



St. Gregory's Catholic Primary School Prospectus



Be Kind • Be Fair • Be Honest

Headteacher's Welcome

Welcome to St Gregory's. This prospectus is intended to provide key information about our school for those families considering St Gregory's or those who have recently enrolled their child with us.

It is by no means an exhaustive source of information, but we hope it will provide a useful point of reference. If you are a prospective parent and would like to see our school, do please make an appointment to visit us. In addition, you may like to find out more about us by visiting our website at www.stgregoryschorley.co.uk

St. Gregory's is a voluntary aided, Catholic Primary School. The principles of the Catholic faith are paramount and the whole atmosphere of the school promotes this. There are at present 213 children on roll. The school is maintained by Lancashire Local Education Authority and the Liverpool Archdiocesan Trustees.

St Gregory's is a happy, popular and thriving Catholic Primary School with an excellent reputation based on its high standards of pastoral care, behaviour and achievement within a Christ-centred environment.

An emphasis on teaching respect, manners and kindness ensures that children are happy, considerate and well-behaved, following our school motto: "Be kind, be fair, be honest." Applications to the school have consistently exceeded our capacity in recent years, so parents are strongly advised to consult our school's admissions criteria before applying for a place.

The school operates an "open door policy", and parents are welcome into school at a convenient time. If a problem or query should arise concerning your child, please come and consult Mr Darbyshire or a member of the teaching staff. Remember that nothing is ever too trivial if it is affecting your child's happiness, welfare or education. The staff and Mr Darbyshire are only too pleased to meet you at a mutually convenient time.

Best wishes,

Mr D Darbyshire
Headteacher



Be Kind • Be Fair • Be Honest





Our school community is led and managed by a strong and highly committed team of Governors, Teachers and Support Staff:

The Governing Body

The Governing Body is made up of:

Mrs Margaret Scard *Chair of Governors*

Mr Paul Loy

Mrs Carla Grady

Mr Neil Rowson

Mr Matt Pape

Mr John Sharrock

Vice Chair of Governors

Mrs Bev Murray

Mrs Sharon Hobin

Mr Kevin Slater

Mrs Mary Wakeman

Mr Darren Darbyshire

Headteacher

Mrs Joanne Molyneux

Deputy Headteacher

Fr Graeme Dunne

*Parish Priest and
Chaplin to the
Governing Body*



Teaching Staff

Headteacher Mr Darren Darbyshire

Headteacher Mrs Joanne Molyneux
(Year 6 Teacher)

Teachers

Miss Gemma Mair (Year 2 & Play Therapy Councillor)
Miss Lucy Cook (EYFS Leader)
Mrs Joanne Oldham (School SEND & Y1 Teacher)
Mrs Cheryl Beesley (Y5 Teacher)
Mrs Sarah Lewis (Y4 Teacher)
Mr Michael Wilson (Y3 Teacher)

Change 4 Life Programme
Mr Kevin Slater

Family Support Worker

Mrs Shar Blake

Wellbeing Pet

Marley

Teaching Assistants

Mrs Lorna Bamford
Mrs Zoe Markham
Mrs Sinead O'Keeffe
Mrs Liz Fowler (HLTA)
Mrs Joanne Makinson
Mrs Debbie Rypel
Mrs Chirstine Taylor
Mrs Janet Finch
Mrs Victoria Casey
Mrs Phillippa Waite
Mr Greg Drinkwater
Mrs Louise McClarty



Breakfast & After School Club

'Gregory's Gang' Staff

Mrs Hilary Heaton (<i>Manager</i>)	Mrs Tracy Barker
Mrs Joanne Makinson	Mrs Janet Finch
Mrs Liz McIntosh	Mrs Lorna Bamford
<i>School Business Manager</i>	Mrs Debra Robinson
<i>Secretary</i>	Mrs Helen Thomas
<i>School Cook</i>	Mrs Sharon Shephard



School Hours

School starts at 8.55 am and finishes at 3.15 pm. All children are allowed on the premises from 8:45 am, after which time they are supervised on the playground or in classes. Children may not be dropped off before this time, unless they are using the Breakfast Club facility.

Punctuality

As the school day begins at 8:55 am, all children should be at school for that time. Children arriving at school after 9:00 am should use the main school door and report to the School Business Manager or Secretary. An accompanying adult must complete the register with a reason for the lateness. Regular or persistent lateness will be followed up by staff.

Special Educational Needs and Disabilities

We recognise the definition of a disabled person as stated in the Equality Act 2010 as being anyone who has "a physical or mental impairment which has a substantial and long term negative effect on that person's ability to do normal day-to-day activities". Our 'SEND' Policy and Local Offer document are published on our website and identify how we will accommodate and support pupils who are disabled.

Parents with disabilities are invited to speak with the Head teacher confidentially to ensure you have full access to school information and the school building. Our accessibility plan is drawn up in consultation with parents and we welcome your involvement in this process.

The school has systems in place to identify those children who are regarded as gifted, exceptionally able or talented in a particular area or areas of the curriculum as well as those with additional educational needs which require the curriculum to be tailored to their individual requirements.

Any pupil identified for either of these groups will be placed on a register and will receive appropriate support either in class or in groups withdrawn from class. The Head teacher, Mrs J Molyneux, and the Inclusion Manager, Mrs Oldham, work together to ensure the school provides the best possible support for all pupils.

Equality

We are committed to meeting the needs of every individual child and will take full account of their age, disability, gender, gender identity, race, religion or belief, and sexual orientation, in accordance with the requirements of the Equality Act 2010.

We are proud to have been awarded the Lancashire Race Equality Mark in recognition of our outstanding practice in relation to equality. We are sensitive and appreciative of the needs of all of our children and we aim to provide each pupil with an education that increases their awareness and understanding of a diverse society. We promote positive images of all groups of society regardless of race, creed and gender and we expect mutual respect for everyone. Our teaching includes looking at the multi-cultural society in which we live and recognising the rights and needs of all people. We have recently received an international certificate from the British Council for all the work we do with overseas schools.



"Congratulations to you and your colleagues on a successful Connecting Classrooms through Global Learning project and on achieving the International School Award Intermediate Certificate: Developing Internationalism through it. We're delighted to include a certificate recognising your achievement."



Bullying/Racism

We do not tolerate bullying or racism. We accept however, that this behaviour can happen anywhere and we take any such allegations very seriously and deal with them without delay.



Child Protection

Schools have an important part to play keeping children safe and preventing child abuse. Parents should be aware that where it appears to a member of the school staff that a child has been abused or a disclosure of abuse is made by a child, the Head teacher is required to report the matter to Children's Social Care (formerly Social Services) immediately. Consequently, in such situations, it is likely that a Social Worker will contact the parents, not the school. This requirement forms part of the local authority's procedures for child protection and is not a matter of discretion of individual Head teachers or members of the school staff.

Discipline

The behaviour of our pupils is excellent and exemplary. We have an agreed discipline policy and a 'child-friendly' five point code of conduct which sets out our behavioural expectations. We expect parents to read and support this as our code for behaviour. Incidents of poor behaviour are rare but are logged and managed very successfully.



Rewards

Children respond best to positive reinforcement. We reward our children in many ways including:

- Giving lots of praise and encouraging smiles
- Writing positive comments on their work
- Awarding them Dojo Points
- Awarding them Merit Certificates
- Awarding them Star of the Week Certificates
- Displaying their name on the 'you've been noticed' board
- Awarding them a pass for a drink and a biscuit in the Head's office with friends
- Sending home Dojo messages
- Telephoning parents to give them good news about their child
- Giving class rewards such as extra playtime



School Uniform

The children wear school uniform in all classes from Reception to Year 6.

Uniform for Girls

- White Blouse
- Red school jumper/cardigan
- School tie
- Black skirt or trousers
- Black shoes
- Black socks, or black or red tights

In summer, girls may wear a red gingham dress and white socks.

Uniform for Boys

- White shirt
- Red school jumper
- School tie
- Black trousers (long or short)
- Black socks
- Black shoes

In summer, boys may wear a white polo shirt and no tie instead of formal shirt.

PE kit is:

- Black shorts
- Red school PE t-shirt
- Pumps

Games kit (for outdoor lessons) is:

- Red School tracksuit top
- Black jogging bottoms
- Trainers

School uniform items are available from our registered stockists:

NU Uniforms, Market St, Chorley. In order to preserve the integrity of our uniform, please do not buy cheaper copies from other shops as these are produced without our consent and are not of the same quality or correct colour shade.

Please mark ALL clothing with your child's name.



'Gregory's Gang'

Before and After School Childcare

There is both a Breakfast Club and an After School Club run by school staff which operate daily in the school hall. Breakfast Club runs from 7:45 am until the start of school and After School Club runs from 3:15 pm until 6:00 pm. Currently, charges are £3.50 per session for breakfast Club and £7.00 (or £6.50 for additional siblings) per session for After School Club. Both clubs include food and drink.

Complaints

If you have reason to complain about anything at school, in the first instance, please see/write to your child's class teacher. If, however, this does not solve the problem, please write to, or make an appointment to see, the Head teacher. If, after seeing the Head teacher, you are still dissatisfied, please put your complaint in writing to Mrs Scard, Chair of Governors, St. Gregory's Catholic Primary School, Eaves Green Road, Chorley, Lancs PR7 3QG.

Charging Policy

We believe that visits to museums, theatres and other places of interest support intellectual and cultural development and are a vital part of the children's education. Without the continued financial support of parents, through voluntary contributions, these trips would not be possible. Our charging policy is published on the school website.

Parking

For the safety of all our children, we ask parents to observe regulations and not to park on the yellow zig-zag lines outside the school. Also, please show consideration and refrain from blocking our neighbours' driveways. We encourage all parents to park on the Minstrel pub car park and then walk the short distance to school to avoid traffic congestion outside school.

WE ALSO ASK THAT PARENTS DO NOT PARK ON THE SCHOOL CAR PARK BETWEEN THE HOURS 8AM AND 5PM.







The Curriculum

Within the context of a Catholic Education, our aim is to teach children the skills necessary for their intellectual, physical, social, moral and spiritual development, enabling each child to realise his/her maximum potential. Our curriculum fulfills the requirements of the national curriculum and is broad and balanced.

The children's learning is based on a different theme or topic every half term. Teachers work extremely hard to plan interesting and creative lessons which make the most of links between different subjects.

At the heart of the curriculum are the core subjects of Religious Education, mathematics, reading, writing and spelling. English plays a crucial part in the children's development as confident communicators in speech and in writing, and reading both for pleasure and for learning information is vitally important. Mathematics is extremely important in our everyday lives, and the children are enabled to use and understand number, shapes, measures algebra and data handling in a variety of contexts. We have just changed the way maths is taught at school, by adopting the Singapore maths approach called: 'Maths No problem'

We provide rich learning opportunities in music, art and drama and we have been awarded 'Artsmark' status for our excellent provision in these areas.

We are also passionate about sports and physical education, with opportunities for all children to participate in at least 2 hours of quality sports provision every week and ample opportunities for involvement in a range of sports teams. We make provision for every child to learn to swim at least 25 metres and ride a bicycle before they leave school.

The school has just received the Gold Award for its achievements and participation in sports.

Our history and geography teaching includes helping the children to understand and appreciate local themes as well as global issues, and often prompt independent research. Science is all around us, and science learning, wherever possible, is hands-on and investigative, making full use of our extensive school grounds and pond and wildlife area. All children in Key Stage Two have a weekly lesson in French and are enabled to learn to speak and write in French before leaving school. The teachers are innovative in their delivery of the computing curriculum and the children are encouraged to use a range of technology to support and enhance their learning across the curriculum.

Extra Curricular Activities

St Gregory's is proud of its varied menu of after-school clubs and activities which are run by the teaching staff and provide opportunities for the children to experience a wide range of sports, enrichment activities and new hobbies. The programme changes termly and details are sent home for parents and children to make choices. Individual or small group music tuition in woodwind instruments or keyboard on a weekly basis is arranged by the school at a subsidised rates for parents. Details are sent home annually for parents to consider for their child. The lessons take place during the school day.



Religious Education

The Mission of St. Gregory's School is to pass to the children in our care the Faith of the Roman Catholic Church. This is carried out, not only by the religious lessons undertaken by the children, but it is the Catholic ethos that pervades the school that steeps the children in our Faith. The Religious Education Programme we follow is 'Come and See', published by the Liverpool Archdiocese. This covers aspects of Catholicism at a level suitable for the age of the child and also facilitates understanding about other faiths. The school works closely with parish catechists to prepare the children for the Sacraments of Reconciliation and Holy Eucharist. This takes place in Year Four.

Parents have the right to withdraw children from both Religious Education and Collective Worship but it is anticipated by the Governing Body that those specifically choosing Catholic education will wish to lend their support to maintaining both the full spiritual life of the school and the aims set out in the Mission Statement.

Dinner Money

Dinner money should be sent into school in an envelope labelled with the child's name and class, on Friday mornings for the week ahead. The cost is £2.40 per day or £12 per week.





School Meals

Our meals are made freshly on the premises every day and are varied and nutritious. Menus are sent home termly. Milk or water is provided to accompany school meals. School meals are free of charge for all children in Reception, Y1 and Y2 and for those in Key Stage Two whose parents are eligible for free school meals for their children. Please enquire at the office about how to check your eligibility. Children may bring a packed lunch if parents wish. Please pack sandwiches in suitable containers. Cans and bottles of drink are not permitted.

Morning Snacks

In KS2, children have the opportunity to buy a slice of toast at morning break. They may also bring in fruit to eat. Children have constant access to water, i.e. water bottles are permitted on the children's tables in class. Children are not permitted to bring crisps or other snacks for break time. The school council operates a Healthy Tuck shop every Monday morning. Reception children are asked to bring in a contribution of £1 per week to cover their daily snack which they enjoy in small groups with an adult.

Holidays

A holiday list is published on the school website. Leave of absence during term time for family holidays will not be authorised.

The school as yet, is not enforcing fines to parents but if holidays continue to rise in term time then the Governors may decide to change their policy.

Absence and Health

Sickness in School

Should a child fall ill in school and deemed too ill to remain in school, parents will be contacted by Office staff. If a child is injured, a First Aider will examine the child and parents will be contacted if further treatment is required. In the case of minor accidents, for example minor grazes, cuts or bruises, an accident/injury slip will always be sent home with a child so that parents are made aware their child has received first aid. It is imperative that parents keep their emergency contact details up to date and notify the school office if they change telephone numbers.



Medication

It is school policy that no medication should be given to children by members of staff at school, with the exception of Asthma medication. However, if a parent cannot possibly return to school to give prescribed medication the Head teacher is willing to give medication to children only on completion of written instruction from parents on a proforma held in the school office. Any child on long-term medication which needs to be administered in school, should have a care plan in place. Those children with an asthma inhaler need to keep an inhaler in school in a lidded clear box labelled with their name, date of birth and photograph. Children must not keep any medicines or pain relief in their bags. If your child has any specific health needs, it is important that you discuss these with the Head teacher prior to them starting school.



Absence from school

If a child is off school due to sickness, parents must notify the school each day of absence by telephone or e-mail before 8:55am. Parents are asked to try to make any dental and medical appointments outside school hours. Leave of absence during term time for holidays will not be granted. Permission for absence for exceptional circumstances will be considered.

Parent Involvement in School

Parents are very welcome to work with the children in school. All volunteers working in school with children will be police checked and it is school policy that parents do not work in the same class as their child. We have a thriving Parents, Teachers and Friends Association (PTFA) or (FoSG) Friends of St Gregory who arrange social and fundraising events for the whole school community. They are always seeking new members and would greatly appreciate your support and involvement.

The money they raise benefits all pupils and is used for resources, visits and activities which enrich their education.

PTFA at St Gregory's are known as FOSG (Friends of St Gregory).

Personal Property

Children are all provided with a space for the storage of items such as bags, coats and lunch boxes. Please put your child's name on these items.



Jewellery and Mobile Phones

Pairs of earrings are allowed to be worn by all children. These earrings should be stud earrings only, for health and safety reasons. Watches can be worn. Rings and chains may not be worn for health and safety reasons. Mobile phones are not permitted in school unless with permission from the Headteacher. In these cases, the phones are locked away securely until the end of the school day.

Assessment

Assessment by the child's class teacher will be ongoing throughout the year. Parents are kept informed about their child's progress through formal termly parent-teacher consultations and an annual written report. In addition, Y1 children undertake a national phonics screening check in June. This is to ensure that they are meeting a national standard, and additional support and provision is made for those children who are not at the expected level. We are very proud of what our children achieve. All our results are published annually on the school website stgregoryschorley.co.uk/our-school/sats. The children at school make great progress in all areas of the curriculum. We pride ourselves on the creative, exciting and challenge curriculum we offer to all our children.

The curriculum is driven by four key driver words:

RESILIENT, REFLECTIVE, RESPONSIBLE AND CURIOUS.

On leaving our school, we anticipate that the children will hold onto these words and become valuable members of the whole community.



Headteacher: Mr D Darbyshire

St Gregory's Catholic Primary School

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Email: head@st-gregorys-pri-lancs-sch-uk

www.stgregoryschorley.co.uk

