

St. Catherine's Catholic Primary School Prospectus



PROVIDING THE ESSENTIALS FOR LEARNING & LIFE

Welcome

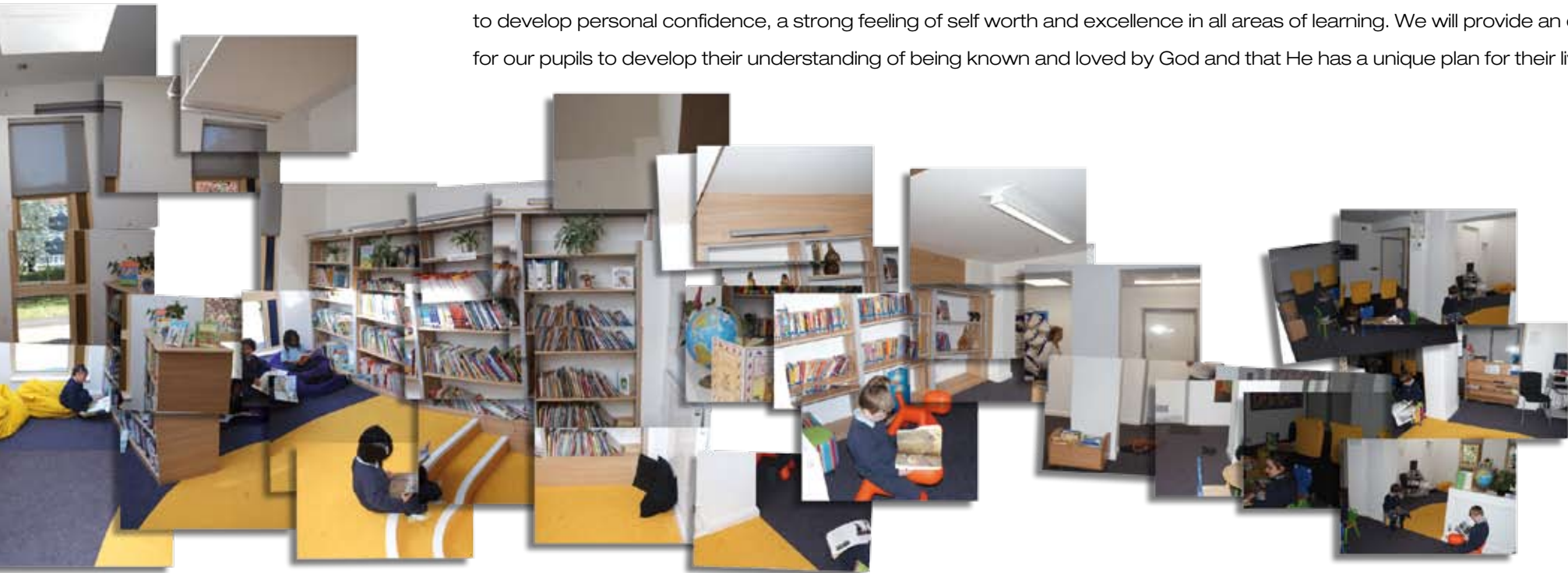
Welcome to St Catherine's Primary School

We believe St Catherine's is a distinctive inspiring and exciting place where children, parents, staff, governors and our community work together. We provide the opportunity for pupils to achieve their potential, explore and develop the gift that they are given and grow alongside others as children of God.

"We are very happy about everything at St Catherine's!"

Parent

At St Catherine's we work to ensure the very best outcomes for our children. We strive for excellence in all aspects of school life. First class teaching is crucial to children achieving their best and at St Catherine's our dedicated staff are enthusiastic, talented and strongly committed to providing an outstanding education for the children. The children are prepared to be flexible, life-long learners, equipped to meet the challenges of our changing society. The positive and stimulating environment at St Catherine's allows children to develop personal confidence, a strong feeling of self worth and excellence in all areas of learning. We will provide an environment for our pupils to develop their understanding of being known and loved by God and that He has a unique plan for their lives.



St Catherine's is a Voluntary Aided Catholic mixed junior and infant school with a nursery unit; the school is situated in the London Borough of Barnet. The school serves the parishes of Mary Immaculate and St Gregory's, High Barnet and Mary Immaculate and St Peter's, New Barnet, in the Archdiocese of Westminster. Our children come from varied backgrounds and cultures, creating a lively and rich learning community.

A prospectus can never fully capture the spirit of a school like St Catherine's, so we would encourage you to visit us, so that you can fully appreciate the quality of education and care given to every child.

Mission Statement

Loving and Learning Together as Jesus taught us

VALUES

through our faith we especially value: love, integrity, diversity, excellence

VISION

Supported by our values:

Our school will provide a happy, secure and stimulating learning environment, where everyone will be inspired to be their best



Learning at St Catherine's is an exciting and challenging experience. We offer excellent opportunities for individual self development. Our pupils become independent learners provided with essential knowledge and key skills, as well as an appetite for discovering the world around them. Our exciting curriculum offers pupils the opportunity to be creative in their learning as well as developing important personal and social skills and broadening their interests.

The fact that you have taken these things to heart speaks volumes about how much you care about every child, parent and staff member.

Our expert teachers are extremely dedicated and enthusiastic, providing a high standard of teaching across the curriculum. This is backed up by impressive resources and facilities. Lessons are rigorously planned and have a clear purpose. A variety of teaching approaches are used to suit our pupils.

Our pupils are active learners. They are encouraged to discuss and debate issues in class and to question and review their learning. Above all, our pupils develop the skills and self-confidence to learn. The curriculum provides an ideal framework for this process, with a rich and stimulating range of pupil driven topics.



Excellence Class Teaching

Our faith runs through all curriculum planning and we develop a sense of awe and wonder in all areas. Spiritual, moral, social and cultural understanding is woven in throughout our exciting and dynamic curriculum.

Teachers know that children learn best when their talents and achievements are recognised and built upon. Rigorous assessment and challenging targets results in high academic achievement.

“Excellent teaching, supported by a vibrant curriculum, means pupils make rapid progress in their learning and personal development, giving them a firm foundation for their future economic well-being” OFSTED 2009



“My child feels secure and valued at St Catherine’s both by children and adults...I believe she has the best possible opportunities for learning from a team of excellent caring teachers and teaching assistants”

Parent



Through First and Learning

*"We are so grateful that his
pastoral needs as well as
his educational needs are
considered"*

Parent

St Catherine's is a safe and happy place to be, providing a caring family atmosphere and support and care for every member of our community. We know our children really well and our first aim is to ensure that they enjoy school, are happy and feel safe and secure. We place great importance on fostering all aspects of each child's development. Our Learning Mentor has the specific brief of providing a listening ear for children experiencing emotional, or behavioural difficulties. The pupil voice is valued and many improvements have been made as a result of suggestions from school council meetings.

*"I love that we can be
really creative and all the
teachers are so nice and
always there for you"*

Pupil



Excellence Through



Behaviour

The behaviour of pupils at St Catherine's is outstanding ".....behaviour is excellent and pupils become mature, independent, thoughtful young people who care for each other." Ofsted 2009

Behaviour is seen in the context of a loving and caring relationship between pupils and adults. Fundamental values of respect, tolerance and forgiveness are fostered and promoted in the daily life of the school.

We place high emphasis on respect and positive behaviour. We encourage and expect the children to show respect for themselves, each other, the adults in the school and the school environment. We use positive reinforcement and praise whenever possible.

Our ethos is based upon the commandment to love God and to love our neighbour. All children, regardless of gender, age, race, creed or ability, are treated equally and encouraged to work in harmony with respect for one another as based on Gospel values.

Individualised and Support Care



We pride our selves on our excellent relationship with our very supportive parents. We aim to assist parents in their role as Catholic educators by providing them with the opportunity to share in the life of the school and to participate in religious celebrations.

Our strong supportive culture is due to our real sense of partnership between school and home. We maintain an “Open Door Policy” where there is an easy approachability between all members of the school community. All are welcomed with open arms to give additional support in the classrooms.

Links with our parishes, local secondary schools, schools overseas and many community groups ensure that the children have a deep understanding of the needs of the local and wider community.



*“the learning mentor has been
our life line...
...now things have changed,
he is full of confidence and
really happy, he is enjoying
school and learning”*

Parent

Excellence for the Enrichment and

We support our children in becoming life long learners.

We provide opportunities :

- For pupils to participate in a wide range of extra-curricular activities.
- For smooth transitions for each stage of their education.
- For visits to art galleries, museums and the theatre ; supported by visits from musicians, dancers and artists.
- To take part in outward bound and environmental residential visits.
- To take part in a variety of sports and games, with an emphasis on participation, good health, and competitive fun. Through the PE curriculum students have access to off-site swimming facilities.
- For creative self-expression and involvement at every level. All pupils are encouraged to take part in activities throughout the year, including school productions and musical events, borough festivals and Prayer Services. Brass, woodwind, guitar and percussion lessons are available throughout KS2 and opportunities are provided for the children to perform to a variety of audiences.
- For pupils to attend breakfast clubs and after school clubs

*"I have nothing but praise for
your staff who always conduct
themselves with grace.
I (and many other parents)
are confident our children
are cared for, nurtured and
educated (...and having a
fabulous time !!!!).*



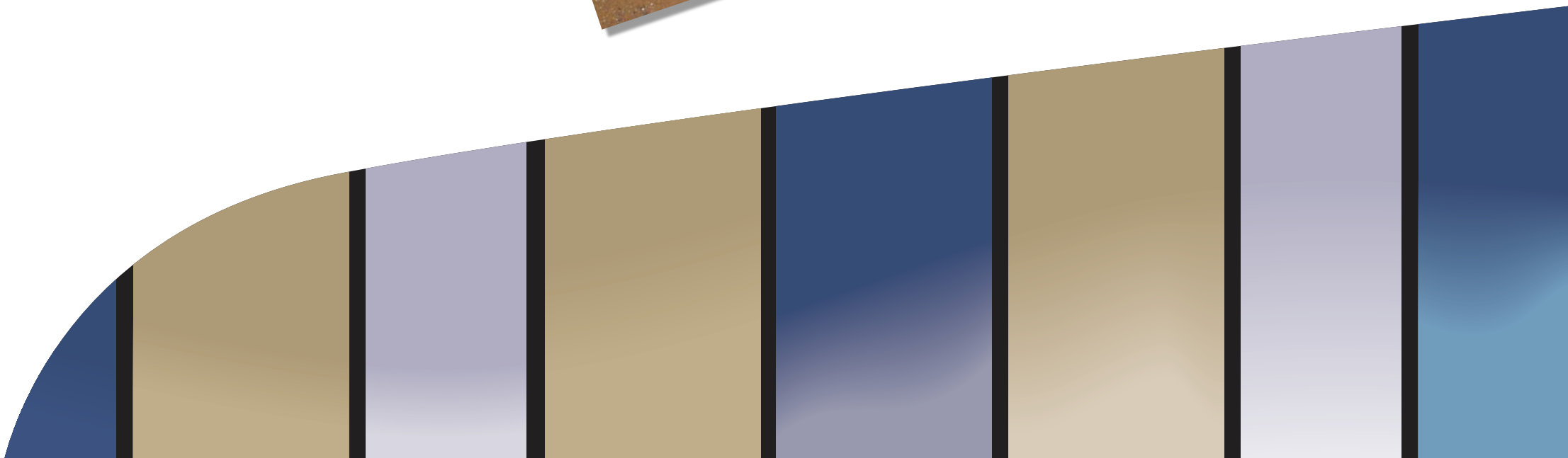
Future Through Partnership

*Our children will cherish
their days at St Catherines
and will always look back
on them fondly.*

*Without them knowing, these
are the best days of their lives
and you and your staff are all
making that possible.*

*Continue with the sterling job
you are doing...it really is very
much appreciated!*







St. Catherine's' R.C. Primary School



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