



# St. Bede's

Catholic Primary School

## ACHIEVING EXCELLENCE TOGETHER

*Inspiring independent learners with Jesus by our side*

# PROSPECTUS



Keepers Lane, Weaverham, Cheshire CW8 3BY

Tel: 01606 852149 Email: [admin@st-bedes.cheshire.sch.uk](mailto:admin@st-bedes.cheshire.sch.uk)

Website: [www.st-bedes.cheshire.sch.uk](http://www.st-bedes.cheshire.sch.uk)

**Pride ~ Respect ~ Responsibility ~ Challenge ~ Curiosity**

## MISSION STATEMENT

### ACHIEVING EXCELLENCE TOGETHER

*Inspiring independent learners with Jesus by our side*

### OUR CORE VALUES

*Pride ~ Respect ~ Responsibility ~ Challenge ~ Curiosity*

Our aim is:

- ◆ To **enable** everyone within the school to develop their full potential - spiritually, academically, socially and physically.
- ◆ To **provide** a high quality education which promotes the most desirable attitudes, values, skills and understanding.
- ◆ To **foster** the Catholic faith of the school community through prayer, worship and liturgy and to encourage and develop links with the family and the parish.
- ◆ To **promote** moral issues - justice, care, forgiveness, respect, self-discipline and to value the importance of relationships both within school and in the wider community.
- ◆ To **promote** equal opportunities by acknowledging and respecting the needs of individual children and by celebrating their achievements.
- ◆ To **maintain** school improvement through critical appraisal and the pursuit of challenging targets.

## WELCOME TO OUR WONDERFUL SCHOOL

*Inspiring independent learners with Jesus by our side*

Welcome to St. Bede's Catholic Primary School in the village of Weaverham, Mid Cheshire and I am proud to hold the position of Headteacher in such a wonderful school. St. Bede's has a warm and welcoming atmosphere and is a great place to be, where pupils, staff, governors and parents benefit from being part of the community of Christ. Pupils are encouraged to be **curious**, asking questions of themselves and others to help them understand the how and what and where and why's of the world around them. The Gospel values of caring and **respect** for others are central to the ethos and work of our school. Our Parish Priest, Father Paul Standish, along with Sr. Phyllis Hughes are regular visitors, supporting all members of our school family in the religious and spiritual life. At St. Bede's we are committed to the highest standards of teaching and learning – achieved through a combination of **challenge**, support, encouragement and praise – to ensure that all pupils take **pride** in their achievements and the **responsibility** to fulfil their potential to '*let their light shine*'.

I hope you enjoy finding out about our wonderful school.

*'Come and See'* John 1:39

Louise Conlon  
Headteacher

## SAFEGUARDING STATEMENT

“Safeguarding” is an umbrella term encompassing the whole wellbeing of a child and recognises the importance of the preventative agenda. Child Protection is an important component of “safeguarding.”

### DEFINITION

All adults working in education have a duty to safeguard and promote the welfare of children which is defined as:

Schools, colleges and other educational providers have a pivotal role to play in safeguarding children and promoting their welfare.”

Working Together to Safeguard Children 2018

Our school recognises that every member of its staff has a key role in prevention of harm, early identification, intervention and support for pupils at risk of significant harm and will endeavour to provide an environment where children are valued and know that their concerns will be taken seriously. Where young people are safe and feel safe.

The school is committed to creating and maintaining a safe learning environment for children and young people, identifying where there are child welfare concerns and taking action to address them, in partnership with families and other agencies. This policy reflects the policies of Cheshire West’s Safeguarding Children Partnership, <https://www.cheshirewestscp.co.uk/> and is in line with

*Working Together to Safeguard Children (2018)*

[https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment\\_data/file/779401/Working\\_Together\\_to\\_Safeguard-Children.pdf](https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/779401/Working_Together_to_Safeguard-Children.pdf)

‘*Keeping Children Safe in Education*’ Document link [Keeping children safe in education 2022 \(publishing.service.gov.uk\)](https://www.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/779401/Keeping_Children_Safe_in_Education_2022.pdf)

Our school acknowledges that anxiety undermines good practice and has identified clear line of accountability to ensure that staff dealing with child welfare concerns are supported and have access to appropriate training and advice. In this school any individual can contact the following if they have concerns about a young person:

Designated Safeguarding Lead: Mrs Jones  
Deputy Designated Safeguarding Lead: Ms Conlon  
Safeguarding Governor: Mr Lawton

## THE NATIONAL CURRICULUM

### *Curriculum Intent*

St Bede's curriculum is broad and balanced taking into account our school's unique characteristics, providing first-hand experiences. We build children's aspirations demonstrating possibilities for their future lives. St Bede's values of pride, respect, responsibility, curiosity and challenge, underpin all that we do in school fostering independence and resilience. High expectations in speech, language and communication strengthen the children's ability to learn at a deeper level, allowing them to articulate their learning; demonstrating quality thinking and application of skills and knowledge.

Spiritual Physical and mental wellbeing are prioritised within our curriculum design, allowing children to be happy, investigate and enquire with no limits to their thirst for new experiences and knowledge. We provide opportunities for pupils to exhibit spiritual, moral, social and cultural understanding.

Our community involvement is an essential part of our curriculum, providing our pupils with a sense of belonging where everyone is valued. They have confidence and skills to make decisions, self-evaluate, make connections and become lifelong learners.

You can find out so much more by visiting the class pages on the school website. Each class shares lots of information for you to experience the learning that is taking place in each classroom.

### **RELIGIOUS EDUCATION**

#### **Denominational Inspection June 2019 – Outstanding**

*'St Bede's is an outstanding, happy school  
where Gospel values are woven into the fabric of the school.'*

Religious Education is central to the purpose of the school in its aims, its ethos and its distinctiveness. We recognise that God is at the centre of the learning process and the life of the school reflects our commitment to the importance of quality religious education. It would not therefore be appropriate for children to withdraw from these lessons and no alternative provision is available. We follow the Religious Education Programme, **'The Way, the Truth and The Life.'** This will help each child to acquire a knowledge, skills and understanding of the Catholic faith appropriate to his/her experience. We endeavour to foster individual needs and a growing appreciation of the importance of being a member of a Catholic community. The school sees itself as a partner with the home and the parish which together enrich the spiritual development of the child. Members of the parish currently prepare the children to receive their First Sacraments in co-operation with the school.

Whole school or class assemblies are held daily and class/school masses provide the opportunity for parents and members of the parish to be part of our liturgical celebrations.

Parents have the right to withdraw their children from the collective worship provided in school. It is not possible however to offer alternative provision for those who are withdrawn.

## ENGLISH

In English we develop skills in speaking, listening, reading and writing. This enables our children to express themselves creatively and imaginatively, to communicate effectively and to become enthusiastic and critical readers. During the Reception Year and at Key Stage One our children are encouraged to speak confidently and to listen to others. They begin to read independently, focusing on words and sentences and how they fit into whole texts.

We use 'Letters and Sounds' Phonics scheme to support our teaching of phonics. Additionally we use a variety of reading schemes which follow book band levels. Some of the schemes we use include, 'Oxford Reading Tree, Rigby Rockets, Ginn 360, Collins Big Cat Phonics and Rigby Star Phonics. We provide further regular information to parents regarding phonics and reading books.

Children begin to see the value of writing and how it communicates meaning in both narrative and non-fiction texts, learning the rules and patterns for spelling and punctuation. During Key Stage Two our children learn how to adapt the way they speak in a range of contexts taking various roles and responding appropriately to others. They are encouraged to read, with deeper understanding, a range of materials developing the ability to analyse and discuss ideas with others. The enjoyment of writing is encouraged and we teach the main conventions of written English as a way of expressing meaning in different ways. We encourage a planning, drafting and editing process to improve all written work.



## MATHEMATICS

The teaching of Mathematics encourages the development of logical thinking, problem solving skills and the ability to think in abstract ways. Beginning in Reception and during Key Stage One where children are taught to count, read, write and order numbers to 100 and beyond, they develop a range of mental calculation skills which can be transferred to various contexts. These skills are further developed at Key Stage Two before other approaches, such as written methods are introduced. Throughout the school, children are given the opportunity to explore shape and space, to develop measuring skills and to handle data. The understanding and use of mathematical language is encouraged as children talk about their work explaining strategies and reasoning.

## SCIENCE

Science stimulates and excites children's natural curiosity about phenomena and events in the world around us. By offering a range of practical experiences we teach scientific method focusing on observation, questioning, prediction, exploring and evaluating outcomes. Children are encouraged to communicate their findings in a variety of ways using appropriate scientific vocabulary.



## COMPUTING

Computing prepares children for a rapidly changing world. We use computing tools to find, explore, analyse, exchange and present information responsibly and creatively. A wide range of hardware and software is provided in Foundation Stage and both Key Stages which supports learning across the whole curriculum.

## **MODERN FOREIGN LANGUAGE - FRENCH**

The main aim of teaching a Modern Foreign Language is to develop children's linguistic competence, to understand and communicate in different languages and to increase their cultural awareness by learning about different countries and their people. We also hope to foster positive attitudes towards foreign language learning which will form a sound basis for further study. The teaching of formal French lesson begins in Year 3 and continues throughout Key Stage Two.

## **DESIGN TECHNOLOGY (DT)**

DT prepares children to become participants in the rapidly changing world. Through this subject we encourage them to learn and think autonomously and to be creative problem solvers. The focus is to identify needs and opportunities and to respond to them by developing a range of ideas which lead to the creation of products and systems. The children are taught the practical skills needed and are encouraged to reflect on and evaluate their own work. Throughout, children are taught to work safely and responsibly.

## **HISTORY**

The study of History enables children to consider how the past has influenced the present and at the same time develops a chronological framework for significant events and people. At Key Stage One we teach about people's lives and lifestyles this learning is then developed at Key Stage Two by considering significant people, events and places from the recent and distant past. The ability to consider the value of evidence gained from visits, artifacts, video material, literature etc. is crucial in the development of a range of skills.

## **GEOGRAPHY**

Geography promotes questions and answers about the natural and human world. We explore and develop knowledge of places and environments with investigative work in and out of the classroom. At Key Stage One our children investigate their own environment and that of a contrasting locality. At Key Stage Two they learn about a variety of people, places and environments both in the UK and abroad. We teach a range of geography skills using resources such as maps, aerial photographs, atlases and ICT resources.

## **PERSONAL, SOCIAL, HEALTH and CITIZENSHIP EDUCATION (PSHCE)**

This is taught in a cross-curricular manner with an emphasis on the importance of looking after ourselves and building relationships with others. Drug education is part of this and Sex and Relationships Education is given formally during the final years at school.

## **ART and DESIGN**

This subject stimulates creativity and imagination. It provides our children with visual, tactile and sensory experiences and a unique way of responding to and understanding the world. Early experiences help the appreciation of colour, shape, pattern and texture and children use these to represent their own feelings. During Key Stage Two children develop their creativity and imagination through more complex activities. We build on skills, control of materials, tools and techniques. Children become more critically aware of the role and purpose of art, craft and design in different cultures by visiting galleries, exhibitions and by working alongside artists in school.

## MUSIC



Music is a unique form of communication that is valued here at school. It enables personal expression, reflection and emotional development that enable our children to understand themselves and to relate to others as an integral part of culture both past and present. At the early stage children listen carefully and respond physically to a wide range of music. They are given the opportunity to explore and create sounds using instruments and to sing for pleasure. Further up the school, children play and sing with increasing confidence with opportunity to develop compositions and performance for others. A wide range of music is available for the children to listen to. Tuition on violin, guitar, brass and woodwind is offered currently. All pupils in Year Five receive whole class instrumental tuition free of charge under the Wider Opportunities scheme.

## PHYSICAL EDUCATION (PE)

We know that PE develops our children's physical competence and confidence. It provides the opportunity to be creative, competitive and to face up to different challenges as individuals, in small groups or as part of a team. It also encourages a positive attitude towards a healthy and active lifestyle for the future. At Key Stage One, children build on their natural enthusiasm for movement, developing skills in exploring, experimenting, moving and co-ordination. New skills are introduced at Key Stage Two with further emphasis on creativity, communication, collaboration and competition. The school participates with other local schools in a range of sporting activities. Swimming lessons take place in Year 3 and Year 4 and skills are taught to develop the core requirements of the National Curriculum.



## EARLY YEARS FOUNDATION STAGE



The Foundation Stage is the period of education from age three to five.

During the first year the children may be in a range of settings such as Local Authority nursery schools or classes, private day nurseries, playgroups or child-minder provision.

The second year of the Foundation Stage is the Reception year when the majority of children join a school reception class during this time.

Children at St. Bede's join the Reception Class in the September of the academic year when they become five.

### **Why is it important?**

The Foundation Stage claims its name and importance from the fact it gives children secure foundations for later learning. Early experiences affect children's attitude to learning so it is vitally important we get it right.

All children learn best from experiences that are suitable for their stage of development. Play is key to the way young children learn. Through play children can develop, for example: the confidence needed for learning; the social skills needed for personal development and the skills needed for reading and writing.

We encourage independence from an early stage to aid problem solving skills. Taking all this into account, the children will be given the opportunity to learn through a carefully planned, well-balanced, topic based curriculum.

### **What does it involve?**

There are seven areas of learning and development in early years. All areas of learning and development are important and inter-connected.

- **Communication and language development:**

giving children opportunities to experience a rich language environment; to develop their confidence and skills in expressing themselves; and to speak and listen in a range of situations.

- **Physical development:**

providing opportunities for young children to be active and interactive; and to develop their co-ordination, control, and movement. Children must also be helped to understand the importance of physical activity, and to make healthy choices in relation to food.

- **Personal, social and emotional development:**

helping children to develop a positive sense of themselves, and others; to form positive relationships and develop respect for others; to develop social skills and learn how to manage their feelings; to understand appropriate behaviour in groups; and to have confidence in their own abilities.



- **Literacy development:**

encouraging children to link sounds and letters and to begin to read and write. Children must be given access to a wide range of reading materials (books, poems, and other written materials) to ignite their interest.

- **Mathematical development:**

providing children with opportunities to develop and improve their skills in counting, understanding and using numbers, calculating simple addition and subtraction problems; and to describe shapes, spaces, and measures.

- **Understanding the world:**

guiding children to make sense of their physical world and their community through opportunities to explore, observe and find out about people, places, technology and the environment.

- **Expressive arts and design:**



enabling children to explore and play with a wide range of media and materials, as well as providing opportunities and encouragement for sharing their thoughts, ideas and feelings through a variety of activities in art, music, movement, dance, role-play, and design and technology.

During the Foundation Stage, these areas of learning will be introduced in ways that are suitable for young children including practical, fun, stimulating and challenging activities. The children will be given opportunities to build upon their existing skills and interests to aid their development.

## SCHOOL ORGANISATION

### **THE SCHOOL BUILDING AND GROUNDS**

The school opened in January 1964 as a three class Infant School. This was extended in 1971 to five classes and extended again giving us seven classes in the summer of 2010.

The school is adjacent to a small copse and is surrounded by spacious playing fields and a hard surfaced area. We also have a multi-use games area (MUGA), an outdoor classroom and fenced-off pond with a dipping platform which provides a resource for environmental education. The buildings and grounds are protected by CCTV and there is a controlled door entry system.

### **ORGANISATION OF CLASSES**

There are currently 187 children on roll who are divided into 7 classes by year group.

### **EXTRA CURRICULAR ACTIVITIES**

The school tries to maintain a range of activities to suit the children's interests and abilities. Sporting activities include football, netball, swimming, athletics, judo, fencing. Music tuition is offered for guitar, woodwind, violin and brass. Choir sessions are also held for which there is no charge. Children in Year Six have the opportunity to participate in Cheshire's 'Bikeability' scheme, which is taught by qualified instructors.

### **PARTNER SCHOOL**

The school has a partner school in Europe – The Scuola 'Francesco Crispi', Vittorio Veneto in north eastern Italy. We enjoy visits from the staff and children of the school and share details of our customs and daily lives in and out of school with our friends. We provide the opportunity to visit the school in Italy with Year Five and Six children and members of staff. We also share curriculum expertise and plan joint projects with each other. From Years Two to Six the children all have pen friends with whom they communicate either by letter or e-mail.

### **EDUCATIONAL VISITS**

We try to maintain a full programme of visits to supplement the curriculum. These are funded by parents' voluntary contributions. We also value the experience of residential visits using Cheshire Outdoor Education Centres and centres in Lancashire, Wrexham and in the Lake District. Pupils also participate in a residential visit to London

### **THE SCHOOL DAY**

The school opens at 8.45am for children to come in and be prepared for lessons starting at 8.55am. There is no supervision outside before 8.45am and children should therefore not remain unaccompanied on the premises before this time.

<b>SCHOOL DAY</b>	
Foundation Stage and KS1	8.55am – 12.00 noon (15-minute morning & afternoon break) 1.00pm – 3.25pm
Key Stage 2	8.55am – 12.30pm (15-minute morning break) 1.20pm – 3.25pm

## **TRAVELLING TO AND FROM SCHOOL**

Safety is all-important when children arrive and leave school. We would ask parents and those dropping off or collecting children to adhere to our polite requests.

- ❖ **Please** do not use the school drive or car park at the start and end of the school day
- ❖ **Please** do not drop off, collect or turn your car at the top of the drive
- ❖ **Please** do not park on Bourne Close or close to any junctions and in particular the junctions with Northwich Road and Meadow Road
- ❖ **Please** do not park or stop on the yellow zig zag lines outside school.
- ❖ **Please** do not drive onto or park on our neighbours' grass verges.

## **PASTORAL CARE AND DISCIPLINE**

Every effort is made in school to provide each child with the love and care a parent would show. By creating an atmosphere of co-operation and mutual respect within the school, children are encouraged to maintain high standards of discipline and manners as well as consideration for all members of the community and its environment.

## **HOME-SCHOOL AGREEMENTS**

The Home-School Agreement was drawn up by parents, teachers and governors and outlines what is expected of parents, children and the school in contributing to their child's education. These are available for pupils and their parents to sign.

## **SPECIAL EDUCATIONAL NEEDS and DISABILITIES**

As our Mission Statement explains we encourage all children to develop their full potential. We aim to identify special educational needs and address them as soon as possible after admission or at any point where they arise during the Primary years. Parents are always consulted and kept informed of events especially where specialist help is required. The school Special Educational Needs and Disabilities Co-ordinator (SENDCO) liaises with external agencies and experts to ensure that the appropriate support is in place for children and staff.

## **ASSESSMENT, RECORDS AND REPORTS**

Children's work is assessed at regular intervals and detailed records of progress are maintained. Formal Assessments take place at the end of the Foundation Stage. Parent Teacher Consultations take place in the autumn and spring terms when parents are invited to discuss their child's progress with the teacher. Written reports and the results of tests are issued in the summer term and parents have the opportunity to discuss these with staff and review their child's targets. Parents may also ring at any time to request an appointment with the child's teacher.

## **SCHOOL COMPLAINTS**

If parents/carers have a complaint about the way the Education Authority, the Governing Body, the Headteacher or any staff carry out their responsibilities for the curriculum, we hope that in the first instance, they feel they can discuss it with the Headteacher or Chair of Governors. A copy of our Complaints Procedure is available on the school web site under School Information - Policies.

## **ADMISSION TO SCHOOL**

The school has an Admissions Policy and Procedures written by the Governors that are reviewed annually. We have one admission date and all children are admitted in the September of the academic year in which they are five. Parents/carers are encouraged to inform the school if they are considering applying for a place for their child.

During September (before the child's 5<sup>th</sup> Birthday), an application will need to be made to Cheshire West and Chester Council's Admission Team to apply for the place/s. Applications can be made online at [www.cheshirewestandchester.gov.uk/admissions](http://www.cheshirewestandchester.gov.uk/admissions) or a paper application form can be submitted. Applications must be made by 15<sup>th</sup> January, to be considered on-time.

A supplementary Information Form will also need to be completed. The form is available to download from our School Website (School Information – Admissions) or by clicking on the link - [7800890 \(st-bedes.cheshire.sch.uk\)](http://7800890.st-bedes.cheshire.sch.uk) Once completed, please forward to Mrs J Hart at [bursar@st-bedes.cheshire.sch.uk](mailto:bursar@st-bedes.cheshire.sch.uk)

For a child to be considered as a Roman Catholic evidence of such Baptism will be required. Parents/Carers must send a copy of the baptismal certificate or a certificate of reception into the full communion of the Catholic Church, to school at the time the application is made.

Offer letters notifying parents/carers of the school place are sent out by the Admissions Team on 16 April. Online applications are able to view the result on this date. Parents/carers will have the option to decline the place/s if no longer required. Note: The school place offered will automatically be accepted unless the applicant notifies the admissions team otherwise. The Admissions Team telephone number is 0300 123 7039. Parents/carers who are not offered a place for their child at a school stated as a preference have a right of appeal to an independent appeals panel. Any appeal will need to be submitted before the deadline.

Pre-school liaison and preparation includes:

- ❖ visits by the class teacher to pre-school establishments
- ❖ parents/carers meetings and coffee afternoons in the summer term prior to starting
- ❖ opportunities to meet the Headteacher and other staff and find out further information about the school
- ❖ children spending time in the classroom prior to them starting full time
- ❖ invitations to parents/carers and children to attend Open Days, School Fair, Sports Day etc.
- ❖ helpful leaflets and booklets to support your child starting school.

Admission to other year groups depends on availability of places but all parents/carers and children are welcome to visit school. Application for in-year places can be made direct to the school (contact the school office on 01606 852149 if you have any queries) or through the Cheshire West and Chester, School Admissions Team.

Our Admissions Policy and application form is available to download from our school website: <http://www.st-bedes.cheshire.sch.uk/page/admissions/9313>

School visits are warmly welcomed. Please telephone the school office for an appointment.

## **TRANSFER TO SECONDARY EDUCATION**

At the end of Year 6 most children transfer to St Nicholas Catholic High School in Hartford.

## **LUNCH TIME**

ALL children in Reception, Year 1 and Year 2 classes, are entitled to receive a school meal, free of charge, under the government 'Universal Infant Free School Meal' scheme.

School dinners are cooked on the premises and for Key Stage 2 children (Years 3 – 6) must be paid for in advance at the start of the week, the current cost is £2.41 per meal. We use *SchoolMoney* payment system for the collection of dinner money (details are given in the starter pack).

Packed lunches may be brought in a named lunch box but no glass bottles please. We would ask that a healthy lunch is provided and that chocolate/sweets etc. are not brought into school for snack or lunch. Due to allergies in school, particularly 'Nut' allergies, we would ask that you avoid any nut based products for snack or in your child's lunch box.

## **THE PROVISION OF SPECIAL DIETS**

Our catering service '*Edsential*' is responsible throughout Cheshire West and Chester for the administration of special dietary requirements for children in schools.

With the increase in potentially worrying allergies, particularly those involving nuts, it is important that the correct procedure is adhered to.

In order for a special diet to be arranged, the parent/carer must obtain written confirmation from a hospital, clinic, or own doctor, together with the necessary dietary information.

This information should then be forwarded to Mrs Hart in the school office.

E-mail [bursar@st-bedes.cheshire.sch.uk](mailto:bursar@st-bedes.cheshire.sch.uk) who will forward on to the Allergen and Intolerances Team at Edsential. Edsential will endeavor to provide a special diet wherever possible, however, there may be occasions when they are unable to do so.

## **CULTURAL AND RELIGIOUS DIETS AND LIFE-STYLE CHOICES**

Our catering provider is able to make reasonable adjustments for pupils with other non-medical requirements, to reflect most cultural and religious diets along with other life-style choices. Please contact the school office for arrangements to be processed.

## **FREE SCHOOL MEALS – PUPIL PREMIUM REGISTRATION**

If you think that you may have an entitlement to Pupil Premium/free school meals (this is in respect of any child, infant or junior and NOT the Universal Infant Free School Meal) because you are in receipt of one of the following:

- Income Support (IS)
- Income-based Jobseeker's Allowance
- Income-related Employment and Support Allowance
- Support under Part VI of the Immigration and Asylum Act 1999
- The Guarantee element of State Pension Credit
- Child Tax Credit, provided you are not entitled to Working Tax Credit and have an annual income that does not exceed £16,190
- Universal Credit (provided you have an annual net earned income of no more than £7400)

Can you please contact the school office and ask for a Pupil Premium Registration Form. It is really important that you complete and return this form to make sure that the school gets the appropriate Pupil Premium funding. This funding is additional money which is given to school to spend on resources such as additional support, one to one tutoring, school trips etc. for your child.

For further information please contact Revenues and Benefits on 0300 123 7021.

### **BREAK TIME**

We aim to encourage healthy life styles at St Bede's and a range of snacks including fruit, toast and milk are available for purchase at morning break. Milk for under fives is free. Reception and Key Stage 1 pupils receive a free piece of fruit each day. We are a healthy school and request that pupils do not bring chocolate or sweets for snack.

### **HOMEWORK**

Homework is regarded as a very important extension to study in school and an important element of the home-school partnership. Homework is given from Reception upwards and varies in content and amount according to age. Every child is expected to read at home daily and we do ask that parents/carers share and complete reading and homework diaries with their child.

### **THE FRIENDS OF ST BEDE'S (FOSB)**

All parents/carers and teachers are automatically members of the Friends of St Bede's Association. The Friends provide opportunities for parents/carers and children to socialise as well as providing additional income through fundraising for the school. The Committee meets regularly to arrange social, fund-raising and educational activities.

### **DIOCESAN SCHOOL BUILDING FUND**

We belong to the Diocese of Shrewsbury. In return for the right to promote the Catholic Faith in our school and retain other distinct freedoms, 10% of the cost of building works and major repairs must be funded by the Diocese. In the past, these costs were provided by the Parish connected to the school. However, due to falling Mass attendance, the School Building Fund was set up by the Diocese in September 2000. Each autumn we ask for a voluntary contribution of £15 per child to support this important fund.

### **HEALTH**

The Cheshire and Wirral Partnership NHS Foundation Trust arranges for pupils in Reception Year to receive a health assessment. This includes a health questionnaire which will help the school nurse to identify: if your child's Immunisations are up to date; if your child is registered with a dentist and if your child has any medical or health problems. Also, your child will be offered vision and hearing screening and have their height and weight measured as part of the National Child Measurement Programme (NCMP). A further health assessment will be completed in Year 6 on transition to high school.

## INFECTIOUS DISEASES

In order to minimise the risk of transmission of infection to other children and members of staff, children should not be in school until they feel well and the following guidelines have been adhered to:

INFECTIOUS DISEASE	HEALTH GUIDELINES
Coronavirus	Please contact school, if you or your family have any symptoms of Coronavirus, for the latest guidance.
Chickenpox	5 days from the onset of the rash or until all vesicles have crusted over
German Measles (Rubella)	4 days from the onset of the rash
Measles	4 days from the onset of the rash
Mumps	5 days from onset of swollen glands
Scarlet Fever	Child can return 24 hours after commencing appropriate antibiotic treatment
Whooping cough	5 days from commencing antibiotic treatment
Diarrhoea and/or Vomiting	48 Hours from last episode of diarrhoea or vomiting
Impetigo	Until lesions are crusted and healed or 48 hours after starting antibiotic treatment
Slapped Cheek	Please inform school. This could affect vulnerable children or staff.

For advice regarding other medical conditions, please speak to the school office staff, who will be happy to help.

## WHEN YOUR CHILD IS SICK

If your child is unable to come to school due to sickness or any other reason, please telephone school before 9.10am on the first day of absence to let us know.

**ASTHMA** – Parents will be asked to complete an Asthma Card (record of medication, quantity and times) which should be returned to school together with a spare inhaler/spacer etc. for school use. Inhalers/spacers etc. should be clearly marked with the child's name. Children must be familiar with the use of their inhaler etc.

**HEADLICE (NITS)** - This is a common complaint in schools and in the wider community. Parents/carers should check hair regularly and if live lice are found, should treat with recommended products. Please seek advice from the local Pharmacy.

**WARTS/VERRUCAE** - Affected children may go swimming but verrucae should be covered.

## MEDICINES

Please contact the school if your child requires medication to be given during the school day. A Request for Medication Form will need to be completed by the parent/carer before any medication can be administered.

## SCHOOL UNIFORM

<b>Winter - September/October to Easter</b>	Bottle green skirt/tunic White blouse – long or short sleeved Bottle green cardigan, sweatshirt* or sweatshirt cardigan* Grey trousers – short or long White shirt – long or short sleeved Bottle green Sweatshirt ALL Green/Gold tie* Black shoes of a sensible style
<b>Summer – Easter to October half term</b>	Green gingham dress Sandals of a sensible style and colour  Grey trousers – short or long Bottle green Sweatshirt White polo shirt* No tie required with summer uniform
<b>PE Kit</b>	Green shorts* White T-shirt* Trainers (NOT pumps) Bottle green jogging bottoms* Bottle green hoody*  <i><b>For reception pupils only – PE Kit needs to be brought into school in a draw string bag.</b></i>

\*These items are available from our approved supplier: My School Style and their website can also be accessed via this link <http://myschoolstyle.com/school-shop/st-bedes-catholic-primary-school/> We do hold a stock of ties and these can be purchased from school.

Items can also be sourced from other outlets, supermarkets, market stalls etc. (uniform is acceptable without the school logo but must be the correct colour. We also have a selection of pre-loved uniform which can be obtained from the Friends of St Bede's (our PTA Association). Please contact the school office if you require further information or clarification.

### **Please note:**

- ❖ All items must be labelled with the child's name to avoid confusion over mislaid articles.
- ❖ Some indoor PE lessons are done in bare feet.
- ❖ Bottle green jogging bottoms and hoodies may be worn in cold weather for outdoor lessons.
- ❖ Appropriate green, black or white hair accessories should be worn.
- ❖ Summer uniform may be worn during September and October but not after October half-term
- ❖ Long hair must always be tied back with a soft bobble (green, black or white) to prevent entanglement in apparatus and to prevent obscuring vision.

### **BOOK BAGS**

Replacement book bags for carrying reading books home in are available to purchase in school.

## **JEWELLERY**

Jewellery can present problems of safety especially during PE lessons and playtime. The wearing of jewellery including earrings, sleepers etc. is therefore prohibited except for wrist watches. The school does not however, accept the responsibility for the loss or damage of any item or article of value, which is brought into school.

## **HOLIDAYS DURING TERM TIME**

From 1 September 2013, amendments to the Education (Pupil Registration) (England) Regulations 2013 came into force. **The new law does not give any entitlement to parents/carers to take their child/children on holiday during term time.** Any applications for leave of absence must be in exceptional circumstances and the Headteacher must be satisfied that the circumstances warrant the granting of leave. Parents can be fined by the Local Authority for taking their child/children on holiday during term time without consent from the school.

Further information can be obtained from

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/school-attendance>

## **ATTENDANCE - ACADEMIC YEAR 2022/2023**

Attendance figures up to and including the 31 May 2022 are as follows:

Attendance	-	94.9%
Authorised Absences (sessions missed through authorised absence)	-	4.4%
Unauthorised Absences (sessions missed through unauthorised absence)	-	0.7%

## **SUNRISE-SUNSET (BEFORE AND AFTER SCHOOL CARE)**

The Sunrise-Sunset club is open to all! Registration with the club would need to be completed and availability confirmed before a booking could be made.

The club operates during term time and is open each day from 8am until 8.50am in the morning and from 3.20pm until 5.20pm in the afternoon.

Further details and Registration Form can be obtained regarding this facility by contacting Mrs Rudkin on 07951 996711.

## TEACHING STAFF 2022/23

TEACHERS	POSITION
Ms L Conlon	Headteacher
Mrs A Jones	Deputy Headteacher & Year 6 Teacher
Miss J Welch	Year Reception
Mrs J Brady	Year 1 Teacher
Mrs H Burgoyne	Year 2 Teacher
Mrs S Meadows	Year 2 Teacher
Mrs J Armstrong	Year 3 Teacher
Mrs L Mullins	Year 4 Teacher & SENCO
Mrs E Dimbylow	Year 4 Teacher
Miss I Silker	Year 5 Teacher
Mrs N Reed	Year 6 Teacher

## SUPPORT STAFF

Mrs J Hart	Bursar
Mrs K Ashall	Clerical Officer
Mrs M Trigg	HLTA
Ms B Mahoney	Teaching Assistant
Mrs J Hamnett	Teaching Assistant
Mrs E Parker	Teaching Assistant
Miss K Robson	Teaching Assistant
Ms C Callaghan	Teaching Assistant
Miss D Sutton	Teaching Assistant
Mrs C Casse	Teaching Assistant
Mrs M Axford	Swimming Teacher

Mr A Birkin	Site Maintenance Officer
Miss S Catterall	Cleaner
Mrs H De Gaunza	Cook in charge
Miss L Brown	Kitchen Assistant
Miss N Rodrigues	Kitchen Assistant
Mrs E Bennett	Mid-day Assistant
Mrs S Powell	Mid-day Assistant
Miss S Catterall	Mid-day Assistant
Mrs R Wood	Mid-day Assistant
Miss D Sutton	Mid-day Assistant

## SCHOOL GOVERNORS

2023/24

NAME	TYPE OF GOVERNOR	APPOINTED & TERM EXPIRES
Mrs P Aspinall	Foundation (Chair)	01.09.22 – 31.08.2026
Fr P Standish	Foundation	01.09.22 – 31.08.2026
Mr C Lawton	Foundation (Vice Chair)	01.09.2020 – 31.8.2024
Mr I Bradley	Foundation	01.09.2020 – 31.8.2024
Mr P Hallman	Foundation	16.3.21 – 31/8/2024
Mr I Little	Foundation	01.09.22 – 31.08.2026
Mrs D Nisbet	Foundation	01.09.2020 – 31.8.2024
Mrs J Waters	Foundation	01/09/2020 – 31/08/2024
Mrs J Starsiak-Roberts	Elected Parent	01/12/2020 – 30/11/2024
Mrs M Meakin	Elected Parent	05/01/2023 – 04/01/2027
Miss I Silker	Elected Teacher	14/03/2023 – 13/3/2027
Vacancy	Local Authority Representative	
Ms L Conlon	Headteacher	On-going
Cheshire West and Chester Clerking Service	Clerk to Governors	On-going

If you wish to contact any of the Governors please write c/o. the school.

Keepers Lane, Weaverham, Cheshire CW8 3BY

Tel: 01606 852149 Fax: 01606 851175

Headteacher: Ms L Conlon

Deputy Headteacher: Mrs A Jones

Email: [head@st-bedes.cheshire.sch.uk](mailto:head@st-bedes.cheshire.sch.uk)

Website: [www.st-bedes.cheshire.sch.uk](http://www.st-bedes.cheshire.sch.uk)

	<b>TERM BEGINS</b>	<b>TERM ENDS</b>
<b>AUTUMN TERM</b>		
Autumn 1	Tuesday 5 September 2023	Thursday 19 October
<i>Autumn Half Term 2023</i>	<i>20 October – 29 October</i>	
Autumn 2	Monday 30 October	Wednesday 20 December
<i>Christmas Break</i>	<i>21 December - 2 January</i>	
<b>SPRING TERM</b>		
Spring 1	Wednesday 3 January 2024	Thursday 15 February
<i>Spring Half Term 2024</i>	<i>16 February – 25 February</i>	
Spring 2	Monday 26 February	Thursday 28 March
<i>Easter Break 2024</i>	<i>29 March - 14 April</i>	
<b>SUMMER TERM</b>		
Summer 1	Monday 15 April 2024	Friday 24 May
<i>Bank Holiday May Day</i>	<i>Monday 6 May</i>	
<i>Summer Half Term 2024</i>	<i>25 May - 2 June</i>	
Summer 2	Monday 3 June	Thursday 18 July 2024

**INSET DAYS (STAFF ONLY)**  
 MONDAY 4 SEPTEMBER 2023  
 FRIDAY 20 OCTOBER 2023  
 FRIDAY 16 FEBRUARY 2024  
 FRIDAY 19 JULY 2024  
 MONDAY 22 JULY 2024

**PLEASE DO NOT TAKE HOLIDAYS OR MAKE ANY APPOINTMENTS DURING TERM TIME  
 PUPIL STATUTORY ASSESSMENTS WILL TAKE PLACE DURING THE SUMMER TERM**