# St. Matthew's Catholic Primary School Prospectus



Catholic Education Trust



## Welcome

Our wonderful school opened its doors to pupils on 28 June 1954 with 300 children and 7 teachers.

Our school exists to work alongside families to ensure every child fulfils their potential in all aspects of life. Our Mission Statement is central to all we do on a daily basis:

Welcome to our happy school, where everyone is valued and given the opportunity to 'let their light shine.' With Jesus in our hearts, we encourage love and respect for all. We strive to reach our goals, as we learn, and grow, in a safe and enjoyable environment.

In order to allow our pupils to 'let their light shine,' we provide a warm and welcoming environment, in which pupils access a vibrant and varied curriculum. We are proud to be part of the Bishop Chadwick Catholic Education Trust and we work closely in partnership with our families, parish and local community to ensure that everyone the St. Matthew's family.

We hope you enjoy reading this brochure; please feel free to arrange a visit to come and see us if you would like to know more.

Mrs Eve Alderson, Headteacher



## **Our Curriculum**

We provide a broad, balanced and inclusive curriculum to promote the spiritual, moral, cultural, mental and physical development of all pupils with the aim of preparing the pupils at St. Matthew's for the opportunities, responsibilities and experiences of later life.

Our enhanced school curriculum has the national curriculum at its core to provide pupils with an introduction to the essential knowledge that they need to be educated citizens. It introduces pupils to the best that has been thought and said; and helps engender an appreciation of human creativity and achievement.

We believe that our teaching develops exciting and stimulating learning experiences in and beyond the classroom to promote the development of pupils' knowledge, understanding and skills as part of the wider school curriculum. We promote universal human values encompassing equality and respect for all, enabling our pupils to value their British status and traditions within an inclusive multi-racial society.

Each year group has a curriculum overview which is shared with parents at the Curriculum Evenings early in the Autumn Term and are also available on our website. Our curriculum is progressive and sequential and is regularly reviewed.

## **Our Parish**

St. Matthew's Catholic Primary serves the parish of St Matthew's Catholic Church in Jarrow, which is part of the Jarrow Cluster of Catholic Churches.

We have very close links with St. Matthew's Church and its parishioners, holding School Masses in Church and visiting Church regularly. We also invite members of the parish to attend events in school, where possible.

We have a very strong Sacramental Preparation Programme, which is led by wonderful volunteer catechists from the Parish. The four Cluster Parish Primary Schools – St Matthews, St Joseph's, St Bede's and St Mary's, also work closely together and our 'RE Pupil Ambassadors' from each school work together to promote spiritual development across the schools.



# **Wrap-around Care Provision**

We are proud to provide wraparound care for our pupils from 7.30am to 5.30pm each day (5pm on Fridays). This is led by Mrs Carmichael and Ms Wright.

The Breakfast Club is open to pupils Monday to Friday from 7.30am to 9am. The Teatime Club is open to pupils Monday to Thursday from after school to 5.30pm and 5pm on Fridays. The cost of each session is £5 per child and £4 per sibling.

To book a place email TMAchildcare@stmatthewsjarrow.co.uk or contact the School Office on 0191 4898355. Food is provided at both Breakfast Club and Teatime Club.

We also offer a range of after school clubs, which change regularly in order to offer varied and exciting opportunities to our pupils; parents are provided with information regarding these each term.

# **Pupil Voice**

We believe strongly in our children shaping and leading decisions made at St. Matthew's and encourage our pupils to join groups that may interest them. Some of the groups across school which pupils can join are our School Council, Junior Leadership Team, RE Ambassadors, Eco-Warriors, Playground Leaders, Peer Mediators and Mini Vinnies. The groups help to lead change across school and hear the views of their peers across school.

### **Our Uniform**

The wearing of a school uniform gives pupils a sense of belonging to the school community and encourages high standards in presentation. This in turn impacts favourably on both behaviour and attitudes. Our uniform consists of:

- St. Matthew's navy blue sweatshirt or cardigan
- Light blue polo shirt (school logo optional)
- Grey skirt, trousers, shorts or pinafore/blue and white gingham dress in summer term
- Grey or white socks or tights
- St. Matthew's navy coat optional
- Black sensible school shoes no trainers/trainer type shoes
- Boots may be worn during inclement weather but should be changed when indoors
- PE kit is St Matthew's blue t-shirt, navy blue shorts/plain navy blue jogging bottoms and outdoor trainers

A supplier you may wish to use for branded items is Emblematic - please visit <a href="https://studentuniform.co.uk/smps192/">https://studentuniform.co.uk/smps192/</a>



### **SEND**

At St. Matthew's Catholic Primary School, we are committed to the equal inclusion of all pupils in all areas of primary school life. We recognise the diverse and individual needs of all pupils and take into account the additional support required by those children with Special Educational Needs and Disabilities (SEND).

Miss Helen Shawcross is the Designated Teacher for Looked after Children and also our SENDCO. Along with the headteacher, Mrs Alderson, she is responsible for ensuring all teachers in school understand the implications for those children who are looked after and have SEND.

We also have a designated SEND Governor, Mrs Helen Hall, who works closely with the SENDCO to monitor and evaluate the effectiveness of SEND provision for all children at St Matthew's.





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