



English Martyrs'
Catholic Primary School



English Martyrs' is a
Catholic Primary School.

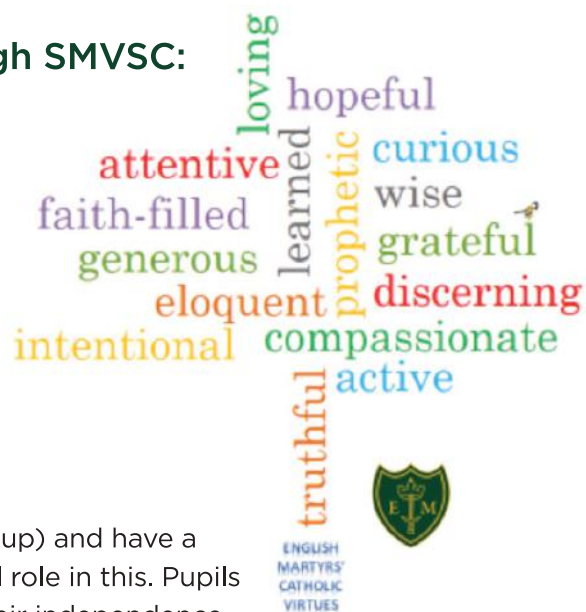
We follow the example and teachings of Jesus in every aspect of our school life. Our Spiritual, Moral, Vocational, Social and Cultural Policy states how this is achieved through the whole curriculum laid down by the Syllabus of the Archdiocese of Birmingham.

We welcome and respect children and adults from other or no faith traditions.

Welcome
to our school

The faith life of our school is developed through SMVSC: Spiritual, Moral, Vocational, Social and Cultural growth.

We develop each area by:



Spiritual Development

Supporting our children to reflect on, celebrate and practice their own individual and shared beliefs. They are encouraged to build supportive and loving relationships with others, acknowledging that we are all made in the image and likeness of God. They are taught to manage their feelings and emotions and develop them through prayer. In attending our school our pupils are further supported to celebrate the wonder and awe of God and remember that we are always seeking him in our lives. Through our work in the use of art, music, dance, song and symbols we strive to capture something of the beauty of God's world.

Moral Development

Our faith encourages strong relationships in class between pupils and with adults. This extends to relationships not only within their year groups but across the whole school family. Everyone demonstrates behaviour principles in line with our faiths and beliefs - pupils to pupils and teacher to pupils etc. There is shared understanding of how we handle behaviour throughout the school by adults and pupils alike e.g. Year 6 are given the responsibility of example setters for the rest of the pupil body. There are many opportunities for reflection on moral issues throughout our thematic curriculum which then supports our class meditation sessions. We have a deep commitment to teaching about moral issues in our classrooms.

Vocational Development

Our pupils and families exhibit a strong commitment to taking part in collective worship. Pupils are committed to engaging in activities which give service to others because they know their faith calls upon them to do so. Pupils and Staff articulate their understanding of belonging (to church, school community, other

faith group) and have a personal role in this. Pupils show their independence, self-confidence and ability to make decisions in different situations. We can articulate how we seek to be the best that we can be for the sake of our faith. All members of the school have a strong commitment to our Catholic values and can share how we have been taught these through the gospel readings.

Social Development

At English Martyrs' we teach the children how to live together in harmony. In doing so we are enabling our children to be loyal, contributing, global citizens of the future. Our pupils understand the need to pray for others and understand their duty to be charitable to others. Our pupils work hard through their School Council, Eco Group and Unicef Children's Rights to look after their environment in recognition that we are responsible guardians of God's creation.

Cultural Development

We are lucky enough to have pupils from most parts of the world at English Martyrs'. We recognise and value our different cultural traditions including our own. Our pupils are enabled to understand the importance of belonging to a multi-cultural Church. The provision of art, music, language, dance and symbol is used to develop a knowledge and respect for other cultures.

*'As a learning community centred in
Christ, we walk hand in hand with
God on our journey in faith'*



The staff, governors and children would like to offer you a warm welcome to our happy school. Staff, parents, governors and children work in harmony together to create an environment where our children are strongly guided through our faith to be a force for good in the world.

We believe that it is essential our children leave us with a firm faith and knowledge of God our creator. This allows the children to hold strong to the high standards taught at English Martyrs' School when they become young adults and throughout the rest of their lives. We strive to engender in our children a lifelong love of learning to enable them to make every effort to maintain and exceed our high standards enabling them to become loyal, conscientious, contributing citizens of the future.

Evelyn Harper - Head Teacher



Achieve

'Inspiring Individual Excellence'

We offer creative learning opportunities that stimulate, excite, and enrich based on a curriculum which provides continuity and progression.

We have worked hard to develop the high standard of education that we provide for our pupils. This standard is upheld by our approachable and dedicated team of teaching and support staff.

Teachers employ a range of strategies and techniques within the classroom according to the subject being taught and the varying needs of the children. Pupils are given good opportunities to express their ideas and opinions. Continuous assessment of teaching and learning ensures that each individual child achieves their best.

"This is a school where every minute counts. Teachers inspire pupils to do well and encourage them to be curious and fascinated learners." - OFSTED 2016

Attendance

At English Martyrs' we are committed to raising the achievement of all our pupils: this means maintaining high standards of excellent attendance and punctuality. Our school target is 97% and any pupil who falls below this will be closely monitored to ensure that it does not impact on their education entitlement. Parents will be asked to attend meetings where this becomes the case.

Punctuality is also crucial to achieving our aims, as lateness not only disrupts one child's learning but that of all pupils in their class. Our school policy for extended leave in term time follows the Local Authority (Leave in Term Time) Guidance.





Our S





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Our School Code

We show our love for Jesus by

- Respecting our school community.
- Speaking kindly to each other.
- Using good manners.
- Moving with care.
- Always trying our best.



Mark 8

Peter's Declaration about Jesus

22 Then Jesus and his disciples went away to the villages near Caesarea Philippi. On the way he asked them, "Tell me, who do you think I am?"

23 "Some say that you are John the Baptist," they answered. "Others

say that you are Elijah, while others say that you are one of the prophets."

24 "What about you?" he asked them. "Who do you say I am?" Peter answered, "You are the Messiah."

25 Then Jesus ordered them, "Do not tell anyone about me."



Inclusive

We value every child and aim to meet the needs of each individual. Their wellbeing and development is at the heart of everything we do.

Pupils with additional needs are supported by both the class teacher and our Inclusion Manager. We develop individual learning plans and conduct planned progress meetings with parents and other school agencies.

“All pupils, whatever their background, age or disability flourish and learn very well.”

- OFSTED 2016

Our children are wonderful ambassadors and enjoy taking on positions of responsibility in school. Every class has the opportunity to lead an assembly and pupils are involved in making decisions through the School Council.

Pupils enjoy learning and playing together in a friendly safe and inclusive environment, where they are taught to respect, value and celebrate the different faiths, cultures and traditions that make up our school and diverse community.

“The promotion of pupils’ spiritual, moral, social and cultural development is outstanding, pupils develop a keen understanding of the world they live in.”

- OFSTED 2016





Safe & Secure

It is our duty and privilege to ensure the health, safety and welfare of every child in our school. All adults working with children have a responsibility to safeguard and promote the welfare of children. School policies and safeguarding procedures support this ethos. We teach children how they can protect themselves by embedding safeguarding and e-safety into the curriculum.

We are responsible for your child during the school day. They are not allowed to leave school unless they are collected by you or a named adult. You must inform school of any change to your regular collection arrangements.

Should your child have an accident in school, they will be given basic First Aid. If a child is more seriously injured, parents will be contacted and advised to take the child to the doctor/hospital. If we feel it necessary we will seek trained medical assistance.

Please ensure that we have an up to date contact (daytime) telephone number and inform us immediately of any change of address.

“English Martyrs’ is a happy school”

- A parent

Partnership and Communication

Parents are encouraged to get involved with their child's education and are kept informed of progress through parents' evenings and end of year reports. We hold regular assemblies and the sacrament of mass to promote our vision, values and ethos.

Our Home School Agreement provides the framework to guide the school, the child and the parent through the process of mutual co-operation to ensure maximum learning and attainment. School news is transmitted via texts, newsletters and the school website.

We believe in having an open door policy on visiting school, so that parents are welcome to come and talk to us at any time. However, we are a very busy school and it is not always possible to see parents during the teaching parts of the day. We therefore request that parents visit school first thing in the morning, or preferably after school finishes. If possible please telephone school to arrange a visit.

We hope that you never have cause for complaint but recognise that despite our best efforts and intentions, there maybe a time when you need to express your concerns to us. If you wish to talk to us regarding any matter, the classteacher will be pleased to help in the first instance. If further support is required please make an appointment to speak to a member of the senior leadership team. If a satisfactory outcome cannot be achieved, we will adhere to the school's formal complaints procedure.

Out of Class Activities

To complement our rich and varied thematic curriculum, our children enjoy a carefully chosen selection of educational visits, both local to the community and further afield.

Our PE Instructor delivers a range of PE and Sports activities both school based and at inter school competition level. Extra- curricular clubs are available across a wide range of sports and interests.

In the morning we have a Breakfast Club (8.00am) so that parents can drop their children off at an earlier time confident of a safe and caring environment.

'The curriculum has been carefully thought out to ensure that it is relevant to the pupils in the school.

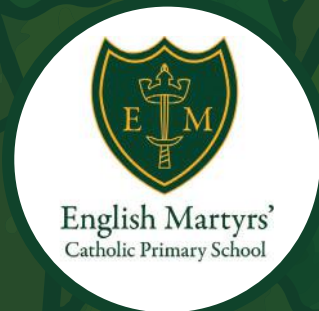
The range of subjects and topics pupils study is comprehensive and well balanced.

It is exceptionally well enhanced by trips,

visitors to the school, assemblies and links with the local community.'

- OFSTED 2016





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Sparkhill
Birmingham
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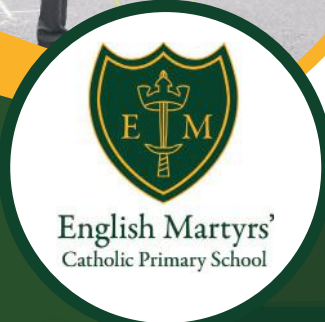
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“The strong teaching of the catholic faith is exceptionally well-balanced with meaningful learning about other faiths and beliefs. This leads to a caring, tolerant atmosphere where everyone is valued for who they are and not for what they can do.

- OFSTED 2016



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