



St Bartholomew's
Church of England
Primary School

**Welcome to
Early Years**

**"Outstanding education, underpinned by
distinctively Christian values, developing our
pupils academically, morally and spiritually,
within and as part of the wider community."**



Welcome to St Bart's

A Message from the Headteacher

Welcome to St Bartholomew's Church of England Primary School! As Headteacher, I am delighted to welcome you and your child to our school family. Whether your child is joining us in Nursery or Reception, this is a special moment - full of excitement and, sometimes, a little nervousness. We understand these feelings and are here to support you every step of the way.

St Bart's has a proud history as a successful and caring school, and we look forward to being part of your family's journey throughout your child's primary years. Our vision and Christian values guide everything we do, helping us to nurture each child academically, morally, and spiritually.

We believe in working together with families and the community to provide a firm foundation for your child's future. Our partnership with St Bartholomew's Church and the wider community ensures that our school has a distinctive Christian ethos, but we warmly welcome children from all faith backgrounds.

Our core values:

- **TRUTH:** Be honest, always telling the truth and being open about our mistakes and achievements.
- **FORGIVENESS:** Be ready to forgive each other quickly.
- **COMPASSION:** Be kind and caring to others, being friendly and not letting people feel judged, lonely or left out.
- **THANKFULNESS:** Take pride in all we do, being thankful to God for all we have.
- **HUMILITY:** Be polite and respectful, having good manners and understanding the views and feelings of others.
- **DETERMINATION:** Always keep going, even when things are difficult.
- **EXCELLENCE:** Work hard and enthusiastically, praising what is good.
- **SERVICE:** Help out when we can, working as a team by sharing and trusting each other.

Staying Connected

We encourage you to keep up to date with school news and events by visiting our website and following us on social media. You can also view our regular news update through our website. Please don't hesitate to contact us at any time - by email, letter, or phone - if you have questions or concerns.

We really look forward to welcoming the children to the St Bart's family in September and we hope their time spent in Early Years will be happy and rewarding. Get in touch if you would like any further information.





A Church School: Our Christian Ethos

St Bart's is a Voluntary Aided, Church of England Primary School for children aged 3 to 11. We are highly regarded in our local area and welcome families from all backgrounds. Our close links with St Bartholomew's Church and the Diocese of Newcastle help us to foster a caring and inclusive community.

Religious Education and Collective Worship

Religious Education and daily acts of worship are central to our school life. These help children understand what it means to be committed to the Christian faith, while also learning about other world religions. Our aim is for Christianity to be relevant and meaningful in the lives of our children and families.

Around school, there are special places for reflection, and we have an Outdoor Prayer Gym for quiet moments. We celebrate special occasions such as Harvest Festival and enjoy visits from the vicar and other guests. Parents have the right to withdraw their children from RE and worship, but we hope you will support this important aspect of our school life.



From Nursery to Reception

Please note: a place in Nursery does not automatically guarantee a place in Reception. We encourage you to check our admissions criteria carefully if you wish your child to continue with us.

Our Early Years Team and Environment

Our Early Years provision brings together our Nursery and Reception teams to create a safe, happy, and stimulating environment. We have a dedicated entrance for Early Years, with clear start and finish times:

- **Nursery:** Morning session, 8:45am–11:45am (*26 places*)
- **Reception:** Full day, 8:55am–3:25pm (*30 places*)

Our team includes two teachers and two teaching assistants, often supported by other staff, student trainees and work experience pupils.

Our Objectives

- to provide a happy, safe and stimulating environment where each child can flourish and make the best possible progress.
- to support each child's development and learning across all areas of the curriculum through carefully planned and personalised activities and experiences.
- to develop good communication skills including listening, speaking, reading and writing whilst encouraging a love of literature.
- to explore, acquire, practise and understand the skills related to numbers, shapes, space and measures.
- to encourage co-operation and develop an awareness of and respect for others by teaching and modelling our Christian values.



Our Curriculum

Play is at the heart of learning in Early Years. We plan activities that encourage curiosity, independence, and a love of learning. Our curriculum follows the Early Years Foundation Stage (EYFS), focusing on:

- **Prime Areas:** Communication and Language, Physical Development, Personal, Social and Emotional Development
- **Specific Areas:** Literacy, Mathematics, Understanding the World, Expressive Arts and Design



Parental Involvement

We value the partnership between home and school. We use the MarvellousMe app and our Class Pages to share your child's progress and keep you informed. FOBS (Friends of St Bart's School) organises fun events to support the school - we'd love for you to get involved!



Safety and Wellbeing

Your child's safety and wellbeing are our top priorities. All staff are DBS checked, and we ask that you keep us informed about who will be collecting your child. Please let us know of any allergies or medical conditions and keep your contact details up to date.

Absences and Health

Whilst attendance and promptness at school are vital, if your child is unwell with a temperature, please keep them at home, especially if they have been sick or had diarrhoea (48 hours' recovery is essential). Let us know about absences by phone or email.

Uniform and Clothing

Smart uniform is expected every day. In Early Years, a waterproof coat and wellies are essential - we love learning outdoors! Please clearly name all clothing and shoes. For details on uniform and how to order, visit our website.



Healthy Eating

We provide daily milk (free for under-5s), fruit, and water for all Early Years children. Reception children receive a free hot meal at lunchtime, ordered online in advance. Please consider applying for free school meals through North Tyneside Council if eligible.



Let's Work Together

We hope and pray that your child will flourish at St Bart's. If you have any concerns or questions, please let us know so we can address them promptly. We look forward to seeing you in September!



Ready



Respectful



Safe



Curious



Hopeful