

ST. EDWARD'S



Prospectus
2024/2025

Mission statement.

'To love, to serve and learn.'

We are a school family journeying together in God's love. We serve each other to achieve our best. We learn in fun and creative ways, respecting everyone's gifts.



Welcome to St Edward's Catholic Primary School

Welcome to our wonderful school, full of happy, well-behaved children, who are a joy to teach. Our pupils, who are at the heart of every decision we make, are happy, confident and are given opportunities to achieve both now and in the future. Our highly skilled, enthusiastic and all-round amazing staff are key to the school delivering this crucial aim for all our pupils. St. Edward's wants to develop a learning community where children respect each other and take responsibility for their own behaviour and progress, showing understanding and modelling for each other the values that are essential to developing a harmonious and cohesive learning community. This begins with our children in Reception and continues throughout our school, our children are taught and encouraged to make positive behaviour and learning choices that enable them to flourish.

We are proud to be a Catholic School reflecting Christian values in the way we interact with each other and within the community and all the while celebrating our diverse community and other faiths. Each person's faith is of equal importance and at St Edward's we ensure that all our families feel welcome

At St Edward's Catholic Primary School, we strive relentlessly to ensure that all our children enjoy a stimulating and diverse education. We want them to be fully active in their learning and achieve to the very best of their ability. Whilst academic attainment is an important focus for our school and we aim for high standards in all we do, we also strive to create a learning environment where children experience enjoyment in their lessons. Staff ensure that our children are excited by their learning opportunities, intrigued by vibrant and welcoming learning environments, both inside and outside that provide our children with inspiring and welcoming spaces where they have the freedom and support to develop. Everyone works hard to provide the best opportunities for all our children, creating a safe and happy environment, instilling confidence, resourcefulness and a willingness to learn. It gives the children a solid stepping stone to take responsibility for their future, and the confidence to go on and make important life decisions. We aim to provide the very best education and experiences to prepare them for their next steps in life.

It is important to me that we foster positive relationships with our parents/carers, governors and the wider school community to ensure the best possible outcomes for all children and I look forward to when we can invite parents and carers into school to be a part of school community once again.

As a school, we are always looking for new ways to improve and grow. We all work together with a common goal, to ensure that our children are happy and successful in their primary years.

Curriculum

We have an engaging curriculum that we constantly assess to ensure our children foster a passion for learning and curiosity that will help to develop high aspirations and a life-long love of learning. Our curriculum is carefully designed to allow a wealth of opportunities both in school and through enrichment activities beyond the school environment. Through our mission statement of 'To love, to serve, to learn' our aim is to nurture children's individual talents and ensure that ALL children experience success and reach their full potential. Where possible, we link our curriculum to our school grounds, history and locality. We love to capitalise on St. Edward's rich history within the town, our enviable position along 2 canals and the River Mersey and our beautiful grounds, including our pond, orienteering trail and of course our lovely hens.

EYFS overview

Our children come to us from a variety of Nursery settings. Our primary focus is developing their social and emotional skills, speech and language and physical development. We focus learning around the children's interests and seasonal topics, predominantly delivered through play and continuous provision. Alongside this, the children follow the highly structured 'Read, Write Inc' phonics program. Children are introduced to writing and story-telling through 'Talk4Writing'.

KS1 overview

The children continue to follow the highly structured 'Read, Write Inc' phonics program, and develop writing and story-telling through 'Talk4Writing'. A highlight in Year 2 is our Christmas sleepover! In Y1 the children complete their national phonics check.

KS2 overview

At KS2 we continue with 'Talk4 Writing' to become skilled and confident writers. The children also have the opportunity to learn to play different musical instruments. Swimming lessons begin in Y4 for all KS2 children. We benefit from the skills of our dedicated sports coach sports coach as well as dance and drama provided by Andrew Curphey and his Theatre School. Y4 and Y6 both have opportunities for residential stays at Tattenhall and Robinwood.





Catholic Life

At St Edward's Religious Education is taught as an academic subject. However, the whole life of St Edward's is an expression in practice of Catholic belief and Catholic tradition. As they grow, the children are encouraged to put their faith into practice in their own lives.

In class, the children help to prepare and participate in masses and assemblies. Not only in the teaching, but also in the daily practice of the faith, our children are helped by the personal example of the staff.

The children, parents and parish work together to prepare the children to receive the sacraments of First Forgiveness and Holy Communion.

During Holy Week, the children take part in a school-based service enabling them the opportunity to reflect on the events leading up to the Resurrection on Easter Sunday.

The school has an act of collective worship each day. These include prayers in the morning, before and after lunch and at the end of the school day. Assemblies, Hymn Practices, Class Collective Worship, Celebration Assembly or Class assemblies are held each week.

The school shows the importance of its Catholic life through displays and images; Christian symbols are frosted onto the front windows of the school, and there are banners hanging in the hall. Each class has a painted cross on the wall and a prayer focus area.

Woven through the year, the children, from Reception to Year 6, walk the mile and a half along the canal to St Edward's Church for the celebration of Mass.

The school community works to raise funds for those in need. Various causes have been supported. Minnie-Vinnies meet regularly and support various charities.

The Catholic Life of our school is woven throughout all activities and events at St Edward's.

A Typical School Day

8.00am	Breakfast club
8.40am	Gates open
8.50am	School starts
9-9.30am	Phonics or shared reading
10.45-11am	Morning break
12-12.45pm	Lunch
3.20pm	Home time
PE – Thursday & Friday (please come in PE kits)	

Extra-curricular/ enrichment, before and after school clubs.

Across the school year we provide a range of free after-school clubs for different year groups. They range from dance and drama led by the theatre school, sports led by our sports coach to mindfulness, cooking, gardening art, table tennis, computing and more.

Breakfast club runs daily from 8am and costs £2.50 per session





Forest school.

Our beautiful grounds provide ample opportunities for the children to develop some forest school and eco skills.

Forest School is a child-centred inspirational learning process, that offers opportunities for holistic growth through regular sessions. It is a long-term program that supports play, exploration and supported risk taking. It develops confidence and self-esteem through learner inspired, hands-on experiences in a natural setting.

Forest School has a developmental ethos shared by thousands of trained practitioners around the world, who are constantly developing their learning styles and skills to support new and imaginative learners. Its roots reach back to the open-air culture, friluftsliv, or free air life, seen as a way of life in Scandinavia where Forest School began. It arrived in the UK in 1993 and has grown from strength to strength since then.

The process helps and facilitates more than knowledge-gathering, it helps learners develop socially, emotionally, spiritually, physically and intellectually. It creates a safe, non-judgemental nurturing environment for learners to try stuff out and take risks. Forest School inspires a deep and meaningful connection to the world and an understanding of how a learner fits within it. Our approach to risk means that learners constantly expand on their abilities by solving real-world issues, building self-belief and resilience. We believe that risk is more than just potential for physical harm, but a more holistic thing, there are risks in everything we do, and we grow by overcoming them. Forest School therefore, helps participants to become, healthy, resilient, creative and independent learners.

There is lots of research out there to support the outcomes of Forest School, but we know that it isn't just the educational outcomes and research that matter, our learners and leaders love it too!

What our families say About St Edward's Catholic Primary School

"My child is happy at St Edward's; learning values which will help them to become a better person in the future."

"St Edward's has a real community spirit. The teachers offer support to both their pupils and their families."

"My child is making great progress at St Edward's Primary. The superb teaching staff make learning fun."

"I am proud to feel a part of St Edward's Catholic Primary School!"

What Ofsted have said about St Edward's Catholic Primary School

"Pupils, including children in early years, enjoy coming to this school."

"Pupils behave well. They are well mannered and respectful towards staff and each other."

"Pupils are considerate of others. They follow routines and abide by the school's rules."

"One pupil summed up the views of many when they said, 'It is hard to be a stranger in our school. It is so easy to make friends.'"



Are you interested in joining St Edward's Catholic Primary School?

Admissions are managed by Halton Council.

We have **20 spaces** available each year. These spaces are allocated by Halton using their criteria which can be viewed at www.halton.gov.uk Applications for September admissions before the middle of January each year. In year admissions can be made if spaces are available in your chosen year group.

All forms applying for a space are available online at www.halton.gov.uk or on our school website www.stedwardscatholicprimaryschool.co.uk/page/?title=Admissions&pid=41

Once your child has been offered the place as our school you will be invited into school to a new parents evening. We also run a number of other events for your child to ensure that you and your child feel part of the school community even before your first day.

If you have any questions please do not hesitate to contact us either via our email address sbm@stedwardscatholicprimary.co.uk or alternatively call the school office on **01928 572317**



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