



At St. Bernadette's, we believe that every child is a precious gift from God to each of our families, created in His own image and likeness so as to radiate His Love, Truth, Goodness, and Beauty. We believe that every child has been blessed by God's grace to know Him and love Him, and to know of God's infinitely deep and abiding love for each of His children. We believe that every child has been created to strive for excellence in all aspects of life, and when united in friendship with Jesus, they are empowered to reflect the Light of Christ to the world.

Upon entering our academy, children are welcomed into a loving, caring, safe, and nurturing environment, beginning a journey with us through which they will grow and mature, blossom and flourish.

**'Striving for excellence in all that we do, reflecting the Light of Christ to the world.'**

At St. Bernadette's, it is our honour and our passion to help, support, and encourage each child to fulfil their God-given potential, and ready them to contribute positively to society in service of others.

In all our work for the children of St. Bernadette's we know that we are most effective when parents and the academy are working together.

**Headteacher:** Mr M. Strong

**Assistant Headteachers:** Miss L. Smith and Mr A. Strong

Ks1 teachers: Miss L. Smith (Class 4) (Friday- Mrs Lynch AM, Mrs Khan PM)

Mrs E McIlvaney (Class 5) (Wednesday- Mrs Lynch AM, Mrs Khan PM)

Mrs N. Baldwin (Class 6) (Thursday- Mrs Lynch AM, Mrs Khan PM)

We hope that you find this booklet useful during this very special time, in which your child continues their academy journey through KS1, with us, here at St. Bernadette's.

# Notes for Parents

1. First Day: Thursday 2<sup>nd</sup> September 2021

Children arrive between **8.40a.m – 8.50a.m.** for registration. Parents should bring their child to the fire door entrance of class 4 or 5 where the teacher will be there to greet your child. We do ask that you say goodbye to your child at the bottom of the ramp.

2. Session Times: Full Day – 8.50a.m. – 3.05p.m.

Please be punctual when bringing and collecting your child from the academy. Daily phonics sessions take place at **8.50- 9.10 am**; it is vital your child is accessing these daily phonics lessons.

3. Children are collected from the fire exits of class 4/5. Parents should wait outside the fire doors at the bottom of the ramps until the teacher calls your child's name. For the first week, please be patient whilst we get to know you as parents/carers.

**Please keep us informed of the different people who may be picking your child up.**

4. If children have any problems, please let us know e.g illness - medicines should normally be given at home. When it is necessary to send medicine to school, it should be in the original container, clearly marked with the child's name and dosage. The medicine should be handed in to the office staff who will administer it to your child.

5. Snacks – a healthy snack (fruit/veg) is available to all children in KS1 free at break times or they can bring their own healthy snack with them. We encourage children to drink **water** throughout the day. Children may bring their own clear water bottles. Please make sure their water bottled is labelled clearly with their name.

6. Academy uniform – all uniform can be purchased from 'Shahs'. Please see the uniform list for further information.

**ALL ITEMS OF CLOTHING MUST HAVE YOUR CHILD'S NAME ON (Preferably using name tags as names written with pen tends to wash away).**

**Outdoor shoes: need to be black.**

**Indoor shoes: black plimsolls only.**

7. **NO JEWELLERY, INCLUDING EARRINGS, TO BE WORN.**

If your child comes to the academy wearing earrings, you will be telephoned to come and remove them for safety reasons.

If you wish your child to have their ears pierced, please do so at the start of the summer holidays so they can be removed for starting in September.

If your child has long hair please tie it back with a sensible fastening. **NO PEAK CAPS or hairbands with teeth.**

Children are not allowed to bring toys with them.

8. If a child takes something home which is not theirs – please return it the following day. The class teacher is not responsible for any items that have been misplaced by your child. If your child's belongings are adequately labelled, they will be returned to them.

9. Parents should not bring cars into the academy grounds in the morning or ~~when collecting or dropping off children throughout the day.~~ KS1 parents are permitted into the playground at home time from 2.40 – 2.55. Then the gates will be locked. At 3.15 the gates will be re-opened to let cars out. (this is subject to coronavirus guidelines and whether we are able to open the car park again)

# How Can You Help?



There are many ways in which you can help your child prepare for starting KS1. We would encourage you to:

- Talk to your child about how they might feel to start with – It might be they feel tired. This is normal.
- Read to them often, and have the children read back to you.
- Look at books together or visit the library.
- Encourage them to pronounce words correctly when talking and reading, and ask them questions about the things they have read.
- Discuss being more independent, dressing themselves, putting on their own coat and shoes.
- Have the children practice doing their own school uniform, especially ties! Show them where their names are written on their clothing, so they'll know it's theirs.

Once your child starts in KS1, you can continue to support them by:

- Listening to them read their daily reading book every day and signing their reading record. Please also ask them questions about what they have just read to you.
- Practise their phonics as often as you can. Please ask your class teacher if you are unsure on our approach to teaching phonics – 'Letters & Sounds'. We do hold a phonics meeting for parents in the Advent term.
- Helping them to complete their Maths and English homework, encouraging them to do as much independently as they possibly can but ensuring they understand what they have to do.
- Practise spellings every day, ready for their weekly test.

# A Typical Day in KS1



This is an example of a typical routine your child will follow while they are in KS1. The children have been put into classes based on their abilities.

8.40 -8.50 Welcome, Registration, prayers and whole class story (the children will put their homework/ reading books in the provided tray, as they enter the classroom, to be checked by the TA or Class teacher)

8.50 – 9.10 Phonics

9.10-9.20 Spelling

9.20-10.10 English

10.10 – 10.30 Break time

10.30 – 11.45 Mathematics

11.45- 12.45 Lunch time

12.45-1.45 RE/ Topic/ PE

1.45-1.55 Break time

1.55-2.55 RE/Topic/PE

2.55 – 3.05 Evening Prayer and home time preparations

3.05 Home time

PPA –

Class 4 – Friday

Class 5 - Wednesday

Class 6- Thursday

Hymn practice and Collective Worship – Monday 2.30-3.00 (guidelines permitting)

Whole Academy Assembly – Friday 2.30-3.00 (guidelines permitting)



# Phonics



At the end of year one your child will sit their phonics screening check. It is essential that you work with your child throughout the year to develop their phonics skills. Your child will need to know all of the following sounds:

## Phase 3 Sound Mat

j 	v 	w 	x 	y 
z 	qu 	ch 	sh 	th 
th 	ng 	ai 	ee 	igh 
oa 	oo 	oo 	ar 	or 
ur 	ow 	oi 	ear 	air 
ure 	er 			

## Phase 5 Sound Mat

ay 	ou 	ie 	ea 	oy 
ir 	ue 	ue 	aw 	wh 
ph 	ew 	ew 	oe 	au 
ey 	a-e 	e-e 	i-e 	o-e 
u-e 	u-e 			

# Messages from our Children and Parents



I couldn't have asked for better teachers and staff. He loves coming to school.

Children are the future, so investing the efforts now is very important, which is carried out brilliantly at St. Bernadette's. I would absolutely recommend the academy to another parent. St. Bernadette's is a leading school in the region.

(My Child) has enjoyed every day he has been at school. This implies to me that he enjoys his time there. His improvement over the year makes me so proud of him and the teachers who have got him to where he is now.

Very good progress especially with his numbers as he was struggling to start with.

I feel (my child) has a real hunger to learn and the teaching style lends well to her learning. (My child) started the year very nervous, she has finished the year a very confident little girl with her reading and writing. This is thanks to the lovely, patient teachers. The teachers have a lovely presence which settles children, I have no worries leaving my daughter with the teachers when she is unsettled.

Excellent school and excellent staff.

Language progress is excellent.

I would definitely recommend the academy to another parent. I have nothing but praise for the academy.

St. Bernadette's has 100% excellent values, good safe environment for my child to learn in. He has gained confidence, has lots of friends and loves to go to school. He is happy. What more could a parent want for their child?

(My child) has made excellent progress. We cannot believe how much he has learnt in a year.

# Parents as Partners



When parents and teachers work together, we are able to provide your child with the very best support during their education journey.

Over the year we will provide you with resources so, that you can support your child at home. As parents are believed to be a child's primary educators, we encourage you to do as much work as you can with your child at home, as their learning will be developed further, and more quickly, in school.

We will hold two parent's meetings during the year and will regularly communicate with you via letters and meetings (if they are necessary). We will also send a school report home at the end of the academic year, which will inform you of the progress your child has made and whether they have achieved the objectives they have been working on through the year and therefore whether they have met the expected standard of learning.

Parents are encouraged to make appointments with class teachers via the Academy office or write the teacher a note, if there are any concerns that need to be raised. Likewise, the class teachers will pass on any relevant information about a child to their parents at the earliest opportunity.

We look forward to working with you!

Welcome to KS1!