



School Prospectus 2025 / 2026

Our Mission Statement

'Be bold, be strong, for the Lord your God is with you'. These words are taken from one of our favourite songs and are inspired by Joshua 1:9. Our mission is to help our children to develop the skills of an effective lifelong learner, build successful relationships, have clear Christian values and principles and live by them. We don't give up; we learn by our mistakes and we are kind to each other.

We have three school rules: Be ready, be respectful, be safe.

School Details

Headteacher Mrs G Talbot
Chair of Governors Mrs C Cloake
St Mary's C.E. Primary School
Wright Street
Platt Bridge
WN2 3NX
Tel: 01942 866416

Email: enquiries@admin.saintmarys.wigan.sch.uk

Website: www.saintmarys.wigan.sch.uk

Please contact Miss Shallcross in the office with any enquiries.

You are welcome to make an appointment to visit the school at any time by contacting Miss Shallcross or calling in personally.

There will be a meeting for all new parents and children in the Summer Term 2026, which will be followed by a 'getting to know you' session within the Reception class. The school will write to all parents with the details.

Admissions Policy

The school's standard number for admissions is 30. If numbers exceed this figure the Local Authority will consider applications on the following criteria:

1. Children with a statement of Special Educational Need which names the school.
2. Children in Public Care.
3. Children whose older brothers or sisters attend the school and who will be there at the time of admission.
4. Other children living closest to the school. Distance is measured on an Ordnance Survey map in a straight line.

The school is a Voluntary Controlled Church of England Primary School for children from 4 plus to 11 years. In September 2025 it is expected that there will be 242 pupils on roll.

HOLIDAY LIST 2025-26

AUTUMN TERM

School opens	-	Monday 01 September 2025
Staff Training Day	-	Friday 19 September 2025
School closes for half term	-	Friday 24 October 2025
School reopens	-	Monday 03 November 2025
School closes for Christmas	-	Friday 19 December 2025

SPRING TERM

School opens	-	Monday 05 January 2026
Staff Training Day	-	Friday 23 January 2026
School closes for half term	-	Friday 13 February 2026
School reopens	-	Monday 23 February 2026
School closes for Easter	-	Thursday 02 April 2026

SUMMER TERM

School opens	-	Monday 20 April 2026
Bank Holiday	-	Monday 04 May 2026
School closes for half term	-	Thursday 21 May 2026
Staff Training Day	-	Friday 22 May 2026
School reopens	-	Monday 01 June 2026
School closes for summer	-	Friday 17 July 2026

The School Day

Key Stage One

Morning 8.45am - 11.45am
(Break 10.45am – 11.00am)

Afternoon 12.45pm - 3.15pm
(Break 2.00pm - 2.15pm)

Key Stage Two

Morning 8.45am - 12.10pm
(Break 10:45am - 11:00am)

Afternoon 1.00pm - 3.15pm

Twinkle Toes Before and After School Care

Twinkle Toes offer before and after school childcare for children attending St Mary's.

The Breakfast Club is open from 8:00am and is a drop-in service, there is no need to book your child into the Breakfast Club, you can just turn up. The cost per morning session is just £3.50. The After School Club closes at 5:30pm and pupils need to be booked into this Club. For a full after-school session, the cost is £7.50.

Please contact Twinkle Toes on 01942 557572 to obtain an information pack.

School Trips

Parents may be asked to make a voluntary contribution towards the cost of some trips for their child(ren). If the total of the voluntary contributions offered does not cover the cost and other sources of funding cannot be identified, it may be necessary to cancel the trip. Parents will always be offered the opportunity to pay for any trips on a weekly basis via a payment card. We have an online payment system called Arbor that makes it easier than ever to keep up to date.

Relationships and Sex Education

Relationships education is now compulsory in all primary schools. Our curriculum is available on the website. We have delivered Personal, Social and Health Education (PSHE) as a core part of our curriculum offer for many years. The aim is to help young people make informed, reasoned and responsible choices in all aspects of their lifestyles. The sex education programme is delivered to Year 6 children as part of a wider programme around puberty. Some aspects of puberty are also taught to the Year 5 girls. Parents can withdraw their children from all or part of this course if they wish.

Wider Opportunities

The school aims to provide a very wide range of opportunities for the children to enjoy. Extra-curricular activities in the past have included football, athletics, dance, running, art, dance workshops and art club. During the school day the pupils may work with a visiting artist, experience a drama workshop, watch a live theatre performance or work alongside a professional writer. All year 4 children will learn to play an instrument for a full year as part of our curriculum offer. They can choose to continue into year 5 in a small group at a reduced rate. Small group and individual music lessons are available at a cost to all children from year 3 and above.

School Rules

Behaviour is excellent at St Mary's. We have three expectations: be respectful, be ready and be safe. Our behaviour policy is focused on recognition that all children can show that they meet these expectations every week. Whilst we do sanction poor behaviour, we praise in public and rebuke in private. Poor behaviour is dealt with in the first instance by the class teacher. The Pastoral Team are available to support children and staff when required and can provide advice for parents and carers if required. Extreme cases are referred to either the Deputy Head or the Headteacher. Our full behaviour policy is available on the website.

Inclusion

Please see our Local Offer information on the website. Mrs Rachel Hydes is the Special Needs Co-ordinators, she can be contacted via the school office on: 01942 866416, enquiries@admin.saintmarys.wigan.sch.uk or you can message her on Class Dojo. Our inclusion policy is available on our website alongside the SEND policy. We are committed to ensuring that all children regardless of their needs, receive the support necessary to achieve their potential. Our approach is one of early identification, high-quality teaching, inclusive practice and strong collaboration with families, professionals and external agencies.

Pastoral Care

Class teachers are, in the first instance, responsible for pastoral care and are available to see parents by appointment. We will endeavour to see parents within 24 hours and if possible, the same day.

We have a small Pastoral Support Team who work across the school to support the social, emotional and behavioural welfare of children in school. Mrs Sharrock and Miss Prescott are available before and after school or an appointment can be made to see them in the school day.

Support is available for children in the form of 1:1 mentoring, therapeutic group, therapeutic space, art therapy, nurture group and other activities.

Support for parents can include a chat, support to claim benefits, food bank referrals and parenting courses. They can also signpost to other services

as necessary.

Miss Prescott is also our Attendance Officer. She ensures that all children attend school and provides support and challenge where there are issues. She has access to a wide range of support for families if needed.

Healthy School

St Mary's is a Healthy School. We try to encourage children to live healthy lifestyles through a varied curriculum and have re-designed our outside spaces to provide more opportunities during break times. Fruit is free to children in Key stage One and milk is offered for sale to all year groups. Children are provided with a plastic bottle in Reception which should be filled with fresh plain water and brought to school each day. Replacement caps and bottles are available.

Universal Free School Meals

All children in Reception, Year 1 and Year 2 are automatically entitled to a free school meal every day. The children order their lunch via our online ordering system Evolve. If you think you are entitled to Free School Meals benefit, please still apply as this triggers the allocation of Pupil Premium money to the school for each child who is entitled. This forms a large part of our budget.

Anti-Bullying

St Mary's has a zero-tolerance approach to bullying. Pupils are encouraged to report any form of bullying and take part in regular lessons to understand the many forms bullying may take. Anti-bullying work takes place across the curriculum, including in computing to try and ensure that all children have a strong understanding of how to keep themselves and others safe online. St Mary's does not tolerate any form of discrimination or bigotry. Differences between individuals are valued and celebrated. Our policies are regularly updated and are available to parents to read on our website.

Holidays in term time

Regular school attendance is essential if your child is to maximise their educational opportunities. The Department for Education does not allow us to authorise term time holidays. Therefore, requests for holidays during term-time will not be authorised. An absence request form must be completed. If you require any further information, please visit the Department for Education website www.education.gov.uk

Absence Rates

In July 2025 our attendance was 94.4%. This is in line with national attendance rates.

Pupil Routes

In the year 2025 pupils that left St Mary's C.E. Primary school now attend the following High Schools.

The Byrchall High School	24
The Deanery High School	3
Dean Trust Rose Bridge High School	8
Golborne High School	1
Hawkley High School	1
Cansfield High Specialist Language College	5
St Edmunds Arrowsmith High School	1
Expanse Learning	1

Complaints

Any complaint should initially be addressed to the Headteacher. In the event of a problem remaining unresolved, the problem should be put fully into writing and sent to the Chair of the Governing Body. The matter will then be dealt with in accordance with the schools complaints procedure which is available on the website.

Religious Education

As a Church of England primary school Religious Education is an important part of our curriculum. We follow Lancashire's agreed syllabus and the scheme of the Liverpool diocese which is available for parents to view if you wish. Parents, who wish to do so, may withdraw their child from the Religious Education lesson. This must be notified to school in writing. Please contact Mrs Talbot if you have any issues around the curriculum. The RE curriculum is very different to worship and covers a wide range of religions.

Uniform

The Governors expect all children to wear uniform. This consists of a white polo shirt or shirt, a navy sweater or cardigan and grey trousers or skirt. In summer the girls may wear a blue gingham dress if they wish.

Black shoes or black trainers should be worn. Multi-coloured trainers are unacceptable. Shoes with higher heels are not allowed to prevent slips and falls.

For health and safety reasons jewellery is not allowed. **Earrings must not be worn in school. Long hair should be tied back.**

The school P. E. kit consists of blue shorts and a white t-shirt. As we wear PE Kit all day when the class does PE, it is important that your child has a pair of navy tracksuit bottoms and a navy hoodie or school jumper.

Branded clothing must not be worn.

Our uniform, bearing the school logo is available through our Sportsline in Ashton, Impressions in Golborne, Top Marks or Slater's in Wigan.

Collective Worship

A Christian act of worship takes place daily within school. We view this as a very important part of our day and use the Church year as our guide. Parents may withdraw their child from the collective worship if they wish, but as the conduct of the school reflects the Church of England ethos, removal cannot insulate pupils from the religious life of the school. The children will attend a Key Stage worship each week led by the staff or one of our local vicars. There are also two class worship sessions each week and a whole school celebration assembly on a Friday afternoon. Our worship takes place at 2.50pm most days.

Notice

The information contained in this prospectus was accurate at time of printing in May 2025. Changes may take place during the school year.

Inspection copies of any documents which are required to be made available by law can be arranged by contacting the school office.

Members of the Governing Body

Mrs C Cloake	Chair
Cllr C Sweeney	Vice Chair
Mrs G Talbot	Headteacher
Mrs R Hydes	Teacher Governor
Mrs C Heaton	Community Governor
Mr R Ekakitie	Parent Governor
Mrs J Clayworth	Parent Governor
Mrs S Edwards	Clerk to the Governing Body
Rev D Gosling	Foundation Governor

Full Governing Body meetings are open to the public, subject to the provisions identified within 1.6 (Guidance on Public Access to Governing Body Meetings).

Class Teachers

Mrs R Hydes – Deputy Head
Mrs K Humphreys- Early Years Lead
Mrs E Smith
Mrs Greenhalgh
Mrs R Evans
Mrs R Roberts- Key Stage One Lead
Mrs R Yoxall
Mrs K Knowles
Mrs J McIlhagga
Mrs B Carter
Mrs L Cruickshank- Key Stage Two Lead
Mrs N Brown
Mrs T Hurst
Miss A Hopper
Mr M Sheader

Teaching Assistants

Mrs C Sharrock	Pastoral Support Manager
Miss L Prescott	Attendance Officer
Mr G Broughton	Pastoral Support/P.E Coach
Mrs D Hilton	Higher Level Teaching Assistant
Mrs Z Shinks	Higher Level Teaching Assistant
Mr C Thompson	Higher Level Teaching Assistant
Mrs D Feeley	
Mrs C Richardson	
Mrs J Fernay	
Miss L Duff	
Mrs K Knott	
Mr J Mallalieu	
Mrs C Holt	
Mrs S Winstanley	
Ms E Laverty	
Miss R Woodward	

Office

Mrs S Edwards	School Business Manager
Miss J Shallcross	Admin Officer

Kitchen Staff

Mrs S Eaton
Mrs E Ackers
Mrs A Fowler

Caretaker

Mrs C Winstanley

Cleaners

Miss E Ackers
Mrs S Myers

Lunchtime Organisers

Mrs C McNicholas
Miss N Connah-Pennington
Miss L Pennington