

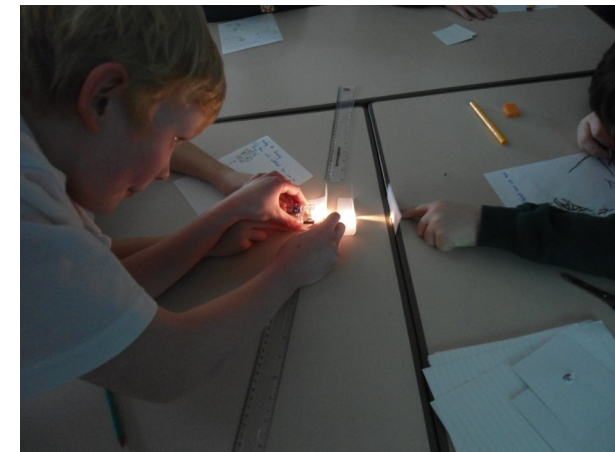
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DISCLAIMER

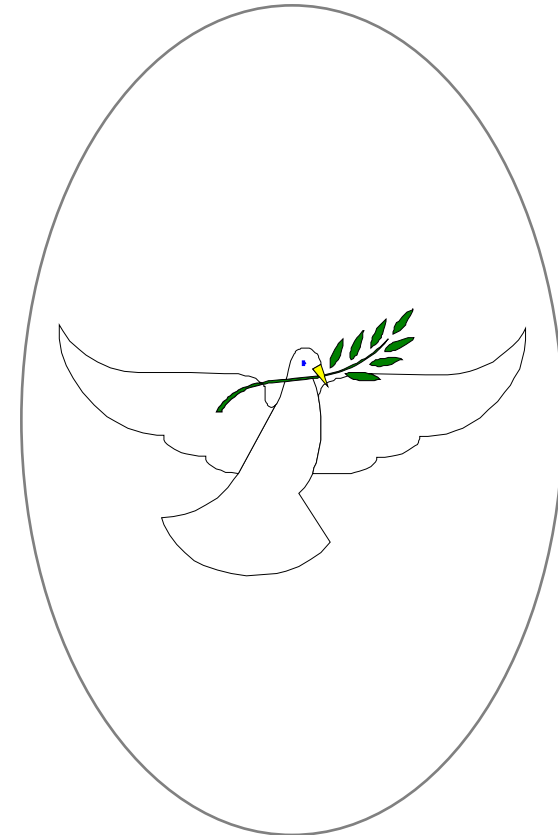
The information in this booklet, which was prepared and published in September 2020, relates to the 2020/2021 school year commencing in September 2020. At the time of preparation the details were correct, but it should not be assumed that there will be no changes affecting relevant arrangements or certain matters before the start of, or during, the 2021/2022 year or in any subsequent years arising, for example, from variations in Government or Local Authority policy for education.



Seek Ye First the Kingdom of God



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Complaints Procedures

The Governing Body has established a procedure for considering complaints from parents about the school curriculum, the Charging and Remissions Policies of the School and religious education and collective worship. It is hoped that parents would raise any concern they might have with the Head Teacher, in the first instance. However, if parents wish to make a formal complaint, details of the procedure can be obtained from school.

Dear Parents,

St Patricks is a Catholic Primary School. Our aim is to encourage our children to have an awareness of our Christian approach to the whole of life.

If you are parents whose child is to join us for the first time, I welcome you and look forward to a happy and successful association over the coming years. If you already have a child with us, I am delighted to strengthen links between us.

The staff work hard to provide a stimulating environment and to enable the children to fulfil their potential. We recognise that as parents you are your child's first educators and we encourage you to share in the life of the school, to help to provide a happy, caring atmosphere in which the children will feel secure and nurtured. It is important that mutual understanding and trust should be the basis of our shared responsibility.

*Welcome to our school.
M Ryan
Headteacher,
(on behalf of the School Governors)*

THE SCHOOL AIMS:

- a) to make a successful contribution to the development of the Catholic faith in each member of the school community and to encourage children to establish a personal relationship with Almighty God
- b) to be a Christian community where prayer, liturgy and worship are seen as an integral part of the everyday life of the school
- c) to give each child access to a broad and balanced curriculum as laid down by the Education Reform Act 1996 and developed in the National Curriculum, enabling all children to achieve their full potential.
- d) to give equal value to the contribution of every member of the school staff - teaching and non-teaching and to foster good, caring relationships based on sound Christian values within the school and the wider community
- e) to have due regard for all members of the community, of which we are a part, based on a true understanding of our gospel values
- f) to enable the partnership which already exists between home, school and parish on formal, and informal levels, to continue to flourish to help children to reach their full potential within a living Christian community.

Equal Opportunities

All pupils have equal opportunities to benefit from resources, curriculum and environment provided by the school, regardless of race, creed, gender or ability. The foundation for our Equal Opportunities Policy is our Christian belief in the equality of each individual.

Emergencies

It is essential that parents provide school with two telephone numbers in case of emergency.

If an accident occurs we will, of course, administer First Aid. We have a full-time qualified First Aider on the staff. It is, however, essential that we are able to contact a parent, or responsible adult nominated by the parent. Please help us by keeping our records up to date and inform school immediately of any change in telephone number or address.

Transfer to Secondary School

Normally all of our children are offered places at St Patrick's College in Baysdale Road. Full details, and the School Brochure, are issued in Year 5, and a full induction programme is in place.

We have a very good relationship with St Patrick's College, and there are links in curriculum areas as well as pastoral care.

We are very proud of the education offered for children from 3 to 16, at the St Patricks of Thornaby. The success of both schools is based on the dedication and hard work of staff, and the strong relationship between home and school.



TO ACHIEVE THESE AIMS THE SCHOOL WILL:

- a) provide an RE curriculum which is based on the new Primary RE Programme "Come and See" with due regard for the importance of the sacraments and the liturgical year of the church
- b) foster through the prayer life of the school, which includes simple classroom prayer and celebration, and through assemblies and liturgies appropriate to the children's stage of development
- c) provide a balanced curriculum with the available resources and funding with explicit high expectations and differentiated work appropriate to the age and ability of the child
- d) ensure that all members of staff are aware of initiatives within the school and their part in the success of these initiatives. Promote positive relationships and effective communication by efficient use of existing structures, by involving staff in policy decisions through consultation; and by representing pupils in aspects of school decision making through the Children's Forum
- e) promote an awareness of and respect for the value of the different cultures and life styles and circumstances of all members of the local community
- f) assist the children to recognise that their faith does not exist merely within the home and school but should be taken into the parish community and the wider world.

OUR SCHOOL GOVERNORS

Chairman of Governors: Mr G Wilson

Foundation Governors: Mr J Cuthbert
Mrs C Briggs
Mr G Morgan

Parent Governor: Mrs E Ewbank

Staff Governor
Mrs D Horner
Mr M Ryan

Educational Visits

Educational visits are organised during the year to enhance school work and life experiences of the children. We attempt to cover the cost of these visits through fund-raising events. However, it may be necessary to ask for voluntary contributions to enable a visit to take place. If contributions do not cover the costs then visits may be cancelled.

Children often go to Mass at St Patrick's Church during the year, or on small, local studies. We ask that you ease the office work by signing an annual Parental Consent Form for these short journeys.

Residential Visit

Each year a European residential visit is arranged for Y6 and some Y5 children. These are of great value socially and emotionally for children, and are hugely enjoyable for staff and children alike.



Homework

We expect that parents will support the school in encouraging their child to complete any homework set, to the best of their ability.

We would expect all parents to read with their child every night, especially in Foundation and Key Stage 1.

All children in school are expected to do some form of work at home. Homework for the younger children involves reading, numeracy, or 'finding out'. Homework for the older children will still involve numeracy and literacy, but also may include research, project work or investigations related to a topic.

Children's personal hobbies are encouraged and teachers welcome opportunities to discuss the children's interests.

OUR STAFF

Head Teacher:	Mr M Ryan
Head of School	Mr J. Conwell
Assistant Head Teacher	Mrs S Hobson Mr K O'Donnell
Teaching Staff:	Mr A Scott Mrs T Ryan Miss R Newby Mrs L Kennedy Mrs C Sims Mrs K Horsman Miss S Hobson Miss H Ward Miss Degnan Mrs L Holtby Mr A Scott Mr M Sherrington Mr A Barber Mrs J Colley Mr K O'Donnell Mr D Colley
Nursery Team:	Miss G Matthews Mrs J McNamee Miss E Cassidy
Teaching Assistants:	Mrs K Moorhead Mrs K Jackson Mrs S McCabe Mrs J Wilson Mrs S Lacey Mrs K Bowler Miss P Crossan Mrs D Horner Miss W Quigley Miss E Wardell Mrs L Hammill Mrs D Duffie Miss L Fallows Miss D Oliver Miss M McGee Mrs N Thompson Mrs E Barber Mrs J Godwin Mrs Wray
School Business Manager	Mrs L Crooks
Office Admin	Miss A Duffie Miss H Crossan
Site Supervisor:	Mr M Hammill
Chaplain:	Fr P O'Neill St Patrick's Presbytery Westbury Street Thornaby



Attendance

Parents must ensure that children attend school regularly and punctually.

If your child is absent must be contacted to explain the nature of the absence unless parents have contacted the school by telephone. In the case of a medical or dental appointment, we must be informed beforehand. It is vital to your child's progress that absence is kept to a minimum. School operates a 'First Day Response' for absences. This means a telephone call will be made to the home on the first morning of absence.

School must authorise all absences. Children must not be kept off because of difficulties in getting the child to school, for a dentist or doctors appointment. Parents should notify school when an appointment is made and they will be given an Authorisation Form to carry with them.

Holidays

Parents are informed by letter in September of holidays during the coming year. School is not permitted to grant requests for holidays during term time.

School Meals

Our school meals are properly balanced and have the correct calorific content. Children have a choice of three main meals each day . Fruit, milk and fresh vegetables are available with the school meal every day.

Parents can pay electronically using Parent Pay for school meals. This must be sent in each Monday. If payment is not received after 2 weeks outstanding, we will contact parents to prevent a debt accumulating. Children who may be entitled to a free school meal. If you think your child may be entitled to free meals, please contact school for an application form.

Parents who wish their children to have packed lunches are asked to ensure that food containers are secure and safe to handle. Whilst every effort is made to look after lunch-boxes, parents must accept that lunch-boxes are generally kept in warm classrooms.

We ask parents to decide at the beginning of each term which type of meal the child is to receive. Changing between packed lunch and school meal may only be made each half-term, unless for a special reason. Anyone wishing their child to change must notify the School Secretary before the holiday.



Lunch-time supervision is provided by both teaching and non-teaching staff, and Supervisory Assistants.

Sweets and fruit juices are not allowed in school. Fruit may be brought in for snacks

School Hours

Nursery morning session – 8.30 -11.30

Nursery afternoon session – 12.15-3.15

Nursery children and parents should wait in the small nursery playground until the doors open

Start of School				End of School		
Class	Lessons Begin	Drop off times	Drop off point	School day ends	Enter school between these times	Collect from
1 Miss Ward	8.45	8.35-8.45	Class 1 doors	3.00	2.50-3.00	Class 1 doors
2 Miss Newby	8.45	8.35-8.45	Class 2 doors	3.00	2.50-3.00	Class 2 doors
3 Mrs Sims	9.00	8.50 - 9.00	KS1 Main doors	3.15	3.05-3.15	Class 2 doors
4 Miss Hobson	9.00	8.50-9.00	KS1 Main doors	3.15	3.05-3.15	KS1 Playground Main doors
5 Miss Degnan	9.00	8.50-9.00	KS2 Playground Hall Doors	3.15	3.05-3.15	KS2 Playground Hall Doors
6 Mr Sherrington	9.00	8.50-9.00	KS2 Playground Hall Doors	3.15	3.05-3.15	Children will wait on the school field with their class teacher
7 Mr Colley Mrs Holtby	8.45	8.35-8.45	KS1 Main playground doors	3.00	2.50-3.00	Children will wait on the school field with their class teacher
8 Mr Scott	8.45	8.35-8.45	KS2 Hall Doors	3.00	2.50-3.00	Children will wait on the school field with their class teacher
9 Mr O'Donnell	8.45	8.35-8.45	KS2 Hall Doors	3.00	2.50-3.00	KS2 Hall Doors
10 Miss Dowson	8.45	8.35-8.45	KS2 Cloakroom doors	3.00	2.50-3.00	KS2 Cloakroom doors
11 Mr Barber	8.45	8.35-8.45	KS2 Cloakroom doors	3.00	2.50-3.00	KS2 Cloakroom doors
12 Mrs Ryan	8.45	8.35-8.45	Class 12 Doors	3.00	2.50-3.00	Class 12 doors

Actual Teaching Hours

During the normal school week, including RE, but excluding corporate acts of worship, assemblies, registration time and breaks etc., children are taught a minimum of:

Key Stage 1

(Infants): - 21 hours each week

Key Stage 2

(Juniors): - 23½ hours each week

Parents and the School

We are proud of our reputation as a happy, successful school, where parents and visitors are always made welcome. The school is proud of the wide range of awards it holds. These include Gold Active Mark, Artsmark Gold, Green Flag School, International School Award, Healthy Schools Gold Award and 'Healthy School of the Year', Achievement Awards, Heartstart, LACA and numerous sporting awards.

We have 3 Open Evenings each year to give parents opportunity to meet the teachers and discuss their child's progress. Parents are welcome at any other time to talk with teachers, but unless urgent, we would expect parents to speak with teachers at the end of the day. The Head Teacher is always available for parents. Reports are given at the second Open Evening, with clear indications as to next steps for learning for each child to achieve by the end of the year.

Meetings are held regularly with parents, class teachers and Headteacher on issues relating to either school or home on an individual basis.

We are always grateful for parental help, which enables our teaching to be more effective. If you would like to help in any way, please contact school. Our room is available for parents and helpers to make refreshments and relax when working in school.

During the year there are fund-raising, social and religious occasions. These are intended to promote good relationships and may help to provide more resources for the children. We encourage all families to be involved in any way possible.

For details of this and if you require any information as to Baptism preparation of those seeking to know more about the Catholic Faith please call in to school.

Parents and friends are invited to attend any school masses or special occasions. Refreshments are usually available afterwards in the Family Room. Each class will have the opportunity, with their parents to be involved in some religious celebration during the year. These include Class Services, Welcome Mass, Stations of the Cross etc.

School Uniform

We ask your co-operation in providing your child with school uniform.

GIRLS

School cardigan/sweatshirt

White shirt

School tie

Grey skirt/smart grey or black trousers

In summer girls may wear:

Green and white summer dress

School polo shirt/white, green or gold T-shirt and shorts.

Cycling shorts, crop-tops, etc, are **not** allowed.

BOYS

School jumper/sweatshirt

White shirt

School tie

Grey or black trousers

In summer, boys may wear:

White/green/gold T-shirt and shorts

School polo shirt

Caps, bandanas, head-scarves, etc, are **not** allowed inside School. Suitable headwear may be worn outdoors during playtimes

School fleeces and study bags are available to purchase from school.

SPORTS WEAR

- Dark shorts, plain white t-shirt, socks, gym shoes
- Swimming costume for children in years 4-6
(Bermuda-type shorts are not allowed in the baths)

Footwear should be practical and suitable for school life. For Health and Safety reasons platforms, slingbacks, etc, should not be worn. Cardigans, sweatshirts, jumpers, polo-shirts and ties are available from school.

All personal belongings must be clearly labelled

Unclaimed lost property will be disposed of at the end of each term

Jewellery

Wearing of earrings is **NOT** permitted.

Extra-curricular Activities

Children currently have the opportunity, at various stages of their school-life, to participate in the following activities:

- Annual 4-day residential visit to Europe
- **1 Day visit to London**
- Swimming
- Football for all Year 4-6 children
- **Choir**
- Table Tennis
- Rosary
- Morning Prayer (Advent)
- Lunchtime Prayer (Lent)
- 'Jelly Bean'
- 'Step into story'
- 'Snakes and Adders'
- Study Groups
- Gardening Club
- Breakfast Club
- French Club
- Netball
- Gymnastics
- Arts Club
- Dance and Drama



Admission to St Patrick's School

We will normally accept all baptised Roman Catholic children living within the catchment area of St. Patrick's Parish into school. Infant class size will be no more than 30, and the school's standard number is 50

The catchment area matches the Parish of St Patrick's, which has Millbank lane, part of Thornaby Road and Teesdale Park as it's boundaries.

To see our current Admissions Policy please refer to the school office or check the school website:

<https://stpatrickscp.npcat.org.uk/admissions/>

Full details of the Admission Policy is available from school. If a child is refused admission, parents are permitted to appeal against the decision. Details are included in the Admissions Policy.

Parents are always welcome to visit the school and discuss opportunities offered here.

Admission to St Patrick's Nursery

St Patrick's Nursery admits children shortly after their 3rd birthday, whenever possible. Baptised Catholic children will always be given first priority for admittance, but non-Catholic children, or children of parents who wish their child to gain from our Nursery ethos, may be considered, in the same order as our School Admission Policy. Admission to Nursery does not automatically guarantee admission into School.

We have an excellent Nursery team, who liaise closely with school staff to give the children the best possible preparation for entering primary school.

Special Education Needs and Disabilities (SEND)

We try to ensure that all children receive the best education we can possibly give them. We have access to the services of trained specialists, support services, and Educational Psychologists. Before an approach is made to any outside agency, we would, naturally, involve the parents and obtain their support.

We follow the Code of Practice for Special Educational Needs, and our SEND School Policy is available on request.

Pastoral Care

In the first instance, the welfare of the child is the responsibility of the class teacher. Please help the teacher by making him/her aware of anything that may be worrying your child. The Head Teacher is always available to discuss any concerns you may have.

Security

All visitors and latecomers must use the main school entrance. The school signing in system must be used on entry and exit

We would ask that parents do not bring dogs into the playground.

Smoking is not allowed anywhere on school premises.

Health and Welfare

Following admission to Reception class, each child is given a health screening by the Health Authority. This involves vision, hearing and height check.

It is essential that parents inform us of any medical condition, or allergy, particularly peanut allergy and that medical information is updated. Many children suffer from asthma, and inhalers are kept close at hand. If your child suffers from asthma, we ask that you support school by making sure that your child knows how and when to use the inhaler and that it be clearly marked with the child's name.

You will be informed at the end of the day, by note, if your child has suffered a knock to the head during school-time, but not considered serious enough for the child to be sent home.

Religious Education

St Patrick's is a Catholic school, and the religious education is firmly based on the doctrines and practices of the Church. We follow a syllabus based on the 'Come and See' and 'Broad Areas', issued by the Catholic Bishops, and approved by the Governing Body. Our RE teaching also includes the teaching of other faiths and cultures so that children begin to understand, value and respect people who may have different religious views.

Curriculum Statement

The 'curriculum' is one word which is used to describe everything that goes on in a school that results in pupils learning about the world around them, and themselves. In the words of the Education Act the curriculum means all the activities which are designed to promote the 'spiritual, moral, cultural, emotional, and physical development of pupils, and which prepares them for the opportunities, responsibilities and experiences of adult life'.

The National Curriculum, is taught throughout the school. Please visit the school website to find out more information about the curriculum and what is taught in each year group

In the Primary School, there are 3 stages. These are known as Key Stages, and can be compared with Nursery/Reception, Infants and Juniors.

Foundation Stage	-	ages 3 to 5
Key Stage 1	-	ages 5 to 7
Key Stage 2	-	ages 7 to 11

At the end of each Key Stage (at age 7 and 11) the children are assessed by National Curriculum Tests and teacher assessment, in order to measure attainment and progress. The results of these assessments are published along with our School Targets in English, Maths. The children are also formally assessed in Year 1 for Phonics.

We enjoy a very rich curriculum at St. Patrick's. The annual calendar includes termly, whole school focus on History and Geography, which are very much enjoyed, 'Art Week' and 'D&T Week' - 3 consecutive days a term, Global Citizenship Week, PSHE Week, Environment Week, Emergency Aid Week as well as Celebration Days at the end of each 'theme' to give the children the opportunity to present their new learning.

Organisation in Relation to Different Year Groups

As with all primary schools, the number of children in each year group determines the make-up of each class. It is inevitable that some year groups may be split between two classes.

Whichever class your child is in, she/he will be taught at the level of her/his ability and all aspects of the curriculum are planned and monitored to ensure that everything is covered at the appropriate level. All children have targets in Maths and English.

KS1 classes have a statutory limit of 30 pupils per class.

Teaching Methods

The staff employ a wide range of teaching styles. Depending on the lesson concerned, the teacher decides whether it is a class lesson, a group activity, or individual tuition, not only in choosing a method that is relevant, but also to highlight that learning is a pleasurable and stimulating activity. All teachers are aware that children have different learning styles (audio, visual, kinaesthetic) and they try to respond to this.

In all classes, from Nursery upwards, a great emphasis is placed on independence, and an encouragement for children to take increasing responsibility for their own learning.



Discipline and Behaviour

Good discipline and standards of behaviour have high priorities in our school. Our Behaviour Policy emphasises positive encouragement and praise. Bullying is not tolerated, in any form, and we help children to be assertive through Personal Health and Social Education and the Citizenship Programme.

There are occasions when it may be necessary to reprimand a child, withdraw privileges, or have extra work imposed, which may be in the form of lunchtime Detention. Children from Year 2 upwards may be given Detention and parents will be informed of this. In more serious cases of misconduct, parents are invited into school to discuss the child's attitude or behaviour and to find ways to work together to solve the problem.

We attempt to establish good, supportive relationships built on mutual respect, trust and care for others. Children are expected to have regard for each other's welfare regardless of gender, race or ability. The support, interest and co-operation of parents contributes hugely to this, and we are confident that problems can be sorted out at an early stage through the partnership between home and school.

