

An outstanding place to learn



# Saint Joseph's Catholic Primary School **Prospectus**





## Making the choice of school for your child is one of the most difficult decisions you will make as a Parent.

At St. Joseph's we aim to recognise the unique potential in each child and to work alongside you as Parents, to ensure that your child becomes a confident and well rounded young person.

We are very proud of our academic achievements and to be judged as outstanding in our Ofsted inspection, as well as by the Diocese in our Canonical Inspection. We are equally proud of the way in which we guide and support our children in their spiritual journey.

This prospectus contains a wealth of information about our school. However the printed word can only tell you so much. You are warmly welcomed to visit St. Joseph's School to look around and meet the staff and children.

We look forward to meeting you and to working closely with you during the time your child will spend at our school.

**Deborah Tibble** Headteacher

I would like to  
**Welcome you**  
to the community of St. Joseph's Catholic Voluntary School.



**'Working together in the light of Jesus to create a successful school'**

### School to School Support

As an outstanding school, the school regularly provides support to other schools across Derbyshire and North Nottinghamshire as part of its role in providing school to school support. The school is also designated as a National Support School.

The Headteacher, Mrs Deborah Tibble, is a National Leader in Education (NLE) and a School Improvement Link Advisor for Derbyshire Local Authority.

Through this role, Mrs Tibble provides support to leadership teams in a wide range of other schools.

Additionally, the Deputy Headteacher and Assistant Headteacher, are both Specialist Leaders in Education (SLE). Their main focus is on improving teaching and learning, Maths, RE and Phonics teaching and supporting senior and middle leaders.





## Safeguarding

Every school has a duty to ensure all children are kept safe. We work closely with our parents and with external agencies to ensure we have robust safeguarding procedures in our school. All members of staff have received safeguarding training. However, there are three senior members of staff who are designated lead Safeguarding Officers in school and have therefore received additional training. Please see our school website for full details of our safeguarding arrangements.

## Curriculum

The curriculum at St. Joseph's is designed to offer exciting, stimulating and challenging opportunities for pupils. We strive to provide a wide range of learning opportunities, which excite our children and encourage them to become lifelong learners.

The school curriculum is designed around imaginative learning projects. In each year group, there are six projects which are covered in half termly topics throughout the year. Each project is an enquiry based challenging project which ensures that learning is embedded.

Within each project, there are four distinct stages of learning which actively promote children's learning and thinking, engage, develop, innovate and express.

## RE

Religious Education is at the heart of life at St. Joseph's School and all aspects of our teaching are surrounded by the examples of the Gospels and teaching of Jesus Christ.

Our RE teaching is based upon the teachings of the Catholic faith. The RE teaching throughout school tries to relate our faith to everyday life. We also teach other faiths in order to enhance our community cohesion and to note similarities and differences.

When children reach the age of seven, they are able to make their First Holy Communion. Preparation for First Holy Communion is shared between the school and the Parish.

We are very lucky to be located so close to the St. Joseph's Church. Class Masses are held every week and whole school Masses are held on Feast Days and also at the beginning and end of each school term. Liturgies and assemblies are also celebrated regularly in school. Parents and parishioners are warmly welcomed to join us for our Masses and assemblies.

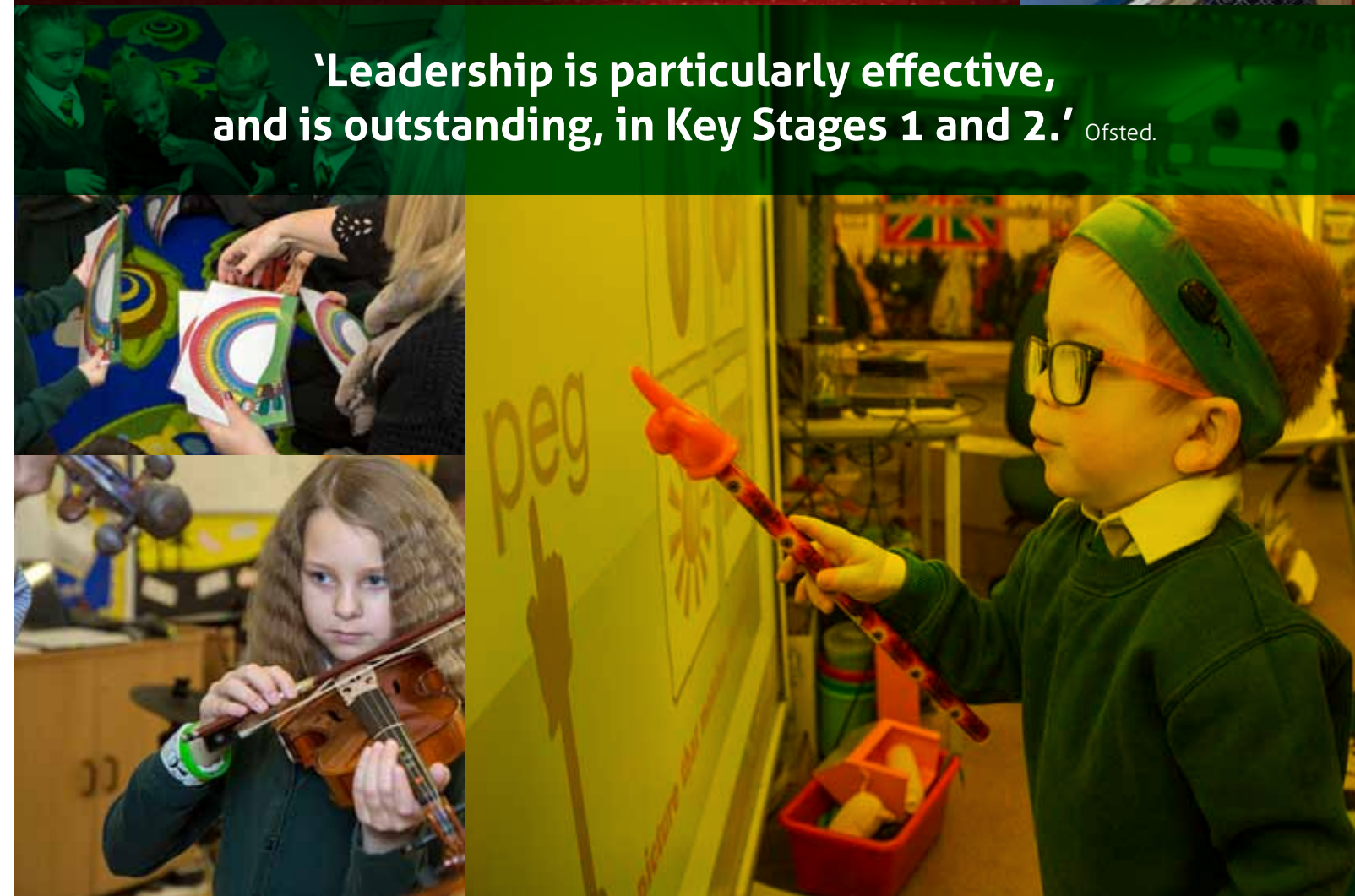
## Special Educational Needs

Inclusion and personal development are an integral part of the spiritual and educational philosophy at St. Joseph's. The care and support of children with Special Educational Needs (SEN) forms an important element of the pastoral and educational care offered at St. Joseph's.

It is our aim to identify and address any SEN at the earliest possible opportunity.

The key person for SEN at St. Joseph's is the Special Educational Needs Coordinator (SENCo), who liaises with class teachers and monitors the progress of those children who require additional support.

A copy of the SEN policy is available from the school office on request or on the school website.



**'Leadership is particularly effective, and is outstanding, in Key Stages 1 and 2.'** Ofsted.





## Attendance

It is important that your child attends school as much as possible so they can have the maximum benefit from their education at school.

At St. Joseph's we monitor the attendance of our pupils regularly and work closely with the Educational Welfare Officer to monitor any persistent absence.

We recognise that children may have to have time off when they are ill. In these cases, we would ask that you telephone the school **before 10:00am** to inform us that your child will be absent. If no reason is given, the absence will be classified as unauthorised and used in truancy statistics.

At St. Joseph's school we ask any holidays are taken outside of term time. We will not authorise any holiday requests unless there are very exceptional circumstances. Parents should arrange medical or dental appointments outside of school hours whenever possible.

## The School Day

In order to support our working parents and maximise learning time, children may come into school from **8.30am** through the main entrance. There may be rare occasions when parents need to drop their children earlier than this and at these times, children should be brought to reception and they will then be allowed to wait in the school hall.

### School Day

Begins	<b>08:40am</b>
KS1 Children's Lunch	<b>11:45am</b>
KS2 Children's Lunch	<b>12:00pm</b>
Afternoon session	<b>13:00pm</b>
Finishes	<b>15:30pm</b>



**'Teachers' professional development is an extremely high priority within this school.'** Ofsted.



## School Uniform

### Girls

- White Blouse
- Green and gold tie\*
- Dark Green knitted jumper or cardigan
- Dark green skirt or pinafore dress
- Dark green blazer (optional)
- Yellow check/stripe dress for summer
- Black school shoes (flat heeled and sensible)
- White socks
- Bottle green tights for winter

### Boys

- White Shirt
- Green and gold tie\*
- Dark green knitted jumper
- Grey shorts or long trousers
- Dark green blazer (optional)
- Black school shoes
- Plain dark socks

### PE Kit

- Emerald Green shorts
- Gold T. Shirt
- Plimsolls for indoor sports
- Trainers for outdoor sports
- Drawstring PE bag

\*School ties are available from school as well as book bags, small backpacks and PE bags.

**Please clearly mark all items with your child's name.**

All our school uniform is available from most high street stores and also through:

**The Crystal Knitwear Factory Shop**  
**Richmond House**  
**Pelham Street**  
**Mansfield**  
**Notts**  
**NG18 2EY**      Tel. **01623 628605**

Items can also be ordered through their website:  
**[www.crystalknitwear.co.uk](http://www.crystalknitwear.co.uk)**

All jewellery and hair sections are not to be worn.





## Parents' Evenings

We encourage parents to take an active part and interest in their children's progress. Parents' consultation evenings are held twice a year and we do encourage your attendance.

In addition, there is a "Meet the Teacher" evening, which is held early in the Autumn term. This is a meeting for all parents in each class, when the class teacher will provide you with invaluable information about the year ahead. We also run curriculum information evenings when we will provide you with a range of information about how different subjects are taught in school.

## Medical Matters

It is important that we should be informed of any medical condition that might give rise to difficulties in school. If your child is sick, or has an accident, then you will be contacted immediately.

# Working Together



Schools are not required to administer medication and are not permitted to administer medicine which is not prescribed by a doctor. However we do understand that there may be occasions when medicine will need to be given during the school day and we do have arrangements in place for this. It is essential that parents complete a form detailing the medication and giving permission for staff to administer it.

## Behaviour and Discipline

St. Joseph's prides itself on the outstanding behaviour of all our children. Our approach to behaviour and discipline is based on the Gospel values of love for one another, understanding, respect and forgiveness. We encourage all our children to value everyone equally, treat each other with respect, and understand that sometimes we may fall out with each other and that during these times we need to show forgiveness.

There may be times when children do behave in a way which we do not expect and at these times, we will work with you to encourage children to change their behaviour.

There is little need for sanctions; a reminder to those who transgress is usually sufficient. Occasionally, a child may be asked to miss a playtime. We expect parents to support the decisions on discipline made by the school in order to maintain the high level of behavioural standards that are set.

## Complaints Procedure

The school has a procedure for dealing with any complaints. Any complaints which you may have should be addressed to the Headteacher in the first instance. If the issue remains unresolved, then parents may make a more formal complaint by writing to the Chair of Governors.

## Equal Opportunities

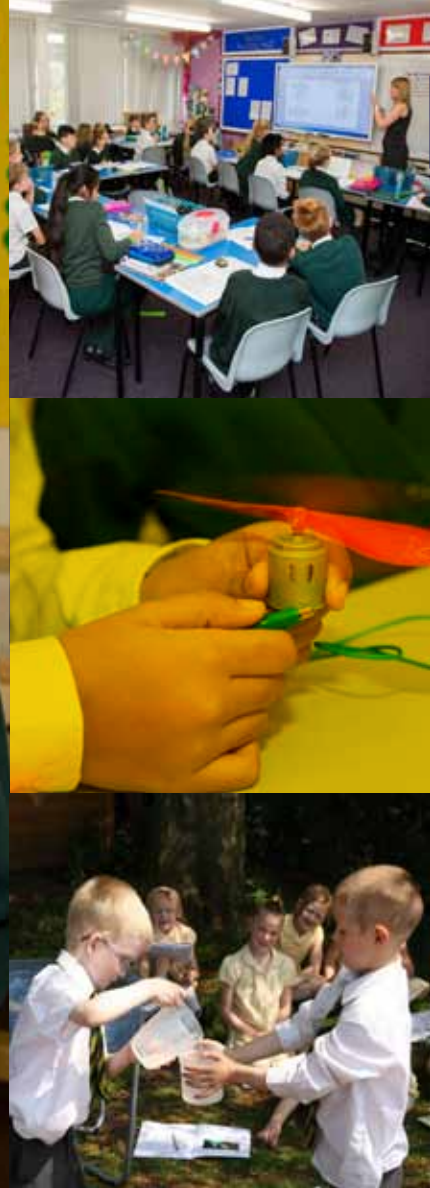
St Joseph's School operates a policy of inclusion for all children regardless of race, gender, ability or disability. All children have access to a full, broad and balanced curriculum.



**'Pupils' behaviour is impeccable.'** Ofsted.







**'The headteacher is uncompromising in her determination to ensure that all pupils receive an outstanding education.'** Ofsted.



## Learners' Code

Our Learners' Code focuses on strengthening learning behaviour across school, identifying certain behaviours as being either bronze, silver or gold learners. Our pupils have supported staff in devising this. All children are given a green wristband to show that they are such a valued and welcome member of the St. Joseph's family.

When children progress through the code, they will receive the appropriate wristband, which will then entitle them to certain privileges. The children have also decided that if they don't display the appropriate behaviours, they can also have privileges removed.

## House Points

Children often require a more immediate reward, for a piece of work or for demonstrating kindness or support to others. Staff award house point cards to pupils in values of 1, 5 or 10. Children are then encouraged to save their house point cards, which they can then spend in the school shop.

## Awards Assemblies

In order to praise individual children, we hold a termly Awards Assembly. It is during these times that the children can receive individual praise for being hardworking, industrious or successful, in all areas of school life. They receive a certificate to record the happy event.

Any Bronze, Silver or Gold Awards are given out at these assemblies.

## Friends of St. Joseph's

Friends of St. Joseph's is our Parent-Teacher association. This is a small group of parents, who meet together to plan social events for the school, such as coffee afternoons and the Summer Fayre. Friends of St. Joseph's work hard to fundraise for the school. We are always looking for new members to join our committed team.

## Charging and Remissions Policy

For certain types of educational activities during the school day (e.g. class visits, transportation etc.) parents may be asked for a voluntary contribution in advance. If the voluntary contributions received do not meet the cost of the activity/event, it may have to be cancelled and all monies returned. However, no child will be placed at a disadvantage because of a parent's inability to pay.

School operates a cashless office where all such payments for dinner money and trips etc. are paid for online through our ParentPay system.

## School Bus

We are pleased to be able to offer a school bus service from Bolsover each day. There are three pick up points:

1. Carr Vale
2. Bolsover Market Place
3. Water tower at Hillstown

Please note there is a fee for this service. However, we endeavour to keep the cost to a minimum.





Sowing the seeds for your children to grow

