

# SACRED HEART PRIMARY SCHOOL



*Specialists in Boys Education*



School Prospectus

## Principals Welcome



Dear Parents,  
Welcome to Sacred Heart Primary School. Choosing the right school for your son is an important responsibility for you and we are very aware that you are placing all your trust in us. Within this Prospectus we hope to give you an understanding of the fantastic learning opportunities and high academic experiences that we will be providing for your son on his 7 year journey throughout the school.

As soon as you step through the front door into the reception area, you will realise that you are in a special centre of excellence. As a school community, we do our very best for all the children in a safe, nurturing, friendly, caring and positive environment where your son will thrive to be the best that he can be.

In Sacred Heart every child is treated as precious and unique. We aim to develop their skills and abilities to the highest standard achieving high academic achievements, confidence, independence and a vision to know that anything is possible.

They will have experience of a practical, fun, creative and structured curriculum which enables him to “learn-by-doing” which in turn enhances their ability to succeed within all tasks that they encounter. They will develop their talents, abilities and skills to prepare them for their future within the community and society as a whole.

We encourage children to embrace challenge and diversity whilst making friendships, having fun and making **fantastic memories** that last a lifetime.

Feel free to contact us if you wish to arrange a visit to Sacred Heart Boys' Primary School to experience the wealth of opportunities and experiences provided to the boys, who are not only the heart but also the future of their community.

Mrs Joanne Smyth

**PRINCIPAL**

# Heart and Future of the Community

# The School Day

**Our FREE Breakfast Club begins at 8.15am. Childrer will receive a range of option: cereals, toast, pancakes, cheese, ham, beans, jam, juices, hot chocolate and tea.**

**School starts** 8:50am

**Break Time** 10:45 – 11:00

**Lunch Time**

P1 – P3 12:00 – 12:45

P4 – P7 12:45 – 1:30



Mrs J Smyth  
Principal

## Teaching Staff



Ms H Kelly  
Vice Principal



Mrs C Connolly



Miss C Smyth



Mrs J Carberry



Miss R Morris



Mr C Carter



Miss M Neeson



Mrs C Graham

## School Finishing Time

|               |           |        |
|---------------|-----------|--------|
| P1, P2 and P3 | Mon-Tues  | 2:45pm |
| P1, P2 and P3 | Wed-Thurs | 2:00pm |
| P1, P2 and P3 | Fri       | 1:00pm |
| P4-7          | Mon-Thurs | 2:45pm |
| P4-7          | Fri       | 1:45pm |

*We also provide a waiting class Wednesday to Friday until 3pm for P1-P3*

### Board of Governors

Mr Tomasso Gianetto (Chair)  
Mr Tom Donnelly  
Ms Noreen Cahill  
Ms Kathryn McCann  
Mrs Lisa Privilege  
Ms Rosemary Mulvenna  
Ms Marie Alexander  
Mrs Christine Connolly  
Mrs Joanne Smyth

### Classroom Assistants

Mrs Keating  
Mrs Lyttle  
Mrs Curly  
Mrs McAloran  
Mrs Quigley  
Ms Connolly  
Mrs Davidson  
Ms McNally  
Miss Graham  
Miss Markey  
Ms Kerr  
Ms Guilar

### Support Staff

**Secretary:**  
Mrs C McAtamney

**Caretaker:**  
Mr R Creen

Ms M Mullan  
Mrs M Ryan  
Ms O McNeill

# Mission Statement

Sacred Heart Primary School is a Catholic Primary School whose mission is to work in partnership with our parents, and community, to ensure the development of each child to their full potential in a supportive, safe, nurturing and fun learning environment.

We promote independence, teamwork, creativity and self-evaluation. We show respect for ourselves and others, developing self-confidence and pride in ourselves whilst celebrating achievement and embracing diversity.

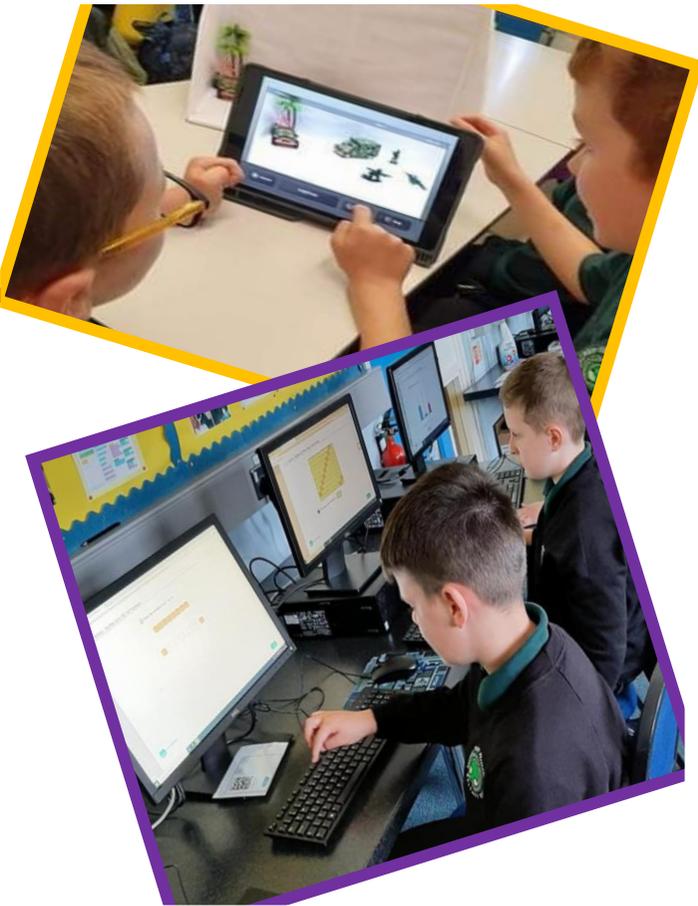
We welcome parents into the school, to provide them with information about their children's education and to encourage them to be part of their child's educational journey. Together we can make a difference for your son to be the best he can be.



## Heart and Future of the Community

# Facilities

Sacred Heart Primary School within the Oldpark/Marrowbone community. All classrooms are very well resourced with modern equipment including Interactive white boards, iPads, Apple TV and laptops in all rooms, P1-P4 also have Beebots and recording equipment to record their ideas and stories. We have a fantastic Computer Room which all classes use at least twice a week.



Within the building there is a State of the Art Sensory Room, which all children use for the development of resilience and mindfulness. We have a Music room with recording equipment, ukuleles, Samba drums and African Drums.

We also have a learning support room, a library, PE hall and Canteen.



We have fabulous outdoor grounds and gardens that are extremely well maintained around the perimeter of our very modern building. This a Multi Use Games Area (MUGA Pitch), a range of grass areas that the children use for outdoor play and outdoor learning, a Trim Trail and climbing frames for the P1-3 boys, and 2 outdoor learning gardens.

The main playground has 3 football pitches, areas with a range of play equipment and games for those who wish not to play football and a soft surface Pirate Ship and basket swing is very popular choice all the children.

# Pastoral Care

In Sacred Heart Primary School pastoral care permeates all aspects of school life. Children feel safe, secure, confident and ready to engage with others in a trusting environment.

We have.....

- ✓ Counsellor every Monday.
- ✓ Therapy Dog every Thursday (Henry\_Wee Wheels).
- ✓ Therapeutic Music every Friday,  
✓ delivered by our own Music Specialist.
- ✓ TAKE 5 – breathing led by the older children.
- ✓ Sensory activities in our state of the art Sensory Room



## Pupils Support each other

We have Peer Mediators which involves older children helping our children in the playground to share and care. Within Sacred Heart we are a caring family and together we ensure that our children excel academically and emotionally.

# Community Links and More

**We have a range of workshops delivered by**

**Support Families NI:** Healthy Me, Self Esteem and Transition and Moving on in P7.

**Marrowbone Community workers**

**FISCA Choir Competition**

**Christmas Carol singing &**

**Peace Proms:** Our choir sings at the Annual Peace Proms at the SSE Arena



## School of Sanctuary

Sacred Heart have received an award for School of Sanctuary. Every year we welcome people from other countries to come talk to the children. Our school embraces differences

## Global learning

We are a global learning school looking at issues around the world.

We welcome children from all cultures and provide a tailored service to those children who have English as a second language.



# The Curriculum

## Language and Literacy

Talking and listening, Writing and Reading

## Mathematics

Number, Shape and Space, Handling Data and Measure

## ICT

Coding, Animation, Digital Storytelling, Data Handling, Communication

## The World Around Us

Science and Technology, History and Geography

## The Arts

Concerts. Competitions, School Productions and Assemblies and Art and Crafts.

## Physical Education

Soccer, Gaelic, Hurling, Archery, Golf, Bowling, Gymnastics, Dance (hip hop/jumping, jiggling and jiving) Athletics. Swimming for P5-7

**IN SACRED HEART LEARNING IS FUN  
BECAUSE it is ....**

- relevant
- practical
- stimulates our thoughts
- enjoyable
- well planned
- Positive experiences
- High quality teaching and learning
- Creative
- Promotion of lifelong learning



(P4-7) Competitive quizzes with lots of prizes for reaching targets. Millionaire Readers with 1,000,000 words gain a financial prize!



Quizzes, leading to points leading to prizes, Aviators and buildings within your own space

# Special Educational Needs

Within Sacred Heart Primary we pride ourselves in providing early intervention for those children who need extra support. This additional support will help them access the curriculum with confidence and also help them to achieve to be the best that they can be to reach their potential.

Staff are specifically trained the following:

- Language interventions;
- Dyslexia strategies;
- ASD strategies;
- Primary Movement;
- Theraplay
- Better Reading Partnership
- Ready to Learn Programme.
- Numeracy Recovery
- Isak 9
- Maths Mastery techniques
- Linguistic Phonics
- Nurturing Principles

Better Reading Partnership has helped my son move up 9 reading levels in 10 weeks. He is a happy confident reader.

# Positive Behaviour

Within Sacred Heart children flourish emotionally within in a safe place learning to develop and grow, based on their individual needs.

**Recently we were awarded The Nurture Quality Mark.** This was for excellence in supporting the children within our care.

ONLY SCHOOL IN  
NORTH BELFAST  
TO HAVE  
NURTURING  
SCHOOL  
QUALITY AWARD



Children are happy and learning in a positive and nurturing environment



In Sacred Heart we are ready to learn together, respectful to all and we keep ourselves and others safe in class. Our children are polite and demonstrate excellent personal and social skills.

Our reward systems include:  
Pupil of the Week  
House Points System  
Writer of the month  
Mathematician of the month  
Accelerated Reader Rewards  
Mathletics Awards P1-P7  
Classroom rewards

# Extra-Curricular Activities and Clubs

We provide lots of fun afterschool activities provided by coaches and staff that cater for the talents and interest of our children.

**These are some of our activities**

- Gaelic
- Athletics
- Hurling
- Soccer
- Transfer Tuition
- Archery
- Target Sports i.e. Golf, Bowling
- ICT
- Karate
- Ukulele
- African and Samba Drumming
- Choir
- Tin Whistle
- Ready to Learn
- Eco Club



# Parental Involvement

We have a very successful PTA and fundraising events occur throughout the year, such as Halloween and Valentine Discos, Burger Bash Mega Fun Day, Celtic Trips to Celtic Park, Big Bingo Nights with huge prizes and lots more.

Every year we welcome and encourage strong home/school partnerships. We invest time to develop an effective level of communication. Parents are kept up to date on school matters and informed about changes to routines and policies through:

- Text Service
- Facebook Page
- School Website
- Seesaw



# Want to know more?

**To gain more information about our school or to have a tour around the school, please feel free to contact us**

**Sacred Heart Primary School**  
**41 – 51 Old Park Avenue,**  
**Belfast, BT14 6HH**

**Principal:** Joanne Smyth  
**Phone number:** 02890 740521  
**Email:** jsmyth459@c2kni.net

# Heart and Future of the Community