



St Bartholomew's C of E Primary School  
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Telephone: (01509) 412250

# **Learning at St Bartholomew's Church of England Primary School**

## **Give Your Best**

## **A Guide for Parents and Carers**



## Introduction:

Our school's motto is "Give Your Best". This is the core value of our school and applies to everyone who learns and works at St Bart's. We are a church school as well as being an integral part of the Quorn community and we strive to give our children the very best start to their education and their lives.

## Our Mission Statement

Our Mission Statement sets out our vision, mission and our community commitment.

We aim to support our children in these objectives by helping them on their learning journey but also in supporting them with their physical and mental well-being by promoting curiosity and open-mindedness.



## **The Curriculum Experiences at St Bart's**

We work hard to create a rich, relevant and up to date curriculum for all of our children. This is within the orders of the National Curriculum and EYFS curriculum, but also encompasses local connections with the universities, historical places of interest, and sporting and outdoor / adventurous resources. This aims to give children an excellent sense of place and open up possibilities for them for future development of skills and potential careers.

Staff spend time researching the best ways that children learn and keep abreast of the most recent relevant and effective ways of teaching and learning, underpinned by credible research. These include the use of metacognitive strategies to help children to become independent and self-motivated learners, which will help them in primary and secondary school.

## **Reading, Spelling, Number Bonds and Times Tables**

In order for children to make good progress in all areas of their learning they need to be able to read. Understandably, St Bart's places great emphasis on learning to read, particularly, but not exclusively through the use of phonics, Letters and Sounds and Jolly phonics are used to teach the children from Foundation Stage onwards. Older children are taught spellings through a Word Study approach which looks at spelling patterns and the origins of words through an investigative approach. Spelling lists are sent home and

it is vital that parents support children in learning and spellings set out in the National Curriculum and those key spellings linked to topic studied.

Number bonds and times tables are also essential for children to begin to get a good grasp of number patterns. These will be sent home on a regular basis by all class teachers as appropriate.

## **Homework**

Following extensive consultation with parents, homework has been pared back to essentials – reading, phonics and basic number skills. Alongside this, teachers send out a choice grid of optional enrichment homework that families may choose to do. We expect essential homework to be completed to a good standard and any not completed from Year 2 upwards, will be expected to be completed in school. Optional homework will be celebrated in class and our Well Done assemblies.



Children will be given a personalised homework book which will help them to organise their work. Please look at the book regularly with your child, so that you are aware and can support them with their homework.

Often a quiet place to study is helpful for older children who may need to be able to concentrate while they are working.

## **Helping your Child to be Organised**

An important way to help support your child is to help them to be organised. Make sure that they have the correct PE kit in a bag, a coat and suitable footwear, which complies with the school uniform and a basic pencil case in KS2. Check when homework is to be returned and make sure that your child has it in their bag. Check also that their reading book always travels with them.

The school struggles to find room for large bags in school, as ‘cloakrooms’ are corridors. We would ask that you do not allow children to bring large bags as this causes serious congestion. We will monitor this situation closely over the next year. Please make sure that all letters are signed and returned promptly to the class teacher.

## **Marking of Children’s Work**

Marking and monitoring of children’s work takes many forms. Marking and assessment has changed in recent years. You will see less ‘marking’ in books because we do not wish to see teachers wasting time on ‘flick and tick’ style checks. All marking should help children to make progress in their learning. Much of the feedback will be given verbally and when a teacher marks; it will be detailed. Sometimes children will edit their work with a ‘purple polishing pen’ – you will see this in their books.



Sometimes feedback will be given to the whole class or groups of children, appropriate to their learning needs. Children also engage in self and peer assessment according to their age and the subject that they are studying. Crucially, your child should know what their targets are to improve their learning.

## **Communication with Parents**

At St Bart's we firmly believe that learning is a partnership and we strive to communicate effectively with parents and carers through a variety of channels.

Our website is regularly updated and contains essential information. If you cannot find something that you need, please contact the office about this. Please check our website for the rolling programmes of study for each year group so that you can talk to your child about what they are studying.

Our Intouch system helps us to keep up to date with all parents. Keep a look out for regular letters, including the term's projection letters, trip letters and letters about meeting for parents. Please get in contact with school if you have any queries about your child or their learning.





## **A Guide for Parents and Carers**

In summary, your role as the parent / carer in your child's learning journey's to:

- Support your child by reading with them and to them, as much as possible. Encourage them to read independently and talk to them about their reading.
- Make sure that your child has a full equipment kit, including PE kit. Check the website for details of what is required.
- Regularly check your child's homework so that they are supported.
- Help your child by testing them regularly in a fun way on current topics, spellings, maths and any past units of work. This will help your child commit knowledge to their long-term memory.
- Let school know of any concerns you have about your child or their progress.

**Thank you for your continued support**

## Communication Links

Follow Mrs Boston on Twitter  
@stbartsprimary

twitter



Our school website

[www.st-bartholomews.leics.sch.uk](http://www.st-bartholomews.leics.sch.uk)



Email:- [office@st-bartholomews.leics.sch.uk](mailto:office@st-bartholomews.leics.sch.uk)

Telephone Number:- 01509 412250

Parents are sent regular emails using [Intouch](#)

School News App – downloadable  
from [iTunes App Store](#) , [Google Play](#) or  
[Windows Store](#)



Friends of St Bartholomew's Association (FOSBA)  
- [FOSBA@ymail.com](mailto:FOSBA@ymail.com)



Please email [hello@fosba.co.uk](mailto:hello@fosba.co.uk) to be added  
to our Facebook page).

Tapestry (Foundation Stage) <http://eylj.org>

