



## Strategic Plan 2022-2025

### Our Mission



## Introduction

The Leadership at St Mary's have identified what our vision for the children is in the next three years.

We are proud of our school and look to this vision as a way to share what our aspirations are for the next few years. The ways in which we will achieve this vision will be shared yearly in the School Improvement plan (SIP) which is also published on the website.

Our Mission: *Live, Love, Believe*, is the web upon which all our school life is woven.

Our Vision: *Aspirational in Life, Joy in Love and Transformed in Belief*, are the threads that strengthen this Mission so that it is impactful for all who are part of school community.

### *Aspirational in Life*

This means that the school offers children a vibrant and challenging curriculum that supports the educational growth for each child, meeting them where they are and given the confidence and skills to aim high. Our learning teams and school leadership show through their actions that our school is a school that is the best for **all** its pupils.

### *Joy in Love*

This means that all children have the experienced of professional love within the school, recognising that each child is their parent's child, their community's child, the world's child and God's child. Each child should have the opportunity to grow emotionally strong in our school, that recognises that each child has different life experiences that impact their arrival with us.

### *Transformed in Belief*

This means that all children have the opportunity to develop as their personal spiritual life. This is shared within the school through the Catholic teachings of Love of God and Love of neighbour and the Virtues that underpin the school Mission.

Our vision ensures that the school's improvement plans as well as the curriculum and experiences within the day to day life of the school are focussed to ensure that ALL pupils will achieve the very best that they can, knowing that they are loved by God.

## Plan Development and Review

The strategic plan is an ongoing three-year long-term strategic intent. In setting out our strategic priorities we share with and build with our community the aims of all the actions within the school.

The plan will be reviewed with all stakeholders annually.

Each year the Executive Headteacher reviews a Self-evaluation form with the Governing Body:

2022: St Mary's is a one form entry Voluntary Aided Catholic primary school. The school is situated in the town of Ryde, with views of the Solent in the grounds of the school, which have wonderful wooded areas at the rear of the school. The outside environment has been identified as a focus for improvements to become used more frequently and effectively through Forest Schools and other outside learning.

The school was judged as Requires Improvement by Ofsted (2019) and Good by the Diocese (2016). On taking over the school in September 2022 the Executive Headteacher, Head of School and Governors have identified that the areas in which the school needed to improve were:

*Improve the quality of teaching and the progress that pupils make by:*

- ensuring that teachers' expectations of what pupils can achieve are consistently high and tasks challenge pupils more effectively*
- making sure that questions challenge pupils to think more deeply about their learning*
- providing pupils with more opportunities to use and apply their writing skills and knowledge, particularly when writing at greater length.*

*Improve the provision for early reading by:*

- ensuring a Phonics scheme is used by all staff to provide coherence of delivery*
- Using decodable books to send home so that children's learning is supported by the home experience*
- Securing appropriate CPD for all staff including Pre-school and KS2 staff*

As a Catholic School, the Mission and Virtues are the web and the threads of the school's purpose and aims. The school's links with the Parish has been limited in previous years. It is essential and a core part of the Executive Head's role that this relationship is developed and that all children have a full faithful experience of Catholic Education.

The school operates closely within the Federation of St Mary's and St Thomas's. Strong links are forged and maintained with the Island Catholic Cluster as well as the Diocese and Catholic Teaching School Alliance. The Executive Head has also joined the National Formation of Catholic Leaders Alliance.

## Strategic priorities

### Aspirational in Life

St Mary' believes that the stronger the start the children achieve within their formative years within the school the stronger their growth throughout the school. We have committed to this belief by enabling additional staff to support the first two years of the school. The focus within EYFS is to enable pupils to quickly engage with the learning environment so that more pupils are able to access the Early Learning Goals by the end of their time in Reception. This means when they join Year 1 they do so in as strong a way as possible. There is a clear focus on language and phonic acquisition with the school using Bug Club Phonics to underpin this learning.

St Mary's curriculum is developing. The aim is that it will be thorough and show clear progression of knowledge understanding and skills. Subject leaders are being trained to support this within the class by reviewing the planning and delivery of the subject within classrooms and supporting through CPD and resource suggestions.

Our outdoor curriculum is a priority so that children are able to use this resource to engage first hand with their curriculum as well as explore as stewards of God's creation.

With the support of the learning teams, the subject leads, the SENDco and the Leadership will be focussed on understanding in a granular way the needs of the pupils so that we can address barriers and meet the needs of the pupils. This will be supported within school by a review of the SEND provision and the use of planning assess and track progress of pupils.

### Joy in Love

To be positive learners, the pupils need to have good mental wellbeing. They need to have the opportunities to love and respect themselves to be able to love and respect others as well as the opportunities to experience the love of God.

Pupils will be supported through the school establishing Zones of Regulation and with the use of Thrive to have strategies and responses planned so that the pupils are able to progress in their well-being so that they are more open to their learning. This will be monitored through an emotional provision map and pupil passports that will progress with each child throughout their time at the school.

### Transformed in Belief

As a Catholic Community the school will be an outward sign of the inward grace afforded to us by God's love. This will be evident in the opportunities developed for each child to engage annually with a programme of faith that develops links with the parish, school community and Diocese. As well as the stewardship experienced within the curriculum, our children will also have the opportunities to see themselves as part of the world community through trips, visitors and activities. The COVID lockdown has meant that many children have had their horizons become

more and more limited. This focus will be planned to reopen and indeed broaden the horizons again for the whole community.

*How will we know we have been successful in our strategic priorities?*

Our pupils will leave St Mary's as role models for others. They will grow onwards to become the leaders of the future.

They will believe in themselves, be aspirational for themselves and their communities.

They will embody the statement: be the change you want to see in the world.

Their lives will continue to live the mission of the school and the vision of Pope Francis when he spoke to children saying:

*"Learn from wonder; nurture astonishment. Live, love, believe."*