



# English Martyrs' Catholic Primary School



# Dear Parents and Carers,

Welcome to English Martyrs' Catholic Primary School. I would like to thank you for showing interest in our School.

At English Martyrs', we believe that life is a gift from God and should be nurtured, encouraged and enabled to grow. The academic, physical and spiritual standards that we set are high, we have high expectations in all that we do because we believe that each child is worth the best we can offer and has the right to be the best, because they are our future!

We are privileged to share with you, for a time, your child and we look forward to working in partnership with you for the best possible outcomes for your child whilst they learn with us.

At English Martyrs', we firmly believe that the best schools where children thrive are those with solid, close links with parents and carers and at English Martyrs', we pride ourselves on our family orientated atmosphere and ethos, where we work together.

English Martyrs' is a happy, vibrant and successful school where everyone is treated with respect, love, tolerance, understanding and care, following the Gospel Values based on our Christian principles. Our Mission Statement is the basis for everything: '...Our children are all unique, beautiful individuals but together we are a masterpiece, brothers and sisters in Christ...'

This booklet will give you a flavour of the life in this school, but if you have any further questions please do not hesitate to ask.

We look forward to welcoming you, working with you and sharing your child's learning journey with you for many happy years in the English Martyrs' family.

Annalisa Howarth  
Headteacher

## Mission Statement

Our children are all unique, beautiful individuals but together we are a masterpiece, brothers and sisters in Christ.

As witnesses of Christ, working together as a Team, we strive to promote the Gospel Values and Teachings of Jesus by providing a caring, stimulating environment, with nurture, trust, love and tolerance through our spirituality, learning and play. By making connections with Jesus, we promote high ambitions and confidence to achieve our goals.

English Martyrs' Catholic Primary School aims to work together with the parents in providing a friendly, caring, stimulating environment in which the children are encouraged to reach their full potential. In the early years we aim to concentrate on developing the basic skills in reading, writing, speaking, listening, number, science and information technology while providing a broad and balanced curriculum.

As the children progress, their learning needs will change. We will help the children to consolidate and become more proficient in the above subjects while developing the knowledge, skills and understanding of the other curriculum areas. Each child will have their own educational needs assessed and developed individually in small groups or in large groups where it is felt most appropriate. The children will also be encouraged to become more independent learners.



# Values and Ethos of English Martyrs' Catholic Primary School

At English Martyrs' Catholic Primary School we strive to be a caring, sharing and friendly school by treating every stakeholder as equals regardless of creed, background or social standing.

At English Martyrs' Catholic Primary School we aim...

- ...to have Christ at the centre of English Martyrs' Catholic Primary School family and all that we do.
- ...to establish close links between home, school and parish to provide the best for all the children.
- ...to treat every individual child as a unique and valued member of God's family, so that respect for each other is centred on the Gospel values of justice, peace and forgiveness.
- ...to develop the talents of all pupils and prepare them for the changes, responsibilities and challenges of life.
- ... to ensure that every child matters and is encouraged to reach their full potential notwithstanding their individual economic circumstances

At English Martyrs' Catholic Primary School we aim to provide an education which enables all children to reach their full potential through a broad, balanced and inclusive curriculum for all. We aim to do this...

- ...by planning and delivering an exciting and enriching curriculum including extra-curricular activities to ensure there is provision of a rich variety of learning opportunities.
- ...by providing work for the individual child with appropriate challenge and differentiation to meet the needs of all.
- ...by using assessment, marking and feedback to inform, develop and enhance future teaching and learning, tracking individual progress so that each and every child can reach their full potential.
- ...by providing professional development opportunities for all staff to develop.
- ...by having high expectations in all we do.

At English Martyrs' Catholic Primary School we aim to nurture a sense of belonging...

- ...by developing our responsibilities as citizens in the local, national and global community.
- ...by giving children opportunities to develop understanding and tolerance of all faiths, creeds and cultures including their own.
- ...by developing positive links between all stakeholders including the wider community.
- ...by working with parents in their role as first educators.

## What OFSTED said

"Parents speak highly of the school. They typically comment on the sense that the school is one large family. Pupils behave sensibly and treat one another with respect."

OfSTED December 2017

## School Uniform at English Martyrs'

### Winter - Girls

Grey skirt/pinafore dress or grey/black trousers  
White Polo Shirt/White Blouse  
White socks  
School sweatshirt or red jumper/cardigan  
Flat Dark shoes

### Winter - Boys

Grey trousers  
White Polo Shirt  
Grey socks  
School sweatshirt or red jumper  
Flat Dark shoes

### Summer (optional alternative)

Girls  
Red Gingham dress

### Boys and Girls

Short sleeved white shirt/blouse  
Sandals

The above items may be obtained from any one of a large number of High Street stores. The school Sweatshirt with the Logo is available from Smart Clothing and Bang Bang.

Extreme hairstyles are not allowed. Children can wear earrings, however, we do ask for small studs only which need to be removed by the child for PE and swimming.

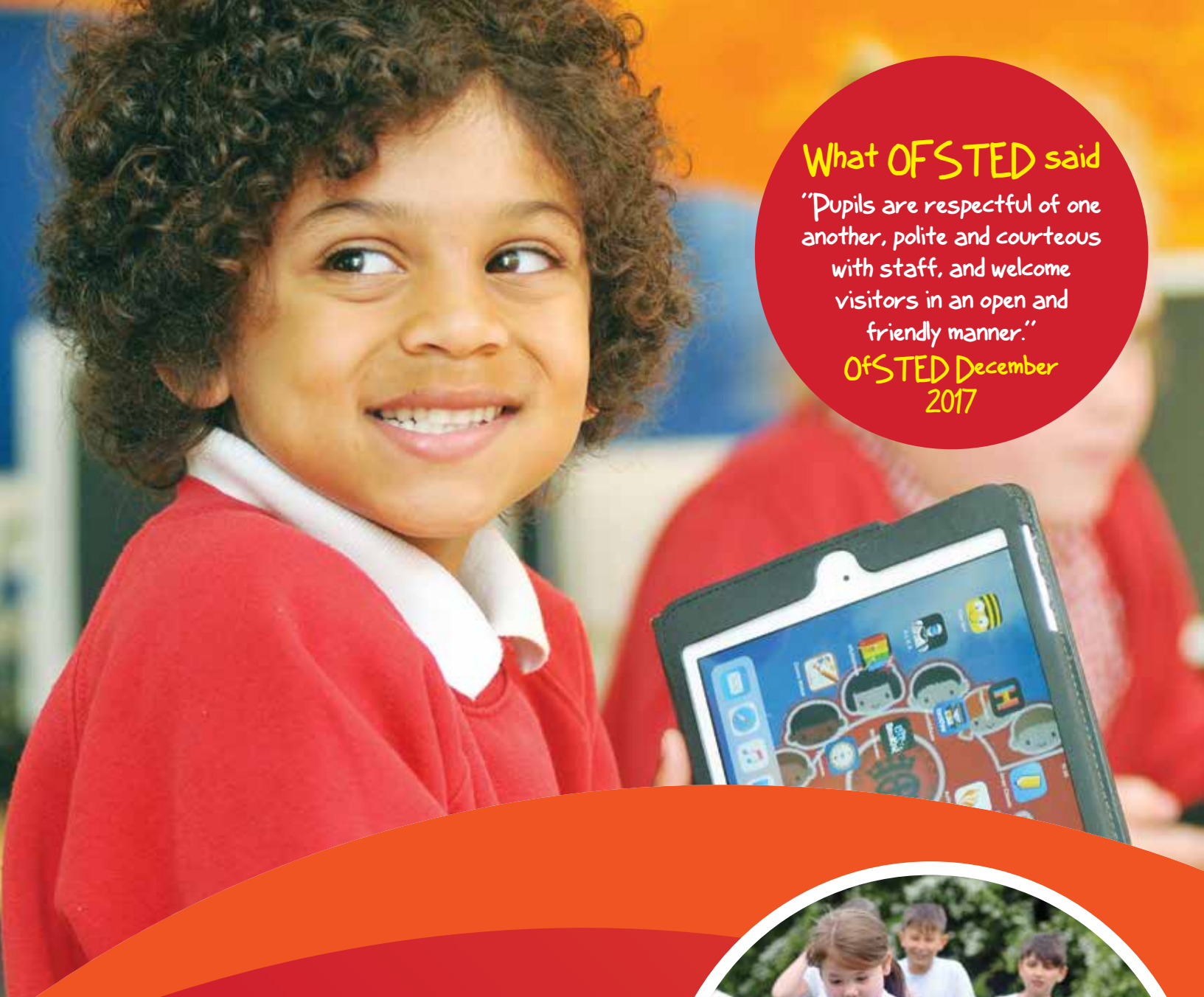
## What OFSTED said

"The new leadership team has taken effective action to accelerate pupils' progress in reading, writing and mathematics. Standards are improving rapidly in these subjects."

OfSTED December 2017







## What OFSTED said

"Pupils are respectful of one another, polite and courteous with staff, and welcome visitors in an open and friendly manner."

OfSTED December 2017

## P.E. Kit at English Martyrs'

Each child should have a pump bag, black shorts and white t-shirt for indoor activities.

Pumps or trainers are required for outdoor games.

Older children should have a pair of football boots for football sessions, if needed.

Swimming: older children - trunks/swimming costume and towel.

All items of clothing should be clearly marked with the child's name.

## Complaints at English Martyrs'

Parents who wish to raise matters of concern may make use of the agreed procedures through the Governors and Local Authority. Where difficulties occur parents should first approach the Headteacher directly, a brief phone call first will secure an appointment time.

## Clubs and Activities at English Martyrs'

Each year, staff organise a number of clubs and activities for children to become involved in. Clubs vary from year to year and some may not continue for the full year or may be limited to older children. The list of clubs is regularly updated on the school website.





# Road Safety at English Martyrs'

Road safety education is a learning process that involves developing a range of skills and knowledge that will enable children to become aware of, and competent in, the traffic environment. The school will support the development of positive attitudes towards road usage. Efforts will be made to work in partnership with parents in order to further encourage safe practices on or near the road through the provision of relevant publicity materials and information.

There may be an opportunity for Year 6 pupils to take part in preparation for cycling proficiency.

# Parents and Carers at English Martyrs'

We regard education as a partnership between school and home. On a formal level we hold Parents' Evenings in the Autumn and Spring terms and provide a written report in the Summer term with termly interim reports at Christmas and Easter showing your child's attainment.

On an informal level you are welcome to visit the school at any time. A phone call before a visit will ensure that there is someone free to see you, but please do come and see the Class teacher, Key Stage Lead, Deputy Headteacher, Assistant Headteacher or Headteacher if you have any worries about your child.

We have a flourishing 'Friends of English Martyrs' Association'. All parents and friends are invited and encouraged to participate fully in the association. Some of the events organised by the Friends of English Martyrs' include family fun days, Bingo, Discos, Summer Fayres, and Christmas Present Room.

# Online @ English Martyrs'

At English Martyrs', we embrace new technologies.

We have a fantastic school website which is regularly updated with news, photos, policies, information about school and about the learning and fabulous activities taking place.  
[www.englishmartyrs.lancs.sch.uk](http://www.englishmartyrs.lancs.sch.uk)

We also have our own Twitter and Instagram accounts. These are updated, monitored and run by school staff.

We ask parents and carers to notify school if they do not wish their child to be on any of our online platforms. Children are never directly named to their photographs.

In embracing new digital technologies, we are aware of the issues and concerns that can arise with it, therefore, we continuously work with children and parents and carers to keep children aware of Online Safety. Further information can be found on our school website.

**What OFSTED said**  
"Pupils swiftly gain confidence as learners in the school's warm and stimulating classrooms."  
**OfSTED December 2017**





# Organisation of English Martyrs'

Children throughout the school are divided into classes according to age and are taught mainly by one teacher in mixed ability groups. There are normally about 30 children in a class.

## Children with Special Needs

Children with special needs are well catered for at English Martyrs'. We are supported in this area with our SENDCo as well as outreach teachers.

Children who need help with the basic curriculum are taught in small groups and given as much help as possible. Most of them only need this help for a short time. We encourage able children to progress as quickly and widely as possible. Our whole school schemes of work ensure that a child may proceed through the curriculum as quickly as he/she is able. When planning work, teachers cater for the children who need to go more slowly as well as the children who are ready for more challenging work.

If parents have a concern about their child as they go through school, or even before they start then we advise a meeting with the classteacher. If it is of a medical nature then we advise to meet with the GP who may suggest liaison with the School Nurse or Doctor.

The Special Educational Needs and Disabilities co-ordinator, Mrs. J. Lingard works in close conjunction with all the staff and will liaise and advise on teaching and learning materials for children at each stage.

The Governor with responsibility for Special Needs is Mrs. N Adamson.

## School Hours

8:55.am. - 3:15p.m.

A Punctuality and Attendance certificate is given out to the class with the best weekly record. Children are also rewarded with extra playtime for good attendance.

Obviously the more time a child spends in school the higher are his/her chances of effective learning. Therefore it is helpful if absences due to medical appointments are kept to an absolute minimum and every effort made to arrange these out of school time.

If a child is absent through sickness we need to be informed as soon as possible.

## Behaviour at English Martyrs'

At English Martyrs', we have high expectations in all we do and this includes behaviour. We promote and encourage good behaviour through a variety of means, immediate praise being one of the most effective. The school expects its children to behave in a responsible and acceptable manner both inside and outside school. While occasional disagreements between children are considered normal, it is hoped that parents will co-operate in such matters.

The school recognises that bullying is a reality in society but strives, by good example and support, to eradicate it within English Martyrs' School. Pupils are encouraged to tell staff, their friends or anyone else if they perceive bullying. Each incident will be dealt with on its merit in an objective and positive way based on our Behaviour for Learning Policy.

Parents will be consulted if the usual methods of discouraging unacceptable behaviour prove ineffective. Sanctions will be applied if behaviour is felt to warrant it. Persistent misbehaviour might also prevent children from being included in taking part in school matches or being included in trips to places of special interest.

However, we seldom need to apply such sanctions. As we recognise and reward good behaviour within school in a number of positive ways, our children respond well. Good behaviour can be rewarded with house points, certificates, special mentions in assembly, positive postcards home to name but a few.



**What OFSTED said**  
"Leaders ensure everything possible is done to nurture pupils."  
OFSTED December 2017



# Extra-Curricular Activities at English Martyrs'

On occasions during the course of the year, classes go out to various places of interest – some local, others further afield, to extend the work which is done in school. Parents are asked to contribute towards the costs which are always kept to a minimum. Each year our Year 6 children go on a Residential Holiday for 3 days where they experience Outdoor and Adventurous activities, team building and survival skills.

We have a wide range of extra-curricular clubs including sports, craft, library, chess, dance, choir, garden gang, computing, Tai Chi, gymnastics, Wake and Shake. Children from Reception to Year 6 have opportunities to take part in either before school or after school clubs throughout the year.

## Curriculum at English Martyrs'

English Martyrs' offers a broad and balanced curriculum which is in keeping with the National Curriculum and the Catholic nature of the school.

### Religious Education

As a Catholic School, we promote and teach the doctrine and philosophy of the Catholic Church. This will include participating in class/whole school worship each day and also attending school Masses.

We follow different, relevant schemes of work in RE, Caritas in Action, Come and See, The Way, The Truth and The Life, and relevant material from CAFOD. However, we always strive to ensure that the Christian values show themselves not only in the R.E. lessons but at all times.

Parents who wish their children to be prepared for the Sacraments of Reconciliation, Holy Communion and Confirmation follow a programme prepared by the parish and run within school.

Parents do have the right to withdraw their child from Prayer and Liturgy and Human Relationships and Sex Education.

### The National Curriculum

All pupils follow courses in:

- English ● Maths ● Science ● Computing ● Technology
- History ● Geography ● Music ● Art ● P.E.
- Foreign Languages – (Key Stage 2)

The National Curriculum subjects are taught according to the National Curriculum programmes of study and Key Skills. Much work is organised on a cross-curricular so that children can see links and rationale behind their learning. We promote learning for a purpose and use current issues, initiatives and topics in our learning where appropriate.

#### What OFSTED said

"Leaders promote pupils' spiritual, moral, social and cultural development effectively through helping pupils understand and celebrate a range of faiths and cultures."

OfSTED December 2017



#### What OFSTED said

"Leaders ensure that the curriculum is stimulating and enriched with opportunities for pupils to broaden their learning through trips and visits to interesting places."

OfSTED December 2017





# Assessment and Reporting at English Martyrs'

Within the first few weeks in school, pupils are assessed with a simple one to one baseline procedure. In addition a Foundation Stage profile is compiled during the course of the year as pupils progress through Early Learning Goals. The former gives an indication of where the child is starting from in Mathematics, Reading and Social Skills.

As your child progresses through school, further assessments each year give an ongoing measure of the child's progress. Also required by the DfE are the Phonics Screening in Year 1 and National Curriculum Tests (SATs) at the end of Key Stage 1 and 2. These are important assessments for the child and the school. In Years 2 and 6 we ask that parents avoid booking holidays during May when tests and teacher assessments are administered. The results of these statutory assessments are in the form of Teacher Assessment for Year 2 and Teacher Assessment and test results for Year 6 are reported to parents. These are on an individual basis and form part of the written report given towards the end of the summer term.

Children in Years 3 to 5 are also tested in relation to the National Curriculum, in Reading, Writing and Mathematics during the course of the summer term.

Teachers assess all children informally and continuously during their time at school, using information gathered to plan for future learning.

# Equal Opportunities at English Martyrs'

We are committed to providing equal opportunities for all our children. We help each child to develop his/her full potential and encourage awareness, tolerance and respect for each other, for those with disabilities and towards different races and cultural and religious groups within the community and the wider world.

# Community Links at English Martyrs'

English Martyrs' is a very kind, generous school and over each year, we fundraise for many different purposes, supporting charities close to home and further afield. For example CAFOD, The Salvation Army, Meningitis UK, Heartbeat, Derian House, Help for Heroes, RNLI. We work together as a team to support local charities and those further afield based on the needs of our school and families.

We have very strong links with UCLan, working with the Science, Psychology and Language departments.

We also assist in the training of future teachers and Nursery Nurses. Work experience students are also welcome from our local High Schools and Colleges. We work closely in partnership with the Catholic Teaching Alliance for the development and training of future teachers and leaders.

# School Meals at English Martyrs'

We are fortunate that our school has its own kitchen where hot meals are prepared daily.

Our system offers a daily choice of menu. The meals are organised on a cafeteria system, whereby each child collects his/her dinner on a tray from the serving hatch. The meals are well supervised by a member of staff and Welfare Assistants, who also care for the children in the playground during the lunchtime break.

Facilities are also provided for children to eat their own packed lunches. These meals should be sent to school in a suitable, labelled container.

Dinner money is £11.00 per week and paid on a Monday. It should be brought to school in a sealed envelope bearing the child's name and class.

## Free School Meals

Please check with the Area Education Office at East Cliff on 01772 531809, if you think you may be entitled to claim free school meals if your child is in Key Stage 2. No discrimination whatsoever is made at school between those children who receive free meals and those who do not. If you think you have an entitlement then please claim. All children in Reception and Years 1 and 2 will receive a free school meal each day if they wish.

For each child who receives Free School Meals, school receive additional funding which is used for many different aspects of school life so it is very important you apply for it, even if your child receives Universal Free School Meals.

## Milk

Mid-morning milk is provided by Lancashire County Council for infant age children at a cost of £12.50 per term.

No sweets or biscuits are to be brought for break time, only fruit.

Fruit is available free for all Foundation Stage and Key Stage 1 children and is on sale for Key Stage 2 children at 20p per piece of fruit.





# Health and Welfare at English Martyrs'

Children are examined by the School Nursing Team soon after admission and before leaving school. Dental inspections, hearing and sight tests are carried out by the appropriate specialists. Our School Nurse Team is based at Avenham Health Centre.

Parents are reminded that it is their responsibility to check for head lice, worms and verruca on a regular basis. Please inform school if any are found.

We are proud of our First Aid trained staff, most Support Staff are trained in administering medicines and First Aid and we have a designated Medical Room. Prescribed medicine only can be administered by trained staff and relevant forms need to be signed for this.

## Illnesses at school

When we suspect illness, parents are contacted by phone and sick pupils are cared for at school until parents arrive. Cuts and grazes resulting from minor playground accidents are dealt with at school.

## Hospital, Dental Appointments etc.

If advance notice of the appointment is given, pupils may be collected directly from the classrooms. In the interests of children's safety it is not possible for a child to leave alone to meet a parent for an appointment.

## Telephone

In case of emergency, a current telephone contact number must be provided for every child.

## Welfare

The Education Welfare Officer can be contacted at:- Area Education Office (South), Joint Divisional Offices, East Cliff, Preston, telephone number Preston 532253. The officer is responsible for any aspects of child welfare, and will be able to give information on any welfare benefits to which you may be entitled.

# Safeguarding and Child Protection at English Martyrs'

We pride ourselves on our tight Safeguarding procedures. We request that parents and carers inform staff who is to collect their child if there is a change in circumstances. We are a caring school with the welfare of all our pupils deeply entrenched in our philosophy. For this reason we comply with the Department for Education's request that all parents should be informed of our duties and responsibilities under the local Child Protection Procedures: 'Because of day to day contact with children, schools are particularly well placed to observe outward signs of abuse, changes in behaviour or failure to develop.' Parents should be aware, therefore, that where it appears to a member of staff that a child may have been harmed, the school is required, as part of the local Child Protection Procedures, to report their concern immediately to the School's Designated Safeguarding Lead who may need to refer it on to the local Social Services Department. Our Designated Safeguarding Lead is Mrs A Howarth and the backup is Mrs J Lingard.

# Attendance and Punctuality at English Martyrs'

We work hard at having good attendance at English Martyrs' and as a result put a lot of emphasis on it and our minimal acceptable standard of attendance is 96.

## Everyday matters!

Many unauthorised absences occur because parents do not let school know of their child's illness. Please make sure that school is informed, by letter, telephone or by speaking to the teacher if your child is absent for any reason.

Punctuality is also greatly important as every minute late is learning missed. Our gates close at 9am and any arrivals after this time are marked as unauthorised.

A number of absences can also be attributed to children taking holidays during the school year. Leave in term time will not be agreed by us at any time, unless circumstances surrounding the request can be evidenced by parents to be exceptional.

Any period of leave taken without the agreement of the school will be classed as unauthorised and may attract sanctions such as a Penalty Notice.

# Nursery at English Martyrs'

The Nursery unit was opened in Autumn 1994. It provides nursery education for twenty six children on a part-time basis. The nursery is generously equipped enabling us to offer a wide range of activities both indoors and outdoors.

Session times are 09.00a.m. - 12.00.

A separate brochure about the nursery is available from school.



## What OFSTED said

"Leaders ensure that everything possible is done to nurture vulnerable pupils and to include them in everything that is happening in school."

OfSTED December  
2017



### What OFSTED said

"School is one large family.  
Pupils behave sensibly  
and treat one another  
with respect."

OfSTED December  
2017

## After School Club at English Martyrs'

An After School Club was started for the children attending English Martyrs' School in January 2003 and is flourishing. The children are well looked after and have a variety of activities to occupy them. The cost is £6.75 per session and the session currently runs from 3.15p.m. – 5.30p.m. Monday to Thursday and 3.15p.m. – 5.00p.m. Friday.

Supervisor – Miss V. Hankin

Assistant Supervisor – Mrs. E. Kenny, Mrs A Hewitson

## Breakfast Club at English Martyrs'

A FREE breakfast Club is run each morning from 8:15am to 8:55am in the school hall. Bread is provided by Gregg's The Bakers together with healthy cereals and drinks for the children to start their day well. If you are interested, please let the school office know as places are limited.

Supervisor – Miss V Hankin

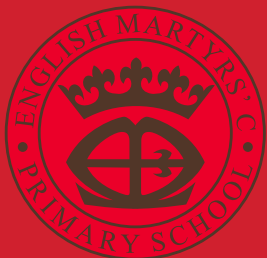
Assistant Supervisors – Miss J Roach, Mrs A Hewitson

Volunteer support staff also work in the Breakfast Club each morning so we have very strong support.









**English Martyrs' Catholic Primary School**  
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