



St. Giles'

Church of England
Primary School: **Early Years**



Learning Together, Growing Together

Welcome to St. Giles' Church of England Primary School: Early Years



St Giles' has provided a robust, creative and practical education for over 100 years, based upon strong Christian values and teachings.



Foreword: Mark Dakin, Headteacher, says...

It is with great pride that, on behalf of the staff and governors, I welcome you to our wonderful school and its fantastic early years setting.

Christian ethos

By providing a well-structured and engaging early years curriculum, and by promoting good behaviour through our Christian ethos, we aim to enthuse in all children a love of learning as well as respect and care for each other.

Broad curriculum

We offer a broad, balanced and rich curriculum where all children, of all abilities and faiths, are warmly welcomed. Our early years curriculum will help and support all our pupils in achieving their personal best, in all aspects of school life.

Pastoral care

Our pastoral care is exceptional, ensuring all children are kept safe and are supported both inside and outside school.

Dedicated staff

Our highly experienced and dedicated staff will ensure that all our children are well supported to achieve their true potential, and work hard with families to overcome any barriers to learning.

Parent partnership and support

We consider the partnership between the school staff, parents, governors and other stakeholders to be absolutely essential, as together we can set challenges and our partners can help us to consider 'how can we do it even better'. We offer comprehensive parental support too, with access to a full-time Safeguarding and Family Support Manager.

Get in touch

St Giles is a special place where every child matters. Please do not hesitate to arrange an appointment to visit us and see how wonderful our early years setting is. To make an appointment please email: postbox@st-giles.walsall.sch.uk or call 01902 368308. We look forward to welcoming you and your child to the school.

Starting in Nursery and Reception



School hours

Nursery
Morning session: 8.45am to 11.45am
Afternoon session: 12.45pm to 3.45pm

Reception
Morning session: 8.45am to 11.45am
Afternoon session: 12.45pm to 3.15pm

St. Giles' Kids Club

The St. Giles' Kids Club provides before and after school childcare, in a safe, secure and happy environment. Nursery children can use Breakfast Club if they are attending a morning session, and the After School Club if they are attending an afternoon session.

Breakfast Club is open from 7.30am to 9.00am and costs £3.00 per day, which includes breakfast. After School club is from 3.15pm to 4.30pm (£3.50), or from 3.15pm

to 5.30pm (£6.00), or 3.15pm to 5.45pm (£6.50). The fee includes snacks, drinks and a range of fun activities, such as arts and crafts, team games, and celebrating special events.

Uniform

A simple uniform is helpful in establishing good standards of appearance in school and by wearing it children quickly feel part of the community. Children either wear the recommended school sweatshirt with logo

School meals and snacks



School dinners

Our Nursery children eat dinner at home, either after their session, or before.

All children in Reception can receive a free hot school meal, which is organised by Walsall MBC Catering Services. Meals are cooked freshly every day by well-trained staff, using high quality ingredients.

Healthy

School meals are now made using less sugar, salt and fat, with plenty of fresh vegetables and fruit. They include a wide range of healthy options, and combine traditional favourite dishes such as roast dinners, plus a selection of new and exciting dishes and vegetarian options. Fresh fruit and vegetables are also on offer, and a salad bar is available.

Children are also welcome to bring in lunch boxes, but we encourage parents to pack suitable healthy food each day.

Break-time and drinks

Under the Fruit in School scheme children are entitled to a piece of fruit each day free of charge. This is given as a playtime snack. Children can also purchase a slice of toast each morning for 20p. Water is constantly available during the day and we ask that

children bring in a labelled clear plastic water bottle, which can be refilled in school. Milk is provided until the end of Reception class.



Early Years Foundation Stage Curriculum: seven areas of learning

Extended curriculum: trips and visits



Learning environment

We provide a stimulating learning environment, with significant access to ICT in all areas of the school.

Seven areas of learning

1. Personal, Social and Emotional Development.
2. Communication and Language.
3. Physical Development.
4. Literacy.
5. Mathematics.
6. Understanding the World.
7. Expressive Arts and Design.

Learning experiences

We believe in providing a wealth of learning experiences to develop the whole child. We value outdoor learning, music, the Arts and physical education, outdoor adventurous activities, including competitive sport. We also provide a range of educational trips and some recent ones have included:

- Visit to the Botanical Gardens
- Trip to Cineworld, Telford

- Trip to Paris
- Library visits

Themed days

The children can also enjoy special theme days, such as World Book Day, Comic Relief and Chinese New Year.

Cultural events

The school also encourages children to take part in cultural events such as the Dance Festival, and we support others by participating in local community and national events such as Farm Africa, Children in Need and local charities. We believe that engendering a caring and helpful environment and learning to be independent can boost and nurture a healthy self-esteem.



Music

There are opportunities for all children to learn an instrument, and to play regularly in front of their peers and parents

Behaviour and Self Development



Positive relationships

We aim to create a pleasant atmosphere in which pupils, parents and staff feel that they are valued members of the community. Pupils, parents and staff are expected to show consideration and courtesy to each other at all times.

Developing personalities

An important role of the school is to develop pupils' personalities so that they can make positive relationships with their peers and adults. Within this the children will develop self-discipline, a sense of responsibility and an awareness of the needs and feelings of others. This is achieved by providing clear guidelines, which the pupils can follow and that are supported by all adults within the school.



Communicating with parents



Your child's achievements

We strongly believe that the quality of contact and cooperation, between school and parents, is an important factor in ensuring that our pupils enjoy a successful education. Communication with parents is of utmost importance to us. We communicate with parents in a number of ways including regular newsletters, reports, open evenings, parental workshops and text messages.

A Parents' Evening is held each term and you will be invited to look at your child's work and discuss his/her progress with the class teacher. We also have a dedicated Parent Support Advisor who is available to offer support and guidance in and out of school. Parents are updated with school news via the school website and regular newsletters. You can also follow us on Twitter - @StGilesPrimary. Our VLE is updated regularly with key information and resources.





Gifted and talented children

We recognise that all children are individuals with their own specific needs, gifts and talents. Children who are identified as being exceptionally able or talented, are monitored and provided with stimulating and enriching lessons appropriate to their needs.

Special Educational Needs

We are committed to a broad and balanced curriculum for all our pupils, whatever their educational needs may be. Our Special Needs Co-ordinator ensures that the school provides the best support possible for children identified as having special needs, and this can include children who are Gifted and Talented. We discuss any support plans with parents and provide regular feedback on progress. External agencies may need

to be consulted on some occasions, but only with prior consent from parents.

Access

The school provides equal access to opportunities to all its pupils, including those with disabilities. There is access to all ground floor areas and the school reviews its accessibility plan on a regular basis. Access to toilet facility for wheelchair users is located at the front of the school. Please discuss any temporary or long-term needs with the school.



Varied opportunities

Children are provided with opportunities to enjoy a variety of clubs, which are run by school staff at lunchtime or after school. These include:

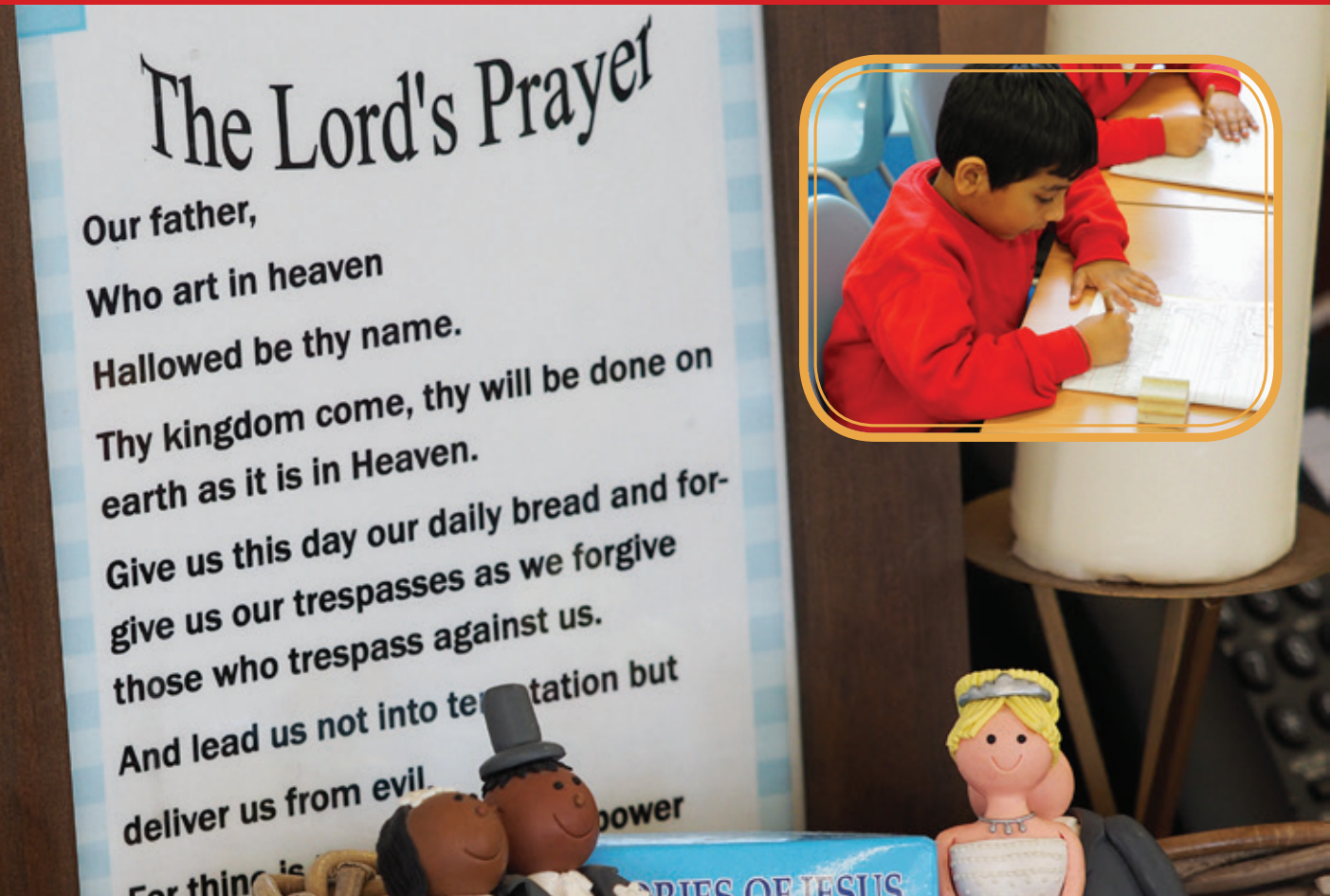
- Football
- Music
- Dance
- Multi-sports
- Gymnastics
- Homework
- Reading.



We have also been awarded the 'Sainsbury's Silver School Sport Award'

Sport

As well as following the Physical Education programme of work as set out in the National Curriculum, there are significant sporting opportunities available for all children, including access to a full-time Specialist PE Teacher.



Forgiveness & Reconciliation

Agape

Compassion & Community

Equality

Service & Stewardship

Moral and ethics

Collective worship takes place daily and is consistent with the principles and practices of the Church of England and will, therefore, be broadly Christian in character. Collective worship encourages pupils to consider fundamental questions about the purpose of being and about moral and ethical stances.

Celebrate values

It allows us to learn and celebrate values we hold to be important and brings children together, enabling them to experience the security of belonging to a community with an identity of its own.

Spiritual, moral, social and cultural development

Worship also makes an important, though not exclusive, contribution to the spiritual, moral, social and cultural development of children. We consider collective worship to be an important aspect of school life.

Clarification

Should you feel the need for more information or any clarification, please do not hesitate to come and discuss with the Headteacher.

Mission Statement

St Giles is a place of learning, which promotes the educational, physical, spiritual, moral, social and cultural development of all its pupils through the enthusiasm and commitment of the staff and children, through a caring, Christian ethos.

School Aims

In recognising and accepting this responsibility the school aims:

- To promote an ethos based upon Christian values of Forgiveness and Reconciliation, Agape, Compassion & Community, Equality and Service and Stewardship

- To provide an educational environment in which staff are committed to providing a broad, balanced and relevant curriculum to meet the needs of children of all aptitudes and abilities
- To enrich the lives of the children through close links with the Church and the local community

- To involve parents and the community in the life of the school
- To work with other schools for the benefit of the staff and the children. To prepare our pupils for the opportunities, responsibilities and challenges of secondary education.

Admissions



Nursery

Admission to St Giles' Nursery is from a child's third birthday and priority is given by date of birth. The school holds a waiting list for admission to the nursery. Open days are arranged throughout the year but you are always welcome to contact the Headteacher to make arrangements to visit the school.

Applications for school

Walsall Council deals with all new admissions for reception to St. Giles Contact C of E Primary School. The details of the School Admissions Team are:
Tel: 01922 652585
Email: primary.admissions@walsall.gov.uk
Web: http://cms.walsall.gov.uk/school_admissions.



Getting involved



Parents are welcome to visit the school at any time, but please remember that teachers are busy people and a phone call to arrange an appointment would be helpful and appreciated. We are always prepared to listen, no matter how large or small your concerns may be.

Friends of St. Giles

The Friends of St Giles School is a team of enthusiastic and fun-loving parents, carers, guardians and staff. Our objective is to help raise money for the school to fund equipment, classroom materials, improve facilities, as well as organising social activities to enhance the children's learning experiences. This is achieved

through a variety of events, such as school discos, summer fetes, and our infamous monthly cake and clothes stall, which sells second hand uniform and the obligatory homemade cakes! We do also support some non-fund raising events, for example the leavers' disco and the gifts we help Santa with. It's a great way to have fun and make new friends.

Do you want to join the Friends of St. Giles?

The Friends of St. Giles meet once a month, but regular attendance is by no means compulsory, and we look forward to seeing you when you are able to get involved. If you would like to join, please email friendsofstgilesschool@hotmail.com. You

can also follow us on Facebook Friends of St. Giles School, Willenhall (PTA).

Voluntary helpers

The school uses voluntary helpers to enhance the curriculum, to provide support for children and staff in a range of ways and to support out-of-school activities. Voluntary helpers may include parents, governors and other members of the local community. If you would like to get involved or require further information please ask at the school office.

Governorship

Our school governors manage the school with the Headteacher. Our Governing Body

are made up of elected parents, members appointed by the Local Education Authority (LEA), co-opted governors, teacher representatives and the Headteacher who has the option of being a governor. Members are elected for period of four years.

Do you want to be a Governor?

Our parent governors give parents a voice in decision making. They are elected by parents through a ballot. If you are interested in becoming a school governor, please contact the school office or email: governors@services4schools.org.uk



*We provide exceptional care for all children,
ensuring that that they develop:*

*Spiritually
Emotionally
Academically.*

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