



St Anne's

Catholic Primary School



"A broad curriculum and an
inquisitive mind are
a recipe for success"

CHRIST AT THE HEART
OF ALL WE DO



WELCOME TO

St Anne's Catholic Primary School

St Anne's Catholic Primary School provides an outstanding faith-centred education where our children are encouraged to explore and develop their talents in a warm, creative and inspiring environment.



**Our school community is at our heart and
Christ is at the heart of all we do.**

I am delighted to welcome you to our wonderful school. I have been the Head Teacher at St Anne's since September 2020 and I consider myself to have one of the best jobs in the world. We are committed to delivering the highest standards of education and we are passionate about developing a life-long love of learning.

In St Anne's you will hear music, much laughter; see smiling faces and meet a school community that encourages outstanding achievement, progress and personal development. Through the Catholic faith, we promote the universal qualities of kindness, honesty, forgiveness and patience.

We have excellent links with our parish church of St Anne's, where we regularly attend mass and our Catholic Secondary school, St Thomas More, in Crewe. Many of our children attend St Mary's C of E church in Nantwich and we often join them for Primary Carols and the Stations of the Cross. At St Anne's our school ethos is based on Christian fundamentals, however our door is open to everyone regardless of religious beliefs.

Nuala Ferguson - Head Teacher



"St Anne's is an outstanding Catholic School where pupils fully appreciate, value and actively participate in the Catholic life and mission of the school."

".....the school has continued to work incredibly hard to maintain both the standards of teaching and learning in RE but also to continue to place our Catholic identity firmly at the heart of everything that we do."

(Diocesan Inspection 2021)

Early Years

Our Principles

A Unique Child – We believe that every child has the potential to be a resilient, capable and confident learner.

Positive Relationships - Children learn to be strong and independent from a base of loving and secure relationships with parents and carers.

Enabling Environments – A warm and inspiring environment plays a key role in supporting and extending learning and development.

Individual Learning and Development – We understand that children develop and learn in different ways and at different rates.



Foundation Stage

Three characteristics of effective learning

Playing and exploring – engagement
Curiosity and finding out through exploration
Playing with what they know
Being willing to 'have a go'

Active learning – motivation
Being involved and concentrating
Resilience to keep trying
Achieving what they set out to do.

Creating and thinking critically
Expressing their own ideas
Making links
Choosing ways to do things



“We instil a life long
love of learning in our children”

Areas of Learning and Development

The Prime Areas

Communication, Language

Physical Development

Personal, Social and Emotional Development.

Literacy

Mathematics Understanding the World.

Expressive art and design



The Foundation Stage provides the fundamental building blocks for positive future learning throughout school. Our experienced teaching team plan both indoor and outdoor experiences based on children's spontaneous play, incorporating their individual ideas and interests. The activities cover all 'Areas of Learning and Development' in the EYFS. By providing a stimulating environment with exciting and challenging learning opportunities, we aim to foster skills and positive dispositions to learning. We celebrate successes and give every child the opportunity to shine.

Developing confidence and self-esteem is also a key focus, as well as supporting and growing awareness of others and enabling our pupils to establish respectful and empathetic relationships.

Forest School @ St Anne's

Parent Partnership in EYFS:

At St Anne's we understand the importance of working with parents to ensure the best outcomes for our pupils.

EYFS and KS1 enjoy a weekly session in our school's extensive woodland.

Here they learn about God's beautiful world and how to care for it; how to light and cook on fires; den building and making tools. Forest School is an inspirational process that helps to develop self-esteem through hands-on outdoor learning experiences.

The woods inspire the children creatively and support all areas of the curriculum, from History and Mathematics, to Cookery and Design & Technology.

Forest School is a specialised learning approach that compliments the wider context of outdoor and woodland education.



On-Line Learning Journals

A successful interactive way of informing parents of their child's learning development in school is through class dojo.

Each observation or page can include notes, photographs and videos.

Each child's journey has individual accounts set up for parents.

Parents can comment on new entries and even add their own.



<http://www.forestschoollassociation.org/what-is-forest-school/>

Our Curriculum

We offer a broad, balanced and rich curriculum which helps and supports all of our pupils in achieving their personal best, in all aspects of school life.

Maths: At St Anne's, we recognise and value maths as an essential part of everyday life. In line with the 2014 National Curriculum and the 2021 Early Years Foundation Stage Framework. We deliver a sequentially planned, suitably pitched curriculum with the intent of supporting every child towards achieving their potential. We align fully with White Rose Math's assertion that 'Everyone can do maths.' At St. Anne's, we believe that there should be no 'ceiling' put on the children's mathematical learning and understanding; all children can be mathematicians and will achieve.

Science : At St Anne's Catholic Primary School, we believe that a high quality Science education provides the foundations for understanding the world through the specific disciplines of Biology, Chemistry and Physics.

Within our Science curriculum, teaching and learning develops children's inquiring and investigative minds, enabling them to become progressive thinkers. is about developing children's ideas and ways of working that enable them to make sense of the world in which they live through investigation, as well as through using and applying process skills.



We ensure that all children are exposed to high quality teaching and learning experiences, which allow children to explore their outdoor environment and locality, thus developing their scientific enquiry and investigative skills. They are immersed in scientific vocabulary, which aids children's knowledge and understanding not only of the topic they are studying, but of the world around them.



“a broad curriculum and an inquisitive mind
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English the classes enjoy a mastery approach; where the learning of skills and techniques is embedded in a study of quality books and other text. There is an expectation that children will apply their learning to their writing across the curriculum.

Teachers engage the children in writing through 'real life' scenarios and practical activities. We celebrate good progress in our special writing assemblies each month when we share children's work and invite authors in such as the award-winning Billy Bob Buttons.

Phonics At St Anne's, we believe all children can become confident and competent readers; reading, and a love of books, is fostered throughout our school.

We know that reading underpins all learning. In order to achieve maximum progress and attainment for all, reading is taught through the teaching of systematic synthetic phonics. Other strategies to support phonetic reading are introduced to the children to ensure that fluency and comprehension skills develop.

The DfE validated phonic scheme 'My Letters and Sounds' has been adopted across Reception and Year 1. Content of the scheme is taught through daily, whole class, phonic lessons.

Spelling is taught weekly in Y2 and KS2 and then embedded in reading and writing throughout the week. The younger children focus on learning high frequency words and applying their phonic knowledge to 'having a go' at spelling unknown words.

Reading The best 'gift' that you can give your child is to let them see you reading and valuing 'getting lost' in a book as a way of relaxing. In school children are heard read in small groups; do class shared reading and learn to develop good comprehension techniques.

A local charity Beanstalk, provides volunteers to help some of our children to develop their reading skills and to develop a love of reading.



Our curriculum continued

Non-Core Curriculum: At St. Anne's we shape our faith-based curriculum to put Christ at the heart of all we do so that all pupils are provided with high quality teaching and learning in order to develop their inquiring and investigative minds, enabling them to become progressive thinkers.

.At St Anne's we believe that it is important to develop the whole child. Non-core subjects such as Computing, French, Geography, History, Art, Design and Technology, Music, PE and PSHCE are important subjects in our curriculum. We strive to provide a fun, creative, progressive and challenging curriculum where pupils experience the opportunity to learn in a wide range of contexts. We provide engaging opportunities to promote learning through educational visits, residential visits and relevant extra-curricular activities which suit the needs and interests of our children ensuring that our wonderful local area is utilised.

Geography and History

At St Anne's, we endeavour to develop a love for History amongst all of our learners through a variety of teaching strategies. We aim to instil knowledge and skills throughout the year groups, through stand-alone History lessons (with opportunities to make cross-curricular links), ensuring they have a chance to retrieve prior knowledge and deepen their understanding of concepts. It is taught 2-3 half terms throughout each year, alternating with Geography. Skill progression is important amongst our learners. We intend to teach transferable skills which will equip the children when looking at new historical topics throughout their school life.

Education, the best 'gift' that you can give your child.



Religious Education



@ St Anne's

The children follow a programme of study called 'The Vine and the Branches'. You can find out more about this at:

<https://www.stannes.cheshire.sch.uk/page/religious-education/108098>

Our Year 3 children who have been Baptised receive the Sacraments of First Reconciliation and First Holy Communion. All their class friends are welcome to join in the celebrations!

Good Mentions Assembly

Each Friday children receive certificates to reward hard work, excellent achievements in all areas of the curriculum, good manners, effort and gospel values. St Anne's beautiful prayer garden is dedicated to St Francis and enjoyed by all.

The Collective Worship Ambassadors lead the Stations of the Cross and the Rosary; help with assemblies and class collective worship and give feedback to the staff regarding the pupil perspective of religious education.

Our Mini-Vinnies support the school community in fundraising for those less fortunate than ourselves.

Daily Celebration of the Word. Daily celebration of God's word is viewed as an integral and important part of our school life. It is a time where we come together to share our love of God and celebrate our achievements together.

At St Anne's our school ethos is based on Christian fundamentals, however our door is open to all regardless of religious beliefs.

The Arts

We are proud of our Arts Curriculum which is shaped through the input of our Arts Ambassadors. The children are given access to a range of materials and mediums over the year and they are encouraged to design and create their own artwork.

The children have the opportunity to showcase their art skills twice a year at the Nantwich Museum when they take part in the Rotary Club's Art and Handwriting competition.



Our Art curriculum is fun, creative and challenging; it inspires and engages all children to experiment, create, evaluate and improve their own work. Pupils will become proficient in drawing, sketching, painting, sculpting and other artistic techniques.

Learning outside the classroom is an important part of any child's development



Music @ St Anne's

The National Curriculum states: 'Music is a universal language that embodies one of the highest forms of creativity'. At St Anne's Catholic Primary School, our music curriculum intends to inspire creativity, self-expression and encourages our children to develop their personal musical talent. We hope to foster a love of music by exposing them to diverse musical experiences and igniting a passion for music. By listening and responding to different musical styles, finding their voices as singers and performers and as composers, our children will become to become confident, reflective musicians to the best of their individual abilities. We also encourage the inclusion of music in our children's spiritual development and as part of our worship to put Christ at the heart of all we do.

We are proud of our links with Music for Life and The Love Music Trust, who support our music teaching. Year 3 have an hours tuition every week for two terms learning to play a range of drums. Year 4 clarinets and Y5 learn brass instruments. These result in high quality performances for parents at the end of each term. Subsidised peripatetic lessons are available for children, either continuing on from these lessons or on an instrument of the child's choice.

After School music opportunities such as our KS2 choir, which currently has about 50 members, who perform a Christmas and Summer concert, which would put any professional choir to shame! Although the most impressive achievement has to be the way Mrs Roberts and Mrs Ferguson give the children such confidence that almost every child will sing a solo or duet.

St Anne's is a place of calm and happiness

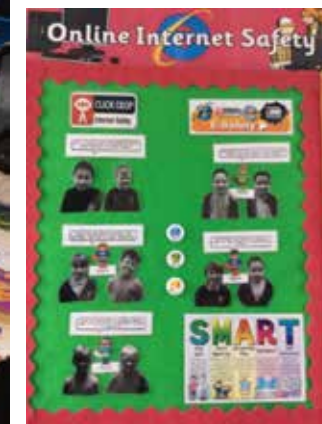
The sounds of **music**, joy and laughter drift through the school.



Computing for a digital age

Within an increasingly digital world, we hope to develop pupils who are confident, creative, reflective and responsible users of technology. We are aware that future generations will rely heavily on their computational confidence and digital skills and therefore aim to embed a broad and balanced computing curriculum throughout the school.

The aim is to ensure pupils are digitally literate whilst also developing problem solving and critical thinking skills. We hope that pupils will gain confidence and enjoyment from our computing curriculum whilst also gaining an understanding of how to be socially aware, responsible digital citizens.



"I think there is a world market for maybe five computers"

Thomas Watson, chairman of IBM, 1943

Keeping Fit and Healthy

Keeping Fit and Healthy is an important part of education at St Anne's. In Reception the children are given opportunities for physical exercise throughout the day. All children have two hours of physical education each week, which covers a range of different sports.

At St. Anne's Catholic Primary School, PE forms an integral part of our curriculum, providing all of the children with a chance to develop, improve and most importantly enjoy all aspects of PE. We endeavour to support all pupils developing a love of physical activity which they will take with them into adulthood.

We develop the children's understanding of leading a healthy lifestyle, including physical health and a healthy mind. PE lessons are inclusive and enable all children to develop skills and knowledge across a broad range of physical activities.

Our Long Term Map ensures a wide range of physical activities are covered so pupils can apply and develop their knowledge, skills and understanding across a range of sports, as well as opportunities to communicate, collaborate and compete against each other. We aim to provide opportunities throughout the curriculum to compare and evaluate their performance, as well as set goals to improve and achieve their personal best. Skill progression is important to our learners to develop knowledge and skills each year.

We aim to allow pupils to have the opportunity to compete in a range of sports at inter and intra school levels. Our aim is that sport, fitness and a healthy lifestyle holds a high profile throughout the school.



Out and about in year 6

Our annual residential to Boreatton Park (PGL) is a highlight in the Y6 calendar. The children spend five days learning new outdoor physical activities including abseiling, canoeing, archery, orienteering, high ropes, climbing, raft-making and zip wire. The course gives the children a great sense of achievement and confidence, helping them overcome challenges, such as a fear of heights. The children learn key personal skills such as team work and empathy.

Our children are especially enthusiastic about the St Anne's Golden Mile, with families running together before school and many children completing the course voluntarily during their lunch hour. This popular sport is available all year round on our wonderful all-weather running track.

We are very proud to have earned the Government's School Games Platinum Mark this year. This reflects the fantastic commitment to sport that our pupils and staff show in their extra-curricular activities and PE lessons.



Personal, Social, Health and Cultural Education (PSHCE)



At St Anne's we aim to provide a planned programme of learning, underpinned by Catholic values, where the children acquire the knowledge, understanding and skills they need to grow into independent, resilient, purposeful and caring individuals. Our PSHE curriculum develops the qualities and attributes that children need to manage opportunities, challenges and responsibilities as they grow up, enabling them to thrive as individuals, family members and contributors to society.

We teach our children:

- The importance of recognising their own and the rights of others, their responsibilities to and impact on society on a local and global scale.
- How to keep themselves physically fit and well, safe and mentally healthy
- How to develop independence, and leadership and money management skills
- How to establish, develop and maintain healthy relationships
- An acceptance, appreciation and an active encouragement of diversity, inclusivity and culture and faith

School Dinners

The children enjoy a healthy, balanced lunch each day, freshly made by our cook, Mrs Burd and her team. Pupils can choose from a hot or cold meal choice, as well as a vegetarian option and an extensive sandwich bar menu.

The themed lunch days are especially popular with our children. KS1 and Reception currently enjoy free school lunches and free fruit during afternoon break, under the current Government's healthy eating scheme.

Mrs Burd also offers a healthy Tuck Shop every morning break time, selling toast, fruit and healthy drink choices.



We believe play and learning go hand-in-hand. Playtime takes up 20% of a child's school day and provides opportunities for children to learn all the things that cannot be taught: socialisation, co-operation, coordination, resilience, creativity, imagination and negotiation. That is why we have been striving to improve our play offer at St Anne's.



Children are now offered new challenges and allowed to play with a range of new equipment and resources. They are allowed access to different parts of the school (such as the field and the forest) if they have suitable footwear and will be allowed to play outdoors in most weathers so you may find your child maybe a little dirtier when they arrive home!

Our children's play is enhanced through a wide variety of resources, from tyres, suit cases, a trampoline, mud and nets, to costumes, crates, barrells and sand!

We are delighted to share that we have achieved the PLATINUM award for our play offer! This is the highest award you can achieve through the OPAL programme.

It is wonderful to have our achievement recognised!

“Play is the highest expression of human development in childhood for it alone is the free expression of what is in a child's soul.”

Friedrich Fobel

Parent Partnership

We champion the link between school and parent and work very hard to involve you in every step of your child's time here and increase your child's love of learning. There are opportunities to help in school and to be a member of the Friends of St Anne's PTA (F.O.S.A) to help raise valuable funds for the school and arrange social events for the benefit of both the children and their families.



St Anne's

Catholic Primary School



Get In Touch

I am truly proud of our welcoming and inspiring school, with our wonderful pupils and a long-standing team of experienced staff who listen, consult and actively encourage parental involvement. I know that you will be impressed by the quality of education

To make an appointment, or to simply ask me a question, please call the school office on 01270 260783. You can also visit our website on <http://www.stannes.cheshire.sch.uk>

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