

St Paul's Infant School

Prospectus

Welcome to
St Paul's Infant School

Welcome to St Paul's Infant School. We are part of the St Paul's and North Borough Federation, with classes from Reception to Year 2. North Borough Junior School are our Federated school, with classes from Year 3 to Year 6.

At St Paul's Infants, we're proud to offer a warm, nurturing, inclusive environment where every child feels welcome and valued. From the moment you walk through our doors, you'll be greeted by smiling faces and enthusiastic learners. We believe that children flourish when they feel safe, supported, and respected, and our dedicated staff go above and beyond to make sure every child experiences this each day.

Staff that can help you



Mrs Aldridge
Head of School



Mrs Chiverton
Executive Head of St Paul's and North Borough



Mrs Forrest
SENCo & Assistant Head of School



Miss Lyons
Family Liaison Officer

Teaching and Learning

St Paul's Infant School is founded on the values that have been created, developed and embedded by the school community. These values of Togetherness, Safety, Resilience, Growth and Change, Respect and Aspiration underpin all children's whole school journey, including the curriculum and its delivery.

At St Paul's we believe that creating a friendly, warm and welcoming environment where children are happy, feel safe and are keen to come to school is vital to help support and motivate them to become inquisitive, independent learners. St Paul's also ensures that the children are supported by adults who understand them and their needs within our inclusive environment.

Across the school, lessons are planned using both Development Matters and The National Curriculum. Each lesson is scaffolded to enable all children to show progress academically and move their personal development forward. As well as the content outlined by the Government, St Paul's aims to equip all children with the knowledge and life skills they need to succeed through life.

Our curriculum is constantly evolving to reflect the unique experiences and interests of our children. Staff work thoughtfully to plan real-life learning opportunities that bring the curriculum to life and help deepen understanding. We also make sure our curriculum connects with our local community, offering experiences that broaden children's horizons; from exciting trips and visits, to welcoming inspiring visitors into school. These moments spark curiosity, nurture a love of learning, and encourage children to explore the world around them with confidence and joy.

Communications

We use the app/website 'Class Dojo', to facilitate communications between staff and parents/carers when topics do not require face-to-face interactions. Class Dojo is used to send individual messages between parents/carers and staff, as well as to keep parents/carers updated with what happens in class and in school generally. Other communication styles involve a phone call or a face-to-face conversation at the end of the school day.

Termly Learning Conferences are held twice a year; this is a chance for class teachers to meet with parents/carers to discuss children's progress and next steps.



Parent/Carer Partnerships

We are committed to maintaining positive relationships with families and endeavor to include parents/carers in the school community where possible. There are many opportunities to get involved in school life, including Learning Celebrations, where families are invited into classrooms to share and celebrate their child's learning. Parents and carers can also attend curriculum talks, performances and special events such as our Summer Fair and Easter Bunny Hunt. Families are encouraged to join and support our Parent Teacher Association (Friends of St Paul's and North Borough), helping to strengthen our school community, enrich opportunities for the children and make improvements to the school.

Clubs

Clubs are run by our staff and some external organisations to provide the children with extra-curricular activities. Staff run clubs once a week for 8 weeks during terms 4 and 5 for children in years 1 and 2. External organisations run clubs throughout the year; more information can be found on our website.

Wrap-around care

St Paul's run 'Early Start' Club from 8am until the beginning of the school day at 8.30am. Children bring a packed breakfast with them and engage in activities such as Lego, reading and colouring before the school day begins. Please contact the school office if you require more information about this club.

St Paul's has an affiliation with 'Stars' at North Borough, across the road from St Paul's, which offers wrap-around care before and after school for children who attend either school. Stars is open before school from 7am and after school until 6pm.

For more information regarding stars, please call or email:

07563387810 or

ltanner@north-borough.kent.sch.uk

Our School Day

Our playground gates open at 8:20am, giving families time to arrive and prepare for the day. Classroom doors open at 8:30am, and children are welcomed into their classrooms between 8:30am and 8:45am.

Children enjoy a morning snack (fruit) and playtime from 10:25am to 10:40am, followed by lunchtime from 11:55am to 12:55pm.

At the start of the day, parents and carers should remain with their child on the playground until a member of the class team opens the classroom door. At the end of the school day, we ask parents and carers to wait in the same designated area for their child to be dismissed safely by a member of staff.

The school day finishes at:
3:00pm for Reception children
3:05pm for Year 1 and Year 2 children

Readiness for School

Getting your child ready for school in the Early Years Foundation Stage (EYFS) is really important. It helps them feel confident and prepared, so they can enjoy learning and settle in happily. By helping your child develop key skills before they start school, you give them the best chance to succeed and feel comfortable in their new environment.

What does Ofsted say about us?

"St Paul's is a highly inclusive school. It recognises, nurtures and celebrates each pupil's unique talents. Pupils are happy and safe and quickly develop positive attitudes to learning. Pupils embody the school's values, such as kindness, togetherness and respect, in the way they behave and learn. Parents and carers agree. One parent's comment was reflective of many: 'I have always described this school as incredibly nurturing and completely supportive of its children."



Can your child…

- Get dressed and undressed without support?
- Put their own coat on and zip it up?
- Put on their own shoes and socks?
- Use the toilet and wipe themselves properly?
- Wipe their own nose?
- Follow instructions given by an adult?
- Share toys and take turns?
- Be kind to the people around them?
- Recognise their name?
- Tell an adult how old they are and count to that number?



The Early Years Curriculum

The Early Years curriculum (Development Matters) is divided into seven areas of learning and development. These are made up of three prime areas and four specific areas. At the end of the academic year, each child's level of development must be assessed against the early learning goals. Teachers must note whether children are meeting expected levels of development. If children are not yet reaching the expected level, they are assessed as 'emerging' in that area.



Prime Areas

These areas are particularly important for learning and forming relationships. They build a foundation for children to thrive and provide the basis for learning in all areas:



- Personal, Social and Emotional Development:
  - -Building relationships
  - -Self-Regulation
  - -Managing Self
- Communication and Language:
  - -Listening, Attention and Understanding
  - -Speaking
- Physical Development:
  - -Gross Motor Skills
  - -Fine Motor Skills

Specific Areas of Learning and Development

These areas help strengthen and develop the prime areas and ignite children's curiosity and enthusiasm.



- Literacy:
  - -Comprehension
  - -Word Reading
  - -Writing
- Mathematics:
  - -Number
  - -Numerical Patterns
- Understanding the World:
  - -Past and Present
  - -People, Culture and Communities
  - -The Natural World
- Expressive Arts and Design:
  - -Creating with Materials
  - -Being Imaginative and Expressive

Home Learning

We believe that children should consistently be given the opportunity to learn, which is why we promote active home learning and celebrate this within school.

Reading

We expect all children to read at home at least 5 times per week but encourage them to read every day. Stories are read and celebrated within school and home reading is rewarded using our classroom displays, titled 'Our Reading Mission'. Children receive certificates and rewards for however many times they read at home from 50-500 reads throughout the school year.

Wider Home Learning

In Reception, teachers provide optional home learning activities each term that complement and extend the learning taking place in the classroom. These activities are designed to enrich children's knowledge and experiences beyond school, offering meaningful context for the term's topics. Weekly 'talk topics', phonics videos and handwriting strategies are also shared with home. As children progress into Year 1, they receive one piece of home learning each week, alternating between English and Maths. In Year 2, pupils are set both an English and a Maths activity each week. Every completed piece of home learning earns a dojo point. Staff encourage children to go beyond the set tasks, celebrating any additional effort or creativity shown.

School Rules

At St Paul's, we use our values as a way to promote positive behaviour. These are treated as our school rules and are demonstrated by the children, staff, parents/carers and visitors. We refer to the school values regularly throughout the school day.

Along with the school values, each class creates a set of rules for their own environment at the beginning of the year. Every child is involved in creating these and has a say on what rules they deem appropriate for their classroom. These rules are displayed visually within the classrooms and referenced throughout the year by the class teachers and the children themselves.

Reward Systems

We believe that positive reinforcements enable children to feel valued and respected. Positive verbal feedback is the most common way of recognising children's efforts and behaviour.

We also use Class Dojo as our primary reward system. The children collect Dojo points for various reasons throughout the day e.g. kindness, trying their best, demonstrating the school values, home learning. Once the children reach 30 Dojo points, they are invited to change their character on Class Dojo and a celebratory certificate is shared with parents/carers. (Children in reception begin with achieving 10 Dojo points before changing their character.)





Behaviour

How do we deal with behaviour issues?

At St Paul's, we believe that children learn best when they feel happy, safe and valued. We promote positive behaviour through clear expectations, encouragement and praise, helping children to develop confidence, independence and respect for others. Our staff focus on recognising and celebrating positive choices, effort and achievement, creating a supportive environment where every child can thrive. When children need additional support, we work with them in a calm and caring way to help them understand their actions, reflect on their choices and make positive changes. By building strong relationships and teaching important social and emotional skills, we help children develop the self-awareness and resilience they need to succeed both in school and beyond.

We use a simple green, yellow and red face system to support behaviour across the school, with staff displaying the faces on their lanyards. Green faces are used to recognise and celebrate positive behaviour, effort and learning. A yellow face is shown as a reminder when a child is not meeting expectations, with a second yellow face being shown to indicate that the unacceptable behaviour is continuing and needs to stop. A red face may be used if inappropriate behaviour continues, if a child has hurt someone, or in response to more serious incidents, resulting in a five-minute 'thinking time'. Children may also choose to have 'thinking time' throughout the day to support their emotional regulation.

In some cases, behaviour is monitored through a weekly success record, which is shared with both the Senior Leadership Team and families to help identify patterns and celebrate progress.

For further information about how behaviour is supported and managed at St Paul's, please see our Behaviour Policy on the school website.



How are children involved?

Children are involved in creating their own class rules each year, giving them a sense of ownership over the classroom ethos and behaviours. The general school rules and values help to encourage children to try their best, take ownership of their learning, treat others with respect and to follow the behaviour boundaries.

As well as conversations about the behaviour expectations, the children are aware of the rewards and sanctions that are in place, such as dojo points, dojo certificates and thinking times. Further discussions about being responsible and behaviour are also carried out in class circle times, RSE lessons and whole school assemblies.

How are parents/carers involved?

Parents/carers who are concerned with the behaviour of their child are encouraged to contact the school. A member of staff would be happy to offer advice or point you in the right direction of further support. Our Family Liaison Officer, Miss Lyons, is always happy to help and offer guidance wherever it is needed.

We encourage parental involvement from the outset if any challenges arise at school; collaboration between parents/carers and the school is vital in resolving these issues.













Uniform

School uniform is worn by all children. It enables them to foster a sense of community, promote equality, and reduce distractions related to clothing choices. We encourage families to purchase low cost, generic uniform (without the school logo) from high street/supermarket shops. However, if you would prefer uniform with a school logo; it can be ordered and purchased via North Borough Junior School. Our office team will always be happy to support with this. Our Uniform Policy can be found on our school website.

School uniform

- Navy blue sweatshirt / cardigan
- White polo t-shirt
- Grey trousers / shorts / skirt / pinafore
- Blue gingham school dress
- Black school shoes that can be fastened by the child independently

PE uniform

(worn to school for 1 day per week in Reception)

- White t-shirt
- Black/navy shorts or jogging bottoms
- Black/navy sweatshirt/jumper/hoodie (school jumper is recommended)
- Black plimsolls or trainers that can be fastened by the child independently

Transition to Junior School

Children who attend St Paul's Infant School are guaranteed a place at our federation school, North Borough Junior School, conveniently located just across the road.

As part of our close partnership, both schools work together to ensure a smooth and positive transition from Year 2 to Year 3.

Throughout Year 2, children regularly visit North Borough, becoming familiar with the school environment, routines and staff before they begin the next stage of their education. In turn, North Borough staff visit St Paul's, helping to build strong relationships with children and gaining a valuable understanding of their individual needs.

To further support this transition, each Year 2 child is paired with a Year 5 buddy. These older pupils help children settle into their new school, answer any questions they may have, and provide a friendly, familiar face during their first days at North Borough. This buddy system helps children feel confident, supported and excited about starting their next chapter.

For more information about North Borough Junior School, please visit their website: www.north-borough.kent.sch.uk



School lunches

We work with Appetito, our trusted school meals provider, to offer a range of nutritious and delicious lunch options each day. Parents and carers can pre-order meals in advance, choosing from a meat or vegetarian option, with a jacket potato always available as an alternative. Children are also welcome to bring a packed lunch from home on any day they choose, giving families flexibility to select the option that best suits their child.
All children are entitled to Universal Free School Meals from Reception to Year 2, meaning they can enjoy a school lunch free of charge each day.

Sample Lunch Menu

	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
Main meals	Bbq Pulled Pork with Peppers (GF) or Vegetarian Tikka Masala (V/GF)	Premium Roast Beef in Gravy (GF) or Tomato, Lentil & Sweet Potato Crumble (VV)	Chicken Breast in Tomato & Basil Sauce (GF) or Vegetable Lasagne (V)	Chicken Korma (GF) or Cheese & Onion Pie (V)	Battered Haddock or Penne Pasta in Tomato & Basil Sauce (V)
Accompanied by	Sauté Potatoes (VV/GF) or Vegetable Rice (VV/GF)	Golden Roasting Potatoes (VV/GF) or Mashed Potato (VV/GF)	West Country Cheddar Mash (V/GF) or Potato Wedges (VV/GF)	Basmati Yellow Rice (VV/GF) or Baby Potatoes (VV/GF)	Oven Chips (VV/GF) or Croquette Potatoes (VV/GF)
Served with	Carrots with Parsley Butter (V/GF) & Minted Summer Vegetables (VV/GF)	Large Broccoli (VV/GF) & Root Vegetable Mix (V/GF)	Mediterranean Veg with Pecorino Cheese & Basil Butter (V/GF) & Peas (VV/GF)	Mixed Vegetables (VV/GF) & Sweetcorn (VV/GF)	Mushy Peas (VV/GF) & Baked Beans (VV/GF)
Dessert	Sticky Toffee Pudding (V)	Apple Crumble (VV)	Ready to Bake Vanilla Cheesecake (V)	Lemon Flavour Sponge (V)	Chocolate Chip Pudding with Salted Caramel Sauce (V)





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Please see our school website for further information
www.stpaulsmaidstone.co.uk