

**The Federation of
Our Lady Queen of Martyrs, Esh Winning &
St Joseph's, Ushaw Moor RC Primary Schools**



*“Living, loving and learning together,
with our eyes focused on Jesus.”*

**ST JOSEPH'S
SCHOOL BROCHURE**

St Joseph's RC Primary School
Durham Road
Ushaw Moor
Durham
DH7 7LF

Telephone: 0191-3730355

E-mail: ushawmoorstjoseph@durhamlearning.net

Website: www.olqgstj.durham.sch.uk

Head Teacher: Mrs Louise Keenan

Chair of Governors: Mrs Christine Purcell

Our school is proud to be Federated with

Our Lady Queen of Martyrs RC Primary School
Durham Road
Esh Winning
Durham
DH7 9PA

Telephone: 0191-3734343

Website: www.olqgstj.durham.sch.uk/

OUR MISSION STATEMENT

**Our aim is that each child who leaves our school
will be a confident, competent and caring
member of the community,
with a desire to continue learning,
rooted in a firm belief in the love of God.**

*‘Living, loving and learning together,
with our eyes focused on Jesus.’*

Dear Parents and Care Givers,

Welcome to St Joseph's RC Primary School. Undoubtedly, some of you are new to the school, perhaps even new to the area, whilst others are familiar with the school and its aims. I would, therefore, like to extend a welcome to you all, old friends and new. I trust that you and your child will enjoy a long and happy association with us.

The education of your child is as important to us as it is to you. Co-operation between home and school is vital if we are to try and maximise the potential of every child in our care. At the start of term, some children take a short while to acclimatise to the new environment and routines which are required of them. New entrants to the school sometimes take a little while to adjust to the routine of school. If at any time you have any query or worry, please feel free to contact the school for help or advice.

I trust you will find the information in this booklet useful and that you will feel able to give your valuable support to the school. I look forward to meeting you on many occasions in the coming years.

Yours sincerely

Mrs Louise Keenan

Head Teacher

CHILDREN LEARN WHAT THEY LIVE

If a child lives with criticism,
They learn to condemn.

If a child lives with hostility,
They learn to fight.

If a child lives with ridicule,
They learn to be shy.

If a child lives with shame,
They learn to be guilty.

If a child lives with tolerance,
They learn to be patient.

If a child lives with encouragement,
They learn confidence.

If a child lives with praise,
They learn to appreciate.

If a child lives with fairness,
They learn justice.

If a child lives with security,
They learn to have faith.

If a child lives with approval,
They learn to like themselves.

If a child lives with acceptance and friendship,
They learn to find love in the world.

SCHOOL HOLIDAYS 2019/20



	CLOSING DATE	DATE RE-OPEN FOR TEACHING PURPOSES
Summer 2019	Friday 20 July 2019	Wednesday 4 September 2019
Autumn Half Term 2019	Friday 25 October 2019	Monday 4 November 2019
Christmas 2019	Friday 20 December 2019	Tuesday 7 January 2020
Spring Half-Term 2020	Friday 14 February 2020	Monday 24 February 2020
Easter 2020	Friday 3 April 2020	Monday 20 April 2020
May Day 2020	Friday 1 May 2020	Tuesday 5 May 2020
Summer Half-Term 2020	Friday 22 May 2020	Tuesday 2 June 2020
Summer 2020	Friday 17 July 2020	To be determined

School Day



Children are supervised on the playground from 8.45 am.

Please ensure you supervise your child until this time.

KS1

8.55am – 12:05pm

1:15pm – 3.30pm

KS2

8.55am – 12.20pm

1:15pm – 3.30pm

School Uniform

Below is an outline, please see our full policy.

School operates a No Jewellery Policy for safety reasons.

Trousers / Skirts / Pinafores / Shorts / Collates – **Grey**

Jumper / Cardigan – **Bright Blue, preferably with the school badge**

Polo Shirt / Shorts / Blouses – **Yellow (Gold)**

Socks / Tights – **White, Grey or Navy**

Black may be worn under trousers

School Shoes – **Black (No trainers)**

Children will be provided with a school bag, water bottle and cap as part of their uniform.

No other bags should be brought to school. (Except for swimming or packed lunch bag – no large rucksacks, please. We do not have the space.)

Hair Bobbles / Bands – Minimal in blue, yellow or black

Summer dresses – Blue & White Check or Yellow & White Check

PE Clothing

White round neck t-shirt

Navy shorts.

Trainers/Plimsoles or soft shoes.

Navy joggers are good for cold weather

Long hair must be tied back.

All items of school uniform should be clearly labeled with your child's name to save confusion and loss of property.

School Meals



Dinners at St Joseph's are provided by Taylor Shaw and are well balanced and nutritious. The children will be given a menu to take home and you choose a main meal. The price of a meal for children in KS2 is £2.05 per day, £10.25 per week. Please make payment through School Gateway every Monday.

All children in KS1 are entitled to free school meals.

St Joseph's has achieved the Healthy School Award and we work very hard to promote a healthy lifestyle. Packed lunches that include foods that are high in sugar and salt are actively discouraged. Children are not permitted to bring sweets, chocolate bars or fizzy drinks.



Medicines in School



If your child needs to finish a course of medicine prescribed by the doctor please complete the form available from the school office.

All such medicines must be brought to the office by the parent or guardian. Medicines must be clearly labelled with the child's name and medicine dosage. All medicines are stored safely in school and may be collected from the school office at the end of the day, by an adult.

Water Bottles



Fresh water is available for all children. All children will be given a water bottle. This can be filled at home each morning and brought to school and the children will bring it home for washing.

School's Charging and Admission Policy

In order to offer a broad and balanced curriculum to all pupils, occasions arise where educational visits and activities are both necessary and desirable. These are activities which take place within the school day. The funding required for these activities can be raised from either of the following sources:

- a) Voluntary contributions from the parents of the pupils participating in the visit/activity.
- b) The general school fund maintained by fund-raising activities.

Generally the school uses a combination from both sources. The school accepts that when voluntary contributions are requested there is no obligation to contribute. Some visits or activities may become financially unviable and will not take place if there is a lack of voluntary support.

Valuables in School

Children often like to bring things into school to share with their friends and teacher. We discourage children from bringing such things into school, especially when they are of sentimental or monetary value as they may be damaged or lost.

Absence from School

The law is now very clear about absence from school – **All absences must be covered by a letter of explanation which will be inserted in the back of the register.** *If there is no note the absence counts as unauthorised and has to be officially recorded.* We are very grateful for your cooperation in this matter. If your child has a medical or dental appointment, please bring the appointment card or letter and a medical mark will be given.

Holidays taken during school term time will **not** be authorised by the Head Teacher. If there are special circumstances, the Head Teacher may authorise a leave of absence and a form is available from the school office. If the form is not submitted, the absence is unauthorised and has to be officially recorded as such.

Admissions



We seek to establish a good relationship with parents and children before their admission to school. New children will have visits to their classroom.

St Joseph's is a Catholic Primary School which serves the parish of St Joseph's, Ushaw Moor. The Governors, who are the admitting authority, aim to provide a Catholic education for every Catholic pupil in the school.



Members of Staff



There are 4 classes of mixed year groups.

Teachers

Mrs Keenan –Executive Head Teacher

Mrs Curtis - Deputy Head Teacher

Miss Shemmings & Mrs Bryan - Class 1 – Reception Year

Mrs Mitchell - Class 2 – Year 1 & 2

Mrs Curtis - Class 3 – Year 3 & 4

Miss Whitfield - Class 4 – Year 5 & 6

Support Staff

Mrs Davies – Teaching Assistant

Mrs Dunn – High Level Teaching Assistant

Mrs Reeve - High Level Teaching Assistant

Mrs Riddles - Teaching Assistant

Mrs Smith - Teaching Assistant

Mrs Bowron – Business Manager

Mr Bennett - Caretaker

Mrs Jackson - Cleaner

Lunchtime Staff

Mrs Jackson - Cook

Mrs Davies – Supervisory Assistant

Mrs Robinson - Supervisory Assistant

Mrs Smith – Supervisory Assistant

Teaching methods include individual work, group work and class teaching as appropriate to the activity and the child's level of development. We seek to provide all pupils with a broad balanced and relevant curriculum, differentiated to their individual needs. All teachers will deliver the curriculum subjects; English, Maths, Science, Technology, History, Geography, PE, Music, Design Technology, Modern Foreign Languages and Art in accordance with the National Curriculum requirements.

The National Curriculum is described in terms of separate subjects by the published documentation. Whilst the National Curriculum is being taught throughout the school, the subjects may or may not be taught as separate items. Cross-curricular themes provide pupils with the opportunity to study aspects of many subjects under half-termly topics. During the course of the year pupils will cover the full range of subjects within the National Curriculum, though at different stages of the year there may be a different emphasis (and therefore time) allocated to each curriculum area.

Further details regarding our Curriculum are available on the school website.

If any parents have any queries or require further information about the schools' Curriculum they would be very welcome to discuss this with the Head Teacher.

The hours spent on teaching during a normal school week (excluding the daily act of worship, registration and lunch and other breaks) follows the recommendations of the "Secretary of State" in "Management of the School Day" –

Key Stage 1 children	21.00 hours per week
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Key Stage 2 children	23.30 hours per week
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Religious Education provided by the School

St Joseph's School is a Roman Catholic Aided School and has close links with St Joseph's Church and the Parish of St John Boste.

The Religious Education Programme, Come and See, is followed throughout the school but the curriculum in all aspects does reflect that Christ is the foundation of the whole enterprise in a Catholic school. There is a daily act of collective worship which may be part of the whole school assembly or class or house based.

We have strong parish links fostered by our Parish Priest, Fr David Coxon, who visits school on a regular basis. He liaises with all class teachers to provide individual class support.

We facilitate our pupils' development in the Catholic Faith and in their own Cultural tradition but we also promote a knowledge and tolerance of World Faiths and encourage them whenever possible to appreciate the diversity and richness of other cultures.

Our RE and Collective Worship Co-ordinator is Mrs Gerri Yates, she is based at Our Lady Queen of Martyrs, her support at St Joseph's is Mrs Dee Curtis.

Content and Organisation of Relationships & Sex Education Policy

The relationships and sex education programme reflects the School's Mission Statement. This area of the curriculum is taught discretely in the context of personal relationships. The school nurse will also give a talk to the older children connected with growth, change and puberty.

Special Education Needs and/or Disabilities

St Joseph's School fulfils the Code of Practice on the identification and assessment of Special Educational Needs and/or Disabilities

If your child is assessed as requiring Special Needs provision, you will be informed and your help and support asked for by school. We aim to keep you fully informed of your child's needs, the provision made by school and the targets to be met. We view this as an essential home/school partnership.

Our SEND Co-ordinator (SENCO) is Mrs Dee Curtis.

Sporting Aims and Provision for Sport

Our school has achieved the Gold Award for school sport and games.

St Joseph's School values sport for its enjoyment value, for its contribution to a healthy lifestyle and to the development of positive attitudes.

The National Curriculum Guidelines for PE are followed throughout the school. Children receive their full National Curriculum entitlement. This entitlement is balanced appropriately across the different year groups. The focus takes into account the progress in ability, strength and maturity of the children.



Children go to Brandon Pool once a week for swimming at intervals across key stage 2.

After School Clubs and Breakfast Club

Clubs are provided by school staff and qualified professionals. The clubs offer a variety of enjoyable activities for the children.

We have a **Breakfast Club** which is held every morning **from 7:45am**. Children take part in multi skills with Craig's Coaching and enjoy a breakfast of cereal and juice.

No pre-booking is necessary for Breakfast Club.

After School Clubs are run from 3:30 to 4:30pm by a staff member or Simply Sport.

Booking is required for After School Club.

Tea Club runs from 4:30 to 5:30pm and includes a light tea for children. There are opportunities for sport and games. The Club is run by Simply Sport and children are dismissed from school by them.

Booking is essential for Tea Club.

School Car Park

The School Car Park is for staff, deliveries and official visitors **ONLY**. Please do not drive through the gates to drop off children or turn around in the gateway or car park. Access is required at all times, never block the gates or park on school markings. All of this causes uncertainty for children crossing the car park and could result in injury. Your child's safety is paramount.

A bike rack is provided for those staff, children and visitors who wish to use it. Please ensure any bike left here is secure. Children may bring helmets inside school with them.

The Governors of The Federation of Our Lady Queen of Martyrs, Esh Winning and St Joseph's, Ushaw Moor, RC Primary Schools cannot accept responsibility for damage or loss of any vehicles left in the car park, however caused.

Complaints Procedure

In the event of a complaint arising, the Head Teacher would be the first point of contact. An appointment will be made to discuss the relevant issues and hopefully any problems resolved.

If the matter cannot be resolved then the governors will become involved.

A copy of the complaints procedure is kept in school, or you can find it on our website.