



'Every pupil and adult flourishes within the family at St. James'. SIAMS report June 2022

St. James' CE Primary Academy

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A member of THE DIOCESE OF CHICHESTER ACADEMY TRUST

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Registered office: Diocesan Church House, 211 New Church Road, Hove, East Sussex, BN3 4ED



Welcome to St. James' Church of England Primary Academy

A message from the Headteacher

Thank you for considering St. James' for your child's education.

We are one of the oldest schools in Bournemouth, opening in 1856, with a proud tradition. Whilst we are in an old building, we adapt it to make it purposeful for our children's needs. We are a church school and proud of our Christian values. We have been described on many occasions as a family, and that's exactly what we are. We are more than a school.

We value every child. The St. James' family is inclusive and invitational. Our Purpose is to provide an engaging, relevant education within a Christian environment, where everyone flourishes academically, socially, physically, morally, emotionally and spiritually.

Our Christian Values flow through everything we do; they are Love, Hope and Forgiveness. In turn, we are Ready, Respectful and Safe, which helps us with our learning behaviours.

The authority by which the Christian leader leads is not power but love, not force but example, not coercion but reasoned persuasion. Leaders have power, but power is safe only in the hands of those who humble themselves to serve.
Rev. John Stott.

I am extremely privileged to lead and serve the St. James' family. We put the children first in everything we do. The seven years they spend with us sees them grow and flourish, enabling them to transition to the next stage of their education. We are ambitious for every child and provide opportunities to allow all children to thrive. You will see from much of the content of our website how our vision aspires to let every child flourish in a Christian environment surrounded by love, encouraged by hope and forgiven for the mistakes we make.

St. James' is a vibrant, happy academy where children enjoy learning. We believe that this academy is special and the relationships we develop with our children and their families enable us to create a friendly, caring and supportive atmosphere.

At St. James', we see education very much as a partnership between the academy and home. It is our aim that the shared responsibility of learning, care and discipline will result in a close liaison, with families and the academy working together. This partnership is confirmed in our Home School Agreement and through the development of our Christian Values; Love, Hope and Forgiveness.

Our committed teaching and support staff strive to bring out the very best in our children and equip them with the skills they will need for the future. We hold our Christian Values and ethos at the heart of all we do and every child is valued as an individual within our Christian family atmosphere.

We have a multitude of activities and events going on. Full details of these can be found on our website; which aims to give you a window into our daily academy life, as well as providing regular updated information for both parents and pupils.

Thank you for visiting.



Alastair Brown
Head Teacher



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Parent Voice May 2023

Really love this school. My child has been so happy there. It's small enough for your child to actually get to know everyone and all the teachers which is think it is really special.

A lovely environment where I feel teachers are approachable and I can see they have taken the time to get to know my child. I ring the office and say I'm "my child's" mum all I have to say is the first name and they know who even I am (my child doesn't have a unique name) AMAZING STAFF AMAZING SCHOOL! X

OFSTED inspected our Academy in January 2023 and reported that "the school continues to be Good".

Now, we know that a school is much more than a one day OFSTED inspection every five years and when you look around you will experience the typicality of a St. James' Academy day, but we'd be foolish not to recognise that you will be interested in the OFSTED view... Here are a few quotes:

Pupils are happy at the school. Staff greet them warmly at the start of the day, playing music to welcome their arrival.

The school's values are firmly rooted in the Christian ethos of the school. Pupils know why learning through 'love, hope and forgiveness' matters. They make clear links with these values and the school rules to 'be ready, be respectful and be safe'. Leaders have high expectations for behaviour, and pupils live up to them. In lessons, pupils listen carefully and are keen to learn. As a result, they achieve well.

Pupils feel safe and well cared for. They have no concerns about bullying. Parents recognise this caring culture, with one reflecting the views of many, commenting, 'the school has built a strong community where the children are supportive of each other'. Staff enjoy greeting ex-pupils, who accompany family members at the end of the school day. Pupils understand that, when you join the St James' family, you will always be welcomed as a member of it.

Leaders are determined that the school's curriculum will prepare pupils to be global citizens, ready for the next steps in their education and life. This ambition is understood by all staff and is evident in all aspects of school life. Across all subjects, leaders ensure there is a clearly defined sequence of what pupils need to learn and remember.

The teaching of reading sits at the heart of the curriculum and, as a result, pupils read well. Staff use a consistent approach from the moment children start school in Reception. This means that children use their phonics strategies to read with increasing fluency.

Pupils are enthusiastic mathematicians and achieve well. Teachers benefit from the strong leadership in mathematics, with frequent training and professional development opportunities. As a result, teachers have strong subject knowledge.

Pupils are knowledgeable about their locality and the wider world. They show empathy and understanding towards different cultures and those who face adversity in life.

School and trust leaders ensure that all staff have access to an extensive range of training and professional development. They also take positive steps to check on staff well-being and workload.

Leaders ensure there is a strong culture of safeguarding. Governors and trustees routinely check the effectiveness of the school's safeguarding procedures.

Please see our Academy website www.stjamescebornemouth.com for more information.



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The National Society Statutory Inspection of Anglican and Methodist Schools Report, June 2022, said that we were a good Christian school. The key findings of the report are as follows:-

Every pupil and adult flourishes within the family at St. James'. The interim Headteacher and leaders have swiftly ensured that the Christian vision and associated values are well embedded in the academy community. The decisions of committed leaders and the multi-academy trust (MAT) are driven by the coherent vision to enhance outcomes for pupils and adults.

Exemplary opportunities for character development and nurture are harnessed by staff and pupils. As a result, pupils have hope and aspiration for their futures and compassion which leads to social action in the local and global communities.

The instigation of forgiveness and reconciliation within policies and procedures are the driving force for recent improvements in pupil behaviour. Social and cultural development are effective and contribute to the flourishing of all.

Worship is the heartbeat of St. James' and is a strong expression of the vision. It is fully inclusive and offers people a safe and invitational place to worship, reflect and pray. Strong links with the parish church exist. Pupils flourish in rich and thought-provoking religious education (RE) lessons. The subject is well led and has a high priority across St. James'.

The full SIAMS and OFSTED reports can be viewed on the internet at www.ofsted.gov.uk and on the Academy website <https://www.stjamescebournemouth.com/> where you may also look at the full Anglican Schools Report.

**External Safeguarding Audit – Anchored Schools
October 2022**

Safeguarding practices and protocols are well embedded at St. James' School. This is a caring and nurturing environment where staff work hard to ensure that pupils in their care are safe and well looked after. Safeguarding, and we would like to include Mental Health as a distinct area, is well led and managed across the school. The tone and culture of safeguarding set by the senior leadership team and mirrored by all the staff. The pastoral care for the pupils at St. James' Primary is strong. The relationships that are developed and nurtured with families are built on trust and respect; the school's spirituality lies at the foundation of the bond between the school and families.

The speed with which the school respond to identified need and the standard of intervention being offered to children led us to give an Anchored Schools Award for good practice during our visit. We would like to congratulate the school on their care and consideration for children and encourage them to share their good practice across the Trust.

There is a very strong inclusive ethos centred on the school's Christian character. This is evident in all aspects of school life, including whole school events such as Worship, and in the day to day interactions within the school.

The children appear happy and content in school, and there is a calm purposeful atmosphere across the school despite a high level of need in some year groups. Children feel safe in school and know that they can talk to key staff if they have an issue or are upset about something. Children are encouraged to take on extra responsibilities, particularly in Year 6, and fulfil a range of roles including play leaders, sports leaders and academy council.

The strength of the staff team is another huge positive for the school. Staff speak warmly about the senior leadership team, and particularly mentioned the change in culture since the change in leadership. Staff are prepared to work hard and go the extra mile because they feel valued by leaders and want to do their best for them and the children.

Our Academy Curriculum

Before they leave St. James', we want every child:

- To have felt loved
- To have belief in their unlimited potential
- To be 'equipped' for life's journey whilst knowing that they can always come home to the family at St. James'

Our curriculum follows the National Curriculum to ensure that children receive a high quality, broad and balanced learning experience that equips them for their lives in school and beyond. It is designed to be ambitious for all pupils and to develop the children's knowledge and skills and provide experiences to increase their cultural capital. Our intent is to prepare them to be global citizens whilst providing a secure, loving foundation in our school family.

The foundations of our curriculum are that it:

- Develops the whole person – knowledge, skills, understanding and attitudes
- Involves first-hand purposeful experiences
- Is adaptive and responsive to individual needs and interests
- Encourages the use of environments and expertise beyond the classroom
- Makes meaningful links between areas of knowledge across the curriculum and the major issues of our time

In R.E., we teach the locally agreed syllabus Living Difference 4, combined with Understanding Christianity, which gives a deep exploration of Christianity, in line with our church school identity, alongside learning about other world faiths.

Safeguarding and wellbeing is woven throughout the curriculum along with our Christian Values of Love Hope and Forgiveness. Our Christian values are embedded in our PSHCE curriculum, which develops our relationships with each other and the wider community.

We are Ready, Respectful and Safe which supports our behaviour and our learning in school so that all pupils and adults can flourish.

In our Early Year's classes, we focus on:

- Communication, language and literacy
- Reasoning, problem solving and mathematics
- Personal, Social and Emotional development
- Knowledge and Understanding of the World
- Physical development
- Creative development

These areas of learning dovetail into National Curriculum and Religious Education: English, Mathematics, Science (Core) with Design and Technology, Information Communication Technology, History, Geography, Music, Religious Education, Art & Design, Physical Education and French in KS2.

St. James' CE Primary Academy has its own carefully planned schemes of work for all areas of the curriculum, which takes full account of the new National Curriculum Programmes of Study (as statutory from September 2014).

Teaching methods are tailored to the age and ability of each child, and we strive to make education interesting, aspirational and fun. Practical and extra-curricular activities help children to mature and think for themselves, so that they become well-balanced, confident and independent young people.

Religious Education

Religious Education is given according to the terms of the academy's Trust Deed. In practice this involves developing a sound understanding of Christianity and its importance in the spiritual side of life. Children are taught about the nature of God and Jesus. They are taught to explore concepts such as faith, love and compassion and encouraged to develop knowledge of the teachings and examples of the bible. Respect for and knowledge about people of other religious cultures and traditions is positively fostered and developed through the schemes of work in Religious Education. We believe that the academy's ethos is formed by our Christian ideals and beliefs and that our task is to give the children a foundation of knowledge and spiritual development that will assist them towards a Christian faith now, at their level of understanding and in adult life. Parents have the right to withdraw their child from Religious Education and the daily Act of Worship. However, as the Christian ethos is implicit in all that we do, if this option is exercised, parents should consider whether this academy is right for their child, particularly in the light of the academy's Admissions Policy.

Worship

The place of Worship in the academy is central. As a denominational academy we aim to foster the Anglican tradition whilst acknowledging other Christian forms of worship. We meet for Worship on a daily basis and teach our children that it is a very special part of the day. Worship takes several different forms depending on the age and maturity of the children. It is led by a variety of people including local clergy.

(The academy's policy for Multicultural Education follows closely the guidance given in "The Policy of the Winchester Diocesan Board of Education – A Model Policy for Church Schools with Suggestions and Guidance").

Multicultural Education

The academy has a commitment to multicultural education, through its mission statement and statement of aims. In particular it aims to provide opportunities for all pupils to: -

- recognise the Christian beliefs which form the basis of British Culture
- experience examples of the best of that British Culture
- Recognise the diversity of cultures which are present in a multicultural Britain; experience examples of the best of those diverse cultures

Further Information

Our Academy website and Facebook page contain full information about the academy. We like to see them as a window into the daily workings of our community so that we can share and celebrate the fantastic things that the children achieve on a daily basis. The information below is just to give you an idea of some of the other things on offer at St. James'.

Universal Free School Meals

You are probably aware that the Government has made free school meals available to every child from Reception to Year 2. Therefore when your child starts school they will be entitled to receive a free hot meal at lunchtime.

St. James' use a local company, Forerunner, to provide our meals and we have been very impressed with the quality of the meals and the service received.

Breakfast Club and After School Clubs

The breakfast and after school clubs are run by 'The 115 Club'. Breakfast club runs from 7.30am to 8.30am and has proved to be very popular with our parents. For a small fee, the children who attend are offered a basic breakfast of cereals, toast, fruit, yoghurts and fruit juice. The children are able to do various activities and if the weather is nice will also play outside. At 8.30 they then go to their classrooms for the start of the school day. Breakfast club is open to all years. The After school Club runs from the end of the school day until about 5.45pm.

Academy Music

Children are able to learn a variety of instruments at St. James'. From Year 2 upwards they are able to learn the recorder and from Year 3 upwards there are opportunities to learn piano, guitar and ukulele.



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Sports and Extra Curricular Clubs

From Reception Year upwards, there are many sports and arts clubs for the children to join. Again, like music, some of these are dependent on age. The clubs include Football, Netball, Multi Skills, Tag Rugby, Glee Club, Computer Club, Lego Club, Adventure Club, Karate and Gymnastics. Some clubs are run by the academy and others are run by outside agencies. Please see the timetables showcasing the clubs that we have been offering this term that will be shared during the presentation. All children take part in swimming lessons as part of the P.E. Curriculum in year 4.

Admissions Explained

If your child's date of birth is between 1 September 2019 and 31 August 2020 you will need to apply for a school place for September 2024. The quickest way to apply is online at:

bcp.cloud.servelec-synergy.com/ParentPortal/

The closing date for applications is
15 January 2024

Further information can be found in the parents/carers guide which can be found online

Visit <https://www.bpcouncil.gov.uk/Schools-and-learning/School-admissions/Apply-for-a-school-place/Apply-for-a-primary-infant-or-first-school-place.aspx>

Phone 01202 123222 / 01202 127963

Email: school.admissions@bpcouncil.gov.uk

When you apply online, you will be asked to sign in or create an account.

Admissions Categories

and Oversubscription Criteria

Before applying the over-subscription criteria, a place will be allocated for any child with a Statement of Special Educational Needs or an Education Health and Care Plan (EHCP) that names St. James CE Primary Academy as the school the child must attend.

This place will be allocated within the Published Admission Number (PAN) before the consideration of any other applications, or above the PAN if places have already been offered at that time.

If more parents express a preference for the academy than the published number of places for new admissions, the LGB (Local Governing Body) will use these criteria in deciding admission:

1. Looked after children, children who were previously looked after or Internationally Adopted and Previously Looked After Children.
2. Siblings of children on the roll of St. James CE Primary Academy at the time of admission.
3. Children of parents who have been members of staff at St. James CE Primary Academy continuously for the two years prior to the application for admission; or staff recruited to fill a vacant post for which there is a demonstrable skill shortage.
4. (For applicants in the normal admission round) Children or families with an exceptional medical and / or social need. Supporting evidence from a professional is required such as a doctor and / or consultant for medical needs or a social worker, health visitor, housing officer, the police or probation officer for social needs. The evidence must confirm the child or family's medical or social need and why that makes it essential that the child attends the academy rather than any other. If evidence is not submitted by the application deadline, the medical and / or social need cannot be considered.
5. Children living within the community area that has been designated to the academy.
6. Any other children.

Tiebreaker

In the event that applicants cannot be prioritised using distance as detailed above, because the distance measurements are the same, the Trust will use random allocation to decide which children will be offered the remaining places.

(For further information regarding admission categories and their definitions, also roads in catchment please see the Academy website www.stjamescebournemouth.com).

If you have any queries please contact the Academy on 01202 426696 and ask for Mrs Debbie Gibson, Admissions Officer, or Mr Simon Walden, Academy Business Manager; they will be very happy to help you And answer your questions. If you have a query relating to SEN for your child, please contact Charlotte Price (Inclusion leader) or Nikki Bowen (SENDCo.)