

St Mary's

Askham Richard

A Church of England Primary School



Learning and Growing Together

Your child's journey through education starts here

WELCOME TO ST MARY'S

It is a privilege to be the headteacher of St Mary's C of E Primary school. This is such a special place, in a beautiful location; a real haven for learning and developing, where working together is at the heart of everything we do.

From the moment children enter our remarkable school, we take our first steps towards understanding them as individuals, their needs and their ambitions. We create inspiring, inclusive learning opportunities that challenge children's minds. We are passionate in our responsibility to ripen their talents, broaden their interests and develop the personal qualities which make our children so unique.

St Mary's has a culture of high expectations and children who are proud to be a part of our family.

It would be my privilege to show you around and introduce you to the team I am so proud of.

**Richard Moss, Head
Teacher**



*Educating
the mind
without
educating
the heart is
no
education
at all.*

Aristotle



OUR VISION

Small School, Big Heart, Learning & Growing Together

We are a community, a family and a team. Through our Christian ethos, we care and we nurture our children preparing them for future life. We show all children at St Mary's how to become independent, confident, inclusive learners who possess a love of lifelong learning and development of their whole self.

The vision for St Mary's was composed by the whole school and is rooted in Romans: 15:5:

'Even though we are many individuals, Christ makes us one body and individuals who are connected to each other'



OUR BELIEFS

- Together Everyone Achieves More (TEAM)
- All learners love to learn
- Each child's personal progress is paramount
- The heart of the community
- Our children become independent thinkers able to seek solutions through creativity and co-operation

OUR AIMS

- Enjoy the journey
- Make lasting memories
- Overcome obstacles together
- Embrace diversity
- Maximize children's potential
- Create inclusive learners
- Encourage lifelong learners



YOUR CHILD'S JOURNEY STARTS HERE

At St Mary's the reception year is full of special and exciting moments. We celebrate that all children are unique and ensure that one and all succeed as they go forward by establishing secure foundations for their future learning.

Children are guided on a nurturing journey enabling them to become more confident, curious, imaginative and empathetic learners. Through our Early Years Foundation Stage Curriculum we provide opportunities for:

Play and Explore – children are actively encouraged to investigate and experience things and 'have a go'.

Active Learning – children concentrate and keep on trying if they encounter difficulties so they can enjoy achievement.

Creating and Thinking Critically – children develop their own ideas, make links between ideas and developing strategies for doing things.

We understand that for successful learning across these areas the essential skills of communication and language, personal, social and emotional development and physical development are of



Children make friends from the day they start, until forever.



OUR INCLUSIVE CURRICULUM

St Mary's children learn through our broad and balanced curriculum which sets out to provide practical experiences rich in opportunities for them to investigate and problem solve.

Our curriculum is taught in ways which inspire our children to learn more. A variety of trips, visitors, outdoor learning activities and a series of whole school themed weeks throughout the year enhance the learning opportunities.

Parents can be assured that in the core subjects of reading, writing, phonics and maths, every single child's individual possibilities are maximised to their absolute potential.

We hand pick specialist teachers in areas such as Music and Physical Education, thereby enriching our offering.

The arts, music and drama play a huge role at St Mary's with performance opportunities for fellow pupils, parents and the community.

We are proud to let our academic results speak for themselves and we would be delighted to showcase our curriculum to you upon your visit to our school.



As you walk through the doors of St Mary's you enter an oasis of calm which is almost tangible.



Compassion Friendship Koinonia Trust



OUR

ENVIRONMENT

In 2022, we completed an extensive refurbishment of our school and now boast an enviable array of facilities, from our outside classroom to our ultra high tech specifications, which help your child gain the most from their school day.

Digital Citizens

All classrooms have interactive smart boards and our vast stock of IT equipment ensures modern learning methods are integrated across the entire curriculum and permeate all subjects to make all our children digital citizens.



Class Sizes

At St Mary's we welcome an average of 15 children per year group. Two year groups make up each class. This means that children are able to benefit from a more intimate learning environment, allowing them to feel more engaged during lessons.

Forest School, Outdoor & Physical Education

Our school has extensive, secure grounds including a fantastic forest school, sensory garden, a natural habitat area with pond and large playing fields for sports and games as well as incorporating tranquil areas for quieter pastimes.



On Site Catering & Special Dietary Needs

Our catering staff are specialists in healthy cooking and provide a nutritious and delicious meal every day from our school kitchen with the freshest ingredients. We have great success in catering for specialist diets with staff knowing each child's individual needs. We are proud to be a Nut Free school.



After School Clubs

We listen to the requests of our children and operate clubs after school which we know they want to participate in: table tennis, dance and football are particularly popular.



Out Of School Club

Our wrap around Out Of School Club is housed in our recently modernised School House next to our main building. Here we offer flexible care for children before and after school in a secure and familiar environment.



SEND Offerings

We have a spectacular SEND offering and are fortunate that our Deputy Head is also our SENDCo. If you believe this is a provision you may require, please come and discuss your needs with us.

OUR COMMUNITY

We believe in strong links between home and school, those around us and around the world.

Parents & Carers

Throughout the academic year we invite parents and carers into the school to experience their child's environment, this is an enriching, sharing experience for everyone.

The Local Community

Our children enjoy being part of the community, whether that be visiting the local church for services or local businesses. Members of the community are invited into the school for celebrations such as Carols Around the Tree at Christmas and Grandparents Day

Friends of St Mary's

We have a wonderful Friends of St Mary's group who raise funds to provide additional facilities for our school through fun and fundraising events. All parents and carers are encouraged to participate and experience the school through their child's eyes

Our Governing Board

The Governors of St Mary's are a hands on team who provide a friendly, critical view to ensure the continuous improvement of our team and school. They provide a unique skill set which we utilise to drive our school forward.

Safeguarding

Our safeguarding measures are second to none. As well as ongoing training for all staff and governors, we have a fully fenced site and safety intercom entry system at our main gates and in our reception area.

Secondary Schools

We work closely with local secondary schools to ensure that your child's transition will be smooth and effective. Many of our pupils go on to Tadcaster Grammar, Manor C of E, All Saints, Bootham, St Peters, The Mount and other schools in the local area.



Special Thanks

Special Thanks to Seth Cockerham, class of 2017, for his amazing help in designing this prospectus. Seth went on to Manor C of E School in York where he followed the gifted pathway. We wish Seth the very best in his future aspirations of working in film. Thank you Seth!





ST MARY'S DISTINCTIVE & DIFFERENT

St Mary's offers all that is best in education, but the way in which the school works is different and distinctive because of its Christian ethos.

This distinction is rooted in our Christian values that affect the way in which everyone behaves and the way in which everyone is respected. Our children are encouraged to learn and follow our core values of compassion, friendship, koinonia and trust.

Koinonia:
fellowship, joint participation, the share which one has in anything, a gift jointly contributed, a collection, a contribution.

ADMISSIONS AND VISITS

Our usual admission rate is 15 children per year and we are accepting of all, regardless of faith. As our catchment is predominantly rural, we are often able to welcome applications from children who may be out of catchment area.





For more information or a tour of our wonderful school, please contact us.
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