expect them to co-operate in order to maintain a peaceful and safe environment. We encourage children to exercise self-discipline and to see the consequences of their actions. Good news letters and star worker/team player certificates are awarded to children who demonstrate consistent positive behaviour.









Parents

We endeavour to assist parents in their role as Catholic educators by providing them with the opportunity to share in the life of the school and to participate in religious celebrations.

Throughout the year there are many meetings, celebrations of the Eucharist and social events that parents are invited to attend.

Parent consultation evenings are held termly enabling parents to discuss their child's well-being and progress with the teacher and see samples of work.

If parents have any concerns or worries, we encourage them to speak to us.

Weekly newsletters are emailed home to keep parents up to date with what is happening in school. Messages and reminders are sent through our text messaging service.

'The Parents' Group' organise many fundraising events throughout the year and the school relies on this funding to purchase additional resources to support your children's learning.

Visits and Visitors

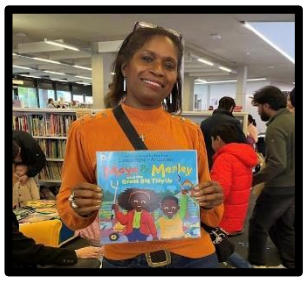
Regular visits to museums, historical homes, the theatre or other places of educational interest are organised in line with the work being covered in class. We planned one visit every half term. Children in Year 6 participate in a residential out-door activity based trip.

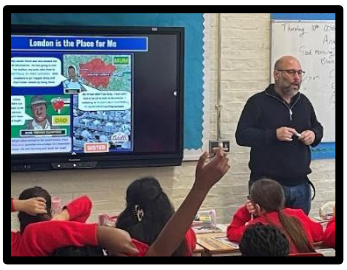
We also invite visitors to our schools, who share their inspirational stories, ideas and workshops on a wide range of topics.











Appearance of our pupils:

- All children should wear the correct, full uniform each day.
- For pierced ears, only studs are permitted one in each ear, no hoops.
- Children are not allowed to wear jewellery or any form of necklace or bracelet in school as this could be a cause of injury.
- Only children in Year 6 are allowed to wear watches but must accept responsibility for their own property.
- Smart watches and wearable smart technology are not permitted
- Nail Varnish is not allowed.
- Tights for girls must be grey or navy.
- Hairstyles must be simple, neat and tidy, of a natural colour and must be worn off the face. **Please, note that only conventional hairstyles are acceptable**.
- Coats must be plain black or navy.
- Children are permitted to carry items to and from school in either a school book bag (EYFS & KS1) or the large school bag (KS2).



Attendance

Governors and staff are keen to encourage good habits of punctuality and high attendance at school. Government expectations are that pupil school attendance should be a minimum of 96% - this applies to all children of statutory school age.
Pupil attainment and achievement depend on regular attendance at school. Any absence leads to missed learning and other experiences and may cause difficulties with social relationships.
We ask parents to co-operate with us by not organising or booking holidays during term time. This is in line with Kensington and Chelsea LA regulations.





Governors' Fund
As a voluntary aided school, the Governors are responsible for the internal improvements and the structural external maintenance of the school. Each family is asked to make an annual contribution to the Diocesan School Fund which enable these works to be carried out.

We look forward to welcoming you and your child to our school. This may be a new experience for your family or perhaps you have older children already at school; whatever your previous experiences of school have been, we hope to make this a new and exciting partnership.

St Mary's Catholic Primary School is all about working together for the good of our children to serve their needs and help to fulfil their potential.

LEARNING TOGETHER IN FAITH AND LOVE

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