

St. John's Stonefold Church of England Primary School



School Prospectus 2024-2025

Welcome to St. John's Stonefold Church of England Primary School

Contents:

- The School Mission Statement
- Headteacher's Welcome
- A Brief History of the School
- Structure of the School
- The Governing Body
- The School Buildings and Premises
- Outstanding Worship
- The School Day
- Extra Curricular Activities and Clubs
- Rewards and Sanctions in School
- School Uniform
- A Journey through Our Church School
- The Early Years Foundation Stage (EYFS)
- Key Stage 1 and 2
- Mixed Age Classes
- The Curriculum
- School Trips and Visitors
- First Aid
- Child Protection and Safeguarding
- Communication: Newsletter, Texting, School Money and Website
- Homework Policy
- Parental Concerns
- The Friends of Stonefold School (FOSS)
- Special Educational Needs and Disabilities (SEND)
- Breakfast and After School Club
- Reporting to Governors and Parents

Our Vision

*Our Vision is to live and grow together as a loving church school family,
who celebrate our another's individuality.*

Built upon our shared Christian values,

*St John's provides our children with bespoke and innovative
teaching of the curriculum, empowering them to flourish with the
knowledge and skills for life.*

From our vision:

We inspire our children to have uncompromising aspirations and to thrive and succeed.

Our five key Christian values underpin everything we do at Stonefold:

E A G L E

Empathy – Aspiration – Generosity – Love – Endurance

***Rooted and Established in God's Love: Nuture, Love, Grow, Fly
(Ephesians 3:17)***

Welcome to St John's Stonefold



On behalf of the whole community of St John's Stonefold, may I welcome you to our wonderful school. We are proud to be a small, Church of England school with a welcoming atmosphere, where the children are at the heart of everything we do. Our school is a vibrant, positive place that provides a safe and enjoyable learning environment in which to learn, and I trust that your child will have an unforgettable experience in his/her time with us.

We are very blessed to have such a talented and hardworking staff who provide an outstanding quality of care and education, encouraging all our children to aspire to, and achieve excellent results and I am confident that your child will make great progress in their time here.

At our school, we aim to create first-class partnerships with parents and carers, governors, the church and local community and, as such we feel proud that you have chosen us for this unique stage of your child's development.

A Brief History of the School

St. John's Stonefold Church of England Primary School is one of the few original 'Victorian village' schools remaining in the Rossendale and Accrington regions, having been built in 1894. The school originally served the farming and industrial communities of Stonefold village and Rising Bridge. As the area developed with more housing there was a need for expansion, and in 2003 an extension was added to the school, incorporating new offices and two new junior classrooms. The original St. John's Church at Stonefold closed several years ago, and is now a private residence. The school has continued to develop its strong worship links with the church of St James in Haslingden, with several members of the Governing body also being associated with the church.

Moving into the 21st century, the school has seen significant changes, while still retaining its Victorian character. The hall has been fully modernised and a brand new Early Years foundation stage classroom and outdoor play area have been put into place. The school has worked with local developers to enhance the already fine outdoor facilities and build an attractive wildlife area. Parental and community links are very strong, and there is a strong Christian family ethos – as well as a sense that exciting times are ahead for the school. We very much welcome you to be part of it.

Structure of the School

This is a smaller than average primary school with 116 children on roll. The five classes are mixed-age, though it must be stressed that children are taught to their own individual abilities rather than their age.

Staffing for 2024/25

Headteacher: Mr Paul Burns

Deputy Headteacher & SENCO: Miss Katie Isherwood

School Office: Mrs Juliet Wilkinson

Eaglets Class : (Early Years Foundation Stage & Year 1) Mrs Burrow

Avocet Class : (Years 1 and 2) Miss Lamb

Goldcrest Class : (Years 2 and 3) Miss Isherwood and Miss Dunn

Lapwing Class : (Years 4 and 5) Miss Whiteford

Eagle Class : (Year 5 and 6) Mrs Gray

Teaching Assistants:

Mrs L McGrath Miss S Jackson Miss H Stead Mrs Kearsley Mrs Campbell
Mrs K Brotherton

Breakfast and After School Club staff:

Mrs Ann Hodgkinson Mrs Lynda Coyle

Site Supervisor: Miss L Farey

School Cook: Mrs Val Carroll

Kitchen Staff: Mrs Rubi Choudhury & Miss Natalie Haworth

Welfare Assistants: Mrs E Walton Miss F Alexander

The Governing Board

Mrs S Adams (Chair)

Mrs M Charnley (Vice Chair)

Mrs P Staines

Mr G Taylor

Mr Paul Burns (Headteacher)

Mrs S Rogers

Miss H Whiteford

Mrs L Brooke

Mrs Julie Humphries

Mrs Jill Lang

Mr Karl Dixon

The Governing Body works closely with the Headteacher to ensure the school runs smoothly, efficiently and provides the best value for money.

Governors come from all walks of life: many are linked with St. James's Church, while others have backgrounds in education.

The Governing body meets formally once each term, and the various committees meet prior to these meetings to look at school data, spending, staffing and the implementation of the school development plan.

The School Buildings and Premises

The school is of traditional design with the central hall being the hub of the school. This area is used for collective worship, PE, music and drama lessons, as well as for both the breakfast and after school clubs. Lunch is served in the hall from 12.00 to 1:00 pm, with the children having two sittings, one for each key stage.

Each of the five classrooms contains an interactive whiteboard and computers, with the Early Years foundation stage having direct access to a canopied outdoor classroom. Each room contains interactive displays and a prayer area for the children.

As the school now uses laptops and Ipads, the former computer suite was split (2016) into a Special Needs Support Room and an Administration Room known as the Prayer room.

Outside provision includes the foundation stage outdoor classroom, a large enclosed playground for the whole school, and extensive grounds including garden areas, a marked football pitch and a specially designed wildlife area for scientific study.



Worship

Worship plays a key role in the life of the school, and our aim is for it to be inclusive for all faiths or none, fun and informative, allowing children to reflect on what they have experienced. Worship takes place each day. Father Simon Lloyd leads worship on many Wednesdays during the school year and also leads the end of term services. Worship on Fridays takes place at 9:00 am and is open to parents and the wider community. This is a celebration of



the great work in school and our children's achievements outside of school.

Worship is extended through 'Friday Church' services held monthly at St. James' Parish Church, Haslingden, about a mile from the school, beginning at 7.00 p.m. All parents and children are invited to attend and the services are fun and informal. There are usually musical contributions both from the choir and instrumentalists.

During the Diocesan inspection of Anglican schools in 2011, St. John's was recognised as '**outstanding**' in the way worship affects the day to day lives of children in school, and their relationships with each other. This was followed by a SIAMS inspection in March 2024 where school received another successful report and all aspects of provision as a church school were praised. Copies of the inspection report are available on the school's website.

The School Day

School can begin as early as 7.45 am for those children who are members of the breakfast club. The club is a good chance to unwind before the school day and have breakfast in a calm yet stimulating setting.

The school opens at 8.45 am and children go straight to their classroom before registration to read, reflect on work from the day before or complete a range of tasks to prepare them for the day.

The 'formal' day begins with registration after which the children join in the collective worship.

Lessons begin at 8.50 am. At morning break time children in Early Years and key stage 1 have a snack (fruit).

Break-times are staggered: 10.15 -10.30am for EYFS and Key Stage 1
 10.45-11.00am for Key Stage 2.

At lunchtime the children have a choice of a school lunch (£2.60 per day or £13.00 per week) or a packed lunch. The menu is varied and there is always a choice of fresh fruit and vegetables. Lunch is served in two sittings.

Afternoon sessions begin at 1:00pm.

School ends at 3.20pm, though some children attend the After School Club in the hall (3.20pm – 5.45pm) or are involved in extra curricular activities and clubs. There is always something exciting on offer.



Extra Curricular Activities and Clubs

St. John's Stonefold CE Primary School has enthusiastic staff who are always prepared to share their interests with the children. The following clubs have recently been on offer to the pupils:

- ECO
- Lego Club
- Art Club
- iPad Club
- Sporting clubs such as Dance, Handball, Dodgeball and Multiskills.

Details of each are usually sent out at an early stage of the autumn term.

Behaviour in School

As members of a Christian school here at St. John's Stonefold CE Primary School, we expect our children to demonstrate high standards of behaviour at all times, while retaining their individual personalities and showing an eager attitude towards all aspects of their learning. We believe childhood to be a time where children should see the awe and wonder that learning provides, making strong friendships, engaging with a range of cultures, keeping physically and emotionally healthy and developing into caring, interesting young people. We believe this has the best chance of happening with strong foundations of behaviour firmly based on Christian morals and values. The school EAGLE values (Empathy, Aspiration, Generosity, Love, Endurance) underpin this.

The Role of Worship in a Christian School

As a Christian school, we believe daily worship to be fundamental in developing positive behaviour. The school follows a structured scheme of worship on a daily basis, with links to a monthly church service at St. James's Church, Haslingden. Worship can be delivered by all members of staff, emphasising the importance of the school community as a collective Christian family. From our annual evaluation of worship – the children have shown that their behaviour is influenced positively in the following ways:

- ☞ By teaching morals and values such as honesty, the need to share, being content, emotional rather than material happiness.
- ☞ By teaching tolerance and celebration regarding other religions and faiths.

- ⊕ By allowing reflection time for the children to think about their own behaviour and how they treat others.
- ⊕ By emphasising the messages of the Ten Commandments.

We also have a prayer area in school where children can quietly reflect on events in their own lives. Staff are always available to speak to children about personal issues and staff are clear as to when these need to be passed on to the **Designated Safeguarding Lead, (Mr Burns) and Deputy DSL (Miss Isherwood)**.

Restorative Practice Approach

Our job is to teach the **PUPILS** we have,
NOT those we would like to have,
NOT those we used to have,
But those we have right now
ALL of them

At St. John's Stonefold Primary School, we have high expectations of our pupils. We encourage all children to try their best to achieve their goals. They should understand that it is the responsibility of staff and pupils to uphold and maintain our school rules. For occasions when this is proving not to be the case, we use restorative approaches as outlined in our behaviour charter to help pupils understand the impact of their actions and how to put it right. We believe that by using this Restorative Approach, we are giving pupils the skills to independently make better and more informed choices in the future.

At St. John's Stonefold Primary School, we have high expectations of our pupils. We encourage all children to try their best to achieve their goals. They should understand that it is the responsibility of staff and pupils to uphold and maintain our school behaviour charter and values. For occasions when this is proving not to be the case, we use restorative approaches as to help pupils understand the impact of their actions and how to put it right.

We believe that by using this **Restorative Approach** we are giving pupils the skills to independently make better and more informed choices in the future. **Restorative approaches** encourage pupils to think about how their behaviour affects others, both pupils and staff. It helps children to develop respect, responsibility and truth telling. If a pupil in our school has been negatively affected by someone's behaviour, we will try our very best to make sure they feel that it has been put right for them and that it will not happen again.

If a child has done something wrong, they will be asked to put things right and change their behaviour, so it does not happen again.

Bullying

- One key message we give to all children at Stonefold is 'If you ever feel unhappy or upset in any way, please talk to a grown-up.' In the vast majority of cases this is effective. However, on the rare occasions when bullying is seen to be in evidence, the following steps are taken:
- The incident is logged via CPOMs and an interview arranged with the child's parents.
- The concerned parent is kept informed of procedures and actions by telephone.
- Programmes of support are put into place for the children concerned.

School Uniform

Uniform is compulsory at St. John's Stonefold.



From September 2024 - School introduced a **white short sleeved shirt and a tie and v-necked jumper with school logo**. Girls are also able to wear a cardigan with school logo.

From September 2025, a white t-shirt (with our without school logo) will be worn for PE with black shorts and black PE pumps.



The **school elasticated or clip on tie and v-necked with school logo** will be available from our usual suppliers, Abbey Street in Accrington and Whittakers at Oswaldtwistle Mills and Blackburn.



jumper
uniform

Girls may wear skirts (grey or tartan) or pupils may wear grey or black trousers. Black shoes should be worn at all times. **Training shoes and similar footwear are not permitted.**

Pupils with long hair should wear their hair tied up at all times. Small plain studs may be worn on the ears but should be removed on P.E. days otherwise your child will not be permitted to take part. No other jewellery is allowed.

If uniform rules are not adhered to regularly, then parents will be made aware that this is part of the home/school agreement.

P.E. kit should consist of white t-shirt, black or navy shorts, and black pumps. Black jogging bottoms can also be worn. All school uniform is available from the Abbey Street Shopping Centre in Accrington.

A Journey Through Our Church School

The Early Years Foundation Stage (EYFS)



Children enter the Early Years at 4 or 5 years old. We currently have an **intake number of 20 pupils**. Children who receive a place usually follow a gradual induction process. A special 'Induction evening' is held for parents in June. Individual home and nursery visits are arranged to allow the staff working within the EYFS to gain a great understanding of the children's needs prior to them starting at St John's Stonefold. There are two 'drop in' sessions for the child and their parent and a further short session where the pupils stay in school for a short period to integrate with the other children in their class. In September, all children start in class full time from the first day.



Since the 2011 OFSTED inspection, the Early Years classroom has been completely restructured and refurbished, and a 'key person' approach is used by all the practitioners to allow for effective observation, management and assessment. Much assessment is undertaken through observation and discussion with children, this will be under the new EYFS framework 2021.

The teaching of **phonics** is paramount to work in the Early Years and Key Stage One and parents can play a big part by reinforcing these skills at home. Staff are always available for support and guidance.

Key Stage 1

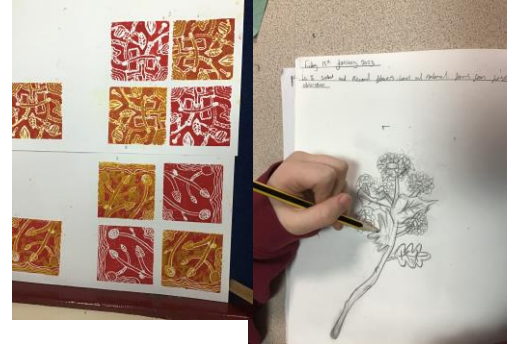
Traditionally known as the 'Infants' to most of us, this consists of Years 1 and 2, when children are between 5 and 7 years old. Children are expected to move through the age-related expectations of the National Curriculum so that a child leaving Year 2 would typically be working at Year 2 secure.

In Key stage 1, there becomes gradually less emphasis on play and more focus on formalised learning, though play does still figure importantly, especially in Year 1. At the end of Year 1 the pupils undertake a Phonic Screening Check. At the end of the Key Stage 1, our school has opted for the children in Year 2 take 'Standard Attainment Tests.'

Key Stage 2



Children in Key Stage 2, or the 'juniors' are aged between 7 and 11. During these 4 years, they are expected to make 12 terms of progress through the age related expectations of the National Curriculum, e.g. Year 2 secure to Year 6 secure.



The most important assessment of child progress is through an ongoing teacher assessment where teaching staff observe, discuss, mark and

gather evidence against given criteria in order to make a final judgement. Tests are really a reinforcement of this process. In Year 4, all children will take part in the multiplication tables check (MTC) with the most important assessment being the Standard Attainment Tests (SATs) at the end of year 6 – still used as the overall judgement of Primary school effectiveness.



Mixed Age Classes

Eaglets Class consists of all the pupils within the EYFS and a small group of Year 1 pupils. Avocet Class contains most the year 1 children and Year 2 children. Year 2 and year 3 pupils form Goldcrest Class. Lapwing Class is a mixed year 4 and 5 class and Eagle Class this year is Year 5 and 6.

It is important to remember that children are always taught according to ability, rather than specific age, so with correct planning, mixed age classes are not at any disadvantage.

The Curriculum

Following the introduction of the new National Curriculum in 2014, the school have developed their own programme for delivering it, considering the needs of the pupils and the strengths of individual staff members. The curriculum is split into half termly 'themes' and taught over a three-year rolling cycle. The curriculum is therefore unique to the school in terms of its content, and is proving to be successful, creative and inspiring to the children. An audit of the curriculum carried out in the summer term 2019 by all stakeholders including Teachers, Teaching Assistants, Pupils, Parents and Governors ensures that the curriculum we provide best meets the needs of our pupils.

School Trips and Visitors

At St. John's Stonefold we try as often as possible to enhance the curriculum through visits to such places as Manchester



Museum, Eden Camp Thematic museum and The Chester Dewa Experience. Miss H Whiteford is our Educational Visits Co-ordinator and works closely with the school Governing Board and the Headteacher to ensure that rigorous risk assessments are put into place.



The Year 6 children enjoy a residential trip to a local outdoor Educational centre, offering rock climbing, abseiling, caving, canoeing and other great pursuits. This is a last time for them to have fun together as a group before they move onto different schools and is a great character-building exercise.



Recent visits have included the Cuerden Valley Park, Blackpool Zoo, Brockholes Nature Reserve and Fireground the Fire Station Museum. We also have visits from a local Birds of Prey Charity, small animals and we have had a Cultural Diversity Day with Art and Dancing.

We usually ask for a contribution towards the cost of school trips. Most outings cost around £15 and we try to keep as close to this amount as possible. All coaches have seatbelts, children wear labels with the school telephone number contacts provided, and all necessary medication is carried by the visit leader.



First Aid and Medication

If your child needs to take prescribed medication, then a form giving permission and details of dose etc must be filled in at the school office, otherwise medicine cannot be administered. All asthma inhaler medications are kept in class with your child so it's available to use and parents need to complete a care plan that is reviewed annually. All other medications are kept secure in the main office until they are needed.

Due to current regulations, school cannot administer any medication that's been bought over the counter for example calpol/cough medications and parents would need to arrange to come to school to administer this. Children are also not allowed to bring cough sweets, throat lozenges to school with them.

Teachers and staff are First-Aid trained.

Occasionally accidents happen in the playground. If your child bangs his/her head, then a 'bumped head' letter will be sent home to give you a warning of the injury and to watch for possible symptoms of change. A message will also be sent to parents.

If we are in any doubt as to the immediate safety of your child following an injury, we will have no hesitation in ringing for an ambulance and ensuring your child is taken to hospital immediately, after which we will contact you by telephone. A member of staff will always accompany your child to hospital.

Child Protection and Safeguarding

The Headteacher, Mr Burns, is responsible for Child Protection issues in school and is known as the DSL (Designated Senior Lead). Miss Isherwood is the backup DSL. All records and incidents are recorded via CPOMS. If you have any concerns as to the welfare of children in school, then they should be reported to a DSL in confidence.

The school has taken extra measures to make the premises as safe as possible. All gates are locked after 9 am and all visitors must sign in to the register at reception and wear a Visitors Badge. Any adults working with children must have clearance from the Disclosures and Disbarring Service (DBS) before they can work in school. This includes supply teachers covering for staff absence, and student visitors.

'Arrangements for safeguarding ensure thorough vetting of all staff appointments, regular risk assessments of the school premises and up-to-date training for designated staff such as the child protection leader.' (Her Majesty's Inspector, 2011)

GDPR

The General Data Protection Regulations (GDPR) came into effect on 25th May 2018. It raised standards for handling data and greater expectations for improved transparency, enhanced data security and increased accountability for processing personal data. Schools will have a legal duty to comply with the GDPR. The new GDPR (General Data Protection Regulation) replaced the Data Protection Act (DPA) to strengthen and unify all data held within an organisation. For schools, GDPR brings a new responsibility to inform parents and stakeholders about how they are using pupils' data and who it is being used by.

What does GDPR mean for schools?

A great deal of the processing of personal data undertaken by schools falls under a specific legal basis, 'in the public interest'. As it is in the public interest to operate schools successfully, it will mean that specific consent will not be needed in the majority of cases in schools.

GDPR ensures data is protected and gives individuals more control over their data; however, this means schools have greater accountability for the data:

Under GDPR, consent must be explicitly given to anything that isn't within the normal business of the school, especially if it involves a third party managing the data. Parents (or the pupil themselves depending on their age) must express consent for their child's data to be used outside of the normal business of the school.

Schools must appoint a Data Protection Officer and be able to prove that they are GDPR compliant. Schools must ensure that their third-party suppliers who may process any of their data are GDPR compliant. It is compulsory that all data breaches which are likely to have a detrimental effect on the data subject are reported to the ICO within 72 hours.

Further information can be found at the ICO (Information Commissioner's Office) website.

Communication: Newsletter, ParentApp, Class Dojo, Facebook School Money and our Website

The school produces a weekly newsletter, detailing upcoming events and describing the latest news and adventures from the school. These are distributed on Fridays via email. The newsletter is also available on the school website.

The school website www.stonefold.lancs.sch.uk contains a wealth of information about the school, including information on the staff, photographs of events, and latest news from your child's class.

We use a communications system called ParentApp which is used to text and email parents. Class Dojo is also used to communicate with parents and share school news. School has a Facebook Page which again, shares photos of the work we do in school and upcoming events. We also use a system called School Money/Eduspot where parents can log on and pay for school dinners and breakfast and after school club sessions.

Home Learning

All children in school are given homework regularly. This is a fine way to practice and reinforce skills delivered during the school day, and evidence shows that pupils, who regularly complete homework, with their parents supervising, achieve stronger results overall.

Parental Concerns

If you need to speak to a member of staff, could we please ask that you ring school and make an appointment. The most difficult time for teachers to meet parents is first thing in the morning, as staff are usually very busy preparing lessons. Staff are very flexible and will make prompt appointments in order to address your concerns.

The Stonefold PTA (FOSS)

The new PTA group was formed in 2015 to encourage parental and community involvement in the school. The group meets regularly in the evenings, and in recent years, they have raised money for coach costings on school trips, library shelving, picnic benches, a PA system for assemblies, as well as computer software and books.

The Friends organise events such as discos, family fun nights, Christmas and summer fayres, coffee evenings and sponsored walks. New members are always welcome.

Chair of PTA: Mrs Pamela Foster

Secretary: Mrs Gemma Atkins

Treasurer: Mrs Marjorie Charnley

Member: Mrs Ahsia Ghani

Special Educational Needs and Disabilities

We are an inclusive school who strive to provide the best opportunities for all of our pupils. SEND is a complex area to manage and staff regularly monitor the progression of all children, both academically and socially, with any concerns being passed on to Mr Burns our Special Educational Needs and Disabilities Co-ordinator (SENDCo) Miss Isherwood. Children with Special Needs are provided with an Individual Education Plan (IEP) on a half-termly basis, consisting of small, manageable targets. Parents are involved in writing the plan. Any further information can be obtained through appointment with the SENDCo.

Breakfast and After School Club



The club is run by school in our hall and caters for all children 7.45 – 8.45 am, and 3.20 – 5.40 pm. Children take part in a range of activities and are given breakfast and a healthy snack in the afternoons. Mrs Ann Hodgkinson and Mrs Lynda Coyle will look after your children. Booking and payment for places is done, in advance, using EDUSPOT/SCHOOL MONEY.



What They Said About Our School

'Leaders have high expectations of pupils' behaviour. Pupils value the recognition that they get from staff when they behave well and work hard. Pupils behave well across the school.'

OFSTED, December 2022.

'St John's Stonefold's deep-rooted Christian vision, based on love, is at the heart of this impressive small school'

**STATUTORY INSPECTION OF ANGLICAN AND METHODIST SCHOOLS REPORT
MARCH 2024.**

"The best thing about our school is all the opportunities and activities that the teachers give you."- Daphne

"People appreciate everyone's hard work and you make lots of friends"- Connor

"It is fabulous because we do awesome lessons and we find out about Jesus and God. We know that they love and care for us." Amber

"We share times with our friends and I like the lunchtime clubs"- Lily-Mae

"The best thing about my school is having the best teachers and best equipment for playtime"- Joe D

"The teachers, the children, the whole school. I love being at school because there is always something to tell my parents about the school" – Lucy B

"That is helps us learn no matter what. I really like the school as it has helped me learn my favourite subjects and helped me to become an overall better person" – Dylan T

**St. Johns Stonefold CE Primary School
Rising Bridge Road
Accrington
Lancashire
BB5 2SW**

**Telephone: 01706 216706
School office: office@sjstonefold.com
Website: www.stonefold.lancs.sch.uk**