

School Prospectus 2022-2023

St Aidan's Church in Wales VA School

Wiston, Haverfordwest Pembrokeshire SA62 4PS

Email: admin.staidans@pembrokeshire.gov.uk

www.st-aidans.pembrokeshire.sch.uk

Tel : 01437 731449

Headteacher: Mrs S James



St Aidan's Church in Wales VA School

Wiston

Haverfordwest

SA62 4PS

01437 731449

<http://www.st-aidans.pembrokeshire.sch.uk/>

Head Teacher – Mrs S James

Chair of Governors – Mrs H Coleman

Classification of School – Voluntary Aided

Category of School – EM (English Medium)

Age range of pupils – 3 to 11

Number on roll – 72

Welcome to St. Aidan's Church in Wales V.A. School.

Our school is a special place for children to come and learn each day. We value every child and want each one to receive an excellent education and be happy and feel safe and secure. We are a school with a reputation of having high educational standards and for fully committed staff. We are proud of the friendly and cooperative atmosphere which is always evident. Every child is encouraged to fulfil their own potential and develop attitudes of mutual respect and responsibility through a Christian ethos.

Even though, as Head teacher, I have overall responsibility for all aspects of school life, I rely on the support of all the staff, Governing Body and you as parents. Together we want to nurture a love of learning, to equip all pupils with the tools they need to succeed in education and life, helping them to achieve their very best.

Please do not hesitate to visit the school to meet the staff and the children, who will be only too pleased to show you around and share with you the many activities undertaken. I am sure your association with our school will be a memorable and happy one.

With best wishes

Mrs Sarah James

School Motto: Believe and Achieve

School Vision:

*Our school is a welcoming, warm hearted place and a bubble of trust where we can feel safe to talk to God and follow the Christian values. We are encouraged to become independent and confident in ourselves as well as in society. We are challenged to reach our highest potential and climb the ladder of life because we **'Believe and Achieve'**.*

The school vision was written by members of the school council following consultation with pupils, staff, parents, governors and members of the local church and community.

Mission Statement:

We aim to provide a pleasant, secure and enjoyable environment for the children, built on a Christian foundation encouraging each child's development as an individual and as a member of society.

School Prayer:

*Father see thy children here,
For Thy blessings gather near;
Be with us in our school today,
And help us in our work and play.
Amen*

Ein Gweddi Cymraeg:

*Diolch Dduw am ffrindiau da
Helpwch fi i weithion galed
Ac i chwarae'n hapus
Amen*

St Aidan's Church in Wales VA School

Staff 2022 - 2023

Teachers: Mrs S James (Head Teacher)
Mrs W MacGarvie
Mrs S Thorne
Mrs J Cole
Mr S Morris

Higher Level Teaching Assistants: Miss K Roberts
Mrs J Cole

Teaching Assistants: Mrs S Devonald
Mrs J Butler
Miss R Adams

Admin Officer: Mrs M Hatswell

Cook: Mrs L Harries

Meals Clerical Assistant: Mrs B Thomas

Breakfast Club Supervisors: Mrs S Devonald
Miss R Adams
Mrs J Butler (relief)

Lunchtime Supervisors: Mrs S Devonald
Mrs J Cole
Miss K Roberts
Mrs J Butler
Miss R Adams (relief)

Caretaker: Mr W Phillips

Cleaner: Mr W Phillips
Miss R Adams (relief)

Governing Body 2022 – 23

Diocesan Director:	Rev J Cecil
Parent Governor:	Mrs H Coleman (Chair)
Head Teacher:	Mrs S James
Teaching Governor:	Mrs W MacGarvie
Staff Governor:	Mrs S Devonald
Local Authority Representative:	Cllr D Howlett
Additional Community Governor:	TBC
Foundation Governors:	Mrs R Evans
	Mrs B Burn
	Mrs S Lewis-James (Vice Chair)
	Mrs A Williams
	Mrs N Jones
	Mr O Lewis
	Mrs E Reed
	Rev S Whitmarsh (Current Incumbent)

St Aidan's Church in Wales VA School

St Aidan's Church in Wales VA School began by an amalgamation of Clarbeston CP and Llawhaden VP in September 1977 and was built to serve the areas of Slebech, Clarbeston Road, Walton East, Llawhaden and Robeston Wathen. In September 2017 the age category of the school changed to enable us to admit 3 year olds.

It is one of four Voluntary Aided Church of Wales primary schools in the St David's Diocese and is situated in the village of Wiston. As a Voluntary Aided school we have very close links with both St Mary Magdalene

Church in Wiston, St Aidan's Church in Llawhaden and St David's Cathedral as this is an important aspect of our identity and ethos.

We aim to hold services in both churches and the Cathedral and encourage all children to participate in these events. We also hold a Eucharist each term. If you do not wish for your child to attend the church services, please inform us so that the Headteacher is able to make alternative arrangements.

We offer Confirmation classes during school time for pupils in year 6, if you wish your child to attend, please contact the school.

What's the difference between a Voluntary Aided School and a County Primary School?

A County Primary school is owned by the Local Authority and a Voluntary Aided School has been set up and is owned by the Church. We are largely financed by the L.A., but the Governors are responsible for the day-to-day control and maintenance of the premises.

A Voluntary Aided School has more independence, with the Governors employing the staff, controlling admissions and religious education according to a Trust Deed. At St. Aidan's we pride ourselves on the caring ethos of the school where Staff, Governors and Parents work together to create the conditions where children can realise their full potential.



Admissions

The admissions authority for this school is the Governing Body. Applications however need to be made through the Pembrokeshire County Council Website. As a Voluntary Aided School, parents beyond the catchment area, have a right to request a place for their children if they wish them to be educated at a school, which is Christian in belief, practice and ethos.

St Aidan's V.A. School is a Church in Wales' school which essentially serves the community within the parishes of Llawhaden, Walton East, Clarbeston Road, Slebech and Wiston and the admissions policy reflects this in its prioritised list of criteria.

In the event of oversubscription, priority will be given to the admission of pupils in the following order:

1. Current and former Young Person Looked After (YPLA) in accordance to Section 74 of the Social Service and Well-Being (Wales) Act 2014
2. Children from the parishes of Llawhaden, Walton East, Clarbeston Road, Slebech and Wiston.
3. Children who will have a sibling of statutory school age at the school, at the time of admission. This will include any full, half or step brothers or sisters or adopted or foster child living at the same address as a child already at the school.
4. Children from families whose parents wish them to be educated in an Anglican Church School.
5. Children from families of other Christian denominations whose parents wish their children to be educated in an Anglican Church School.
6. In the event of a tie, places will be offered to pupils living nearest to the school, measured by the shortest distance from the nearest available school gate to a point where the pupil's private dwelling meets the public highway. (Google maps will be used to measure the distances)

The Government has set dates by which children must attain the age of 5 to be of compulsory school age in the following school term: these dates are 31st August, 31st December and 31st March. St Aidan's has nursery provision and children may join on a part-time basis from the start of the term following the child's third birthday. The eligibility dates above also apply to these admissions and will determine the term in which the child can start. Those children born between 1st September and 31st March may attend nursery provision full time in the term following their 4th birthday.

Admission deadlines adhere to the admissions application timetable as published by Pembrokeshire County Council admissions authority.

Appeals

If a child is refused admission the parent may, within a period of 14 days, appeal against the decision to a Panel constituted for that purpose in accordance with the provisions of the Education Acts. Information on how to appeal will be given by the Headteacher at the time of the original decision. All appeals must be submitted to the Chairperson of St. Aidan's Governing Body. There is no right of appeal in relation to nursery admissions.

Waiting List

A waiting list of unsuccessful applications will be maintained. If a place becomes available, the Governors will consider those on the waiting list on the basis of the published over subscription criteria. If the

Governors place an application on the waiting list it will not affect the parent's right of appeal. The waiting list will be maintained until 30th September at the start of the relevant academic year. Priority for any places which become available will be given according to the oversubscription criteria and not according to the date on which the application for a place was originally submitted. For applications received outside the normal admission round, waiting lists are held until the end of the summer term of the academic year the place was requested. Admission deadlines adhere to the admissions application timetable as published by Pembrokeshire County Council admissions authority.

Prospective parents are invited to contact the school to arrange a visit during school hours. This will provide an opportunity to meet the Head Teacher and staff and to sample the working atmosphere of the school. Successful applicants will receive written confirmation and are invited to attend an informal induction meeting with the Head Teacher and members of the teaching staff prior to their son/ daughter starting school at St. Aidan's.

Communication

We welcome all forms of communication with parents and families, but in order to become more environmentally friendly, the school runs a paperless system of communication where possible. In order to stay fully informed we advise parents to sign up to 'Our Schools App' on their smart phone. This is also accessible through a computer at <https://www.ourschoolsapp.com/m/#/add-school> . This is our main form of communication and regular messages and information are communicated to parents this way. We also use the school email system to contact parents and carers and each class has their own Class Dojo <https://www.classdojo.com/> where you can log in and keep up to date with activities within your child's class. This may involve sharing of images of pupils as they undertake curricular activities. If you do not wish these images to be shared within the Class Dojo please inform the school.

School Term Dates

These can be accessed through the following link <https://www.pembrokeshire.gov.uk/pembrokeshire-schools/term-dates-and-school-holidays>

There will be other times when the school is shut for teacher training, but we will inform you in advance.

Early Years at St Aidan's

Pre-school provision is available within the school. This is provided by Busy Beehive, a registered charity. It provides a range of appropriate activities for children from the age of 2-5 and is run by experienced and qualified staff. Current provision is from 8.15am until 3pm every day.

Further information is available by emailing busybeehivewiston@gmail.com or contacting school.

Home/School Agreement

The school has a written home-school agreement explaining the respective responsibilities of school and parents in raising standards and sets out parameters for behaviour, conduct and contact between school and home. It is designed to help your child develop as an individual within supportive surroundings and

forge an effective link between the home and school. Parents are asked to read and discuss the agreement with their child, then sign it and return to school.

School Organisation

The pupils are organised into mixed age classes. There is flexible grouping within each class and we aim to mirror the progression stages listed in the new curriculum. In all classes a variety of teaching strategies are used. These include whole class, focus group teaching, cooperative learning, paired and individual teaching.

The School Day

Breakfast Club

A free Breakfast Club operates from 8.15am to 8.45am each school day. Any parent wishing their child to attend needs to complete a consent/information sheet for the club records which can be accessed through this link <https://forms.office.com/r/ZS3KcjZceT> .

The club provides all children attending with a breakfast and an opportunity to take part in a wide range of supervised activities. Children can be dropped at the club at any time during the session but breakfast is not available after 8.30am

Morning Session

Reception – Year 2:	9am – 12pm	Year 3 – Year 6:	9am – 12.15pm
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Main doors open at 8.45am. We would be grateful if children did not arrive before this time as they will not be supervised. Staff are frequently in school earlier but are not responsible for the supervision of children until 8.45am.

Breakfast Club pupils join the main school at this time. The school buses arrive between 8.50 and 9am. All pupils settle into activities immediately upon arrival at school.

Snack time

All classes have a daily snack time at morning break. All pupils are encouraged to bring in a healthy snack or purchase an item from fruit the tuck shop which is currently priced at 30p. Free milk is also available at this time.

Break time

10.15am—10.30am

Staff are on duty during this period on the playground.

Lunch time

Reception – Year 2:	12.00 noon - 1.00pm
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Year 3 – Year 6:	12.15pm - 1.00pm
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Lunch time supervisors are on duty during the lunch break.

Afternoon Session

1.00pm – 3.15pm for all pupils including 3 year olds.

Pupils travelling home by bus are registered by a member of staff who ensures they are all seated on the buses. Pupils being collected are kept at the school gate until a parent/guardian or person with appropriate permission is at the top of the drive to collect them.

If the end of day arrangements of your child change at any time please notify the school by telephone call or email. If for any reason, parents are not on time collecting their child, the pupil will remain in school until parents can be contacted and collection arranged.

Wiston Wolves (After School Provision)

After school provision is available from 3.15pm to 5pm every Monday through to Thursday. All pupils are able to attend and the cost is £4.50 per session. Pupils are offered a snack and drink and participate in a number of activities, many based upon pupil suggestions. A registration form must be completed and a minimum number of days agreed to. The form can be accessed by following this link

<https://forms.office.com/r/5J7XxLNNG7> .

Absences

It is essential for children to have good attendance so that they have their full right to education. If children are ill, all absences should be explained by telephone call or e-mail admin.staidans@pembrokeshire.gov.uk. The school will contact parents if no explanation has been received.

If an unauthorized absence continues for a school week or there is a pattern of occasional absences, the school will contact the Pupil Support Officer who will in turn contact the home.

If any pupil needs to be collected from the school during the day for an appointment then they will need to be signed out with a reason provided. Any pupil arriving late will need to be signed into school, again with a valid reason given and must be accompanied by an adult. Any child arriving after 9.30am with no valid reason will receive an unauthorised absence code. In the event of a medical or dental appointment taking place during school time, evidence of this needs to be supplied to the school office.

School Transport

All children travelling to school on any of the school buses/taxis are required to have a bus pass. For information about bus passes please contact the Transport Department at County Hall. An application form can be accessed through this link <https://www.pembrokeshire.gov.uk/school-transport/school-transport-information-and-application-form>

Pupils who travel on school transport are responsible for their own behaviour and abide by the contract they have signed with School Transportation. Pupils who do not behave appropriately and show behaviour that shows cause for concern will be reported to School Transportation who will deal with the issue according to their own policies.

School Closure

In case of inclement weather or unforeseen circumstances it may only be possible to give short notice of closure but details will be made available on the Pembrokeshire C.C. website and through the Our Schools App and Class Dojo. Your child will not be sent home from school without any prior notice being given.

School Uniform

We positively encourage our children to wear school uniform, it encourages a feeling of pride and community. Uniform (Red Fleece Red sweatshirt/cardigan, white polo shirt, black or grey trousers or skirt) can be purchased through the TeesRUs in Haverfordwest (www.teesrus.co.uk) or Uniforms 4 School in Narberth (www.uniforms4school.co.uk) and Kool Skools <https://www.koolskools.co.uk/?s=st+aidan%27s>. **Please ensure that these items of clothing are clearly marked with your child's name to prevent confusion.** Labels can be purchased through <https://www.stikins.co.uk/> using the code 18561.

Physical Education / Sporting Opportunities

All children take part in physical education as it is part of the curriculum. Children learn to develop physical skills in gymnastics, ball games, team games, dance and outside sports activities. Children should wear: t-shirt (no strappy tops), sweatshirt, shorts or jogging trousers, trainers or football boots. A change of clothes for PE is essential for all pupils throughout the school and any pupil not bringing appropriate kit and footwear will not take part in sporting activities. The children are provided with opportunities to participate in a number of sporting events, including those organised by the Urdd.

Every summer term we hold a Sports Day. In this event children participate to earn points collectively for their House. At St Aidan's there are four houses and the children are asked to wear specific coloured t-shirts to represent their house. These are; Birch (Blue), Chestnut (Yellow), Oak (White) and Rowan (Red). Each 'house' has captains, often voted in by their peers depending on numbers.

All children from Year 3 to Year 6 participate in weekly swimming activities during the autumn and spring term. For swimming sessions the children should wear a bathing costume (bikinis or shorts past the knee are not permitted by the leisure centre) and swimming hats are compulsory for all.

School Council and Pupil Voice

All pupils in the school are able to vote for two members of their class to represent them on the school council. There are also opportunities for pupils to represent their class on the Change makers and Criw Cymraeg Committees for their class. All pupils and teachers are involved in voting for a Head Boy and Head Girl from year 6 who are also on the school council. School Council meetings are held regularly and members are asked to bring ideas and concerns to the meeting gathered from their classes. Should your child be a member of any of these pupil voice groups, their photograph and name may be displayed in the school. If you do not wish your child's photograph to be displayed, please contact school.

School Meals

School meals cooked on the premises are available. The cook in charge is Mrs Harries and any allergies need to be put in writing to her.

Dinner money

Dinner money is paid for online through the Pembrokeshire County Council Website <https://www.pembrokeshire.gov.uk/make-a-payment>. No money is handled on site. If you think that your

child may be entitled to free school meals, application forms are available from the Local Authority as well as on Our Schools App.

Drinks

Pupils are encouraged to bring in a named, reusable plastic water bottle (no glass containers) as chilled water is available throughout the school day. We would recommend that the bottle has a built in drinking spout to limit spillages. Pupils are encouraged to fill up their water bottles during break times and are allowed to have water bottles in the classroom.

No drink apart from water is allowed during the school day apart from lunchtime, unless a medical reason requires it.

Child Protection

Parents should be aware that the school will take any reasonable action to ensure the safety of its pupils. In cases where the school has reason to be concerned that a child may be subject to ill treatment, neglect or any other forms of abuse, staff will follow Wales Safeguarding Procedures and inform Social Services of their concern.

The designated member of staff for Child Protection is Mrs S James and the Governors with responsibility for Child Protection are Mrs Sue Devonald, Mrs Helen Coleman and Mrs Rose James.

Mrs S James is the designated member of staff with the responsibility of promoting the educational achievement of Young Person looked After (YPLA). The Governing Body has a policy in place to ensure the school fully supports and promotes inclusion of all YPLA.

Equality of Opportunity

At St. Aidan's we aim to provide equality of opportunity for all pupils whatever their age, ability, gender, race or background. We want all pupils to achieve their full potential during their time with us. To do this we work to ensure that our working practices and attitudes do not hinder their development in any areas of the curriculum or socially with their peers. Outside the curriculum all pupils are encouraged to participate equally in a range of activities.

Pupils with Disabilities/ALN

Every effort is made to enable all pupils to play as full and active a part in their education at school as possible. The school building is fully accessible for wheelchair users. Resources for special provision are reviewed regularly to maximise the inclusion of all children. Pupils with disabilities seeking admission to the school are supported in that professional advice is sought from LA officers and from disability support groups (Access Officer) to identify any difficulties or problems that may arise e.g. trip hazards, access to the outside and to identify additional resources that may be required. The school has a Strategic Equality Plan which is underpinned by specific objectives and a plan of action- this is reviewed annually by the Governing Body.

The school has an Additional Learning Needs Policy and an Equal Opportunities Policy, both of which promote the inclusion of pupils irrespective of gender, race, ability or disability. The Strategic Equality Plan and Policy will be reviewed and updated by the Governing Body during each Autumn Term and is available upon request from the school.

It is not unusual for children to have Additional Learning Needs at some stage.

These needs may involve:

- Learning in a specific area
- A medical condition that impairs the ability to learn
- An emotional or behavioural difficulty

Mrs MacGarvie is the school's ALN coordinator. She works with class teachers to ensure that children's needs are met through a variety of strategies and plans.

Many children may have advanced academic ability, particular talents and aptitudes like athletic, creative, artistic, cultural and natural leadership abilities beyond the expectation of the majority of children within our context or may be entrepreneurial thinkers. Class teachers aim to ensure that all children are being appropriately challenged to achieve their best and make at least expected progress.

We have a wide range of resources to support all children's needs. The involvement of parents is sought from the earliest of days and parents are kept informed of all developments. Parental consent is requested should an outside agency need to become involved. Children with additional learning needs are taught in mainstream, and classroom support and/or withdrawal from the classroom for the intervention of specific programmes takes place where appropriate.

The school will contact parents to make an appointment to discuss their child's needs and all children's progress is carefully tracked and monitored during an academic year. The curriculum committee of the Governing Body receives termly updates regarding the progress of each cohort of children.

Health and Safety

The Governing Body is committed to ensuring a high standard of security and health and safety for all staff, pupils and visitors. All visitors to the school are directed to the front entrance and are admitted to the school by staff only. Regular fire drills and lockdown procedures are held and there are designated fire doors and other outside exits for effective evacuation of the pupils from the building. The fire alarm system is checked weekly and emergency lighting is tested regularly.

Medication and Accidents

The Head Teacher has overall responsibility for the health, safety and security for the school and pupils. Minor accidents are dealt with by staff and recorded and treated on the premises. Serious accidents are reported to the Local Authority. **Parents are asked to keep the school regularly updated of their contact details.** In cases of more serious accidents parents are requested to attend school. If unavailable then the Head Teacher, or senior member of staff would accompany a pupil to hospital and if required would stay with the pupil until the parent was available.

A school is not the place for a sick child. Children should not attend for 48 hours after experiencing vomiting and diarrhoea. As a school we do not undertake the administration of medicines without the appropriate completion of forms. If a child requires medicine during the day please follow the following guidelines:

- If medication is required during the day you may either come into school to administer the medication yourself or complete a permission form if you wish a member of staff to do it on your behalf.

- Only **prescribed** medicines will be administered in school and must be given to a member of staff in their original containers for storage.
 - Information on dosage, frequency, name of medication must be provided by the dispensing pharmacist.
 - Parent contact details must be given.
- A record of all medicines is kept by the school.

During the year, the school nurse will complete medical checks on specific year groups, as well as spending time discussing general health with pupils. This will include Sex and Relationships Education with year 5 and 6. Parents will be informed when this event is taking place. Currently our school nurse is Mrs Kathy Duffy.

Curriculum Enhancement

A variety of educational visits or activities are arranged during the year to extend the work being undertaken in the classroom and to facilitate the children's involvement with Diocesan events, local schools and sporting activities. You will be made aware of when these are taking place. Some of these will be in the local vicinity and others may require transport. There may be occasions when the bus your child is travelling on may have audio or visual recording equipment in operation.

Prior to any educational visit taking place, risk assessments are undertaken and for out of school hour visits and residential trips, forms are submitted to Pembrokeshire County Council.

Charging and Remission

During your child's time at our school, a voluntary contribution may be requested to cover the cost of some activities. The school will give an indication of the cost per pupil, whether you wish to contribute or not is your decision – you may wish to contribute according to your wish or circumstance. However, it must be said that should the total voluntary contributions be insufficient to meet costs, it may be necessary to cancel a planned trip or activity. Residential trips, such as Llangrannog, Morfa Bay, Cardiff and Glan Llyn, are not subsidised in any way and must be paid in full by parents/carers. Details of residential trips are shared as soon as is possible and parents/carers are able to spread the cost by paying in instalments over the year, if they wish.

Curriculum

In accordance with guidelines for the new curriculum for Wales (2022), our school curriculum has been designed in consultation with staff, pupils, parents and the wider community.

The curriculum we deliver is broad and balanced and is based on the important principles of personal and social education so that the content and delivery of the curriculum does not discriminate on grounds of race, gender, religion, or disability. To ensure this is followed, the school has an equal opportunities policy and an inclusion policy.

At St Aidan's we offer a dynamic and innovative curriculum that challenges, excites and inspires us all to learn in a twenty-first century way.

The Four Purposes are central to our new curriculum aim to:

- Create a nurturing and inclusive community for all – **Healthy, Confident individuals.**
- Develop self-belief in order to encourage children to reach for challenging personal goals, enabling them to become independent motivated decision makers – **Ambitious capable learners.**

· Foster our children to be socially aware of Wiston, their local community and its place in Wales and the wider world. This will empower them to make informed, ethical and considerate choices as global citizens. They will do this by knowing their rights! – **Ethically informed citizens.**

· Encourage children to be risk takers and problem solvers, whereby everyone has a voice to enable them to work with the community to gain real life experiences – **Enterprising creative contributors.**

We encourage our children to own the learning process rather than becoming a product of the process, allowing them to master skills in real life contexts for learning. All children are taught a wide range of skills, knowledge and understanding through areas of learning and subjects delivered in a cross-curricular way through topics.

Teachers use a variety of teaching methods in the delivery of the curriculum to all pupils and will continually assess pupils throughout their time in St Aidan's.

Some aspects of curriculum activities maybe:

- Delivered by educational visits. You will be informed of when these visits will take place in advance.
- Evidenced by photographs which may be displayed on the school website, other printed publications we may produce, in the school, in class or in pupil books. Some photographs may be used to archive the history of the school, if you do not want your child's photo to be retained in this way please inform the school.
- We also send images to the news media, or our school may be visited by the media who will take their own photographs or film footage (for example, of a visiting dignitary or other high profile event). Pupils will often appear in these images. The news media may use the images in printed publications (including local or national newspapers), on televised news programmes or on their website.
- Delivered by accessing the internet and include the sending and receiving of emails using pupil Hwb accounts.
- Evidenced by pupils on their online learning platforms. These accounts are available to view by the pupil and members of staff only.
- Evidenced by pupils on their Hwb OneDrive account. This account is available to view by the pupil only unless they choose to share their files.

As part of the curriculum your child will have the opportunity to make or sample different foods. **If they have any food intolerances or allergies, please inform the school.**

Throughout an academic year, a range of data is collected and all results are used to support overall judgements of achievement. These are shared with parents through meetings and written reports.

Outdoor Learning

This is an integral part of the school curriculum. It is expected that pupils will have appropriate clothing e.g. wellies, waterproofs/leggings and other clothing dependant on the weather. There are designated whole school outdoor sessions, but outdoor learning activities for groups of learners may take place on any school day.

Welsh Language

As part of the Welsh National Curriculum, all the children at St Aidan's have the opportunity to study the Welsh language and culture. Discrete and incidental opportunities form a natural part of day to day learning.

This learning is demonstrated through songs, art, conversation, prayers, assemblies, as well as being included in other aspects of the curriculum.

An Eisteddfod is held annually on St David's Day (March 1st) when the children are encouraged to wear traditional costume and participate in a range of cultural activities.

Building Learning Power

BLP enhances and expands the capacity of children to learn. It helps children to develop transferable learning skills and prepares them for a lifelong learning. At St Aidan's CiW VA we introduce children to the idea of BLP in Nursery and develop and extend their meta-cognitive understanding of 'how' they learn throughout their journey at school. By building up a coherent picture of what it takes to be a good learner, our children are able to develop their learning character and habits, as well as their appetite and ability to learn in different ways.

What does BLP look like?

At St Aidan's we are working to develop different learning behaviours which have been identified within research as being essential in supporting children to become better learners. To support children with their learning, we have linked these learning behaviours with a number of different animals and values. Come and meet our characters.



Religious Education

As a Voluntary Aided School and in line with our Trust Deed we follow the RVE Syllabus for Primary Schools written by the Church in Wales.

Collective Worship

Christian Values are central to all aspects of school life.

The Christian values covered:

Friendship, Perseverance, Peace and Hope, Trust and Responsibility, Thankfulness, Creativity, Forgiveness and Compassion and Truthfulness.

Collective Worship takes place daily. Rev Sophie Whitmarsh visits school on Wednesdays to take a whole school Collective Worship and is also a regular visitor to school throughout the week. The use of Welsh is encouraged throughout all services. Special Assembly is held on Fridays where pupils are praised for all their achievements during the week.

Parents have the legal right to withdraw their child from an act of Collective Worship and the school will respect any such request made. Pupils not attending acts of Collective Worship will be provided with alternative activities and supervised by a member of staff.

Relationship and Sexuality Education Policy (RSE)

St Aidan's Church in Wales V.A. believes in a rights and equity based RSE curriculum that helps ensure all learners can develop an understanding of how people's faith, beliefs, human rights and cultures are related to all aspects of RSE and how these rights can contribute to the freedom, dignity, well-being and safety of all people. As a school, our aim is to discuss and teach RSE in the context of the Rights protected by the United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child

We aim to develop the spiritual, moral, cultural, intellectual and physical capabilities of each pupil to prepare them for the opportunities and experiences of adult life. Our role is to support learners to develop the knowledge, skills and values to understand how relationships and sexuality shape their own lives and the lives of others. (WG RSE Guidance Document 2021)

If you have any concerns regarding the above, please contact the Head teacher.

Complaints

Parents are welcome at any time at school. If a query or problem arises relating to your child, or one concerning the curriculum, do not hesitate to contact the school or one of the school governors.

In the event of a parent wishing to make a complaint, they should in the first instance speak to the Headteacher. If the complaint is about the Headteacher then parents should contact the Chair of Governors. There is a formal complaints procedure for parents to follow which can be found on the school website.

Changes Made

Changes made

Staffing

Governors

Admissions

Early Years

School Organisation

School day

School Transport

Child Protection

Curriculum

Collective Worship

Relationships and Sexuality Education