

*Welcome to*  
**St. Mary's**  
Catholic Primary School

**Prospectus**  
2025/26



A Proud Member of  
**BISHOP  
HOGARTH**  
Catholic Education Trust

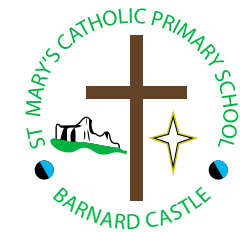






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## *A very warm welcome to* **St. Mary's Catholic Primary School**

We are incredibly proud of the caring and nurturing environment at St. Mary's, where every child is valued and respected for who they are. The family ethos of our small school ensures our children develop a strong sense of belonging from the day they start their journey with us.

St. Mary's is a happy school with high hopes and ambitions for all our children. Our school has a tradition of high standards, and we welcome the opportunity to work with parents and carers to ensure every pupil makes treasured memories, achieves their full potential and has the best possible learning experience.

At St. Mary's our aim is to ensure that all our children are inspired to learn, laugh and love and we do this through making St. Mary's a place...

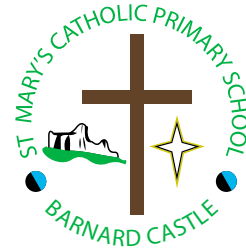
- Of welcome and belonging.
- Of laughter and celebration.
- Of hope.
- Of kindness.
- Of safety and support.
- Which enables its pupils to experience the joy of learning.
- Of truth, justice and equality.
- Where every child knows that God has made them unique and blessed them with talents.
- Which sets free the imagination for creativity and innovation to flourish.

**All are welcome in our wonderful school. Please contact the school office so that we can arrange for you to come and look around.**

*Mrs Lesley Box*  
**Headteacher**



# Why choose our school?



St Mary's promises an enriching educational journey tailored to inspire and nurture your child's growth. We prioritise the holistic development of every student, fostering a love for learning and exploration from the very beginning. With our promotion of outdoor education, including our charming chicken coop and expansive gardening area, children can connect with nature and cultivate valuable life skills outside of the classroom.

Our delightful Early Years Foundation Stage (EYFS) room provides a warm and welcoming environment for young learners to thrive. Recognised as one of the top 10 performing schools in County Durham by the Northern Echo, we boast a team of experienced staff with a wealth of knowledge, ensuring every child receives the support they need to flourish.

From Nursery weekly adventures, to our excellent links and relationships with the local community, joining our school means starting a journey of endless possibilities and boundless opportunities for growth.

'St Mary's is a special place to be; a sense of belonging and family threads through all aspects of school life.'



Scan the QR code to view full Ofsted report





# Our school day

The school gates open at 8:45am for pupils to arrive.

- School starts – 9:00am
- Break – 10:15am – 10:30am
- Lunchtime for EYFS/KS1 – 11:50am – 1:00pm
- Lunchtime for KS2 – 12:00noon – 1:00pm
- Classes gather for prayer – 3:25pm
- Home time – 3:30pm

## Wraparound care

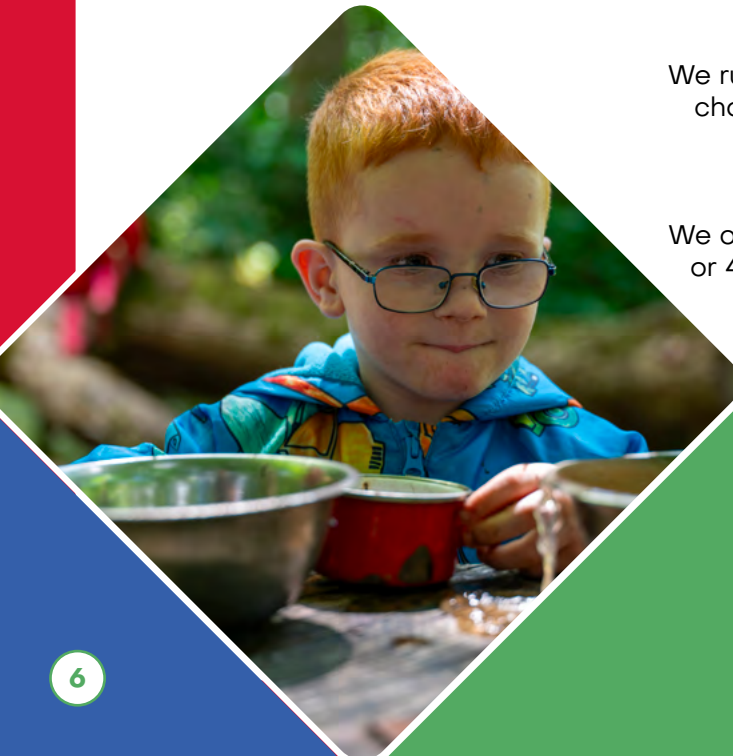
### Breakfast Club:

We run a breakfast club from 7:45am where children can choose from a range of food options to start their day. The cost is £3 per session or £1.50 from 8:30am.

### After School Child Care:

We offer a range of after school clubs that finish at 5pm or 4pm on a Friday, these can be found on our website or by contacting the school office.

**Little Wrens (nursery)** finish at 3pm, however if they have older siblings and you would like them to remain in school until 3:30pm this can be arranged for a small fee of £1.50. Breakfast and after school clubs are open to nursery children and can be accessed through funded hours or private payments.



# Our school uniform

The school uniform can be purchased from either our school uniform supplier, Etika Uniforms, in any supermarket or our pre-loved uniform bank for the uniform supplies.

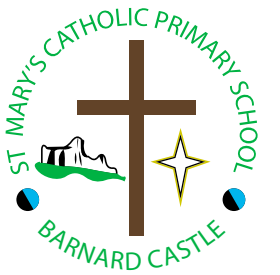
### Our uniform:

- Grey skirt/pinafore/trousers/shorts.
- Powder blue polo shirt.
- Red cardigan/sweatshirt/zip-top.
- Red polo dress (EYFS & Key Stage one only).
- Red and white gingham dress.
- Grey/red tights/dark socks.
- Black shoes (not trainers).

### PE uniform:

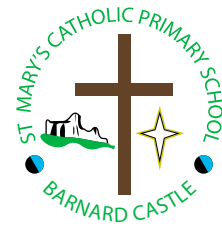
- Red shorts or grey joggers/leggings.
- Blue t-shirts.
- Trainers.

To order our school uniform please scan the QR code.





# Our curriculum



The curriculum is all the planned activities that the school organises to promote learning, personal growth and development. Our curriculum includes the formal requirements of the National Curriculum, but also the range of additional opportunities that we organise to enrich the experiences of our children. This includes an ever-growing range of 'Enjoyment and Enrichment' opportunities available to our children across all year groups.

Our curriculum also includes the social aspects imperative for lifelong learning. St. Mary's have been awarded with 'The Rights Respecting School Award' and 'Investing in Children Award', these awards demonstrate the importance of children having high expectations of behaviour and tolerance towards each other at St. Mary's.

Here at St. Mary's, we are dedicated to unlocking and nurturing our pupils' boundless academic and social potential, as they embark on their exciting school journey with us.

To find out more about our curriculum, please scan the QR code.



**“Pupils have the utmost pride in the school. They cannot think of anything they would change.”**

**Ofsted**





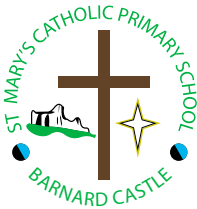
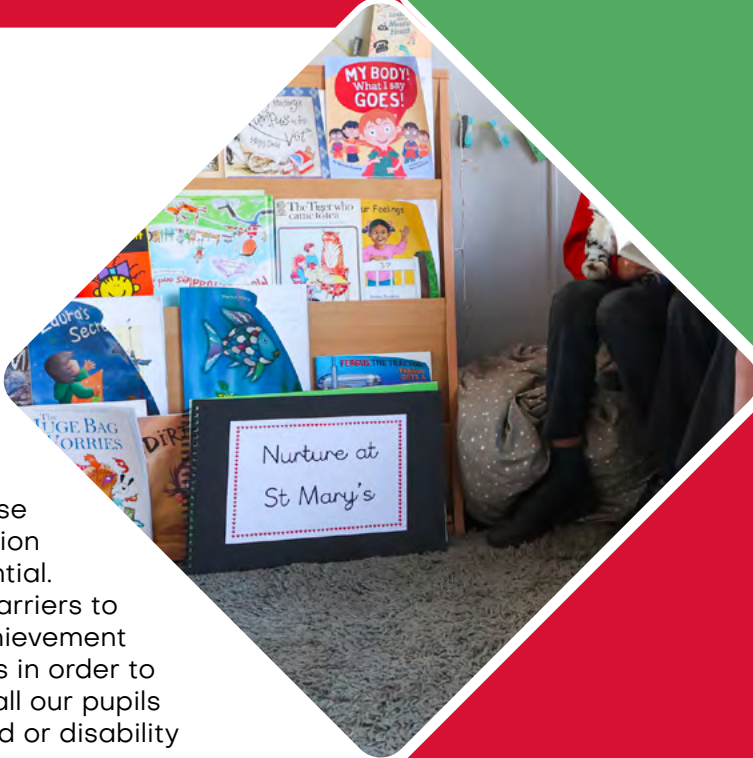
**“Pupils know that their views are important and valued by the adults in school.”**

**Ofsted**

# Special educational needs and disabilities

St Mary's is a happy school, where we recognise that all pupils are entitled to a quality of provision that will enable them to achieve their full potential. We believe in positive intervention, removing barriers to learning, raising expectations and levels of achievement and working in partnership with other agencies in order to provide a positive educational experience for all our pupils including those with a special educational need or disability (SEND).

We deliver a creative curriculum enabling an environment that meets the needs of every pupil within our school. We ensure that every pupil with SEND makes the best progress possible. We foster and promote effective working partnerships with parents, carers, pupils, and outside agencies. We consider the 'whole' child and strive to ensure that all our SEND pupils are prepared for adulthood.



**Key Contact**  
Mrs Lesley Box  
Headteacher & SENDCo

To find out more  
please scan  
the QR code







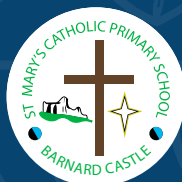
BISHOP HOGARTH  
Catholic Education Trust

## Our Trust

**Bishop Hogarth Catholic Education Trust**  
is a family of 35 schools across  
County Durham, Darlington, Hartlepool, and  
Stockton-On-Tees.

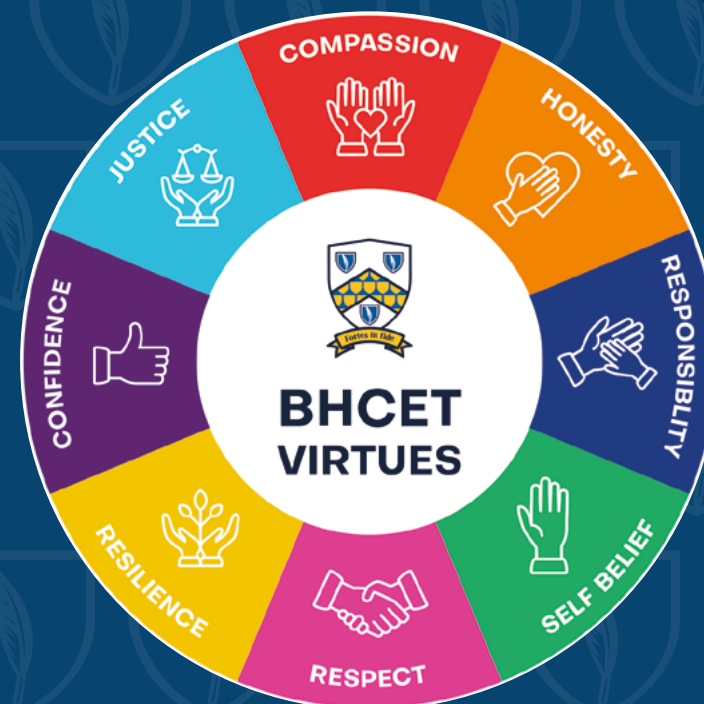
Our mission is to provide the highest quality education,  
fostering a collaborative environment where resources  
and best practices are shared among our schools.

We are committed to the educational welfare of our  
pupils. This is why we place Christ at the centre and  
children at the heart.



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**BISHOP HOGARTH**  
Catholic Education Trust

Scan the QR code to view our [school locations](#) map



### JUSTICE & COMPASSION

We value  
fairness and  
empathy, treating  
others with  
kindness and  
understanding.

### HONESTY & RESPONSIBILITY

We prioritise  
truthfulness and  
accountability,  
taking ownership of  
our actions and  
decisions.

### CONFIDENCE & RESILIENCE

We foster courage  
and adaptability,  
empowering  
individuals to face  
challenges and  
overcome setbacks.

### RESPECT & SELF BELIEF

We embrace  
diversity and  
individuality, fostering  
an environment where  
everyone feels valued  
and confident.

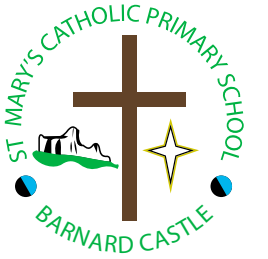


**WATCH  
OUR VIDEO**





# Apply for a place at St. Mary's



Starting primary school is a very important time for you and your child, and at St. Mary's we aim to make this a happy experience for everyone. Children can start school in our reception class in the September of the academic year in which they will be five years old.

To gain a place at St. Mary's, you will need to apply through Durham County Council's website. Please follow the link for more information or scan the QR code. Alternatively, you can contact the school office.  
<https://stmarysbc.bhccet.org.uk/information/admissions-policy>



If your child is not already attending our school nursery, they will be invited to spend some informal sessions with their new teacher and other children from the class in the summer term in order to familiarise themselves with the school environment. An information evening for our new reception class parents is also held in the summer term.

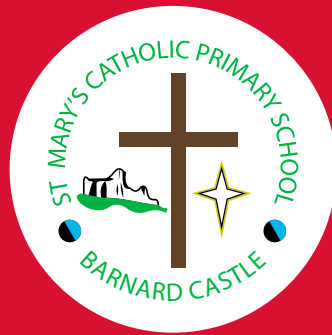
If your child is looking to join our school mid-year, please apply through Durham County Council's website (<https://www.durham.gov.uk/article/2197/Apply-to-change-school-during-the-school-year>). We highly recommend contacting the school in the first instance for a visit.

## Nursery Admissions

At St. Mary's, we offer a wonderful nursery setting for three year olds. The nursery is open from 9am – 3pm (term time only) and can be a mix of both government funded hours and private payment. Please visit our website for more information.



*I can do all things through  
Christ who strengthens me*



**St Mary's Catholic Primary School**

Birch Road, Barnard Castle, County Durham, DL12 8JR

 **01833 637029**

 **[office@stmarys.bhcet.org.uk](mailto:office@stmarys.bhcet.org.uk)**

 **[stmarysbc.bhcet.org.uk/](http://stmarysbc.bhcet.org.uk/)**

 **[@StMarysPrimaryBarnardCastle](https://www.facebook.com/StMarysPrimaryBarnardCastle)**



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