



ST. GREGORY'S RC PRIMARY SCHOOL



2020/21

WELCOME TO ST. GREGORY'S RC PRIMARY SCHOOL



WELCOME

We hope this is the beginning of a happy and rewarding experience, as your child embarks on their first steps of their educational journey.

Starting school is a new adventure. It is very important that the experience is of a warm and loving environment, where teacher and parents work together in harmony to promote effective learning. We believe strong links between home and school are vital to ensuring your child achieves their full potential.

Mrs A. Dunne
Headteacher



OUR MISSION

MISSION STATEMENT

Here at St. Gregory's we seek to promote to the utmost the development of every child's personal wholeness, integrity, gifts and creativity in a welcoming and loving school community. We do so in partnership with parents, guardians and all others who have the welfare of the child at heart.

Our school is an integral part of the Parish of St Gregory's. We promote links with the parish, the local and wider community and as well as international partnerships.

OUR PARISH

We have very strong links to St Gregory's parish. The ability to worship is a key part of life in our school and we place great emphasis on both the teaching of RE and also living out our religious beliefs in all that we do. We pray on a daily basis and gather together regularly to listen to God's word through liturgy, which children often prepare and lead. Fr Michael is very involved in school life and often comes in to school to celebrate Mass with our whole school community.

SACRAMENTAL PREPARATION

The sacraments of Holy Communion and Reconciliation take place in Year 4. Lessons are based in the parish and supported by staff, parents, our parish priest and catechists.

OUR GOVERNORS

Our school governors are at the heart of our school community. Their focus is to work strategically to drive our school forward and ensure success. Governors include representatives of the parish, parents, teachers and the local community. A governor's term of office lasts four years and an election takes place when a term of office expires, or as the need arises.



ADMISSIONS POLICY

Our Governing Body is the Admissions Authority for our school. Our Admissions policy criteria will be applied on an equal preference basis. Our policy intends to admit up to 30 pupils to the Reception year group in September each year.

SCHOOL POLICY

In association with the Local Authority and the Diocese of Hexham and Newcastle, St Gregory's governors have established a wide range of policies. Please see the website for more details.

"THIS SCHOOL IS AN AMAZING
PLACE AND I ALWAYS ENJOY
BEING HERE." - LILY Y6

"THE PLAYGROUND IS FUN
AND THERE'S LOADS TO DO."

- TOMMY Y5

"THERE'S LOADS OF PEOPLE
YOU CAN MAKE FRIENDS
WITH." - ISABELLE Y2

"I LOVE LEARNING. WE FIND OUT
ABOUT LOADS OF INTERESTING
THINGS IN OUR LESSONS." - HOLLIE Y4

SCHOOL LIFE



THE SCHOOL DAY

Our school day begins at 8.55am. The yard is supervised from 8.45am onwards and parents are kindly requested to drop children off at the gate when a member of staff is on duty. Lunch break is 11.55am - 1.15pm for Infants and 11.55am - 1pm for Juniors. The day ends at 3.30pm for all children.

The wearing of a school uniform gives pupils a sense of belonging to the school community and encourages high standards in presentation. This in turn impacts favourably on both behaviour and attitudes.

SCHOOL UNIFORM

- White polo shirt
- Navy sweatshirt, tank top or cardigan
- Grey skirt or school style grey trousers
- Black school shoes (not trainers)

P. E KIT

- White T-shirt
- Navy shorts
- Plain Navy jogging bottoms
- Plimsolls and outdoor trainers

See website for more information on ordering embroidered uniform.



SCHOOL MEALS

Our school meals are of a very high standard and are prepared on site daily. An excellent and varied choice of menus ensures that all tastes are catered for. Our Class Captains and Vice Captains meet regularly with our cook to discuss school meals.

SUPPORT FROM FAMILIES

The support that families can offer children at home is invaluable and can make a huge difference to their progress. Children of all ages receive homework each week and are expected to complete this on time. Research has found that home reading has the

greatest direct effect on performance in school, reading at home is absolutely crucial for all children. We are incredibly committed at St Gregory's to ensuring every child leaves school with the ability to read.



OUR EXTRA CURRICULAR SCHOOL ACTIVITIES

SCHOOL CLUBS

A variety of clubs are on offer after school. They vary each term and have included Multi-sports, football, dance and show class. We have a commitment to sporting activities and work closely with South Tyneside's School Sports Partnership to ensure children access a range of sporting festivals whilst our teachers receive top quality professional development in PE.

EDUCATIONAL VISITS

All classes take part in an educational visit at least once a term. These are usually linked to the topic the children are studying in class. We also have regular visitors to school to bring learning to life. These have included charities, police, believers of different faiths, to name a few and we are always keen for parents to come into school to share their life experiences with us.

SAPA

Our School and Parent Association are a hardworking (and truly invaluable) group of volunteers made up of parents and relatives of our pupils, parishioners, staff and members of our community. They all share the common goal of helping the children of St Gregory's get more from school by organising and helping out at fundraising events such as Christmas and Summer Fairs, discos and parties. We would love all parents to get involved and we really appreciate this support; please come and join us!



OUR SAFEGUARDING AND PROCEDURES

SAFEGUARDING

Safeguarding our pupils is our number one priority. We are a listening school and all staff are trained in safeguarding procedures. The Headteacher and Deputy Headteacher are our Designated Safeguarding Officers.

ABSENCE FROM SCHOOL

Attendance figures at St Gregory's have traditionally been above the national average and we would like this to continue. This is based on our expectation that all children will attend school unless there is a very good reason not to. If a child is ill or unable to attend for any other reason, parents/carers must contact our school office before 9am to inform us. To ensure the safety of our children, parents must keep us up to date with emergency contact details. The law says that children must attend school during term time. If there are unusual circumstances why a child may be unable to attend school, an application must be made to the Headteacher. Holidays in term time will not be authorised unless the circumstances are very exceptional.

MEDICAL APPOINTMENTS

We strongly encourage parents/carers to make medical appointments outside of school time whenever possible. If a pupil must attend an appointment during the school day, the school office should be informed well in advance of this.

MEDICINES

If medicine has been prescribed by a medical practitioner to be taken four times a day, we can administer one dose at school if necessary. Parents will need to fill in a Medical Form from the School Office. If a pupil has an on-going medical condition, our School Nurse will work with parents and staff to draw up a Medical Management Plan.

SEN AND DISABILITIES

Some children in our school are identified as having a particular special educational need or disability. If this is the case, we provide pupils with personalised support plans and modify the National Curriculum Programme to make sure all pupils are provided with relevant and appropriately challenging work at each key stage. The school has a Special Educational Needs and Disabilities Co-Ordinator who liaises with parents of children who have specific needs.

RELATIONSHIP AND SEX EDUCATION

We follow the teachings of the Catholic Church, believing that children have the right to be at ease with themselves and their bodies. Our belief is that this will help them to develop successful relationships. Our school has adopted the Diocesan Relationships and Sex Education Policy, which is available on our website. This curriculum is taught mainly during the Summer Term of each academic year. The content of the teaching is sensitive to the age of pupils. We work in partnership with our School Nurse to provide support in this subject.

CONTACT US

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HEADTEACHER

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