ST NICHOLAS
– CHURCH OF ENGLAND –
PRIMARY SCHOOL

WELCOME TO ST NICHOLAS CE PRIMARY SCHOOL

St Nicholas has a well-deserved reputation for its high academic, sporting and musical achievements. We are a highly effective school and have been praised in recent inspections. We are consistently one of the top performing schools in Sefton for Key Stage 2 SATs results.

Visitors to the school regularly comment on the happy and enthusiastic atmosphere and the evident Christian ethos. Our children demonstrate high standards of behaviour both in school and on visits in the local area and further afield.

Parents are very welcome to make an appointment to view the school so they can see our children both at work and play and to learn more about the vast range of activities we have on offer. More information can also be found on our school website. *Visit www.stnicholasprimary.org*

A WELCOME FROM THE HEADTEACHER

I am immensely proud to be a part of St Nicholas CE Primary School. The children continue to impress me with their enthusiasm, cheerfulness and courteous behaviour. The teaching and non-teaching staff consistently demonstrate high levels of dedication. They are passionate about learning and are always keen to work at the forefront of new educational thinking.

It is a pleasure to work alongside all our children, staff, governors and parents. Our highly effective Christian school offers a fantastic opportunity for children to become enthusiastic learners and the caring citizens of tomorrow. I am delighted that your child will become a part of our future.

Kind regards,
Rebecca Woods,
Headteacher

A WELCOME FROM THE CHAIR OF GOVERNORS

Welcome to St Nicholas Church of England Primary School. Our aim is to provide your child with a safe, secure and happy learning environment. We encourage them to achieve their full potential in all areas of school life.

Mr Paul Bonnett, Chair of Governors

GOVERNORS

Mr P Bonnett (Chair)

Mrs R Woods (Headteacher)

Mrs J Howe

Mr J Rankin

Mrs J Warren

Mrs K Limerick

Mrs L Godfrey

Mr C Moran

Mrs C Creed

Rev'd Beth Anderson

ST NICHOLAS CHURCH

The school is extremely proud of the links it has with St Nicholas Church.

Special services are held in Church at Christmas, Easter and at the end of the school year. Parents and friends of the school are always welcome to attend these services. We also participate in regular joint services with the whole Church community. These celebrate events such as Education Sunday, Mothering Sunday and Harvest Festival. Our children are also welcome every Sunday and to attend Church clubs such as Picnic Praise and The Bridge.

The clergy from St Nicholas are regular visitors to school, not only to lead worship, but to work with the children. The children always enjoy this and especially enjoy role playing important ceremonies in church. For instance, our Reception children have taken their dolls to be 'baptised' and Year 2 have enacted a wedding ceremony.

Older children also make frequent use of the church as part of their studies. The Church and school community work closely together to carry out joint fundraising activities each Harvest and Christmas. Recent fundraising has supported Mary's Meals, Children's Society, Foodbank and Blytheswood Christmas Shoebox Appeal.

BELONGING · BELIEVING · BECOMING

OUR VISION & VALUES STATEMENT

BELONGING / BELIEVING / BECOMING

Imagine a Christian family that views all its members as special.

Feel the atmosphere of happiness, confidence, belonging and belief as everyone shares the joy of working and playing together.

Notice the way all age groups value and respect one another making connections through the work they do, the problems they solve and the experience, strength and hope they share.

See the high level of academic achievement created by stimulating learning opportunities and environments.

Watch children as they are challenged to discover the champion within.

Follow them as they explore and celebrate creativity across the curriculum, striving for excellence in a secure, Christian environment.

Sense the commitment of all staff as they strive to develop their own talents and expertise and help children to achieve extraordinary results in each moment of every ordinary day.

Recognise how technologies are used to invent the future, examine the past and make sense out of today.

Feel Christ as the heartbeat of this school-church family, the unseen but ever-present teacher in its classes, the model for its entire staff, the inspiration for its pupils.

Discover a family, reaching out to the wider world, caring for and respecting the needs, beliefs and cultures of others as they become responsible, global citizens.

This is St Nicholas CE Primary School, where the pupils, parents, staff, governors and church share a sense of belonging, believe in each other and work together to become living logos for the Christian values they share.

OUR STAFF LIST

HEADTEACHER:	Mrs Rebecca Woods
SECRETARY:	Mrs Ann Papworth
OFFICE ASSISTANT:	Mrs Lynne Brownley
PREMISES OFFICER:	Mr Alan Jackson
CLEANERS:	Mrs Joanne Salmon
	Ms Jackie Cliffe

TEACHERS

Name	Year Group	Responsibility
Mrs Claire Boyd Deputy Headteacher	3	Senior Management, Assessment, Quality of Teaching, Pupil Premium, Early Reading Lead
Miss Rachel Cunningham Senior Leader	R	Senior Management Team, Early Years, Foundation Stage Co-ordinator, Education-al Visits Co-ordinator, RE and Worship, Understanding Music
Mrs Katie Gallimore	SEND	Special Educational Needs Co-ordinator (SENDCO), Disability and Equality, Understanding Design and Technology
Mrs Lyndsey Lee	1	Understanding Computing, Understanding Art and Design
Mrs Danielle McMillan	2	Human, Social and Environmental Understanding
Mrs Nicola Hopgood	3	PHSE Co-ordinator
Mrs Kim Limerick	4	Scientific Understanding, Understanding Modern Foreign Languages
Mr Mark Brooks	5	Understanding English, Physical Health and Wellbeing
Mrs Christine Farley	6	Mathematical Understanding

TEACHERS

TEACHING ASSISTANTS

Ms Louise Smith

Mrs Emma O'Connor

Mrs Jenni Farrell

Mrs Funoun Almilhim

Mrs Pamela Fury

Ms Wendy Donohoe

Mrs Ann-Marie Chatterton

Miss Sheila Wolfenden

Mrs Lyn Rudd (Parent Support Adviser)

WELFARE STAFF

Mrs Fury

Miss Wolfenden

Mrs Balmer

Ms Smith

Mrs Chatterton

Miss Donohoe

Mrs O'Connor

Mrs Akter-Jeany

JOINING ST NICHOLAS CE PRIMARY SCHOOL

Children start school in the academic year in which they turn 5 years old. Children who wish to join our school in September as part of a new Reception class, must complete a Local Authority Application Form which is available either from school or online. These are sent to the Town Hall for processing. The deadline is normally in January.

Children who wish to join the school at other times of the year or at different ages apply directly to the Local Authority. No class size will exceed 30 pupils. In the event that more than 30 pupils wish to join a class, the school's 'Admissions Criteria' is applied. The Governors' Admissions Committee reviews the criteria annually.

The admissions criteria for 2027/28 are listed on a separate page on our website. Once children have been allocated a place at our school there will be opportunities for them to meet the teachers and familiarise themselves with the school. Reception teachers may initially visit the children in their nurseries or at home. This gives our youngest children the opportunity to meet their new teachers in a setting where they are most confident and allows the teachers to learn about your child from the Nursery teachers. Our Reception teachers have built up good working relationships with all the local nurseries over many years and seek to build upon the experiences your child has had previously. Children are also invited to our summer fair, mini sports days and other fun days to familiarise them with our school setting before they join in the following September.

Children who join us at other times are given the opportunity to spend a day with their new class to meet new friends.

SCHOOL UNIFORM

We do not insist on 'branded' items embroidered with the school badge and all items can be purchased from a variety of retailers including supermarkets. Branded items are available via the online link on our website, should parents wish to purchase them but this is optional. The school office staff are able to signpost families to our local uniform bank if parents would prefer secondhand options to minimise cost and/or environmental impact.

SCHOOL UNIFORM

All children wear a navy blue 'V neck' jumper or cardigan. School coats, winter woolly hats, summer caps, P.E. bags and book bags bearing the school logo are available from the school office as an option. Ties and swimming caps (for KS2 pupils only) are also on sale from the school office.

FOUNDATION STAGE & KEY STAGE 1 PUPILS (Infants)	
Autumn & Spring Terms:	
EITHER • White 'polo' shirt • Navy blue skirt or pinafore dress • White or navy knee length socks or tights • Black shoes	**OR** White 'polo' shirt Long grey trousers Grey socks Black shoes
Summer Term: • Blue checked gingham dress • Black or dark blue sandals	White 'polo' shirt Grey shorts Black shoes
KEY STAGE 2 PUPILS (Juniors)	
Autumn & Spring Terms:	
EITHER • White shirt with school tie • Navy blue skirt or pinafore dress • White or navy knee length socks or tights • Black shoes (flat & not slip on)	**OR** White shirt with school tie Long grey trousers Grey socks Black shoes
Summer Term: • Blue checked gingham dress • Black or dark blue sandals	White 'polo' shirt Grey trousers or shorts Black shoes

Please note – trainers are not permitted to be worn as part of the school uniform and pupils should wear shoes of a flat, safe design. 'Slip on' shoes should be avoided. A small pair of stud earrings and an inexpensive, analogue wristwatch can be worn but these must be removed for PE and swimming, other jewellery is not permitted in school. Hair bobbles and clips should be of a plain design (without bows or trimmings) in black, brown or navy to ensure our children look smart.

PE + Games

- Navy blue shorts with a red polo shirt
- Black pumps for indoor PE. Trainers for outdoor games
- Navy blue tracksuit in winter months for outdoor games

HOW CAN I FIND OUT ABOUT MY CHILD'S PROGRESS?

At St Nicholas Primary School we believe that children learn best when there is good communication between home and school. We find that this two-way dialogue enables all those who are concerned with the development of the child to work together.

Our main methods of formal communication include:

- A weekly newsletter which informs parents and guardians about school life in general and 'Dates for Your Diary'.
- Formal parent / teacher meetings in the Autumn and Spring terms.
- A written report, delivered in July, on your child's progress throughout the school year.

In addition, our teachers are always willing to discuss your child's progress and aspects of school life at any time throughout the year. It is a good idea to telephone school or email the office if you would like to speak to the class teacher. All our teachers run after-school clubs or attend training sessions on different days, so may not be immediately available if you seek an adhoc meeting.

SCHOOL RESULTS 2026

Key Stage 2	% of children achieving in the expected standard SATS Test (Writing Teacher Assessment)	% of children achieving the higher standard in SATS Test (Writing Teacher Assessment)	% of children achieving the expected standard nationally	% of children achieving the higher standard nationally	Average Scaled Score	Average Scaled Score National
Reading	90%	43%	75%	31%	108	106
Writing	90%	13%	73%	13%	N/A	N/A
Spelling, Punctuation & Grammar	87%	33%	74%	30%	106	105
Maths	87%	30%	75%	27%	106	105
Reading, Writing & Maths Combined	80%	10%	63%	9%	N/A	N/A

MY CHILD HAS SPECIAL EDUCATIONAL NEEDS. HOW WILL THE SCHOOL MEET THESE NEEDS?

St Nicholas CE School is an inclusive school. We believe that every child should have the opportunity to attain the highest possible achievements. Some children are able to achieve their own targets within normal lessons, whilst others may benefit from extra support. The support is given at varying levels, depending upon the needs of an individual child. Our Special Educational Needs and Disabilities Co-ordinator (SENDCO) is Mrs Katie Gallimore and she can be contacted on **0151 924 1204** via the school office.

- For those children who find some concepts difficult, their work is planned at a slightly different level by the class teacher. This enables the child to consolidate their knowledge and maintain their confidence.
- For some children, extra reinforcement is helpful. This is usually carried out by a Teaching Assistant assigned to the class. The Teaching Assistants are trained in delivering English and Maths Intervention programmes.
- For a few children, these strategies may not completely satisfy their needs. These children will be given specifically developed programmes tailored to meet their individual needs. Specialist external advice and support may also be sought, for example from speech therapists or occupational therapists. These usually involve the services of the Local Authority 'STEPS' team (Special Needs and Educational Psychology Service). At this level, parents and guardians are closely involved in the decisions that are made.

Gifted and Talented children are given mastery work to deepen their knowledge and their grasp of concepts. They may also receive additional support with their music or sport.

Attendance

Children are expected to attend school regularly and punctually. At our school, we consider at least 97% to be regular attendance. This ensures that progress is maintained and that children do not miss out on valuable learning opportunities.

SCHOOL LIFE

Rewards

A weekly behaviour award and achievement award is given to members of each class who have demonstrated excellent behaviour or have produced an excellent piece of work. The children are given their awards in special assemblies, given a certificate to take home and their photograph is displayed around school.

Each week the class with the highest percentage attendance is given a reward. In addition, any individual child who achieves 100% attendance throughout the year receives a special certificate.

After- school clubs

We have an extensive range of clubs on offer throughout the year for pupils from Year 1 to Year 6. Some of the extra-curricular activities we offer include: athletics, football, cricket, golf, judo, multi-sports, netball, rugby, fun science, art, choir, gymnastics, dance, drama and modern foreign languages.

Residential visits

Older children are offered the opportunity to take part in activities away from school on a residential visit. These are always very popular and great fun. Years 4-6 spend time away together with their teachers. They travel, for example to the Kingswood Centre in Denbigh or the PGL Adventure Centre in Winmarleigh. Our Year 6 classes have previously had the opportunity to visit our link school in Segovia, Spain.

Wrap Around Care

Parents are responsible for their children before 8.45am and from 3.05pm. It is the parents' responsibility to ensure children are brought to school and collected from school on time. In the infants the teachers will handover children to the adult who is collecting them at 3.05pm. A breakfast club is provided from 7.45am and an after-school club until 6.00pm. This is run by JETs on St Nicholas School premises and in the church hall. It is very popular with the children who enthuse about the activities. Families may make use of the club for as many or as few days each week as they like but must book a place in advance.

FRIENDS OF ST NICHOLAS (FOSN):

A Parent–Teacher Association

FOSN exists solely to support St Nicholas CE Primary School. All parents and guardians of pupils at the school automatically qualify for FOSN membership and are always made very welcome. FOSN meets on the first Monday of each month at 7.30pm in school. FOSN fund raising takes the form of enjoyable family events or adult events. The school has benefited greatly over the years from major fundraising events which have helped to support projects such as purchasing new equipment for the playgrounds and a cycle shelter.

FOSN also provides resources for individual classes. The FOSN also regularly support events such as school discos and subsidise the children's Christmas parties.

Modern Foreign Languages

We have chosen to teach Spanish throughout the school as a Modern Foreign Language. The children are taught through enjoyable activities such as games and songs and are encouraged to use their Spanish in other areas of the curriculum. We are currently twinned with Las Canadas in Segovia, Spain. Teachers have visited the school and both our children and the Spanish children are keen to share information about their different ways of life. Our Year 6 children have had the opportunity to experience a school visit of a lifetime when they spend a week in our link school gaining an insight into the culture of their new Spanish friends.

Pupil Voice

Our children are encouraged to participate in the development of the school. They express their views through questionnaires, informal talks with teachers and through the School Council. The School Council comprises a group of pupils from Years 2 to 6 who have been elected by their peers. The Council consults and gathers the views of our Reception and Year 1 children. They have helped to design new outdoor facilities and have been consulted on the range of extra- curricular activities we offer.

Home-School Agreement

When your child starts school, you will be asked to sign the Home-School Agreement which sets out what the school aims to do for your child and what you will do to support your child's education. Our commitment is to care for your child's welfare and happiness and to ensure your child achieves their full potential.

CHILD PROTECTION

St Nicholas CE Primary School is committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children and young people and expects all members of the school community to share this commitment. To this end we will endeavour to provide a safe and welcoming environment where children are respected and valued.

The safety and well-being of all children and young people is of paramount importance. We recognise that parents and carers send their children to school each day with the expectation that the school provides a safe and secure environment in which their children can flourish. We therefore have a wide range of measures in place to ensure this is put into practice and is maintained.

Our school staff are trained to be alert to signs of abuse and neglect and will follow Sefton Local Authority procedures to ensure that children receive appropriate and effective support and protection.

Parents and carers should know that the law requires all school staff to pass on information which gives rise to concern about a child's welfare, including risk from neglect. The staff will seek to discuss any concerns with the parent/carer and, where possible, inform them of the referral to Social Care. This will only occur where such discussion will not place the child at increased risk of significant harm.

In accordance with local Information sharing protocols, we will ensure that information is shared securely and sensitively. Information will only be shared with other services where it is deemed necessary and proportionate to ensure that children are safe and receive the right support.

School will seek advice from Social Care when they have reasonable cause to suspect a child may be suffering or likely to suffer significant harm.

Occasionally concerns are passed on which are later shown to be unfounded. Parents/Carers will appreciate that the member of staff in the school responsible for Child Protection (known as the Designated Lead or Officer) is charged with carrying out their responsibilities in accordance with the law and acting in the best interest of the child.

SAFEGUARDING POLICIES

We have a number of policies in place at St Nicholas CE Primary School, which support our ethos for ensuring our children are safe, secure and in an environment where they can learn and thrive.
These are available from our school office.

Induction and Training

All our staff and volunteers have an induction schedule, which includes safeguarding training plus every member of staff has formal training every two years. This knowledge is maintained throughout the school year with bite-size reminders and updates on current practices and law.

Robust Recruitment Procedures

As a school we take time to assess all applications and include clear expectations around safeguarding and suitability to work with children. We apply these protocols and expectations to regular volunteers too. Candidates should be expected to answer questions around safeguarding in their recruitment selection day.

PSHE Curriculum and E-Safety Curriculum

Through our Personal Social and Health Education curriculum, children will learn how to keep themselves safe (age appropriate). Similarly, with IT taking a leading part in our children's everyday lives, we teach them how to be safe online and offer workshops
for parents too.

Nominated Officers

We have three members of staff who undertake the Designated Child Protection Officer role (Designated Lead). These are Mrs Woods (Headteacher) Mrs Boyd (Deputy Headteacher) and Mrs Rudd (Parent Support Adviser). Our Child Protection Governors are Mrs Catherine Creed and Mrs Jan Warren.

Site Security

We have stringent management and maintenance of our site to ensure it is safe and secure which includes management of visitors to our site. All visitors must sign in and wear a visitor badge and be escorted unless they have met our vetting requirements to work in school unsupervised.

First Aid

Our staff are trained to administer first aid and where necessary, we will advise parents of any significant treatment undertaken in school. We also have additional paediatric first aiders around the school to support when necessary and to manage medicine administration.

WHERE WILL MY CHILD GO NEXT?

Pupils from St Nicholas CE Primary School have a wide choice of high schools to attend. Advice on choosing the next step in your child's educational journey is available from the Local Authority.

All high schools offer open evenings and 'taster days' to pupils and their parents once they reach Year 5. These provide a good insight into the type of education on offer at each establishment. The schools are often willing to meet individual parents by appointment.

When your child reaches Year 6 they will be given a form by the Local Authority asking for your choice of up to three schools. The deadline for returning this form is normally late October. Parents wishing to opt for the independent sector must apply to the school separately but should also complete a Local Authority form.

A range of schools are available within Sefton which cater for children with special educational needs. These are discussed with parents on an individual basis if appropriate.

For more information about our school, please contact the school office on **0151 924 1204**.

BELONGING
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ST NICHOLAS