

# St Aidan's Catholic Primary Academy



## Nursery Prospectus

### Mission Statement:

“Together we all enjoy learning, achieving, sharing and praying. Let Jesus’ love shine through in everything we do”



## **Welcome to our Nursery:**

Beginning nursery is a big event in the life of a young child, there will be lots of new things to learn. For the children who attend St Aidan's Nursery we aim to provide them with plenty of opportunities for fun and interactive learning and having memorable experiences.

The purpose of this information pack is to inform you about the Nursery and to explain about the curriculum we follow and the way this is organised.

A virtual tour of the Nursery is available on the school website.

**St Aidan's Catholic Primary Academy**

**Benton Road**

**Seven Kings**

**Ilford**

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**Website:** [staidansacademy.org](http://staidansacademy.org)

**Head Teacher:** Mrs Campling

**Early Years Foundation Stage Lead:** Miss Williamson

## Here at St Aidan's we aim to:

- Provide a warm, safe and stimulating environment.
- Establish a mutual understanding and respect between staff, children, parents, carers and other professionals.
- Value and respect each other as individuals with different needs and experiences.
- Encourage children to become confident, independent and to value themselves and others.
- Build on experiences your child brings with them from home and from their community.
- Actively involve parents in the Nursery and in their child's learning and development.
- Making learning achievable, enjoyable, stimulating and fun.
- To acknowledge God as central to our lives and develop a strong and loving relationship with Him.

During the week the children will access the EYFS curriculum not only indoors but equally outdoors in our purpose-built outdoor area. Our children will have outside access at all times during the day, rain or shine!



## Information About Our Nursery:

### **Nursery Sessions:**

We provide morning or all-day sessions, 5 days a week.

**Morning session:** 8.45am – 11-45am.

**Full day session:** 8.45am – 3.15pm

All children attending will be offered a healthy fruit based snack during the morning session.



### **Lunchtime:**

Children who are staying for the full day session can bring their own packed lunch and will be able to eat their food in the nursery building. There will be an additional charge of £3.50 for the lunchtime supervision. Please note this is for all funded and non-funded full day pupils.

### **Pricings:**

Lunch time supervision for all full day pupils £3.50

**Privately paid** non-funded full day session: £15 per day.

Total charge for privately paid full session including lunch supervision. (Non-refundable if absent)

£18.50 per day.

Please note this would need to be booked and paid in advance.

Information on the Government Funded 15- and 30-hours entitlement:

[www.childcarechoices.gov.uk](http://www.childcarechoices.gov.uk)

## Learning in the Early Years

St Aidan's Nursery is where the excitement begins! Nursery children learn together in an environment which is developed around the children's interests. We pride ourselves on being an exciting and engaging place to be and, we encourage our children to be independent learners through a range of practical activities.

As our Foundation Stage children enter the nursery they learn primarily through a variety of play and real-life experiences. The children access their environment freely and their development is tracked through detailed observations and child-initiated interaction.

We aim to offer children a wide variety of experiences during their time in Nursery, some of these things include but are not limited to; different cultural experiences, baking and tasting foods, messy play and other exploration based activities, weekly visits to the school library and ICT suite.

We are a catholic faith school; however, we still provide children with opportunities to learn about other faiths and cultural celebrations.



## The Early Years Foundation Stage Curriculum:

In our Foundation Stage children follow the Early Years Foundation Stage Framework (EYFS). This curriculum is based upon four themes and principles.

**The Unique Child** - We understand that every child is an individual child who is capable in their own right. The holistic child has a variety of needs that need meeting over their time in the Foundation Stage.



**Positive Relationships** - Social interaction is key to children's development. Children become strong, independent learners; as well as scaffolding their learning through positive social interaction.

**Enabling Environments** - Providing a safe, secure and stimulating base for your children is key to their development. The framework allows for experiences that respond to the child's individual needs/interests; as well as developing a strong partnership between practitioners, parents and carers.



**Learning and Development** - Children develop and learn in different ways. The framework covers the education and care of all children in early year's provision, including children with special educational needs and disabilities.



## Development Matters

Within the 'Development Matters' framework there are 3 prime areas of learning and 4 specific areas. This framework provides the basis of how we structure the setting, the activities and opportunities we provide; as well as how we assess your child's development.

### Prime Areas

- Communication and language
- Personal, social and emotional development
- Physical development

### Specific Areas

- Literacy
- Mathematics
- Understanding the World
- Expressive arts and design

### Characteristics of Effective Learning

- Playing and exploring
- Active learning
- Creating and thinking critically



## The Environment:

The spacious indoor and outdoor 'classroom' is organised to give children plenty of space to move around, to work on the floor and on table tops, individually and in smaller groups. Resources are well organised and labelled so that children know where to find what they need and can be independent.



## Tapestry:

At St Aidan's we use a program called Tapestry, which is an online system that will record your child's learning in the Early Years Foundation Stage. Staff will make comments based on their observations of the children and these observations will be used to inform our planning, assessments and next steps. We are able to instantly upload photos, videos and observations of your child to create a learning journey.



## Parents As Partners:

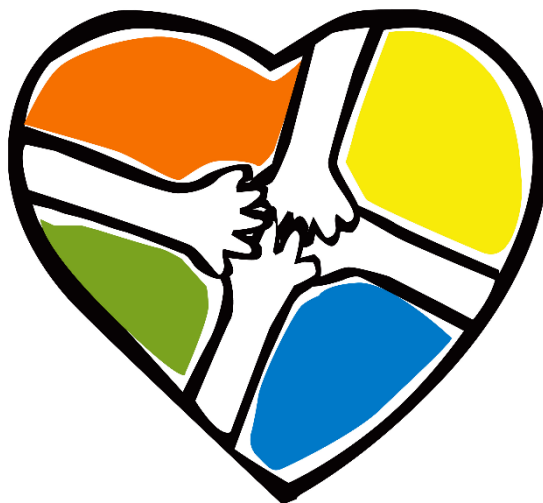
We fully recognise the importance of parents and carers in a child's developing stages. As a primary care provider, you are your child's first educators and we greatly value any input, opinions and information you can share with us about your child's learning and progress.

To support this, we also produce an online 'Learning Journey' through Tapestry that records your child's learning and achievements whilst they are at nursery. They show photos and written observations of both child-initiated activities and adult led tasks. These are available for you to look through via a personal log in.

We also encourage you to contribute to these by making small observations at home.

We provide many other opportunities for parents and carers to take an active part in their child's education. These include:

- Parent Consultation evenings where parents are invited to speak about your child's progress during the academic year.
  - Regular newsletters



## **Information about our school you will need to know:**

### **Behaviour Management**

We follow the St Aidan's Catholic Primary Academy, we have included our golden rules for Nursery. The Nursery team support children and take into account each child's developmental needs and requirements when supporting them with behavioural management. Expectations and clear rules are set out in Nursery, visual cues and prompts help children to remember. As they progress during their time in Nursery a behaviour chart will be used that is relevant to the children's age.

### **Rewards**

Rewards are given in the form of stickers or stars. One 'star of the week' is also nominated by the Nursery team and will receive a certificate.

### **Settling into Nursery**

If a child does not settle or finds it extremely difficult during the times of separation, we may ask the parent/carer to support the staff through a personalised transition plan to help them adapt to the environment and allow them the time required to get to know their Nursery teachers. We will discuss these strategies with parents and come to the best decision for the child.

### **Jewellery**

We ask for your cooperation in ensuring that children do not wear jewellery in the Nursery.

## **Health**

If your child is ill, please consult a doctor or pharmacist and keep them at home until they recover. If your child is asthmatic or suffers from any other medical condition, it is vital that you inform the school so that an individual care plan can be drawn up before your child starts. Basic first aid is applied in the Nursery by our qualified first aiders. It is important that we have up to date contact details of all parents, and also a contact number of a friend or relative who we can contact as a reserve. If your child has sickness and diarrhoea, please keep them at home for 48 hours from the last bout of sickness or diarrhoea.

## **Uniform**

St Aidan's Nursery has a strict uniform policy. The Nursery uniform consists of a maroon sweatshirt and blue polo shirt with the school logo, plain black jogging bottoms and plain black trainers or plimsolls with Velcro fastenings. More information about the uniform and where you can purchase the uniform is in this pack.

## **Toileting**

We encourage that all children are toilet trained before starting Nursery, and nappies and pull ups should not be worn. We realise that accidents do happen and accept that there will be occasions when children will wet or soil themselves. The Nursery staff are willing to change children when this happens, and we ask that each child brings a named change of clothing in their P.E bag to be used when needed. This spare set of clothes can be left at Nursery until it is required.

## **Toys**

We ask that children do not bring in their own toys from home, as there is a danger of them getting lost or broken in the Nursery and this could cause distress to your child.

## **Inclusion**

It is important for all children to experience a range of activities, irrespective of differences in race, gender, cultural background or physical disability.

Appropriate attention is given to both boys and girls.

We promote racial equality and encourage, support and enable all children to reach their potential, regardless of race or culture.

Our commitment to equal opportunities is reflected in the aims of our Nursery. We offer equal access for every child to all subject areas in line with the Early Years Foundation stage Framework. Our planning and teaching actively reflects an awareness of age, gender, ethnicity and ability.

We foster an ethos of mutual respect and esteem for everyone in our community. As a whole staff, we strive to provide positive role models for the children in our care.

Thank you for taking the time to read our prospectus. We look forward to working together with you in the best interest of your child.