



Parent Handbook



| Dryden Road | Low Fell | Gateshead | NE9 5TU | E: info@spl.bwcet.com | T: 0191 4878233 |

| W: www.stpeterslowfell.bwcet.com |

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Introduction



I am delighted to welcome you to St Peter's Catholic Primary School. I hope this handbook gives you a flavour of life at St Peter's and paints a picture of all the wonderful things we do at school.

Within our school, we seek to create a happy, friendly, and supportive environment, where every child can develop spiritually, emotionally, intellectually, and socially. It is the aim of everyone in our school to help the children grow in their journey of faith, with the Gospel values at the centre of everything we do.

By providing a range of exciting opportunities and experiences within our broad and balanced curriculum, children are encouraged to aim for the highest possible standards.

Our team of dedicated staff play an integral role in fostering a family atmosphere, where children feel secure and can thrive. This, combined with excellent teaching and high expectations of behaviour, provides a solid foundation for children of all abilities to make progress.

We acknowledge the essential role that you as parents play in the education process and by working in close partnership with you, we want all children to reach their full potential and be able to unlock all their unique gifts and talents, always striving to be the best version of themselves.

At the heart of the school is our Mission Statement. It is the foundation that supports all that we do.

**“As children of God, we are loved,
we are called and we are inspired.”**

Mrs P McArthur
Headteacher



About Our School



St Peter's has always had an excellent reputation since it was opened in 1938, something that we value and are constantly trying to build upon, both in academic standards and in the friendly, happy, family-oriented atmosphere of the school. We are situated on Dryden Road and serve the Catholic community of St Peter's parish. While they are learning with us, your children are our children, and the parents and staff are justifiably proud of them. We aim to develop every child in our care not just academically, but so they can achieve in every area of their lives; spiritually, creatively and give them the resilience to follow every ambition they may have in their future.

The successes of your children can primarily be attributed to the close links between home and school. At St Peter's we view parents and carers as partners and, as a partnership, seek to produce the best possible education for our children. The caring, enthusiastic support of staff and parents is reflected in the many social and sporting activities held after school hours. A list of teaching, non-teaching staff and Governors is given within this Prospectus.

The school consists of seven classrooms, a multi-purpose hall, a library, the science/technology room, a special educational needs group room and a medical room. Recently refurbished cloakroom areas for boys and girls in both Key Stage 1 and Key Stage 2 provide hygienic and accessible surroundings for your children.

Every child in our school community is respected as a unique individual. In partnership with parents, we aim to build upon and develop a wealth of experience and skills in the hope of creating a caring and stimulating environment for our children, which lays the foundations for their education. We seek to recognise their entitlement to a broad, balanced, differentiated and enriched curriculum.

When the children leave St Peter's, we would want them to have experienced a quality education, which has broadened their horizons, developed their all-round potential and given them insight that education is an enjoyable lifelong process that can help them to achieve anything they set their minds to.



Staff and Governors



Meet the staff and governors at our school! **Please note that this is subject to change for 26/27.**

Leadership

Mrs P. McArthur	Headteacher
Miss R. Woods	Deputy Headteacher
Mrs E. Brown	SENDCo/ Early Years TLR
Mr G. Lilley	School Business Manager

Teachers

Mr J. Jobes	Reception Class
Miss R Woods	Year 1
Mrs J. Moreland	Year 2
Mrs E. Brown / Miss S McConville	Year 3
Miss B. Cleaver	Year 4
Miss F. Devos	Year 5
Mr O. Browne / Mrs L. Nicholson	Year 6

Classroom Support

Miss J. Mackay	L3 TA
Mrs D. Shilling	HLTA
Mrs V. Cowx	L3 TA
Miss L. Linton	L3 TA
Miss S. Connelly	L3 TA

Support Staff

Mr G Lilley	School Business Manager
Mrs M. Thrall	Senior School Administrator (part time)
Mrs F. Weatherhead	School Administrator (part time)
Mr R. Holloway	Caretaker
Mrs T. Denison	Midday Supervisor
Mrs D. Gilbertson	Supervisory Assistant & Crossing Patrol
Miss K. Wilkinson	Supervisory Assistant
Miss T. Donaldson	Supervisory Assistant
Mrs C. Hagan	Supervisory Assistant
Mrs L. Farrell	Breakfast Club/Supervisory Assistant

Governors

Mrs L Fleming	Foundation Governor (Chair)
Mr D McTernan	Foundation Governor (Vice)
Mrs G. Lynch	Foundation Governor
Mrs P Dellow	Foundation Governor
Mr S Cable	Parent Governor
Mrs L Nicholson	Staff Governor
Mrs J Nicholson	Clerk

The School Day



Our compulsory school hours run from 09:00am to 15:30pm daily, giving us a net weekly total of 32 hours and 30 minutes. We operate a soft opening from 08:45am.

Morning Session	09:00	To	12:15
Morning Break	10:30	To	10:45
Lunch	12:15	To	13:00
Afternoon Session	13:00	To	15:30
Afternoon Break	14:15	To	14:30
School finishes at 15:30pm.			



2026/27 Term Dates



September '26						
Su	M	Tu	W	Th	F	S
		1	2	3	4	5
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
27	28	29	30			

October '26						
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18	19	20	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28	29	30	31

November '26						
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15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30					

December '26						
Su	M	Tu	W	Th	F	S
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13	14	15	16	17	18	19
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
27	28	29	30	31		

January '27						
Su	M	Tu	W	Th	F	S
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10	11	12	13	14	15	16
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
24	25	26	27	28	29	30
31						

February '27						
Su	M	Tu	W	Th	F	S
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28						

March '27						
Su	M	Tu	W	Th	F	S
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28	29	30	31			

April '27						
Su	M	Tu	W	Th	F	S
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25	26	27	28	29	30	

May '27						
Su	M	Tu	W	Th	F	S
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16	17	18	19	20	21	22
23	24	25	26	27	28	29
30	31					

June '27						
Su	M	Tu	W	Th	F	S
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6	7	8	9	10	11	12
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
27	28	29	30			

July '27						
Su	M	Tu	W	Th	F	S
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4	5	6	7	8	9	10
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28	29	30	31

- School Holiday
- Inset Day
- Bank Holiday

Attendance



We want our pupils to benefit from the highest quality education to enable them to excel. We know that pupils who attend well have the best chances of success academically and socially. They are more likely to achieve well in examinations and assessments and more likely to form secure and lasting friendships. This can only be achieved if pupils are in school regularly, and on time.

Excellent attendance is everyone's business and improving attendance is in everyone's interests. We aim to secure good attendance by building strong relationships with pupils, parents, and carers so that we can support them to reduce any barriers to school attendance.

Why attendance matters

We know that pupils who are frequently absent from school fall behind. We have a meticulously planned curriculum which sets out exactly what pupils should be taught at every stage of the year. When pupils are absent, they risk developing large gaps in their learning. This negatively impacts on their progress. Absence can also affect their social interactions with their peers and may impact upon their friendships.

All pupils are expected to attend school every day that the school is open and for the full day. Our ideal is for our pupils to have the highest possible attendance to get the most from school so that they are well prepared for their next steps in education, training or employment.

Our school target for pupils' attendance is 97.6%

Absence

If a child is unable to attend school, then parents/carers should inform the school by telephone (Tel: 0191 4878233, Option 1) and leave a message on the school's answerphone. This contact should be made before 9.00 am. Where a pupil is persistently absent, we may advise the parent/carer that absence should be reported to a particular member of staff so that appropriate support can be swiftly put into place. Where this is the case, parents will be informed as part of an agreed plan to reduce absence.

All pupils will be identified as absent once the registers have closed. If we have not received a reason for a pupil's absence, we will initiate our first day calling procedures.

Contact will be made with the main contact listed for the pupil to establish the reason the pupil is not in school. If no contact is established and we have not received a suitable reason for the pupil's absence, we will contact all individuals listed as emergency contacts. If school is unable to make contact by telephone, then a home visit may be conducted to establish the welfare of the pupil.

These procedures will continue to take place for each subsequent day of absence where the school has not been informed of the reasons why the pupil is absent from school.

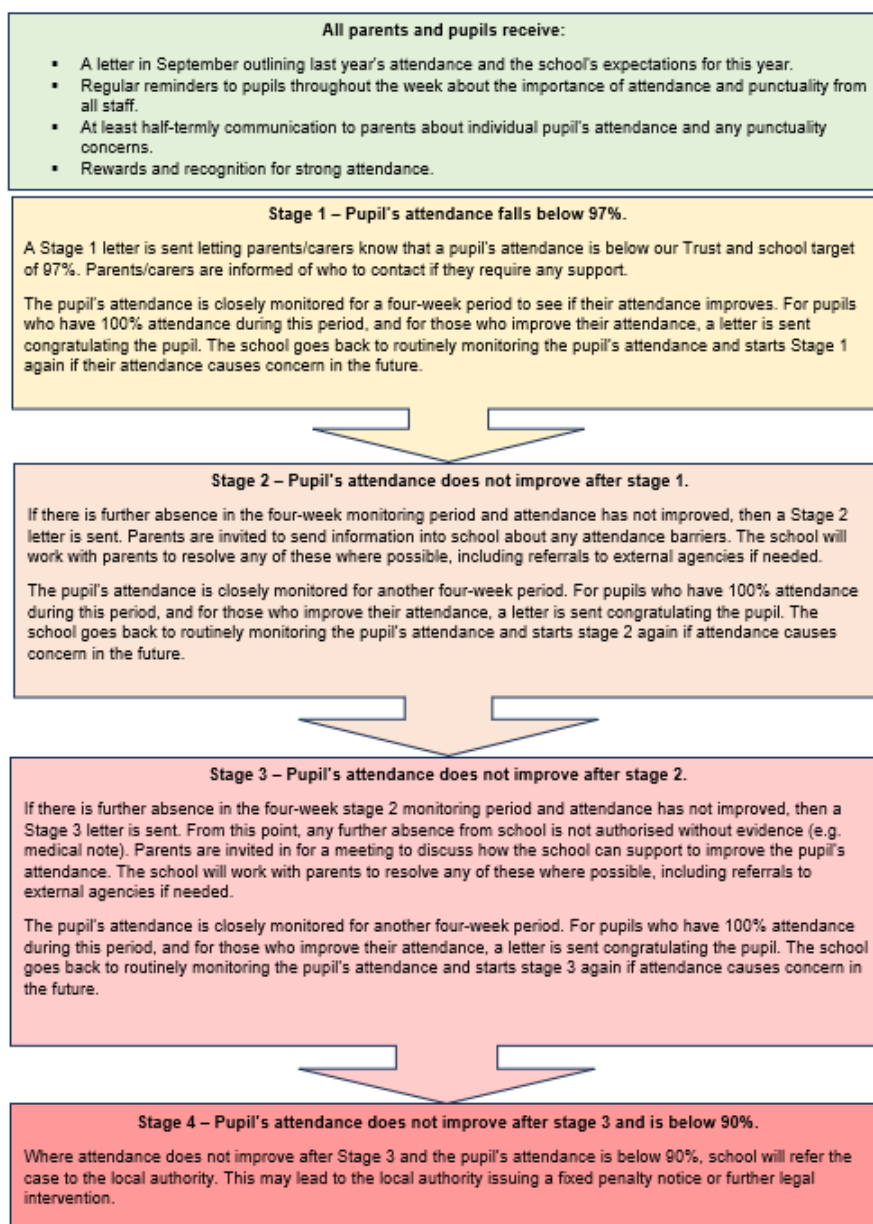
Requesting leave of absence

Any leave of absence during term time will only be granted in exceptional circumstances. It can only be authorised by the headteacher. Each application will be considered on a case-by-case

basis. Requests for leave of absence must be made in advance and submitted to the headteacher using the 'Request for leave of absence' form. If term time absence is not granted, taking a pupil out of school will be recorded as any unauthorised absence. This may result in a referral to the local authority and the absence could incur sanctions from the local authority such as a fixed penalty notice or fine. Except in exceptional circumstances, the school will not authorise any application for leave during term time in the following cases:

- At any time in September. This is a vital period for all pupils to settle into new classes and routines.
- During assessment and examination periods in the school's calendar which affect your child e.g. SATs
- When a pupil's attendance for the academic year already includes any level of unauthorised absence.
- Where a period of leave of absence has already been granted earlier in the academic year.

How we engage with parents and pupils about attendance



GOOD TIMEKEEPING MATTERS

If you are 15 minutes late each day, you will have missed **2 FULL WEEKS** of school in one year.



EVERY DAY COUNTS AND EVERY MINUTE IS IMPORTANT

LOST MINUTES = LOST LEARNING



Code of Conduct for Parents & Carers



At St Peter's Catholic Primary School, we believe there exists excellent relationships with parents, carers and others in the wider community, based on mutual respect, a drive for continual improvement, willingness to listen and a commitment to support our families and children. We are fortunate in having caring and supportive parents and carers who understand the importance of maintaining good working relationships and ensuring effective communication between home and school for the benefit of all.

Children, and their parents and carers, can expect our staff to be fully committed to ensuring that every child receives a first-class education. All children will be fully supported and encouraged to thrive in every aspect of their academic and social development. They will be safeguarded and cared for during their journey through our school.

Staff will be supported by Senior Leaders, the Headteacher, Governors and Trust Board to provide an outstanding environment for both academic and social excellence for all children.

We understand that on occasions there may be challenges for individual children and their families. Our staff are well-trained and equipped to deal with those challenges, and to offer guidance, expertise and support. We will work with parents and carers to overcome those challenges and spend time supporting them. We ask that during more challenging times, the conversations our parents and carers have with our staff remain mutually respectful and do not create barriers. The care, safeguarding and development of the children remain our priority during those times.

This Parent and Carer Code of Conduct has been developed to ensure that we are clear in our expectations of the role of parents and carers in maintaining a caring and supportive educational environment with good working relationships and effective communication and can protect our staff, parents, carers and all members of the school community during any communication or meetings. Our staff should not fear harassment or intimidation and safeguards are in place to ensure all staff feel protected and supported, as well as other parents and carers.

If parents or carers behave in a way which is not consistent with this Code of Conduct, the school will address this in a reasonable and appropriate way. We will always explain to you what action we are taking and why. This may include writing to or meeting with parents or carers whose conduct gives the school cause for concern. If the conduct issues persist or is particularly concerning, the school may take a range of actions to secure the safety and best interests of the school community. This may include restricting communication or requiring the parent not to enter the school premises.

We would expect that parents and carers would make all persons responsible for collecting children aware of this Code of Conduct.

The school expects parents and carers to:

- ✓ Respect the caring ethos of the school.
- ✓ Understand that parents and teachers need to work together for the benefit of our children.
- ✓ Work with the school to build relationships with its staff.
- ✓ Talk to us if you have any concerns about any part of your child's education and development – we want to hear from you.
- ✓ If you have a concern and wish to make a formal complaint, please ensure that you follow the school's policies and complaint procedures. Please refer to the Complaints Policy on the school website, which includes details of how we will deal with serial and unreasonable complaints.
- ✓ Demonstrate in your own behaviour that all members of the school community should be treated with respect by setting a good example in your own speech and behaviour.
- ✓ Understand that even if divergent views exist, all should remain calm and respectful and be mindful that we are all working together for the child's best interests.
- ✓ Approach school staff to inform them of any issue and allow them time to investigate and then resolve issues according to school policy.
- ✓ Understand that the school needs to be able to maintain arrangements for the orderly running of the school meaning that appointments cannot be arranged on demand and that the school will not be able interrupt daily teaching arrangements to meet parents or carers without notice other than in an emergency.
- ✓ Seek to clarify a child's version of events with the school's view in order to bring about a peaceful solution to any issue.
- ✓ Support the school in addressing your child's behaviour, especially where it could lead to conflict.
- ✓ Understand that the school is responsible for curriculum and timetabling matters.
- ✓ Dress appropriately when accessing school premises, including not wearing clothing which may be viewed as offensive.
- ✓ Complete all consent, contact and medical forms and inform us straight away if anything changes.
- ✓ Make sure your child has the right clothing for any activity they are involved in. Attend Information Evenings, school events and Parents' Evenings wherever possible or re-arrange if necessary to share information about your child's development.

- ✓ Only take photographs and videos under the direction and supervision of senior leaders within the school with the subject being your child. No images or videos should be shared on social media.
- ✓ Switch off electronic equipment, including mobile phones, cameras, and iPads while on school premises.
- ✓ Sign in and wear a visible visitor's badge while on school premises. Those without an enhanced DBS will be supervised at all times.

The following behaviours will not be tolerated:

- × Disruptive behaviour which interferes or threatens to interfere with the operation of a classroom, office or other area of school grounds.
- × Loud or offensive language, swearing, cursing or displaying temper.
- × Threatening to or carrying out actual bodily harm to a member of school staff, governor, visitor, parent/carer or pupil.
- × Damaging or destroying school property.
- × Sending abusive or threatening emails, text/voicemail/phone messages or other written communication. This includes issues which consume an inordinate amount of staff time.
- × Post defamatory, offensive, or derogatory comments regarding the school or any of the pupils/parents/staff at the school on Facebook or other social media sites.
- × The use of physical aggression towards another adult or child. This includes physically punishing your own child on school premises.
- × Remaining on school premises or in school reception for an unreasonable time after a visit or after being asked to leave.
- × Chastising or harassing someone else's child.
- × Smoking, vaping or consuming alcohol or drugs whilst on school property.
- × Bringing dogs (except assistance dogs) on to school premises.

Uniform Requirements



Our uniform provider is Logos Unlimited. Uniform can be purchased online at: [Logos Unlimited](#), or by visiting their store at:

Unit C, Block 320 Mayoral Way, Team Valley, Gateshead NE11 0RT.

The school uniform is neat and provides our children with a sense of pride, equality, and identity. The wearing of school uniform is compulsory. Every article must be clearly marked with the owner's name.

- O / R – optional or required item
- B / G – branded item required or generic (e.g. supermarket) alternative will be accepted

Winter Uniform

Boys Winter	Girls Winter	O/R	G/B
Royal blue 'v necked' jumper embroidered with school logo	Royal blue 'v necked' jumper/cardigan embroidered with school logo	R	B
Light blue shirt with royal blue tie	Light blue shirt with royal blue tie	R	G
Grey trousers	Grey skirt or pinafore or trousers	R	G
Grey socks	Grey socks/tights	R	G
Black Leather Shoes (no trainers or boots)	Black Leather Shoes (no trainers or boots)	R	G

Summer Uniform

Boys Summer	Girls Summer	O/R	G/B
Royal blue 'v necked' jumper embroidered with school logo	Royal blue cardigan embroidered with school logo	R	B
Sky blue polo shirt	Light blue/white gingham dress	R	G
Grey trousers/shorts and grey socks	White socks/Grey socks	R	G
Black Leather Shoes (no trainers or boots)	Black Leather Shoes/Sandals (no trainers or boots)	R	G

PE/Games

PE Kit	O/R	G/B
Navy Sports T-Shirt (100% polyester) with school logo	R	B
Navy Sports Shorts	R	G
Navy tracksuit with school logo	R	G or B
Navy Hoody with school logo	O	G or B
Plain Black Trainers	R	G

PE kit must all be clearly named and in a draw-string bag (to hang on pupil's peg).

PE kit should be worn on identified PE days.

Football strips are not acceptable for PE lessons.

Jewellery

The wearing of any kind of jewellery in school is prohibited. The school cannot be held responsible for any lost items. Children who wish their ears to be pierced should wait until the beginning of the summer holidays, after which the earrings can safely be removed while in school. It is not permissible to cover earrings with a sticking plaster. Children may wear a watch, but this must be removed during PE lessons. Please note Smart Watches or fitness watches (Fitbits) are not permitted. Children are not to wear make-up including lip gloss, nail varnish or transfer tattoos for school. Fake tan, gel nails, acrylic nails and nail extensions are not permitted.

Hair

Girls should tie long hair neatly back with unfussy bands / bobbles / slides to avoid it being pulled or caught especially during PE. Boys should have neat short hair without tramlines. Extreme haircuts / colours are not permitted.





At St. Peter's, we offer a curriculum that gives pupils an excellent mix of academic and personal development. It gives importance to core and foundation subjects, as well as physical and mental wellbeing. All these areas are valued, understood, and prioritised by our carefully constructed curriculum design which is underpinned by knowledge. This build-up of knowledge over time, builds tightly woven schemata in the pupil's long-term memories and gives pupils a rich vocabulary. There is time built into the curriculum to revisit key principles and allow for information to be retrieved and revisited regularly.

Our curriculum includes:

- RE
- Maths
- English Reading
- English Writing
- Geography
- History
- Science
- Art
- Computing
- DT
- Music
- Physical Education
- RSHE/PSHE.
- Modern Foreign Languages (Spanish or French)

Curriculum overview and expectations for each year group can be downloaded from our website.



Essential Information



Lunchtime Arrangements

Our Primary School menus are carefully developed to appeal to children and provide the perfect balance of essential nutrients – and to offer them the chance to try a few dishes they may not have tried before.

School meals are currently £3.10 per day, or £15.50 per week. Meals should be booked and paid for via the Arbor app. Should you have any further questions about our online payments system please call in and speak to the office staff who will be happy to assist you. We use meal patterns for school meals. We require 1 weeks' notice to change your child's meal pattern.

Packed Lunch Boxes brought from home

We actively encourage children to bring a healthy packed lunch into school. We suggest that a healthy packed lunch should contain a variety of items that could include:

- Some form of bread as part of a sandwich
- Fresh fruit and/or vegetables
- Yoghurt
- Dried fruit (e.g. raisins)
- Plain biscuit or cake
- crisps (low fat) as a treat
- Water/milk/pure fruit juice.

Children are not permitted to bring in the following:

- Chocolate or sweets
- Any food containing nuts or sesame

Glass bottles, cans and other containers that could be dangerous are not allowed.

Snacks

We actively encourage children to bring a healthy snack. EYFS & KS1 pupils are provided with fruit daily. However, children in KS1 can, if they would like, bring in a healthy snack from home.

Healthy snacks can include the following:

- Fresh fruit
- Dried fruit
- Vegetables

Children are not permitted to bring in the following:

- Processed fruit substitutes
- Chocolate or sweets
- Crisps
- Sweet cakes
- Any food containing nuts or sesame

Friends of St Peter's (FOSP)

The school has a highly active Parent, Teacher, and Friends Association, which arrange social and educational activities throughout the year. All parents are automatically members of the FOSP, how actively involved they become is up to the individual parent.

The FOSP in conjunction with the school raises a considerable amount of money each year through its fund-raising activities. All monies raised are for the benefit of all the children in school.

Committee meetings are held regularly to discuss future fund-raising events. Events are of a social type for all the family, i.e. Christmas Fayre and quizzes etc. If you would like to suggest any fund-raising ideas that could benefit the children, the FOSP would be pleased to hear from you.

Special Educational Needs

The Special Educational Needs Co-ordinator (SENCo) is Mrs E Brown. The school caters for students with diverse needs. All pupils follow a broad balanced curriculum that is appropriate to their age and stage of development. It is personalised to consider their needs and abilities. To identify a pupil's special educational needs the school uses all the information about the pupil's progress and compares it with the progress of other pupils in the school and against national performance information. If a pupil is not making the progress that would be expected, the pupil and parent/carer will be involved as soon as possible.

The Special Needs Policy, Accessibility Plan and a link to the LA's Local offer can be found on the school website.

Payments

We use Arbor at our school. We are cashless and are unable to accept cash payments. You will receive login details when you join our school. They can also be requested from the school office. Arbor offers you the freedom to make payments whenever and wherever you like, 24 hours a day, 7 days a week - safe in the knowledge that the technology used is of the highest internet security available.



No Dogs Allowed

For obvious health & safety reasons dogs are not allowed on school premises (even if they are carried) or left tied to school railings. We have a strict council policy on this and it protects everyone in the event of something unpredictable that could happen. Please help us have a safe community.



No Smoking

Smoking is not permitted anywhere within the school grounds or at the school gates or perimeter of the school premises.



Homework

Whilst formal homework is not routinely set across all year groups, there is a clear expectation that pupils engage in regular practice at home in line with staff guidance.

In the Early Years Foundation Stage (EYFS) and Key Stage 1 (Years 1 and 2), this focuses on the development of early reading and foundational mathematical understanding.

In Lower Key Stage 2 (Years 3 and 4), pupils are expected to develop reading fluency and to secure their knowledge of times tables through regular practice.

In Upper Key Stage 2 (Years 5 and 6), more formal homework is set. This includes the consolidation of key mathematical processes, alongside an expectation that pupils read daily for pleasure.

To support learning at home, we actively encourage the use of online platforms such as Times Tables Rock Stars and Accelerated Reader.

Nuts and Sesame in School

Due to the number of allergies within school, we ask that all parents and carers do not send any nuts or sesame to school in their child's packed lunches, this includes Nutella based products.



Newsletters

Newsletters are sent home weekly to keep parents informed of what is happening in school. It will include upcoming events, special achievements, and our stars of the week. We use Microsoft Sway.



newsletter

School Clubs

Clubs involving a variety of different activities take place in the school. These are intended to give the children the opportunity of developing personal interests as well as entering more fully into the community life of the school. They range from Ballet, Chess, Dance, Karate, Performing Arts, Science to Sports.



Educational Visits

We offer opportunities throughout the year for children to attend various trips relating to their studies. These visits play an integral part of a child's education and provide them with valuable experiences and learning opportunities.



Parental Involvement

Parents are the first and most important educators of their children. Parents teach their children to smile, to walk, to talk, to respect, to love and much more. The school supports parents in this process of teaching and together we develop the whole person. It is therefore most important that home and schoolwork closely together with similar aims in view. Parents are encouraged to come into school to share their ideas and talents.

School Security

Every effort is made by staff and Governors to ensure the safety of our pupils and to provide them with a secure environment. All visitors to the school are required to report directly to the school office. We must remind parents that the zigzag lines on the road outside the school are there for your children's safety. Please do not park on them. Breaking this rule may lead to a heavy fine!

Establishing Good Behaviour and Anti-bullying

Establishing and maintaining good behaviour is necessary for the safety and wellbeing of all our pupils. We expect the children to be well behaved and so bring credit upon themselves, their parents, and the school. Our older children are asked to support the younger children and the school but also to act as excellent role models for the younger children. Our overall aim is positive praising, rewarding, and supporting good well-mannered caring behaviour. Excellent conduct and positive relationships help cultivate an atmosphere in which children feel happy, safe, and eager to learn. St Peter's prides itself on establishing an ethos of good manners and respect for all members of the school family. Discipline is firm, fair and is consistent throughout the Key Stages. In conjunction with the PSHE programme, the teachers encourage the children to reflect upon their behaviour with the aim of promoting self-discipline.

A number of Positive Action initiatives are in place to encourage children to reach high standards of behaviour. The House System, Golden Table and Golden Time all provide an effective platform from which positive behaviour and work ethic can be rewarded on a daily basis. Clear steps are in place to manage unacceptable behaviour, consistent across both Key Stages. Measures such as withdrawal of privileges, extra assignments or loss of House Points are used to deter bad behaviour. Peer support groups are also in place to provide a support forum for the children to share their concerns and problems.

It is essential for both school and home to work together in partnership; we aim purely to encourage and develop self-discipline in every child, to enable each one to become a responsible member of our school community. St Peter's School is proud of the way its children behave both in and out of school. We have very few behaviour concerns and feel that parental support is excellent in maintaining this position.

Managing Medication in School

In line with our policy, we can only administer medication in school that is prescribed by a doctor and has a dose of 4 times per day. Doses of 3 times per day can be managed outside of school. Parents will need to complete an agreement for school to administer medicine. This can be obtained from the school office. If your child has asthma or an allergy, we ask that an asthma or allergy card is completed, and the appropriate medication provided to school, in original packaging. The school kitchen can also create alternative menus for those with dietary needs. Please speak to the office for more information about this.



Teachers are often asked ‘What should I be doing to prepare my child for school?’ Parental support is crucial for children’s success and the success of schools. Parents have a serious responsibility to prepare children for going to school and working hard when they are there. This means being up, being ready and alert. It also means being well nourished and well rested, ready to learn and aware that learning is fun, and achievement is immensely rewarding.

There are many ways you can help your child to get off to a good start. The list is endless. However, here are some things you might like to think about adding to your child’s list of things that they can manage independently. Remember you are still ‘the teacher’ and the person who knows your child better than anyone. All the experiences, support and care you have given your child before they started school has been essential. Please continue!

- Encourage your child to dress him/herself and manage buttons, shoes, and socks – this helps with PE and games.
- Allow them to put on and take off their own coats/jackets and hang them up at school. Show them where their name tags are on their clothing and teach them to check.
- Allow them to take responsibility for taking book bags and notes to the teacher – do not always do it for them. Allow them to label envelopes themselves; they should always try to write their own names on envelopes coming into school.
- Give plenty of help and encourage them to use both a knife and fork at mealtimes. This is important as many children now come into school without this skill.
- Encourage them to try new foods.
- We are a Healthy School. Encourage your child to make healthy choices of food and drink – (absolutely no sweets in school). Water coolers are in school, and we participate in the National School Fruit Scheme whereby children between ages 4 and 6 receive a piece of fruit in school each day. The water keeps children hydrated and benefits concentration and behaviour in school. Milk is also provided.
- Use scissors to cut and glue to stick – these all help with pencil control too.
- Teach your child to go to and manage the toilet independently – wiping their own bottom, flushing the toilet, and washing and drying their hands. If your child has any problems in this area, it is essential that you let us know before they start school.
- Encourage your child to paint, cook, draw, and make models with you. Talk with your child about what has been done and the choices they make – essential for language development, concentration, and dexterity.
- Teach your child nursery and counting rhymes. Sing along with them. 1, 2, 3, 4, 5 once I caught a fish alive etc. Get them to sing them to you and with you. They should know a lot of our common rhymes off by heart by the time they start school.
- Read to your child and share books as often as possible. Point out letters and words and get your child used to talking about what they have heard and answer questions. Who, why, what and where questions are useful in developing children’s understanding.
- Encourage them to tell you the stories they know using their own words. Do not worry if it is the same story repeatedly that they want to hear or read with you.

- Develop their enthusiasm for reading. Encourage your child to hold their pencil correctly when they are writing and drawing. This is important to get right at this stage in their development. Remember Nip...Nip Mr Crab!
- Encourage them to look at name labels on their clothes, drawers, and books so that they can recognise their own name, belongings, and clothing.
- When they write teach them to form numbers and letters correctly.
- Teach them to write their name.
- Teach them to use a capital letter at the beginning of their name. All other letters should be written lower case. Get them to spot the difference. Look at labels, signs all around you.
- Get them to look at the names of other family members. Make a list of them. Can they pick out the different names?
- Allow them to write lists, invitations, cards etc. Do not go for absolute accuracy. Go for enthusiasm and confidence.
- Encourage your child to talk and to ask questions. Remember the best thing you can give a child is the confidence to explore and try new things. They have a lot of time in school in front of them and it is important they have fun as they go.



Wraparound Care



St Peter's Catholic Primary School wraparound care (WC), which incorporates breakfast provision and afterschool provision, aims to support our community and ensure that there is extended provision for those families that need it. Wraparound care is led and managed by a team committed to providing high quality experiences for every child, parent and carer who uses it.

It provides a friendly, caring and safe environment in which children are encouraged to develop social, personal, and recreational skills under the supervision of experienced staff. It is open during term time only, from Monday to Friday between 7.45am until 8.45am and 3:30pm until 5:00pm. WC is situated in our school hall; food is prepared in our technology room and served in the school hall. Children attending WC will take part in a varied programme of activities. The provision exists for pupils of St Peter's Catholic Primary School only.

Session	Charge
7.45am to 8.45am	£4.50
3:30pm to 4:30pm	£4.50
3:30pm to 5:00pm	£6.50
4.30pm to 5.00pm	£2.25

Online Payment System – Arbor

As we have introduced an online payments system, we do not accept cash for wraparound care payments. If you wish for your child to attend wraparound care, you will need to pay for your child's attendance in advance via the Arbor Parent/Carer App against the 'wraparound care clubs' section. We hope that you will find that paying in this way is much more convenient and, from our perspective, it will save us time as well as reduce the chances of money being lost.

