



Ofsted 2019:
'A good school'

St Scholastica's Catholic Primary School

Living, Loving, Learning through Christ



Living: we provide a safe environment where children are inspired to achieve their true potential.

Loving: we learn how to love Jesus and each other. We follow His example by showing kindness and respect to everyone. We see potential in all.

Learning: we educate and nurture all to meet the demands of the changing world with Love, Peace and Respect.



Foreword: Mrs Sandra Brierley, Headteacher, says...

Welcome to our wonderful school and I look forward to working in partnership with you over the coming years. Our school is a Catholic community committed to providing a safe, inclusive environment where everyone is significant and respected for their differences and achievements. We inspire each other to learn, grow, enjoy and be happy.

Everyone is welcome

You do not need to be a Catholic to attend our school, we welcome children and families of all faiths and none. We simply ask that children and families are supportive of our Catholic ethos.

Knowledge, experience and opportunity

Our aim is that when every child leaves us at the end of Year 6, they will feel confident, responsible and competent members of society who are ready for secondary school. We hope to achieve this by giving every child a wealth of knowledge, experience and opportunity.

Enthusiastic learning

My vision for St Scholastica's is to ensure our children develop an enthusiasm for learning. We are an inclusive school that strives to meet the needs of all our children in every aspect of school life.

Super Skills

Super Skills are learning behaviours which help enable children to succeed in their learning, school life and future endeavours. St Scholastica's staff have highlighted six skills that we think will best

help children during their time with us and beyond. Our Super Skills are Motivation, Determination, Respect, Aspiration, Independence and Resilience.

Dedicated staff

Our dedicated and skilled staff are committed to creating a secure, friendly, happy atmosphere where children can thrive and reach their full potential. They aim to support all children to grow in confidence, academic excellence and spirituality through their time at St Scholastica's.

Equality of opportunity

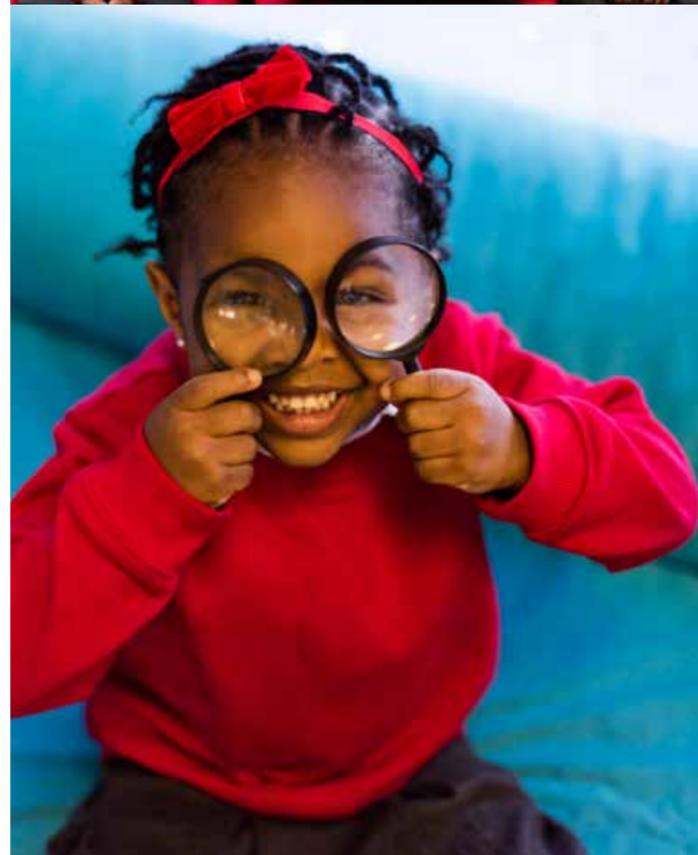
We believe that everyone deserves the opportunity to achieve their full potential and that it is our job as educators to overcome challenges and barriers to learning. The governors and staff of St Scholastica's work hard to ensure that children with Special Educational Needs & Disabilities (SEND) have access to a fully inclusive curriculum and can take part fully in school activities.

Parent partnership

We work closely with our families, guaranteeing school is supported by parents and parents are supported by the school, to enable children to thrive and become the best version of themselves.

Get in touch

Our prospectus is designed to give you an insight into our school's culture and ethos, but this is just a start. We love to share our wonderful learning environment with others and would be so happy to organise a visit for you. Please email via our contact form on our school website <http://www.st-scholasticas.com/> contact or telephone 020 8985 3466.



School hours

Primary school times

- 8.30 am – soft start
- 8:50 am – school day begins
- 11:45 am – Nursery and Reception Lunch
- 12.00pm – Year 1 – 3 lunch.
- 12.30pm – Year 4 – 6 lunch.
- 3.30pm – school day ends.

Nursery times

- All day sessions – 8.30 am – 3.30 pm.
- AM session – 8.30am – 11.45 am.
- PM session – 12.15 pm – 3.30 pm.

Uniform

A school uniform gives children a sense of belonging and of taking pride in their appearance. Our uniform consists of grey trousers/skirt/pinafore/shorts, white collared shirts and a red school sweatshirt or cardigan with our school logo. Our PE kit consists of a scarlet polo shirt with an optional school logo, black shorts and black pumps/trainers. Logoed items can be purchased from our uniform supplier Divine Solutions School Wear, NI7 0TA. All other items are available from most high street shops.

School meals

Ashlyn's Organic Ltd provide locally sourced, organic where possible, environmentally sound ingredients cooked entirely on the school premises. Children can decide whether to commit to school dinners or packed lunches on a half-termly basis. We are a healthy school and promote healthy foods for lunches so children with packed lunches are not allowed to bring in sweets, chocolate, glass bottles and fizzy drinks. We are also a nut-free school.

Clubs

The school has a breakfast club that pupils can access from 7:45 am – 8:30 am. The school offers a range of extra-curricular activities from 3:45 pm – 4:45 pm Monday to Thursday. Both are popular resources. Bookings can be made via the school office and payments should be made by Parent Pay.

Behaviour and self development

We follow the 'Staying On Green' behaviour system. This involves every child from Nursery to Year 6, beginning the day on a green card displayed in their class and aiming to work up through a system of reward cards to reach gold. The school rules support the child's understanding of 'green' behaviour expectations and they are as follows:

- Speak kindly to everyone
- Listen to each other
- Do our best
- Choose the right things to say or do.

Recognising good behaviour

Hard work and effort are recognised by the award of Dojo points. Children can earn Dojo points by demonstrating positive behaviour linked to our school rules and our Super Skills. There are incentives for the children to earn as many points as possible, with certificates awarded for achieving milestones. These skills are celebrated weekly in our celebration assembly and are an integral part of the school's behaviour policy.

Special Educational Needs and Disabilities (SEND)

Every child has individual needs that will affect their learning. Sometimes children need special support to give them an extra boost or to help them catch up with other children of the same age. They may need this support for a short time or a longer period, but during this time they will be part of our Special Educational Needs (SEN) Register and we will keep a close eye on their progress, look carefully at what special support they need and keep in close touch with their parents.





Broad and Balanced Curriculum

Our children are enthusiastic about their learning because of the broad, balanced and creative curriculum we offer. It is important that what children at St Scholastica's are taught reflects and inspires them. We are keen to ensure children see themselves represented in their lessons and in resources. We want what is taught to provide our children with a sense of belonging and identity.

Ofsted say...

Our latest Ofsted report states that "the leaders have ensured that the curriculum is ambitious."

Love of learning

With skilled teaching, we believe St Scholastica's curriculum is both ambitious and achievable for all children. We provide children with a broad range of opportunities to deepen and expand their knowledge in all subject areas. We aim to inspire a love of learning in all subjects and offer vibrant and innovative learning opportunities.

Confidence, communication and physical development

We aim to develop fully-rounded individuals. This means that we ensure our curriculum develops skills in all areas of development, including physical, academic, creative, social and emotional. The curriculum is divided into three stages:

Early Years Foundation Stage (3 – 5 years)

A high-quality early years experience is of vital importance and can have a lasting effect on a child's attitude to education, personal and social skills and attainment.

Our early years provision provides a fantastic start to school life and formal education for all children at St Scholastica's.

The Early Years Foundation Stage Curriculum is based on seven areas of learning:

1. Personal, Social and Emotional Development.
2. Communication and Language.
3. Physical Development.
4. Literacy.
5. Mathematics.
6. Understanding the World.
7. Expressive Arts and Design.

In KS1 (5–7 years) and KS2 (7–11 years) areas of curriculum are:

- Reading.
- Writing.
- Mathematics.
- Speaking and Listening.
- Religious Education.
- Science.
- Computing.
- Design and Technology.
- History.
- Geography.
- Art and Design.
- Music.
- Modern Foreign Languages (Spanish).
- Physical Education including Swimming lessons in Years 4 and 5.
- PSHE.



Trips

We firmly believe that children learn best from their own first-hand experiences and to this end we endeavour to take the children on trips that enhance and enrich topics from the curriculum. Field trips and visits to places of educational interest, such as museums, galleries, religious buildings, theatres, and concert halls, are an integral part of our curriculum. Examples of our trips include:

- Hackney City Farm
- Westminster Cathedral
- The British Museum
- The Science Museum
- Countryside Live
- The Museum of London
- The National Gallery
- London Zoo

Children often participate in local visits too.

These could include simple walks around the locality looking at shops, transport and in infrastructure, housing and hedgerows.

Residential Trips

Older children have the opportunity to go on a residential trip in Year 5 and Year 6. In Year 5, children travel to Kench Hill in Kent. Whilst in Year 6, children have the opportunity to spend one week in Spain. These experiences can help to develop qualities of self-reliance, independence and help to develop confidence.

Music

Our high-quality music education engages and inspires children to develop a love of music. Children are taught by a music specialist. They have the opportunity to experience a range of instruments including djembe drums, recorders, keyboards, glockenspiel, ukele and many more. This is in addition to a weekly singing assembly.

Visitors

As well as enriching experiences out of school, we welcome many visitors into our school throughout the year to provide exciting, dynamic learning experiences for the children. These include those with professional expertise such as theatre companies, artists, musicians, road safety campaigners, representatives from local and national charities and the emergency services.

Sport and PE

We believe all children should have the opportunity to take part in regular, high-quality PE lessons. All classes take part in a minimum of two hours of PE per week. Our dedicated PE teacher is committed to maximising pupil participation in sports and physical activities.





Mission Statement

Our mission statement is 'Living, Loving and Learning through Christ'. This gives children a clear sense of their Catholic identity and mission. Through this, we strive to ensure that our children experience the love and knowledge of Christ through His enduring love, His continual forgiveness and His lasting presence in our lives.

Education

Teaching is centred on Gospel values and reflects the teaching of the Catholic Church. Parents are the first educators of their child in faith and a strong home-school link is fundamental in supporting the school in its mission. 10% of our teaching timetable is dedicated to Religious Education. The content of Religious Education offers a programme of study which comprehensively covers all the strands and requirements of The Religious Education Curriculum Directory (3-19). This ensures that the teaching and learning of Religious Education at our school reflects the vision and breadth of the teaching of the Church outlined in the Catechism of the Catholic Church. From the Early Years all the way up to Year 6 children learn about the themes of the Church which are Church, Sacrament and Christian Living.

The children also learn about other world religions such as Islam and Judaism. Each year group has a particular area to focus on within world religions which are outlined at various times throughout the year (taking into account when festivals and celebrations fall).

Faith, reflection and prayer

As a Catholic school, we keep God and faith at the centre of all we think, do and say. We encourage all children to engage daily with their faith and provide opportunities for reflection and prayer. We teach children how to put their beliefs into practice in a modern world. At St. Scholastica's, our children know that they are members of not just their own family, but of our school family, the St. Scholastica's Parish family and the wider Catholic community. Children frequently celebrate Mass at St. Scholastica Church and our Parish Priest is a regular visitor to the school, providing the children and staff with teaching support and spiritual insight.

How you can help:

As the first educators of your children, it is important that they see you taking part in religious life. By attending Mass regularly and supporting them in their school work, we can work together to provide a spiritually rich environment which enables them to grow in the light and love of God.



Admissions arrangements

Nursery admissions

Children can start nursery in the school term following their third birthday. You should visit the school nursery when your child turns two and complete an application form which is available from the school office. You will then be contacted if your child is offered a place.

Reception admissions

Application for admission to St Scholastica's Reception class is completed online during the year before the child is due to start school. The Governing Body has sole responsibility for admissions to St. Scholastica's. In order to make an application, you must complete an online Common Application Form (CAF) from your local authority. You should also complete the School's Supplementary Information Form (SIF) available on our website.

In-year admissions

Sometimes it is necessary for children to transfer to St Scholastica's from other schools outside of the normal admissions process. To register for a place, you must register your wish to be placed on the school's waiting list and complete a waiting list form (available from the school office) with proof of address, birth certificate and baptism certificate (where applicable) and complete an In-Year Admission Form online at <https://education.hackney.gov.uk/content/making-an-in-year-application?guidebook=193>.

Further information regarding school admissions and transfers can be found by contacting Hackney Education. Please see below for their contact details:

- Local Authority School Admissions: Hackney Education
- Web: <https://education.hackney.gov.uk/section/admissions-and-transfers>
- Telephone: 020 8820 7000
- Email: admissions@hackney.gov.uk

Getting involved

Friends of St Scholastica's

We have a thriving and committed PTA, whose aim is to populate the school calendar with community-focused events like the summer fete and Easter bonnet parade and cake sales. They aim to fundraise for equipment and opportunities for the children that would otherwise be impossible. If you would like to get involved with the PTA in any way, please email FSS@st-scholasticas.hackney.sch.uk.

Governance

The governing body at St Scholastica's is made up of parents, school staff, the church and members of the local community who want to make a positive contribution to children's education. They use their diverse knowledge and experience to help the headteacher make the right decisions for the school and oversee the strategic direction and performance of the school and ensure accountability. When a parent governor position becomes available, we will notify you and allow you to apply.



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