St. John Vianney RC School

Steps to Independence & Education for Life

St. John Vianney School

Welcome
to St. John Vianney RC School

I am delighted to welcome you to St. John Vianney RC School in Stretford. Our very special school is Salford Diocese's Special Needs provision, catering for children and young people ages 5-19 with additional learning needs, communication difficulties and, those on the Autistic spectrum.

The foundations of our School are built on a strong Catholic ethos which drives our mission; to provide a place of learning where everyone, through hard work and in service to others, can reach their full potential and fully utilise the skills and talents given to them by God.

At St. John Vianney all our children and young people are given the very best support and nurturing to gain the most from the educational experiences offered. We work in close partnership with parents and the wider professional community to ensure that each child's or young person's learning journey is fun, yet challenging and contributes to their success later in life.

We benefit tremendously from highly skilled and experienced staffing, a high quality learning environment and excellent resources and opportunities which provide a springboard for our learners to grow and for every child and young person to fulfil their ambitions at St. John Vianney.

We look forward to welcoming you into School.

Aidan Moloney
Headteacher

Our Vision and Aims

Our ultimate vision is to ensure the School's provision is outstanding in all areas. We recognise that every child and young person is unique in God's eyes and that through the creation of a happy, positive learning environment, where our children and young people feel supported, cared for and encouraged, that individual talents are fully nurtured and developed.

Our Mission Statement

"St. John Vianney School recognises that each individual is unique and of equal value in God's eyes. We set out to provide a friendly and encouraging environment in which all are expected to give of their best. We promote the dignity and wholeness of all our children and young people. Responding to the examples of Jesus Christ, we are a community of joy and sharing, encouraging everybody to learn and achieve".

We aim to...

Put the Christian relationship ideals into practice within our community. We embrace children and young people from other faiths.
Support and encourage all in an environment where it is safe to fail.
Foster an environment which leads to enjoyment and respect of learning where all will achieve their best.
Promote dignity and wholeness, encouraging all to follow their aspirations.
Provide a nurturing environment where all are confident that we are accepted for what and who we are.
Establish tolerant and cooperative behaviour whilst promoting self-discipline as the ideal.
Help the children and young people in SJV discover God in the midst of life. Our faith enables us to see the governing spirit who is God our father.
Teach the children and young people understanding of the world in which they live.
Foster an appreciation for beauty and to heighten and promote an awareness of healthy living.
Acknowledge the different needs of our children and young people and the diversity of backgrounds.
Teach about human achievement and aspirations.
Respond positively to different learning styles and offer a range of experiences for our learners.
Establish a broad and relevant curriculum to enable all to communicate, problem solve, develop independence in their learning and develop enquiring minds.
Provide a basis of numeracy, technical and scientific knowledge enabling all to learn the skills needed in a fast-changing world.
Help all to communicate appropriately, developing reading, writing, speaking and listening skills.
Develop social skills.

Our Catholic School

St. John Vianney is proudly a Catholic School for children and young people of all faiths. The provision for RE across the School was deemed outstanding in all areas in the most recent Section 48 Diocesan RE Inspection.

St. John Vianney is a place of enquiry, discussion and discovery where we support all our children and young people on their faith journey. We believe that all of us are made in the image and likeness of God and we promote a sense of self-worth and confidence from this very source of love.

During their time at St. John Vianney, learners experience a rich liturgical programme involving class masses and retreats, faith themed assemblies, Advent and Lent services, feast day celebrations and opportunities for daily prayer and reflection in the classroom. These activities ensure every child and young person is equipped and encouraged to explore their relationship with themselves, each other and God.

All children and young people receive weekly RE lessons throughout the KS1-5 curriculum. At KS4 and in KS5 opportunities to achieve recognised accreditation through the Salford Diocese RE certificate allow children and young people to study faith formally.

The School has an active Chaplaincy team, where many children and young people work with our RE staff leaders in planning and promoting our liturgy programmes and in exploring how the school can work further with our wider faith community.

ADVENT
OF
St. John Vianney
School
G.I.F.T. TEAM

Curriculum

A high quality curriculum; excellent Teaching and Learning

At St. John Vianney School we are committed to providing warm, caring relationships and stimulating opportunities so that the children and young people are happy and engaged in their School. We believe that children and young people need to become learners for life in order to reach their full potential and so the curriculum and the teachers in School are key to achieving this.

Ensuring each child or young person is prepared for success is at the heart of all we do at St. John Vianney. Our highly experienced and creative teaching staff use a range of teaching and learning strategies to engage all children and young people in the learning process. Staff have the highest expectations of all our learners and high quality support and intervention is provided to support each child and young person on their learning journey. St. John Vianney recognise that each learner has a unique learning style and particular attention is given to the requirements of each individual child.

The curriculum is taught using a variety of multi-sensory approaches to help meet the needs of individuals, including those on the Autistic Spectrum.

Lessons and activities are undertaken in small groups, or on a one to one basis, to ensure that the focus is bespoke for each learner. At St. John Vianney the curriculum is based initially on the Early Years Foundation Stage curriculum and on the National Curriculum subjects through KS 1-3. Here we build upon prior learning to maximise the development of numeracy, literacy and IT skills.

When young people access KS4, the core subjects of RE, Maths, English and Science are studied and complementary vocational activities and qualifications provide the learning platform. Additional to these subjects, work related experiences are planned for and a range of additional enrichment activities ensure all learners have a broad, balanced and relevant curriculum.

Many of our young people go on to access our Post 16 provision. All St. John Vianney children and young people are given opportunities to challenge and fulfil their potential as lifelong learners. At KS5 these opportunities include vocational learning qualifications and enrichment experiences. This provides a wide, engaging curriculum, giving our young people the essential skills of resilience and independence to prepare them for their next steps into adult life.

Specialist Support

At St. John Vianney we endeavour to meet the needs of every child and young person. To maximise the progress made in all aspects of development the School utilises the skills of professionals who work with our learners in School, in the local area and, where required, at home.

To ensure every child and young person maximises their time with us we have on site professionals to support our children and young people including:

- Speech and Language Therapists
- School Nurse
- Paediatricians
- Educational Psychologists
- Physiotherapists
- Occupational Therapists
- Hearing and Visual Impairment Specialists
- Horticulture and Drama Therapists
- Music and Rebound Therapists
- Family Liaison Officer
- CARITAS Social Worker

ASC

AUTISM ACCREDITATION

We have been an accredited school with the National Autistic Society since 2010, reflecting our experience in specific practice related to ASC and excellence in supporting children and young people with Autism.

The Autism Accreditation award gives a seal of quality, providing parents with the assurance of the School's successful approach to working with children and young people with Autism.

Working with Parents

The School recognises the importance of strong relationships with parents and families of our children and young people.

Communication from School is regular and includes weekly newsletters, phone calls home, parental visits to School and 'open door' opportunities to visit School, formally and informally, to discuss the progress made by each learner.

Our Family Liaison Officer coordinates a very popular 'Riding the Rapids' parental programme to support transition to and through the School.

Outstanding Facilities

At St. John Vianney we have ensured our environment is designed to fully engage and challenge our children and young people encouraging them to be active, lifelong learners.

Our classrooms are very well equipped and additional sensory, occupational and physiotherapy areas and play rooms provide specialist equipment to support wider learning. The School is well resourced with high quality IT provision, outside communal and play areas and our very own Chapel provides a base for our worship and celebration activities. At KS5 our learners benefit from their own common room and our two School minibuses provide the opportunity to facilitate experiential learning beyond the classroom, which really brings learning opportunities to life for our children and young people .

The site provides ample space for our small class groups in each Key Stage. Our Early Years and Key Stage 1/2 are accommodated in their own area; the Rainbow building, which as you would expect, is a colourful and vibrant learning environment to inspire our youngest children. Key Stage 3 and 4 learners are accommodated through the main school building and Post 16 are based in their designated Sixth Form classrooms and work related learning areas, where their vocational activity and qualifications are delivered.

Danny

Outstanding Practice

St. John Vianney School is also a 'healthy school'. Eating well is very important for our children and young people and their health. The School canteen staff prepare daily a wide variety of healthy meal choices through varied and tasty menus catering for all dietary needs.

Safeguarding of young people is always high on the agenda at St. John Vianney. Our Designated Safeguarding lead Mr. Cassidy and his deputy, Mrs. Griffin are always on hand to support staff, parents and our children and young people.

All staff are appropriately trained and our safe practice is visible in all approaches; from classroom activities to our extensive enrichment programmes. The last Ofsted inspection stated: "documentation related to safeguarding and the welfare of pupils is kept meticulously."

Enrichment

Amazing opportunities and nurturing new skills

Children and young people at St. John Vianney experience a fantastic range of activities that include dance lessons, music, drama and sport. The School believes that the very best opportunities for young people are often facilitated in the local community and as such many activities are undertaken in the wider Manchester area; last year learners had weekly visits to Gorse Hill Studios, Smithhills Farm in Bolton, attended swim lessons at Withington Baths, visited a donkey sanctuary in Denton, and took part in sporting activities with MCFC's Football in the Community programme at the Etihad complex and with LCCC. KS4 and 5 learners participate in drama therapy and horticultural sessions to complement their specific chosen courses.

As the children and young people progress through the School, real opportunities to foster greater independence are explored. All KS5 learners are involved in relevant work placement activities and wider opportunities to ensure their vocational learning is put into practice. Life skills are a particular focus for all children and young people, with KS4/5 learners given support and guidance in developing skills to ensure a smooth transition to adult life when they leave St. John Vianney School.

Our Chaplaincy team coordinate regular retreat activities to allow all learners to further their faith journey and many have benefitted from attending the residential trip to Lourdes. The team also coordinate our School Fundraising drive; an area of whole school activity of which we are particularly proud.

We look to celebrate every success at St. John Vianney School. The School secures a climate where achievement in wider learning goals is critical to a child's or young person's success and opportunities including celebration assemblies, Stars of the Week, rewards and the 'golden jumper' ensure all learners are recognised appropriately for their work.

St. John Vianney RC School

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