HIGHFIELD ST. MATTHEW'S

C.E. PRIMARY SCHOOL

LET YOUR LIGHT SHINE

OUR PROMISE

A welcoming Christian family where every child is valued, inspired to achieve and encouraged to let their light shine.

SCHOOL PROSPECTUS

Billinge Road, Wigan, WN3 6BL | www.highfieldsaintmatthews.wigan.sch.uk

Welcome to our school

Dear Parent/Carer,

Choosing a school is an important decision for every family. At Highfield St. Matthew's C.E. Primary School, we want every child to feel happy, safe, valued and excited about learning. This prospectus introduces our school, our Christian vision and the opportunities we provide for children to grow and flourish.

We believe that the strongest outcomes are built through a positive partnership between home and school. We value open communication and work closely with families so that each child is supported, encouraged and challenged to become the very best version of themselves.

As a Church of England school, our work is rooted in Christian faith and values. We strive to provide a creative, ambitious and relevant education, where children develop knowledge, confidence, resilience and a lifelong love of learning.

Highfield St. Matthew's is part of the Liverpool Diocesan Schools Trust (LDST). This partnership enables us to work alongside other schools and benefit from shared expertise and excellent practice.

We look forward to welcoming your family and working in partnership with you.

Mrs A Barron
Executive Headteacher

A SCHOOL PARTNERSHIP

Your child's success matters to us. We welcome conversations with parents and carers and are always happy to provide further information.

Our Christian vision

"Let your light shine before others, that they may see your good works, and glorify your Father who is in heaven."

Matthew 5:13

Our vision inspires and challenges the community we serve to achieve excellence in all we do and to experience life in all its fullness, within a welcoming Christian family.

What this means for our children

- Every child feels valued, safe and cared for, and is encouraged to contribute positively to their own development and to the life of our school, with Christ at its centre.
- Our bespoke SHINE curriculum offers rich experiences, high expectations and meaningful challenge, helping children to develop resilience and meet their individual needs.
- Every child is supported to achieve their potential, develop their talents and creativity, and prepare for their role in a global society with a lifelong love of learning.
- Children and families develop an understanding of faith and Christian values that can guide their lives, putting into practice what they are coming to believe and value.
- Our whole-school family flourishes and serves the local Church and community.

Our Christian values

Friendship • Honesty • Compassion • Justice • Forgiveness • Hope

These values help shape the way we learn, care for one another and contribute to our community.

OUR SHARED PURPOSE

We want children to leave Highfield St. Matthew's with strong foundations, a secure sense of belonging and the confidence to let their light shine.

Learning through our SHINE curriculum

Our curriculum is designed around the National Curriculum and shaped through collaboration with our school community. It is ambitious, broad and balanced, and is tailored to meet the needs of our children. Our twelve Christian values and God are at the heart of our school and curriculum.

The SHINE principles

S — Stimulating enquiring minds

We provide rich and relevant experiences, purposeful and connected learning, and opportunities for creative thinking.

H — High expectations and excellence

Subjects are carefully sequenced, with progression in knowledge, vocabulary, concepts and skills so that children know more and remember more.

I — Inclusivity and flexibility

We respond to individual needs, abilities and interests so that all children can participate and succeed.

N — Nurturing lifelong learning behaviours

We develop resilience, sensible risk-taking, independence, perseverance and pride in success.

E — Encompassing the whole child

We nurture faith, values, spirituality, health and well-being, and prepare children to play a positive role in a culturally diverse society where equality and tolerance are promoted.

Reading and the development of rich vocabulary are high priorities across our broad and balanced curriculum. We want children to become confident communicators who can use what they learn in meaningful ways.

Every child belongs

Highfield St. Matthew's is an inclusive school. Our Christian ethos and British Values underpin a welcoming, caring and happy environment in which everyone is valued equally and encouraged to achieve their full potential.

We recognise and celebrate children's individual strengths and successes. We want every pupil to feel that they belong, that their contribution matters and that they can take part fully in school life.

Supporting individual needs

We monitor children's progress and identify when additional support may be helpful. Support is planned according to individual needs and may include:

- Support within the classroom.
- Small-group teaching or activities.
- Individual support where appropriate.

We work closely with parents and carers to understand children's needs and to plan support together. Our aim is to help every child access learning, make progress and enjoy a positive experience of school.

A PLACE FOR EVERYONE

We celebrate difference, promote respect and work in partnership with families so that children feel understood, included and able to flourish.

A place to learn, explore and belong

Our extensive school grounds provide valuable opportunities to extend learning beyond the classroom. We make use of both indoor and outdoor spaces to enrich children's experiences throughout the year.

Our facilities include:

- Our on-site Forest School
- A large school field.
- A sensory garden and landscaped outdoor areas.
- A multi-use games area (MUGA).
- Climbing frames and a trim trail.
- An outdoor gym and artificial turf areas.
- A dedicated annexe which is home to Trinity, our before- and after-school childcare provision.

Working with our community

We embrace and celebrate our local community. Working in partnership with families and community organisations helps us provide the best possible education for our children. Enrichment includes visits to museums, galleries and places of worship, as well as welcoming visitors into school.

We are proud of our partnership with St. Matthew's Church and the Wigan West Hub and community. Visiting clergy lead weekly worship in school, strengthening our Christian identity and our sense of belonging.

Working in partnership with families

We believe that children thrive when school and home work together. We encourage parents and carers to maintain open communication with us and to share information that will help us support their child.

We use a range of communication systems to keep families informed, including our school app, website, text messaging service and online payments system. These channels help us share news, updates and important information.

Each term, parents and carers are invited to meet with their child's class teacher to discuss attainment, progress, achievements and well-being.

Enrichment beyond the classroom

Children have opportunities to take part in a range of extra-curricular activities, organised by school staff and external providers at lunchtimes and after school. Educational visits and residential experiences also form part of learning beyond the classroom and help bring the curriculum to life.

Trinity childcare

Trinity is our established before- and after-school childcare provision, based in the school annexe. It supports families who need childcare beyond the main school day. Please contact the school for current arrangements and further details.

Ready, Respectful and Safe

OUR SCHOOL EXPECTATIONS

READY • RESPECTFUL • SAFE

Good behaviour supports effective learning and helps everyone feel secure. Our school rules — Ready, Respectful and Safe — were devised with the involvement of our children and set out the expectations we share as a school community.

- Ready: arrive on time, be prepared and make the most of every learning opportunity.
- Respectful: treat others with kindness, listen carefully and value the people around you.
- Safe: make choices that keep yourself and others safe.

We have a school uniform policy and expect all children to follow it. We also value punctuality, so that children can begin the day calmly and be ready to learn.

We believe homework makes a positive contribution to children's learning journey and is an integral part of their work at school. These shared expectations help create the conditions in which every child can flourish and achieve their potential.

Joining our school

Highfield St. Matthew's C.E. Primary School is a two-form-entry Voluntary Aided School, providing education for approximately 430 children aged 3 to 11.

Children may be admitted to Nursery from the age of three and to Reception from the age of four, subject to the admissions criteria agreed by the Governing Body.

Applying for a place

The full admissions criteria and information about applying for a place are available on our school website. For mid-year admissions, applications should be made through the Wigan School Placements Team.

Wigan School Placements Team: 01942 489013

Useful links

Wigan Council — School admissions
https://www.wigan.gov.uk/Resident/Education/Schools/School-Admissions/School-Admissions.aspx

WE WOULD LOVE TO HEAR FROM YOU

If you would like to find out more about our school, please get in touch. We welcome enquiries from prospective families.

Contact us

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