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DIDSBURY CE
PRIMARY SCHOOL

Welcome

Welcome to Didsbury CE Primary

Set in the heart of Didsbury village, Didsbury CE Primary has been serving the local community by providing excellent education for over 400 years.

As a one form entry school of approximately 240 pupils, we know all our children by name and their academic, creative and spiritual development is at the heart of all we do. Whilst our modern curriculum forms the backbone of learning, we know the importance of friendly faces and a helping hand. Our children are guided, supported, nurtured and challenged to reach their full potential.

We are proud to have been rated as Outstanding by Ofsted since 2008 and in 2019 we were judged to be Excellent after our Statutory Inspection of Anglican and Methodist Schools (SIAMS) visit.

Didsbury CE Primary is the founder member of the highly regarded St James and Emmanuel Academy Trust that includes West Didsbury CE, St Wilfrid's CE and St Elisabeth's CE.



Rated Outstanding by Ofsted since 2008, we aim to provide an exceptional education, high quality teaching and a warm and inclusive learning environment.

Ethos & Aims

Vision Statement

Our Christian school exists to provide a welcoming environment in which everybody is cherished and challenged to fulfil their potential.

Rooted in Mark 4 30-32



Our vision is lived out through the three key values that all St James and Emmanuel Trust schools share:

Belonging

- To each other in mutual support, respect and trust
- To the community of Didsbury, committed to playing an active role in providing outstanding local primary schooling
- To the Diocese of Manchester, as part of a family of 191 distinctive Church of England schools
- To the world in which we live, caring for the whole of creation regardless of race, religion or background

Believing

- In our gifts and abilities, as each child is unique and valuable
- In our potential, as each child will be challenged and nurtured
- In our Christian faith, as each child will be guided by our church ethos and values

Becoming

- Responsible and productive – a force for good in society
- Engaged and pro-active – ready to change and challenge the world around us
- Aware of our vocation, with a growing sense of purpose and preference
- Well-rounded and self-aware, through an holistic and broad-based education



EYFS - Early Years Foundation Stage The Best Start

This is where the journey begins. Our curriculum in Nursery and Reception encourages investigation, creativity and exploration, whilst developing core skills and knowledge in early reading, writing and maths.

Our Early Years curriculum focuses on exploration, experimentation and investigation within a safe environment where children can question, acquire new skills and knowledge and gain a sound understanding of the world around them.

Our rich and balanced curriculum encourages our youngest children in their social, emotional and physical development. We also develop their communication, language and early reading and mathematics. We create opportunities for them to creatively explore art, design and technology.

Working at their individual pace ensures they gain the most from learning so that they are ready to tackle the next steps of their educational journey.

We believe our role at Didsbury CE Primary is to spark interest, ignite a lifelong love of learning and foster an environment in which children feel comfortable to ask all kinds of questions.



KS1 & KS2



Key Stage 1 - Years 1 & 2

Developing and applying new skills

In Years 1 and 2, our staff build on the learning gained in Reception as children move into the next stage of their education. Children in Key Stage 1 gain a deeper understanding of the core aspects of reading, writing and phonics in English, and number and spatial awareness in maths. This solid foundation is complemented with a broad and balanced curriculum that gives an opportunity to explore humanities, science and technology, as well as creative subjects, spiritual and physical development.



Key Stage 2 - Years 3 - 6

A deeper love of learning

Children emerge from Key Stage 1 with a strong foundation in all subject areas. During their four years in Key Stage 2, they develop and mature into young people fully equipped for life in secondary school.

Key Stage 2 children follow the National Curriculum and develop a deeper knowledge and understanding of all of the subject areas. This includes the core subjects of English, maths, science and religious education (RE) as well as the foundation subjects of history geography, art, design and technology, computing, Spanish, music, personal social and health education and physical education (PE) including swimming.



Extra Curriculum and Visits

Extra Curricular

Every term, we run an extensive timetable of extra-curricular activities as part of our curricular enrichment programme. With about a dozen clubs taking place during any one term across the school, there is plenty to choose from; at lunch-time and at the end of the school day.

Activities are organised by staff in their own time or by external providers. They include football, netball, art, tennis, dodgeball, yoga, knitting, chess, running club, recorder, book club, choir, piano, Passport to Sport and Spanish.

Elm Grove Kids Club

Before and after school care facilities are available via The Elm Grove Kids Club. The club is managed and organised by Lisa and her staff are all qualified in child care and DBS checked.

The club provides children aged 3-11 years with a welcoming, safe, and stimulating play environment. Staff at the club are committed to meeting the needs of each child and strive to develop their skills through play at every opportunity possible.

The club is proud to have met all of Ofsted's high standards.

Forest School

We utilise the grounds of our sister school of West Didsbury CE to experience Forest School. Here children extend their learning within the context of the natural world. Through a programme of discovery, they learn to take risks, work collaboratively and develop new skills, which in turn, fosters confidence, independence and creative thinking.

Children enjoy a mix of activities including den building, knot tying, learning how to use tools safely and by far the most enjoyable - roasting marshmallows on an open fire!

External Trips & Visits

Trips and visits are a hugely popular part of the curriculum throughout the school and give children the opportunity to explore a wide range of places and events.

Recently our children have visited Stockport Air-raid Shelters, Bramall Hall, Imperial War Museum, local places of worship and Smithills Farm, to name but a few.

Year 6 enjoy a yearly residential trip, which they all thoroughly enjoy and make memories to last a lifetime. Team bonding activities, individual skills development, confidence building, outdoor pursuits, plus the experience of living together 24 hours a day, all combine to ensure each and every child benefits.



Safeguarding & Inclusion

We take very seriously our responsibility for the all-round development of each and every child, and have robust systems in place to ensure their development needs are met whatever they might be.

Safeguarding

We have created a safe learning environment for all of our pupils and staff so everyone at our school feels safe, valued and confident that they will be listened to if they have any concerns.

Our curriculum is designed to ensure opportunities for children to develop the skills they need in order to stay safe whilst accessing the Internet. Children know that they can approach any of the adults in school if they are worried and that they will receive a consistent supportive response. If you would like to know more about our policy or procedures for safeguarding, please speak to our Designated Safeguarding Leads. Details can be found in the school office or on the school website.

In recognising our responsibilities for safeguarding and child protection, as a school we:

- have clear staff recruitment and selection procedures, ensuring that all staff (including volunteers) who have unsupervised access to children, have been appropriately checked for their suitability through the DBS procedure;
- aim to raise awareness of child protection issues and equip children with the skills needed to keep them safe;
- develop and implement procedures for identifying and reporting cases, or suspected cases of abuse;
- support children who have been abused in accordance with his/her Child Protection Plan;
- establish a safe and nurturing environment free from discrimination or bullying where children can learn and develop happily.

Inclusion - Catering for the needs of all children

We believe that every child is unique and special, and we are committed to developing cultures, policies and practices that are inclusive. We have systems to identify when children have barriers affecting their learning and tailor specific interventions to enable pupils to overcome their barriers. This practice of personalising learning applies to all pupils across the learning spectrum, including pupils who are identified as academically more able.

Where children are identified as needing additional learning or behavioural support, the school adheres to the 2014 SEND Code of Practice. Each child's needs are individually and appropriately catered for and relevant outside agencies are involved in providing guidance and support.

If a child is identified as requiring additional help, we identify and put into place strategies to support their learning and development, which are discussed with parents. Our robust systems of identification and support ensure that pupils notice a positive impact on their progress.



Parental Involvement

We welcome parents being active partners in their child's education. Parents can get further involved as active members of the PTA or by offering to help in school or perhaps serving on our governing body.

Our PTA is involved in organising many school events including coffee mornings, discos and seasonal fairs and help to raise much needed funds for our school. In recent times the PTA has funded a new suite of computers, bought a new stage for drama productions and bought a range of equipment for our Reception and Nursery outdoor provision. As well as that, the PTA subsidise the cost of school trips for each class.

Church Links

As a faith school, our links with St James and Emmanuel churches are strong and form the basis of our pastoral teaching and learning. This includes religious education within the curriculum and key services within the academic year which are held in the community churches. We also have a clergy-led act of worship held in school each week.

Admissions

The Application Process

We trust that you are impressed by everything that Didsbury CE Primary has to offer. The next step is applying to get your children into the school. This is how admissions work.

Didsbury CE Primary School is a one-form entry primary school for children aged 4-11. Every September we welcome 30 children into our reception class - although high priority is given to children with Church connections, other local children are welcome and attend the school and nursery in significant numbers.

As a Church of England school with strong links to St James & Emmanuel Didsbury, we admit in the first instance, children whose parents/carers have a proven commitment to that church - although priority is first given to children with an Education Health & Care Plan (EHCP) naming Didsbury CE Primary School, looked after and previously looked after children, and siblings of children already attending the school.

There are further categories, including children of parents who worship elsewhere and of other faiths - please download the full admissions policy from our website www.didsbury-pri.manchester.sch.uk. In all categories, priority will be given to children living nearest the school.

The “proven commitment” to church is established by a faith leader’s reference form, and again is downloadable from our website.

In order to apply for a place at Didsbury CE Primary you need to do two things.

1. Apply directly to the school using the downloadable forms from our website www.didsbury-pri.manchester.sch.uk. Don't forget to fill in the faith leader's form if applying for a place based on faith.

2. Remember also to apply through Manchester City Council's coordinated admissions process. If you would like West Didsbury CE as your second preference, please make that very clear on the form. Please contact them directly if you have not received details of this process.

In-year admissions

If you would like to enrol your child at another age group please apply online through Manchester City Council's primary school admissions process, or ring us to make an appointment to take a look round.



The School Day

Nursery

Morning session
8.50am – 11.45am
Afternoon session
1.05pm – 3.10pm

KS1

8.50 Registration
8.55 Collective Worship
9.10 Teaching Time
10.30 Break
10.45 Teaching time
12.10 Lunchtime
1.15 Registration
1.20 Teaching time
2.15 Afternoon break
2.30 Teaching time
3.10 End of school day

KS2

8.50 Registration
8.55 Collective Worship
9.10 Teaching Time
11.10 Break
11.25 Teaching time
12.25 Lunchtime
1.15 Registration
1.20 Teaching time
3.10 End of school day



Didsbury Church of England Primary School

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