

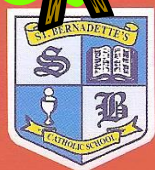
Head teacher: A. Cowings

Email: acowings@stberns.bham.sch.uk

Website: www.stberns.bham.sch.uk



Nursery Curriculum Guide 2017-18



ST. BERNADETTE'S CATHOLIC .J.I. SCHOOL – A LEARNING JOURNEY

Our Mission

At St. Bernadette's Catholic School you will find us caring, hardworking and co-operative. We follow the ways of Jesus using our talents and gifts to make our school special. We show respect to all and welcome you.

This curriculum booklet is designed to give you an insight into the time that your child will spend in Nursery at St Bernadette's School.

We aim to provide a happy and welcoming environment, where your child can develop in confidence, make personal, social and academic progress and work towards becoming an independent learner.

At St Bernadette's we strongly believe that children in the Early Years Foundation Stage learn best through first hand experience and structured play activities.

We hope that you find this curriculum booklet helpful. If you have any comments or queries, please feel free to discuss them with your child's class teacher.

Early Years Foundation Stage

The Early Years Foundation Stage Curriculum contains the following areas:

Prime Areas

- Communication and Language
- Physical Development
- Personal, Social and Emotional Development

Specific Areas

- Literacy (Reading and Writing)
- Mathematics (Number and Shape Space and Measure)
- Understanding the World
- Expressive Arts and Design

Children in Nursery and eventually in Reception work towards 17 Early Learning Goals within these areas of learning and development. These are the knowledge, skills and understanding the children should have gained at the end of the academic year in which they turn five. Children are then assessed at the end of the Foundation Stage as to whether they have achieved, not achieved or exceeded the Early Learning Goals.

Early Learning Goals

Personal, Social and Emotional Development

Making Relationships

Children play co-operatively, taking turns with others. They show sensitivity to others needs and feelings, and form positive relationships with adults and other children.

Self-confidence and self- awareness

Children are confident to try new activities, and say why they like some activities more than others. They are confident to speak in a familiar group, will talk about their ideas and will choose the resources they need for their chosen activity.

Managing Feelings and Behaviour

Children talk about how they and others show feelings, talk about their own and others' behaviour and its consequences, and know that some behaviour is unacceptable. They work in part of a group or class, and understand and follow rules. They adjust their behaviour to different situations and take changes of routine in their stride.

Communication and Language

Listening and Attention

Children listen attentively in a range of situations. They listen to stories, accurately anticipating key events and respond to what they hear with relevant comments, questions and actions. They give their attention to what others say and respond appropriately, while in another activity.

Understanding

Children follow instructions involving several ideas or actions. They answer 'how' and 'why' questions about their experiences and in response to stories or events.

Speaking

Children express themselves effectively, showing awareness of listeners' needs. They use past, present and future forms accurately when talking about events that have happened or are to happen in the future. They develop their own narratives and explanations by connecting ideas or events.

TIP –

- 1) Encourage your child never to interrupt when an adult or another person is speaking.**
- 2) Talk about everything and anything!**

- 3) Talk about the environment around them e.g., what you see on a trip to the shops.**
- 4) Play with your child to develop their language and comprehension.**

Physical Development

Moving and handling

Children show good control and co-ordination in large and small movements. They move confidently in a range of ways, safely negotiating space. They handle equipment and tools effectively, including pencils for writing.

Health and self-care

Children know the importance for good health of physical exercise, and a healthy diet, and talk about ways to keep healthy and safe. They manage their own basic hygiene and personal needs successfully, including dressing and going to the toilet independently.

Literacy

Reading

Children read aloud and understand simple sentences. They use phonic knowledge to decode regular words and read them aloud accurately. They also read some common irregular words. They demonstrate understanding when talking with others about what they have read.

TIP -

- 1) Join in and act out familiar stories with dolls and puppets.**
- 2) Point out print in the environment.**
- 3) Sing songs and rhymes together as often as possible.**
- 4) Encourage your child to read a wide range of books. A variety of reading material can be loaned from your local library.**

Writing

Children use their phonic knowledge to write words in ways which match spoken sounds. They also write some irregular common words. They write simple sentences which can be read by themselves and others. Some words are spelt correctly and others are phonetically plausible.

TIP -

- 1) **Encourage your child to write family cards e.g., birthday, Christmas**
- 2) **Encourage mark-making and colouring pictures**

Mathematics

Number

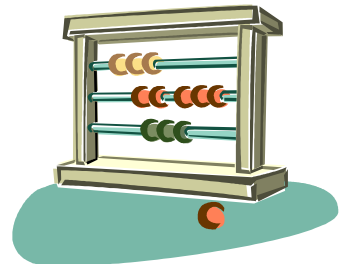
Children count reliably with numbers from one to 20, place them in order and say which number is one more or one less than a given number. Using quantities and objects, they add and subtract two single-digit numbers and count on or back to find the answer. They solve problems, including doubling, halving and sharing.

Shape Space and Measure

Children use everyday language to talk about size, weight, capacity, position, distance, time and money to compare quantities and objects and to solve problems. They recognise, create and describe patterns. They explore characteristics of everyday objects and shapes and use mathematical language to describe them.

TIPS

- 1) **Let your child join in with practical tasks such as measuring milk, weighing sugar or flour.**
- 2) **Guessing games -**
guess how many steps to the bus stop
guess how many Lego bricks in a jar
- 3) **Counting - play games:-**
how many times can you bounce a ball?
how many skips can you do? (in a minute).
snakes and ladders / Ludo / any dice game.



REMEMBER - MATHS IS FUN!

Understanding the World

People and Communities

Children talk about past and present events in their own lives and in the lives of family members. They know that other children don't always enjoy the same things, and are sensitive to this. They know about similarities and differences between themselves and others, and among families, communities and traditions.

The World

Children know about similarities and differences in relation to places, objects, materials and living things. They talk about the features of their own immediate environment and how environments might vary from one another. They make observations of animals and plants and explain why some things occur, and talk about changes.

Technology

Children recognise that a range of technology is used in places such as homes and schools. They select and use technology for particular purposes.

Expressive Arts and Design

Exploring and using media and materials

Children sing songs, make music and dance, and experiment with ways of changing them. They safely use and explore a variety of materials, tools and techniques, experimenting with colour, design, texture, form and function.

Being Imaginative

Children use what they have learnt about media and materials in original ways, thinking about uses and purposes. They represent their own ideas, thoughts and feelings through design and technology, art, music, dance, role play and stories.

R.E.

At St. Bernadette's we follow the scheme of work provided by the Archdiocese of Birmingham, which indicates four areas of learning - The Life of Christ - Revelation - The Church - Celebration.

At all times we remember that teaching children about the Roman Catholic faith can only be done in partnership with the child's parents and we respect the promises parents made at baptism, to nurture their child's faith and support the work of the Catholic Church.

Parents in Partnership -

Ensure you take your child to Mass to celebrate the festivals of Advent, Christmas, Lent and Easter. Please come along to the Foundation Stage family Mass in the Summer Term.

Nursery Prayers

Sign of the Cross	Night Prayer
Morning Prayer	
Grace Before Meals	
Grace After Meals	

(See St Bernadette's Prayer Book for words)

Homework

Once the children have settled into the Nursery routines they will start to bring some extra work home. This will start off with choosing a 'take-home' book to bring home to share. The children will also have an opportunity to bring home a 'Prayer Bag' to share with their family. After the first term, children will get to bring home 'Take Home Ted'. He will come equipped with a backpack, toiletries and a take home book. The children will have the chance to look after Ted and share their daily experiences with him. This will encourage children to look after and be responsible for our Teddy friend and develop a love for writing when communicating in Ted's take home book.

Special Needs

As in any school, there are children at St. Bernadette's who have particular needs that have to be addressed, to make sure they have access to the curriculum. These include children with learning or medical difficulties, physical disabilities, behavioural problems, and also the more able and gifted children.

The school works with outside agencies such as speech therapists, physiotherapists and school support services in close partnership with the parents. Appointments can always be made with the special needs co-ordinator (SENCO), should parents have any concerns about their children.

Topics

The topics covered in Nursery are as follows:

Term	Nursery Topic Areas
Autumn 1	1, 2...I'm 3!
Autumn 2	Star Light, Star Bright
Spring 1	Frosty Fun

Spring 2	Bears
Summer 1	Yum, yum, in my tum!
Summer 2	Real Life Super Heroes

Supporting children at home

Help your child to be independent with their coats and shoes. Teach them how to peel fruit, open drink bottles and sort themselves out in the toilet.

Being able to do these things without an adult is great for their self-esteem and means they are ready for new challenges.

Please encourage children to tell grown-ups when something is bothering them. Often things can be quickly sorted out if we know about them!

At St Bernadette's School we see every child as an individual. As a school we will support your child to work hard, be kind to others and have fun in their learning. We hope that this booklet gives you a flavour of what your child will experience at school this year. Helping your child to achieve well and enjoy learning is a partnership between home and school so remember, if you have any questions please do not hesitate to ask.

