



Welcome to St Clare's Catholic Primary School

Part of Mater Ecclesiae Catholic Multi Academy Trust



St. Clare's Catholic Primary School Mission Statement

St Clare's is a Christ-centered family where everyone is valued and respected.

We learn and grow, whilst strengthening our relationship with God and one another.

Together in His love, we can achieve our full potential.

Play, learn and grow together with Christ

Dear Parents,

I would like to welcome you to St Clare's Catholic Primary School. I am proud to be the Headteacher of such a wonderful school. St Clare's is an inclusive school where every child is respected, loved and encouraged to shine in all that they do. We are also a successful school that offers a stimulating environment and high standards of education from three to eleven. We ensure that we live out our Mission Statement as a caring Catholic community, in which all members can love, respect and shine in all that they do.

We work in close partnership with parents and parish, recognising the unique nature of each child and celebrating what every individual adds to our school family. Above all else, as stated in our Mission Statement, we want our children to feel loved and, in turn, to love others.

We are a Catholic School and, as a school community, our aim is to live out the Gospel values daily. We have non- Catholic families in our school community who have chosen St Clare's Catholic Primary School because they share our values and recognise the importance of them for their children.

I hope you will find our prospectus helpful in gaining an impression of St Clare's Catholic Primary School. Our school places Christ at the centre of all thoughts, actions and words. Working as a school family we strive to serve, challenge, guide and inspire your child to grow in the image of Christ. We know that this can only be achieved with your help and support, and therefore our vision is of a whole community working, learning and growing together.

All the staff of St.Clare's would like to welcome you and look forward to working together.

Kindest regards,

Mrs A Charnley Headteacher

St. Clare's is a school which seeks to implement the highest ideals of Catholic education for boys and girls. Our aim is to provide a wide range of educational opportunities, care for each individual child, and insist on discipline of the highest standards and character development. This is recognised by their parents, who will not hesitate to select St. Clare's as their first choice to provide primary education for their children. The contents of this brochure are intended as a source of reference for parents. It contains an outline of current school practice.

Our vision

Our School vision is of a community working together in openness, trust and respect. Where all members of the community are:

- Challenged to develop their strengths and acknowledge their weaknesses.
- Given continuous opportunities to develop their relationship with God as they grow in his image.
- Valued and respected for who they are.
- Encouraged to be the best that they can be.



Working with the Community

At St Clare's we place great value on the working relationship we have developed with our parents. We recognise the importance of working together and are interested in your views and opinions. We pride ourselves on being a listening school and would therefore encourage you to always share your concerns with us. To keep you informed we produce a weekly newsletter and provide an overview of the learning opportunities provided for your child.

We are constantly developing links with the Parish with the sharing of mass and invitations to parishioners to attend school events. We are always striving to develop these further and welcome any new ideas.

Our Parent-Teacher and Friends Association has a long tradition of supporting home/school links. We hope that all parents will become involved in some way with the PTFA and enjoy meeting and working with others for the benefit of their children and the school. Their fund-raising events have helped the school to buy equipment and resources which have greatly benefited the education of many. We are currently raising money to develop technology across the school.

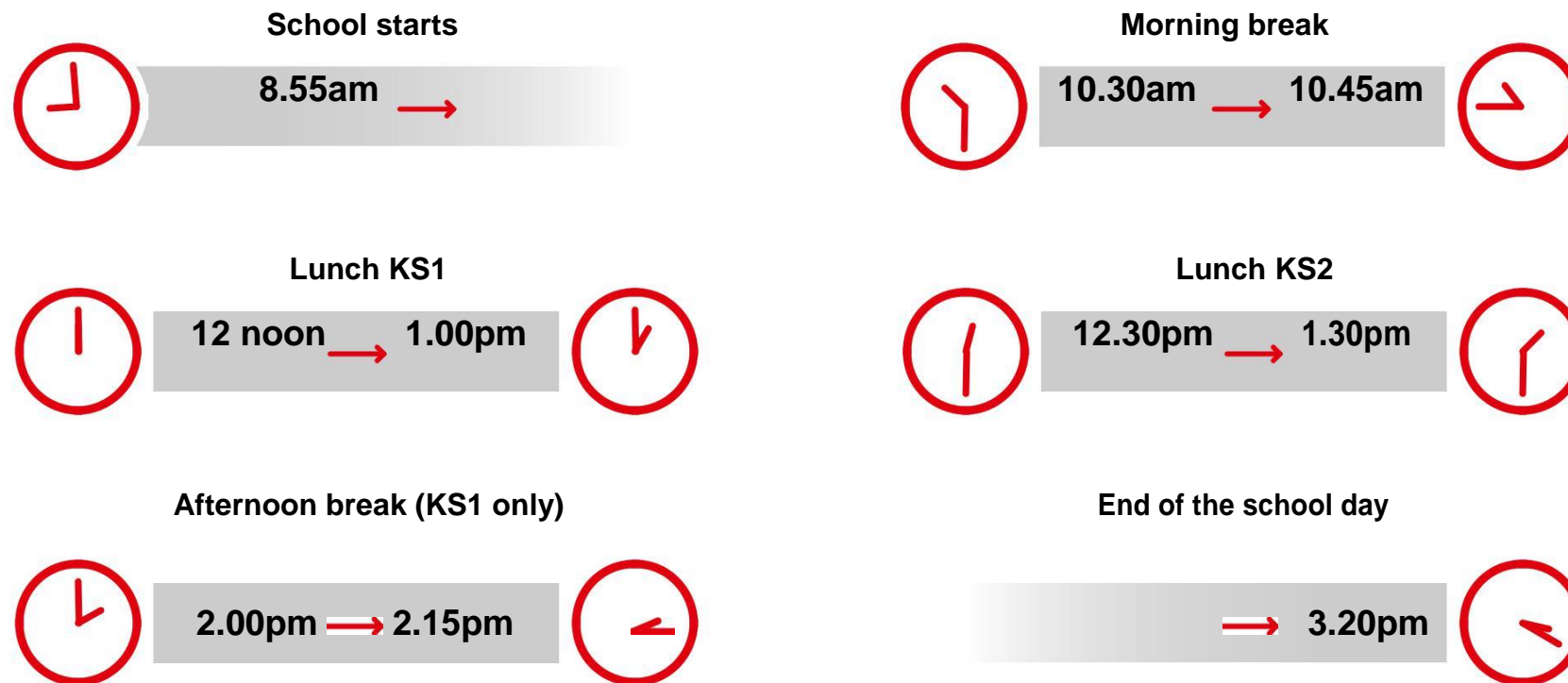
The school enjoys close links with the local community. Fire, police and health services regularly visit our school to talk about personal health and safety. Children are involved in local initiatives e.g. fire and road safety competitions. Key Stage 2 pupils receive training in 'bike-ability', encouraging the use of bikes for their journey to and from school. Trained members of staff are responsible for first aid and safety training.

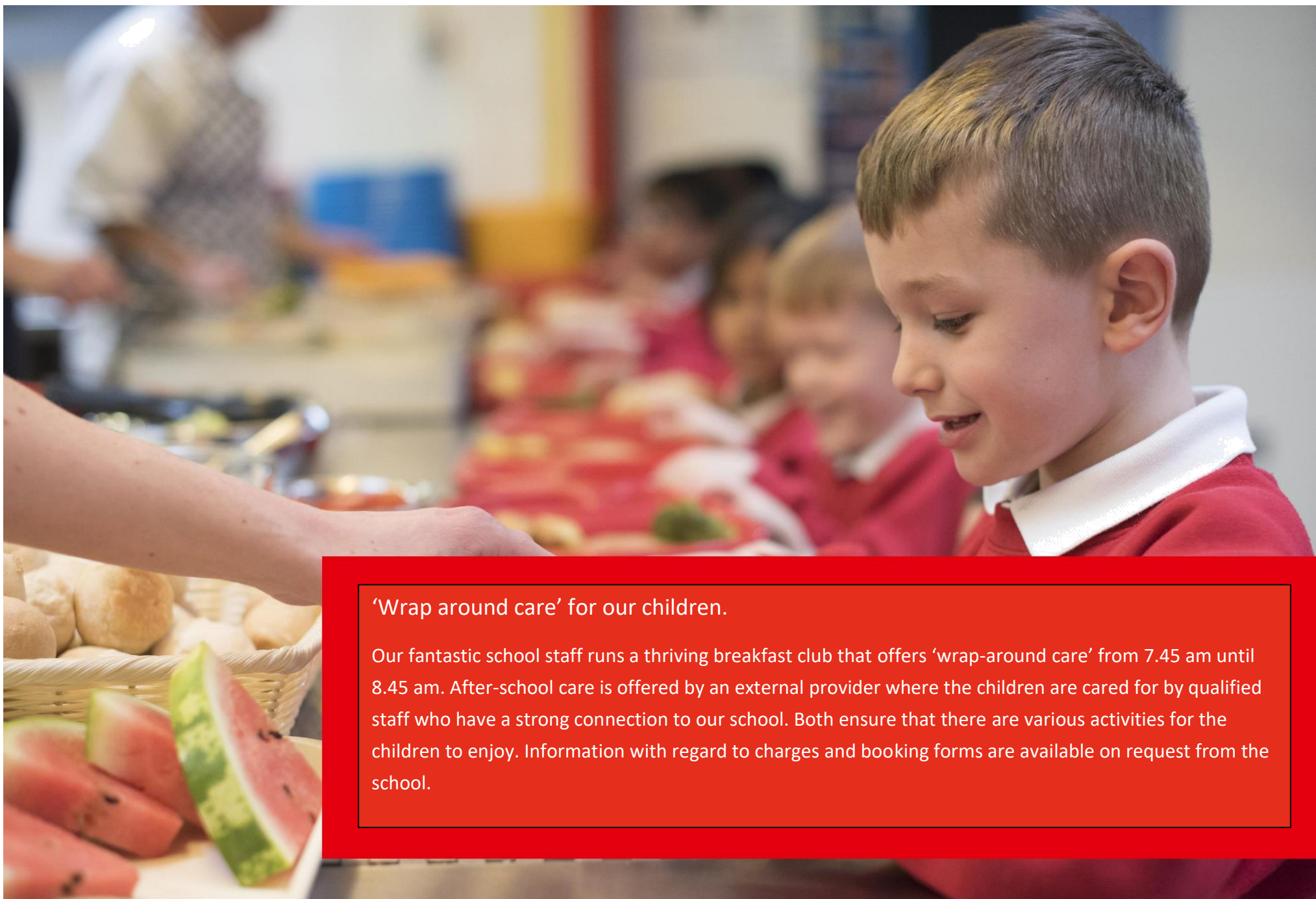


Our School Day

The day begins at 8:55 am when the children begin arriving at school at 8.45 am, using our 'drop and go' system on the Church carpark which is monitored by two members of staff. The children then enter the yard and their teachers welcome them to a new day. At St Clare's we know that punctuality is very important and hope that you will support us by ensuring that your child arrives at school on time.

Daily Routine





'Wrap around care' for our children.

Our fantastic school staff runs a thriving breakfast club that offers 'wrap-around care' from 7.45 am until 8.45 am. After-school care is offered by an external provider where the children are cared for by qualified staff who have a strong connection to our school. Both ensure that there are various activities for the children to enjoy. Information with regard to charges and booking forms are available on request from the school.

School uniform

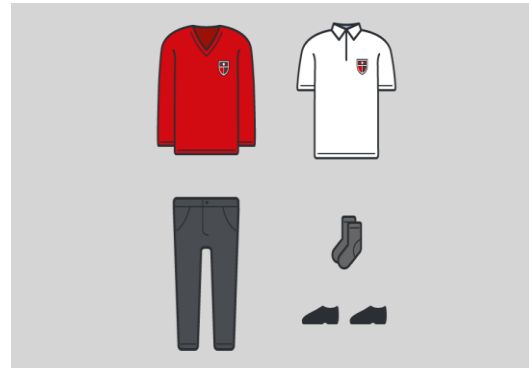
We are a “uniform” school, we believe a uniform looks smart, wears well and contributes to a feeling of belonging.

Boys

Classes Little Saplings Rowan, Willow, Hazel and Beech

Winter Uniform

- Red Jumper with the school logo
- White polo shirt (KS1)
- White Shirt (KS2)
- Tie
- Grey trousers
- Grey socks



Classes Pine, Elder, Cherry and Oak

Summer Uniform

Same as above with optional:

- Grey Short Trousers



PE Kit

- Red school PE T-shirt with the school logo
- Red school hoodie with the school logo
- Black shorts (not lycra/cycling shorts)
- Black plain jogging bottoms (not leggings)
- Plain black trainers/pumps (optional)



Children should not come to school in trainers or boots.

School uniform

Girls

Classes Little Saplings, Rowan, Willow, Hazel and Beech

Winter Uniform

- Red jumper with the school logo
- White polo shirt (KS1)
- White Shirt (KS2)
- Tie
- Grey knee-length skirt/pinafore/long grey trousers
- White socks



Classes Pine, Elder, Cherry and Oak

Summer Uniform

Same as above with optional:

- Red gingham dress



PE Kit

- Red school PE T-shirt with the school logo
- Red school hoodie with the school logo
- Black shorts (not lycra/cycling shorts)
- Black plain jogging bottoms (not leggings)
- Plain black trainers/pumps



Children should not come to school in trainers or boots.

Our School Community

Governors

Foundation Governors

Miss. J. Metcalf | Chairperson

Father. S. Talbutt

Miss. R. Birtles

Mr. D. Keating

Mrs. A.M. Read

Mrs. C. Monk

Mrs. P. Baxter

LEA Representative: Mr G Golinsu

Parent Representatives: Mr. J. Tootill

School Representatives: Mrs. A. Charnley – Headteacher

Mr. W. Parkinson – Staff representative

Our Staff

Teachers

Head Teacher Mrs. A. Charnley

Senior Assistant Head Teacher Mr. W. Parkinson

Assistant Head Teacher Mrs. R. Bridgeman

Mrs. C. Ronson – Little Saplings - Preschool

Miss. A. Scott – Rowan Class – Reception

Mrs. D. Martin – Willow Class – Year 1

Mr. S. Cummings – Hazel Class – Year 1 and Year 2

Mrs D. Mallett and Mrs. F. Doolan – Beech Class – Year 2

Miss. C. Barton – Pine Class – Year 3

Mrs. S. Clack – Elder Class – Year 4

Mrs. R. Bridgeman – Cherry Class – Year 5

Mr. W. Parkinson– Oak Class – Year 6

Mrs. N. Thorpe – 0.6 teacher – PPA

Mrs. R. Noonan - 0.4 teacher – PPA

Our School Community

Our Staff

Teaching Assistants

Mrs. L. Donaldson
Mrs. E. Bamber
Mrs. A. Alexander
Mr. G. Boardman
Mrs. S. Walsh
Mrs. L. Mills
Mrs. M. Romaro
Mrs. E. Brennan

Mrs. A. Armstrong
Miss. M. Martinez
Mrs. D. Lee
Miss. B. Lowe
Mrs. S. Dahiuru
Mrs. W. Rossall
Miss. K. Clarkson

Office Staff: Mrs. A. Bhaiyat,
Mrs. K. Dedat
Mrs. L. Clayton

Site Supervisor Mrs. C. Walmsley

Cleaning Staff Mr. D. Walmsley

Welfare Assistants

Mrs. C. Clarkson
Mrs. E. Glover

Cook: Mrs. L. Gibson

Kitchen Staff: Miss. J. Mansley

Mrs. M. Bux

Mrs. S Patel

With a wealth of wonderful support from our TA staff.



We strive to provide a rich, broad and balanced curriculum and have a strong commitment to guiding and supporting all children to succeed, whatever their background or ability.

Learning Community

At St Clare's learning is at the centre of everything we do. It involves, and is participated in, by everyone in our whole community. We strive to provide a rich, broad and balanced curriculum and have a strong commitment to guiding and supporting all children to succeed, whatever their background or ability.

We are committed to providing engaging and exciting learning, which develops and challenges children. In striving to achieve this we provide varied learning opportunities: outdoors, through play, in small groups, from each other, with parents, and grandparents, by listening, by watching, and by doing.

We want our children to develop spiritually, socially, emotionally, physically and academically. Most importantly we want them to take pride in their learning and take responsibility for their own learning as they develop their relationship with God. Our daily practice of our learning and teaching policy demonstrates our commitment to raising standards and giving all children the opportunity to realise their full potential.

Growth Mindset

Here at St Clare's, we are trying to implement a complete Growth Mindset attitude throughout the school. Ultimately, we are trying to teach your children that strength doesn't come from what you can do... it comes from overcoming things they once thought they couldn't do. By developing a Growth Mindset in our children, we will equip them to persevere with difficult tasks, and pick themselves up when things don't go their way throughout their lives. The vision of developing a Growth Mindset is focused on practicing and finding alternative ways to achieve goals.

In Their Own Words

If someone falls over you help them.
If someone visit us they join our school family. If no one has nothing we have to share things to other people.

I like my first day at school.
I really like the school family.
I really like the teachers.

I liked the summer fer
and I went on the bounsee castle.

I like that you have a really easy opportunity to make friends and the work and the activities are really fun. The school is great and has lots of fun things to do. Also the teachers are nice to the pupils.

I liked Letin the butterfly
I liked going to bidda barshop
I liked Chuzin+ighm
I liked going to holeefarm

In Their Own Words

I love...the water aid and when we run a mile.
I love when we did a whole t.e. week

I like it when we play on the grass,
on sunny days. I also love the pizza
on Friday for lunch. I love all the clubs
but in gardening club you get to
go to the pond and get to see insects.
I love the playing area, the willow house
and the shelter to hang around in.

St. Clares is the best school ever. All the
teachers are lovely and it is very friendly.

Dear Mr Chamley and visitors,
St. Clares School is a wonderful place to
be, and there are lots of brilliant things here.
The best thing about St Clares is we
are all a one big happy FAMILY every
day. ST CLARES RULES!!!
Teachers
rule
as
well.

The best thing is going on a school trip
I like the climbing frame.
Learning about new things.



The Curriculum

When we speak of curriculum in our Catholic school we are talking about the learning experiences that are present for each child, those planned by the staff which is embedded within our school ethos and environment. Since Christ is the foundation of the whole educational enterprise in a Catholic school, all our curriculum will attempt to reflect Christ's message. When planning our curriculum, we take into account the uniqueness of each child and her individual needs. We develop attitudes and values based firmly on the Gospel message. Our aim is to offer each child a broadly based and appropriately balanced curriculum in line with the Revised Curriculum. All policies relating to the curriculum are available for consultation at the school.



Play is the world and work of the young child: “Just as sunlight provides the body with vital nourishment, high quality play in childhood is nature’s vitamin for our whole sense of well being.”
Sally Jenkinson, The Genius of play

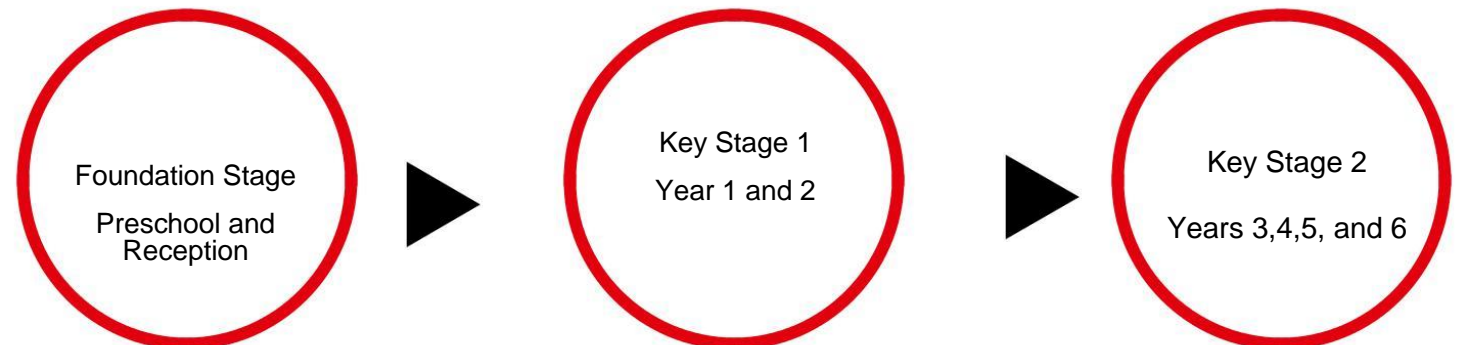
How it is organised

We recognise that when children first start school it is incredibly important to ensure that the environment and all the experiences they meet promote confidence and independence. The Foundation stage therefore is crucial to the long-term development of each child and we place great importance upon this time.

Working together is the essential ingredient to ensure that our children gain a solid foundation to inspire them to continue on their learning journey as they progress through school. The Foundation stage is crucial to the child’s whole development and should absorb the child in deep satisfying play.

The Foundation Stage, therefore, immerses children into an exciting, active environment with endless possibilities for play, which allows them to explore and expand on what they know already. Focused small group teaching coupled with child-led activities allows children to develop sound skills, attitudes and an imaginative outlook on their learning. By revisiting learning intentions many times in different ways, such as through dance, small world play, art, water play etc., the Foundation Stage creates confident, independent, enthusiastic and creative thinkers, who enjoy learning.

The Three Key Stages



Curriculum Skills

Government legislation states that class sizes in Foundation and Key Stage One must be less than 30. Our school admission number is 36. At St Clare's classes in Key Stage one are organised into mixed-year groups. In each class, skills are developed at the individual child's level. Therefore all teachers will access learning objectives across more than one year group. This ensures that children of all abilities can access learning at their own individual level. As school trips are an extension of the learning taking place, such activities must be related to the work happening within the class.

Socially, all children have varied opportunities throughout the day to mix with different year groups. We see this as an important part of their learning.



All teachers will access learning objectives across more than one-year group. This ensures that children of all abilities can access learning at their own individual level.

R.E.

Religious Education in school is regarded as not just a subject among others competing for curriculum time, but as a constantly developing way of learning how to look at the world and ourselves and the relationship of the whole of creation to the creator God. Developing an enquiring mind about our purpose in the World we explore topics based on our own experience. We meet Jesus in stories from scripture and discover a friend for life by talking to him in our own prayer and collective worship.

We encourage multi-cultural interests through looking at other world faiths and customs. Every person is valued and feels part of a caring community in school, within the parish and the worldwide family of God. The teaching of religion therefore is not confined to the R.E. lesson but pervades all the work of the Curriculum which is used to stimulate Religious growth and development, as well as academic and social progress.

We value the role of parents as the first educators of their child and encourage a partnership between home, parish and school. The Parish and the Parish Priest, as well as the School, have a role to play in assisting parents to perform their duties as religious educators. The school accepts its responsibility to support the parents and parish by helping the children to understand their faith and to understand their lives in the light of their faith. Our children are prepared for the Sacraments of Reconciliation, Eucharist and Confirmation by taking part in a Parish led programme, under the guidance of the parish priest and catechists.

Prayer and Liturgy

Prayer, worship and liturgical celebration are central to our Catholic tradition and form an integral part of the school day. Prayer is encouraged in a variety of methods; - private individual prayer, group prayer, and whole school prayer. We also recognise and celebrate children's achievements, both in and out of school, during our weekly Praise Assembly.



English



At St. Clare's we aim to provide children with a broad and balanced English curriculum. We have adopted an exciting thematic approach to English which integrates speaking and listening, reading and writing skills.

Speaking and Listening

The four strands of Speaking and Listening: Speaking; Listening; Group Discussion and Interaction, and Drama permeate the whole curriculum. Interactive teaching strategies are used to engage all pupils in order to raise reading and writing standards. Children are encouraged to develop effective communication skills in readiness for later life.

Pupils learn to speak clearly and think about the needs of their listeners. The children work in small groups and as a class to contribute to and lead discussions in a range of contexts. The children share relevant points, ideas and justify their decisions. The children also learn to listen carefully to what others have said in order to respect their point of view and summarise what has been discussed. The children are encouraged to use language in imaginative ways and to express their ideas and feelings throughout role-play and drama activities.

Reading

At St. Clare's we encourage children to read for interest and pleasure with a view to them becoming lifelong readers. We share high-quality intriguing texts as a class and in groups.

Initially, pupils are taught to decode words phonetically and recognise high-frequency words within sentences. The children comment on what they have read and respond in a variety of different ways. As their fluency and accuracy develop the children read a range of challenging texts. The children are encouraged to analyse the text in more detail, reflecting upon the author's choices, themes and the use of language.

Writing

Writing has a significant role within the English curriculum at St. Clare's. The children are taught to recognise that writing is an essential tool that can be both enjoyable and useful. The children are encouraged to write in a variety of different text types across a range of curriculum subjects.

Pupils are taught to spell and punctuate accurately using neat legible joined handwriting. The children learn the main rules and conventions of written English and start to explore how the English language can be used to express meaning in different ways. They use the planning, drafting and editing process to improve their work and to sustain their fiction and non-fiction writing.



We have adopted an exciting thematic approach to English which integrates speaking and listening, reading and writing skills.

Maths



The mathematics curriculum at St. Clare's aims to provide children with the ability to solve increasingly sophisticated routine and non-routine problems with confidence and accuracy. We aim to develop a fascination and passion for mathematics, where children are challenged to select, apply and explain their mathematical reasoning.

We believe it is important for children to be able to recall fundamental facts rapidly and use these within more complex mental and written calculations. We aim to provide opportunities for problem-solving within other curriculum areas so that the children's mathematics is purposeful and enjoyable.



St. Clare's mathematics teaching is in line with the National Curriculum and follows Lancashire's Learning Excellence Mathematics plans, White Rose Scheme, and National Centre for Excellence on the Teaching of Mathematics to ensure Using and Applying in mathematics is integrated into planning and teaching.

It is sometimes necessary to adapt these plans to suit the needs, interests and abilities of our pupils so that each child progresses and enjoys success whilst experiencing the challenge, power and beauty of mathematics.

It is important for children to be able to recall fundamental facts rapidly and use these within more complex mental and written calculations.





Pupils are encouraged to understand how science can be used to explain what is occurring, predict how things will behave, and analyse causes.

Science

At St. Clare's we believe a high-quality science education provides the foundations for understanding the world through the specific disciplines of biology, chemistry and physics. We help the children to see that Science has changed our lives and is vital to the world's future prosperity. All pupils are taught essential aspects of the knowledge, methods, processes and uses of science and through building up a body of key foundational knowledge and concepts, pupils should be encouraged to recognise the power of rational explanation and develop a sense of excitement and curiosity about natural phenomena. Pupils are encouraged to understand how science can be used to explain what is occurring, predict how things will behave, and analyse causes.

As part of the Science Curriculum, we aim to ensure that all pupils:

- Develop scientific knowledge and conceptual understanding through the specific disciplines of biology, chemistry and physics.
- Develop an understanding of the nature, processes and methods of science through different types of science enquiries that help them to answer scientific questions about the world around them.
- Are equipped with the scientific knowledge required to understand the uses and implications of science, today and for the future.

Music

Our music curriculum ensures that the children experience a wide variety of music from different cultures, in different styles and by different composers. This ensures that children have the broadest musical experience. They express themselves through the playing of instruments, and by creating their own compositions. Music is an essential part of our curriculum.

We work with Mrs. J. Calman who provides specialist support for music across the school. She works with Year 3 and teaches keyboard skills, as well as providing one-to-one lessons for children. She also helps our singing group in all year groups to develop confidence and resilience.

Children have opportunities to develop rhythm in samba, performance in the Blackburn Music Festival, productions in school and liturgy within our parish. All enrich the children's experiences, talent and love of music.

We take an active role in performance to give children an opportunity to develop their confidence as they develop through school. The children have enjoyed taking part in the Sing Together Concert at King George's Hall in Blackburn.

**“Thank you for the music, for
songs we’re singing, thanks for all
the joy they’re bringing.”**

Abba



P.E.

PE takes place in the Foundation Stage, KS1 and KS2 both indoors and outdoors, when the weather allows. It is important for children to have their red t-shirt, black shorts and black pumps clearly labelled with their name in school at all times. Jewellery must not be worn and earrings must be removed as per County policy. Children will take part in gymnastics, games, and dance and in KS2 outdoor and adventurous activities too. Gymnastics develops the children's balance and strength.

The children build sequences of movements using both the floor and apparatus. In games, we teach non-sports specific skills and tactics which can then transfer into their chosen sport. During our dance sessions, the children use the music to express feelings and build routines. Outdoor and Adventurous skills develop problem-solving and teamwork.

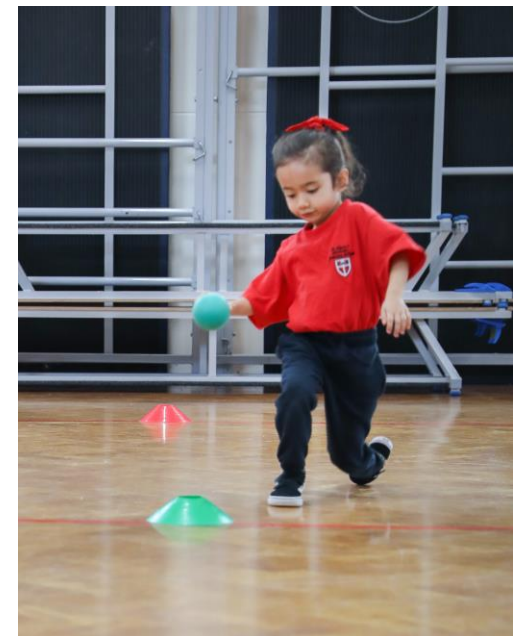
All primary schools have received a 'PE Premium' of around £9000 to help improve PE provision. Here at St Clare's, we have spent a huge amount of money on lovely new equipment for gymnastics, training for the teachers and providing an afterschool dance club with a qualified coach.

We understand the importance of swimming and recognise how it keeps children's heart and lungs healthy, improve strength and flexibility, increase stamina and improve balance and posture. The journey of this starts in Reception here at St. Clare's as all the children receive a six-week block of swimming in their first year of statutory education. Children have further opportunities throughout their time here at our school to go swimming, particularly in Year 4.



With all our involvement in P.E. and competitive sports, we have successfully met the School Games Gold standard in 2023 for the fourth year.

Children will take part in gymnastics, games, and dance and in KS2 outdoor and adventurous activities too which develops the children's balance and strength.



Forest Schools

We know that it is important for children to have opportunities to learn and grow in a variety of ways including improved physical health, cognitive development, and social-emotional skills. Through our Forest Schools programme, we are able to ensure that the children have the opportunity to access a six-week block of outdoor learning in our forest area every academic year.

Outdoor learning can be a great way to implement child-led learning, as it provides children with the opportunity to explore and learn at their own pace and in their own way.

Our forest school programme provides children with the opportunity to learn in a natural environment. Outdoor learning can also help children to develop resilience, independence, and a growth mindset. Through the sessions, the children have the opportunity to develop the ability to do things for themselves, take risks, overcome challenges, learn from their mistakes and bounce back from setbacks and challenges, which is an important skill for children to develop for life so they develop into well-rounded and successful adults.



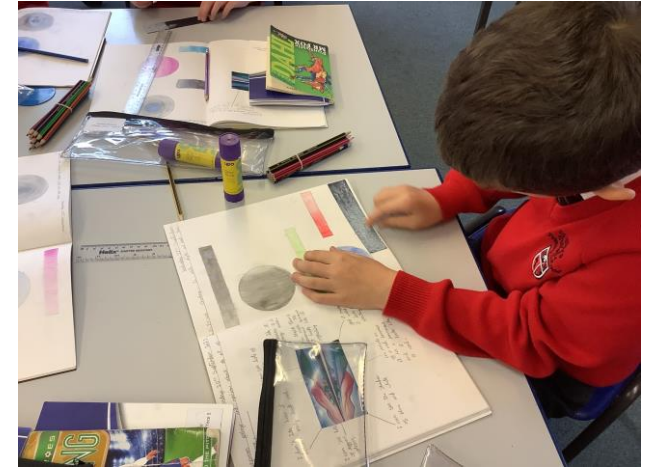
Design Technology

Design and Technology is about making things that people want and that work well. Through this area children are creative problem solvers who search for opportunities to make improvements. All their work has a purpose as they think, plan, make and then evaluate. Such creativity is both exciting and satisfying – success may mean originality, which leads to great things!



Art

Our children are encouraged to develop their creative, imaginative and practical skills through a balanced programme of arts and crafts activities. They explore and investigate line, tone and colour, pattern, texture, shape form and space. They are introduced to the work of artists, experience and knowledge and give them an appreciation of the richness of our diverse cultural heritage.



“Tell me and I forget – show me and I may remember – let me do it, and I learn.”

Ancient Chinese Proverb





“What is our knowledge worth if we know nothing about the world that sustains us, nothing about natural systems and climate, nothing about other countries and cultures?”

**Jonathon Parritt,
Forum for the Future**

History

Murder mysteries, suspense dramas and even a little scandal! Everything is here from world changing events to deeds of great heroism and compassion. Through studying the past there are lots of opportunities for the children to develop research skills.

Through the study of the past we can understand our place in the modern world and how we can bring about positive transformation for the future.

Geography

Geography raises and answers questions about the natural and human worlds. Children will develop their knowledge and skills about places and environments through the study of interesting topics. They will also investigate issues concerning the quality of the environment and be encouraged to think about their values, rights and responsibilities to other people and for the care of the earth.



Modern Foreign Language: French

At St Clare's we are committed to providing children with a wide variety of learning experiences. We believe that learning another language develops children's understanding and awareness of our multi-lingual and multi-cultural world. It introduces an international dimension to their learning, giving them an insight into their own culture and those of others.

During their time in Key Stage Two, children will develop a love of language, in particular, French, providing them with a base of knowledge, which they can develop during High School.

P.S.H.E.C.

At St Clare's we place great importance on Personal, Social, Health Education and Citizenship. We strive to guide the children to take responsibility for themselves and others in our Parish communities and the wider world. Children are encouraged to think deeply and reflect upon the choices they make and how these choices will affect others.

Children are supported to gain the knowledge, skills and understanding they need to lead confident, healthy, independent lives whilst becoming informed, active and responsible citizens. We pride ourselves in being a listening school where the views of all, make a valuable contribution to the work we carry out. Our School Council is proving to be a valuable vehicle through which children can express their views and take small steps, to make big improvements.

We strive to guide the children to take responsibility for themselves and others in our Parish communities and the wider world.



Computing



The overall aim is to offer an interesting and enjoyable experience through which the children become responsible, competent, confident and creative users of information and communication technology

Children are given experience of using ICT in the classroom with a variety of equipment and software and for a range of purposes including the communication and handling of information, computer programming and problem solving. Each classroom has an interactive whiteboard and is part of the school network which enables each class to access the internet. In addition, each class has a group set of iPads and a full range of mobile technology.

The children will use and develop their computing skills across the curriculum by organising, refining and presenting text, graphics and sound in different forms. They may work individually, in pairs or in small groups. The overall aim is to offer an interesting and enjoyable experience through which the children become responsible, competent, confident and creative users of information and communication technology and develop the computing skills needed for the world in which we now live.

Online Safety

The internet is a part of children's lives providing access to a world of information and experiences. At the start of each half term, every class will provide opportunities for the children to explore their understanding of the risks associated with the internet, developing their understanding and helping them to make sensible and informed choices online.

Special Educational Needs and Disability

At St Clare's we believe it is the right of every child to receive an education appropriate to his/her needs, with maximum possible access to the National Curriculum.

We recognise that many children have special educational needs and /or disabilities and we believe that special educational needs /disabilities should be fulfilled through a whole school approach, where pupils have access to a broad and balanced curriculum, high expectations are maintained and the principles of equal opportunities are upheld. Children with SEND (special educational needs/disabilities) should be integrated into classroom programmes. A flexible approach is essential, and depending on individual needs, the class teacher will engage various effective, teaching and learning strategies. These should encourage, stimulate and motivate children in a happy and secure environment where they are nurtured to reach their maximum potential. It is important that each child gains a sense of achievement and has no fear of failure.

Many children experience some problems or difficulties during the course of their school life. When this happens, the class teacher with the designated teacher for SEND, Miss Scott, will discuss concerns with parents and devise an appropriate Individual Educational Plan (IEP) for the pupil. A child identified with special educational needs is given extra help by the class teacher and class teaching assistant. Support may be provided in a variety of ways for example: individual support, small group, "in-class-support" or support away from class. Support is also offered, where appropriate, by the Lancashire Education Authority's Inclusion and Disability School Service (IDSS) and the Educational Psychology Service.

The progress of these children is carefully monitored and tracked through termly reviews and through the school assessment process. Parents are kept involved and informed in this process, encouraged to participate in the learning process and share in the decision making to give the child the greatest possible support.

Miss Scott, co-ordinates provision for children with special educational needs and or disabilities. This includes liaising with parents, colleagues, external agencies in the educational psychology services and other support services, the health and social services, voluntary bodies, and other schools when transition is involved.

The Governors have a nominated member; (Miss. Roma Birtles), who is specifically responsible along with the Head Teacher for all matters connected with SEND provision. Parents and Guardians are encouraged to approach the school about any concerns they may have regarding their child's progress. We value and welcome involvement, support and participation.

Homework and working together



At St Clare's we view homework as an extension of the learning which takes place in school. Children are asked to spend some time investigating, learning or practising the skills they are developing in school. The amount of time children spend on homework is dependent upon their age and stage of development and at certain times, certain skills will be prioritised.

Our homework policy was created alongside parents who feel that they are able to work hand in hand with teachers to support their child's learning. Throughout the year there are various opportunities for you to see how learning is taking place.

Reading at home

There can be few things as powerful as regularly reading to a young child. It has astonishing benefits for children: comfort and reassurance, confidence and security, relaxation, happiness and fun. Giving a child time and full attention when reading them a story tells them they matter. It builds self-esteem, vocabulary, feeds imagination and even improves their sleeping patterns.

Regularly reading to a child for the love of it provides a connection between parent and child from the very early days and helps build strong family ties. Lines from favourite stories enter the family lexicon. Families who enjoy reading together have more opportunities for discussion, developing empathy and attachment. Reading to their infant is one of the greatest gifts parents can give. By starting the journey of building a lifelong love of reading for pleasure, parents are giving their children the opportunity to be the best they can be: children who read for pleasure do better in a wide range of subjects at school and it also positively impacts children's wellbeing.

Reading is a great habit. Like all habits, it needs repetition and regularity to establish itself. Because it needs quiet time, and our lives today are very short of this, parents need to create it for their children. This means consciously making time and keeping interruptions to a minimum. This is why reading will always be a key aspect of homework throughout your child's time here at St Clare's.

We are always interested in your views and look forward to learning together.



Policies and information

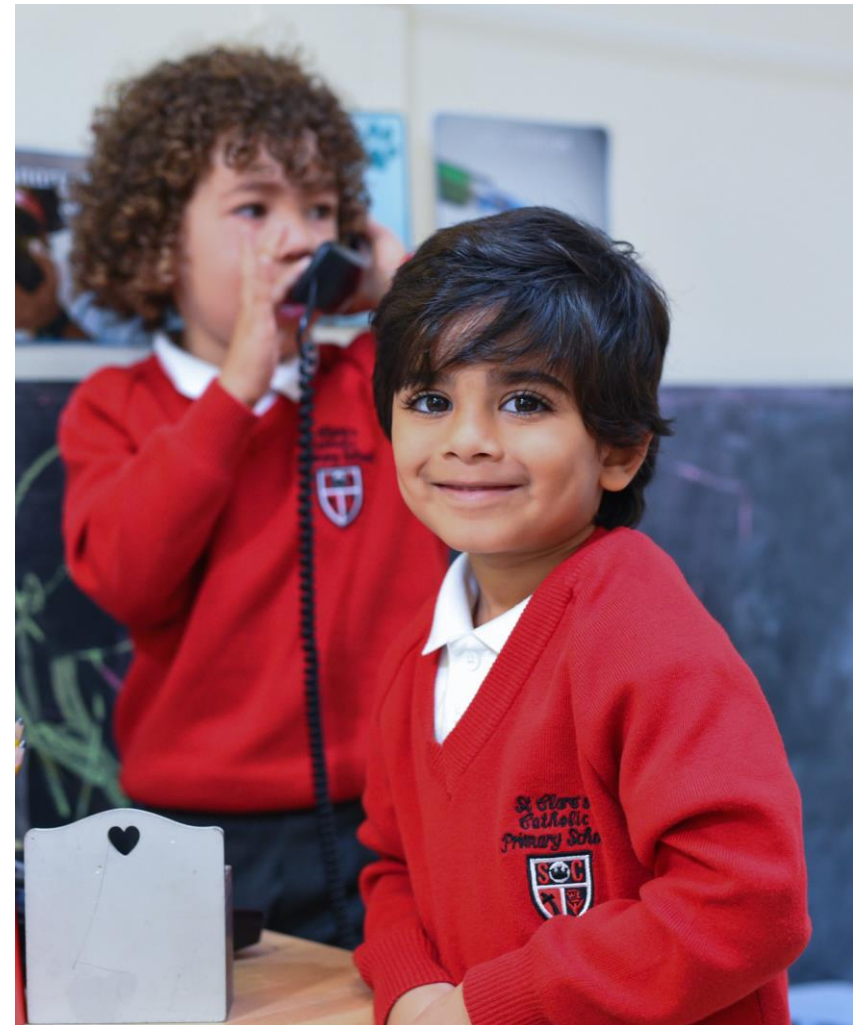
We are making our school policies available online. Here are some that are available for your information.

Human Relations and Sex Education Policy

School policy is to integrate Sex Education into the curriculum in such a way as to meet the particular needs of children as they grow and develop. Sex Education in the school will be set against the backdrop of the Church's teaching and cited within the context not only of the child's physical and emotional development but also within that of their spiritual and moral growth.

Sex Education will not be treated as a separate "add-on" to the curriculum. In general terms, across the whole range, the school will aim to ensure that the children's needs for the following are met:

- The need for appropriate facts, language and information for an understanding of their own body, its development and that of the opposite sex.
- The need for honesty in answering questions, if and when they occur, in a factual manner appropriate for their age.
- The need to develop an understanding of themselves as valuable and worthy of respect.
- The need to develop respect for others.



Health and Safety



The governors recognise and accept their responsibility for providing a safe and healthy workplace for both children and employees. They will take steps, so far as are reasonably practical to meet their responsibility, but seek the co-operation of staff and parents/guardians in asking them at all times to be vigilant in the interests of safety and to report to the Headteacher any potential hazards in the premises, equipment or activities they have observed.

A detailed health and safety policy outlining roles and responsibilities has been drafted by the governors and is available from the school.

Absence from School

Appointments at the doctor, dentist, hospitals and clinics should be notified to the school in advance, either by message on our Arbor app or by telephone.

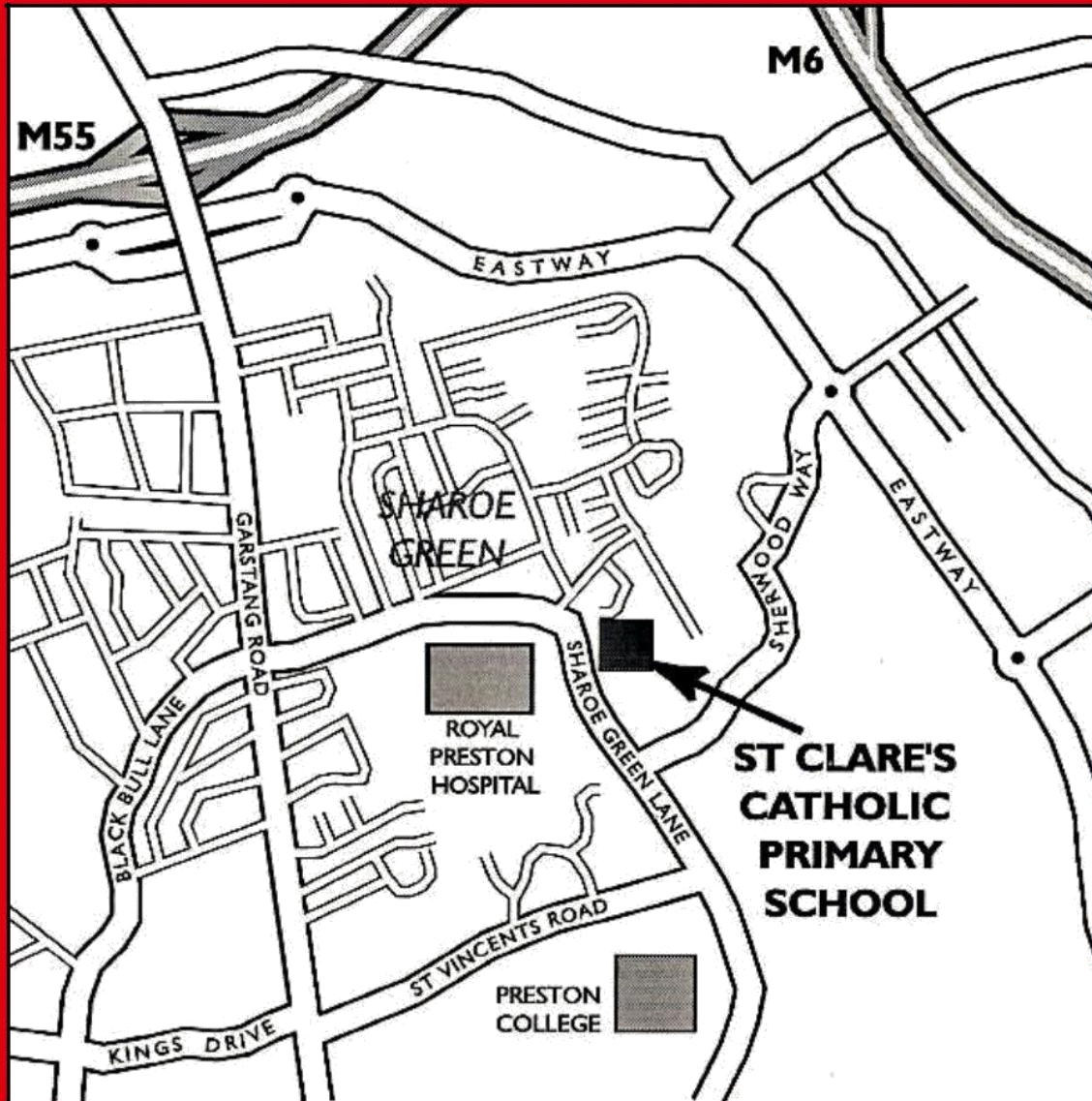
Parents/guardians are asked to contact the school office in the case of any absence due to illness or other causes on every day that your child cannot attend school.

We would also appreciate a note for unavoidable lateness, for not taking part in Physical Education lessons and for leaving school during school hours. Pupils may not leave school during school hours unless accompanied by a parent/guardian or a recognised representative of the parent/guardian. Parents are asked to write a letter to the Headteacher requesting permission for their child/children as holidays should not be booked in term time.

Contact with Parents/Carers

- Parents/guardians are encouraged to visit the school regularly.
- Parents' evenings are held twice yearly.
- The school website is used to keep children informed and is updated regularly.
- Parents/guardians are kept informed by a weekly newsletter.
- Parents are kept informed of curriculum topics and homework by a curriculum overview that is sent home on a termly basis.
- Parents are invited to attend collective worship, class masses, religious festivals and school performances.
- A report on your child's progress is sent home at the end of each term.





Our location

St. Clare's Catholic Primary School is pleasantly situated to the North of Preston, serving the Parish of St. Clare's, Fulwood.

St. Clare's is fortunate in having a modern purpose-built school, with extensive playing fields. The normal approach by road is along Sharoe Green Lane.

St. Clare's is a mixed Catholic Primary School. It was opened in November 1971 and serves as the Catholic Primary School for the children of St. Clare's Parish.