School Prospectus

2026/2027

Trinity St Mary's C of E VA Primary School
Trinity Square
South Woodham Ferrers
Essex
CM3 5JX

01245 321711
admin@trinity-st-marys.essex.sch.uk
https://www.trinitystmarys.com/

CONTENTS

Headteacher's Welcome 4
Children Reaching Their Potential 5
Skills for Life 5
Home and School Partnership 5
Trinity St Mary's – Making learning at Primary School a Happy and Productive Experience for all children 5
Our School Vision 6
Our Christian Values 6
Our School Motto 6
Safeguarding and Child Protection 6
Ofsted 6
Church Inspection 6
The School Site 7
Home School Partnership 7
Behaviour, Relationships and Anti-Bullying 7
Our Curriculum 8
Music 8
Religious Education and Collective Worship 9
Relationships and Sex Education 9
Sports 10
Children with Special Educational Needs 10
Enrichment Activities 12
Clubs 12
Rota Kids 12
Worship Warriors 12
Kindness School 12
Eco-Committee 13

Pupil Voice 13
Equal Opportunities 13
Links with other schools 13
Governors at our school 13
Friends of Trinity St Mary's (FOTSMS) 13
Attendance and Absence 14
The School Day 14
Charging Policy 14
School Lunches 15
Wrap Around Care 15
Complaints Procedure 15
School Uniform 15
Conclusion 15

Headteacher's Welcome

It is a privilege to be the Headteacher at Trinity St Mary's C of E VA Primary School and to welcome you to our school. We are a one form entry Church of England Primary School situated in the heart of South Woodham Ferrers. We aim to achieve our vision through our associated Christian Values of: love, honesty, forgiveness, dedication and sharing. Our vision, Christian values and school motto enable every person in our family to thrive. We are a warm, welcoming school where everyone matters. Our school community shows kindness and caring towards each other and our local and global communities. We dream for all of our children to grow up to be happy, kind-hearted, caring, responsible and successful members of God's creation.

We are proud of our rigorous and creative curriculum which provides our children with the skills and knowledge they require to thrive in an ever-changing world. Our enrichment activities give our children additional tools to achieve highly when they leave us for the next stage of their learning. If you would like to find out more about our exciting school then please do not hesitate to contact us or arrange to come in and see us in action.

We all look forward to meeting you,

Janet Hoy
Headteacher

Children Reaching Their Potential

Trinity St Mary's C of E VA Primary School is a Church school catering for pupils from 4 – 11. We pride ourselves in creating an enthusiastic and caring environment built on Christian values which enables children to progress academically, socially, emotionally and physically.

Skills for Life

At Trinity St Mary's C of E VA Primary School, the staff and governors expect your child to receive a broad and balanced curriculum with plenty of enrichment opportunities whereby they will grow in confidence, self-reliance and independence. They will be able to articulate their feelings and ideas clearly, be socially competent and sensitive to the needs of others.

Home and School Partnership

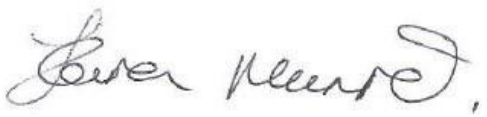
The teachers spend much time and care assessing your child to plan and provide appropriate learning and support for their individual development. An essential part of your child's educational success is dependent on home and school working together.

The teaching staff will provide regular opportunities to keep you informed about your child's progress and well-being and make suggestions on support you can give at home.

Trinity St Mary's – Making learning at Primary School a Happy and Productive Experience for all children

We are privileged to have an excellent team of staff working at Trinity St Mary's with teachers who each bring their own specialist professional skills to the school. Childhood is a very special time and no one gets a second chance. You can count on everyone at Trinity St Mary's C of E VA Primary School to do their very best to make your child's primary school days as happy and productive as possible.

Miss J Hoy
Headteacher



Mrs K. Munro
Chair of Governors

Our School Vision

TRINITY ST. MARY'S C OF E PRIMARY SCHOOL

We work together to teach and inspire our children so that they have the confidence to flourish in our community and in the world.
Like the wise man who built his house upon the rock (Matthew 7:24-25), we embrace our Christian values to build strong foundations for their future.

Our Christian Values

Our School Motto

'Many Hearts Make A School', emphasises our view that all stakeholders have a contribution to make. Successful partnerships between pupils, parents, teachers, governors and the wider community are vital if we are to prepare our children at Trinity St Mary's for their future role in society.

Safeguarding and Child Protection

The safeguarding and well-being of our children at Trinity St Mary's is our top priority. A copy of our Child Protection Policy is available on our website. It clearly details how we deal with any concerns that are raised. Our Designated Safeguarding Lead is Miss Hoy and our Deputy Designated Safeguarding Lead is Mrs Allan. Our Safeguarding Governor is Mrs Munro.

Ofsted

Trinity St Mary's had its last Ofsted inspection in March 2023 and it was judged to be a 'good school'. Our Ofsted report is available on our school website.

Church Inspection

Our most recent Church inspection was January 2025 and we were really proud of the outcome of this inspection. This reflects the hard work, care, support and guidance that all our staff, parents and governors give to the children at our school.

The School Site

Trinity St Mary's is part of a complex site which includes the Church of the Holy Trinity (shared by Anglicans, Roman Catholics and Methodists), and St Joseph's Catholic Primary School. The school was built in 1982.

Home School Partnership

We firmly believe that the education of your child is a 'shared' responsibility between home and school. Should you opt for your child to attend Trinity St Mary's, we aim for our relationship to grow and be one of partners working together in the common goal of promoting your child's development. From your child's first induction visits to the school through to the final term in Year 6, we strive to create and maintain a partnership with you.

When you join the school we send our Home School Agreement for you and your child to sign. This is also signed by your class teacher. It is an important way of agreeing how we will all work together throughout the school year.

A newsletter is sent out every week and there is plenty of information on our school website www.trinitystmarys.com about our curriculum and events taking place. We also have a Facebook and Instagram page and they can be accessed via the links below.

Facebook

Instagram

Parent Consultation Evenings are held in the autumn and spring terms and these enable you to discuss your child's well-being and progress, as well as looking at targets to support their learning. In addition, every child receives an end of year report in the summer term followed by an opportunity to discuss the report if you wish.

Class teachers are also available before and after school via an appointment with the school office, should you have a particular matter to discuss. Each child has a reading record book.

Behaviour, Relationships and Anti-Bullying

We are a Church of England School and our ethos is underpinned by Christian values and by a caring Christian community, where life and faith are seen, taught, experienced and bound together for a full and balanced life.

Each class teacher is responsible for the care and discipline of the children in their class. We aim to develop an awareness of other people and their possessions and try to ensure that our children develop their own self-discipline and a sense of belonging to Trinity St Mary's.

Our behaviour policy incorporates Trauma Perceptive Practice (TPP). TPP is the Essex approach to understanding behaviour and supporting emotional wellbeing in children and young people. If behaviour continues to give concern parents are contacted and in the event of a serious occurrence, exclusion would be a final resort. Our Behaviour and Relationships Policy and Anti-Bullying Policy has been drawn up following consultation with staff, children, parents and governors. A copy is available on our school website.

Our Curriculum

At Trinity St Mary's we aim to provide your child with a broad and balanced curriculum that encompasses the programmes of study required by the National Curriculum and supports the outcomes of the Early Years Foundation Stage Framework. The teachers work tirelessly to make it accessible and enjoyable for all children at our school.

We ensure that learning is stimulating, extends children's existing experiences and that each child is appropriately challenged in every lesson so that they make good progress. A variety of teaching and learning strategies are used to suit different learning needs and situations including class teaching, group work, individual tasks and paired activities.

Wherever possible subjects are taught through a cross-curricular approach. The 'Yearly Curriculum Overview' sheet for each class, which show the themes to be studied during the year, are available on our school website.

In addition, we hold special days such as: 'Christian Values Day', 'Stay Safe Internet Day' and 'Maths Day', when the whole school works together on these themes. We have held an Art Exhibition to celebrate the children's artwork throughout the school. Our educational visits are varied and interesting and we quite often have visitors coming to our school as well as different events taking place. These include: author visits, e-safety workshops, anti-bullying workshops and visits from our local police and fire advisers. Our children are always very enthusiastic about our curriculum and thoroughly enjoy the varied learning experiences and opportunities that they take part in.

Music

We provide our children with many different learning experiences and opportunities and these include individual music tuition through an external tutor. We also have group music tuition with Rocksteady and the children prepare for a termly concert to the school and parents. Individual and group music tuition is available at a cost.

We have taken part in Young Voices at The O2 which is a fantastic opportunity for the children to perform alongside other schools from across the country and this year we are taking part in a concert at the Royal Albert Hall.

Forest Schools

We have a Level 3 Forest School Leader who leads weekly forest school sessions. During the academic year children in Reception through to Year 6 will all have the opportunity to take part in a block of forest school sessions. We believe that forest school forms a very important part of a child's holistic development. Forest school sessions give children the chance to explore and experience the natural world through practical activities using the outdoors to promote confidence, independence, risk-taking and self-esteem.

Religious Education and Collective Worship

Collective Worship is held at Holy Trinity Church each Monday to Thursday and in class on a Friday. Collective Worship is an important part of the school day and is Christian in themes and ideas. It is a period for quiet reflection on Bible teachings, and matters pertaining to feelings, emotions, spiritual, social and moral issues. At times members of different denominations will lead the Collective Worship. In addition, we have regular visits from people of different faiths who work in the classrooms with the children. We are always very keen to involve our children as much as possible and we have a very proactive Collective Worship Group who are called Worship Warriors. As well as helping to plan our Collective Worship they also lead Collective Worship, organise Church festivals such as Harvest and our Christmas Carol Service and work with the Headteacher and Governors to evaluate and further improve. Religious Education is taught in accordance with the Diocesan syllabus.

Parents do have the right to withdraw their child from Collective Worship and Religious Education and need to put their request in writing to the Headteacher at the start of each academic year.

Relationships, Sex and Health Education

At Trinity St Mary's we believe that relationships, sex and health education is part of the overall provision for Personal, Social and Health Education. This provision is concerned not only with knowledge of facts but also with the development of attitudes and values. It is about relating to other people, respecting the rights and feelings of others and developing responsible and caring relationships. Our younger children receive relationships and sex education as part of other units of study, e.g. a new baby in the family, the importance of keeping clean, changes as we grow etc.

In the final years of Key Stage 2, the notion of making informed and appropriate life choices continues to run through all aspects of PSE. However, the children will also receive specific, age-appropriate lessons in formal relationships and sex education. The work will be presented within a family oriented and Christian framework. It is our policy for teachers to respond honestly and sympathetically to naturally occurring questions from the children. Parents are given the opportunity to view any teaching material that will be used before any specific formal sex education takes place.

A copy of the school's Relationship, Sex and Health Education Policy is available on the school website and from the school office.

Sports

Our children participate in many different sporting events, through our wide range of clubs and opportunities offered from our sports partnership with William De Ferrers School. For those children with a particular sporting talent, we take part in competitions against other schools including: football, tennis, district athletics, teddy bear games, swimming and cross country running.

We are very proud of all the different ways in which we try to help our children have a healthy lifestyle. Year 6 take part in Bikeability sessions. Children have had road safety training and we encourage them to cycle to school whenever possible.

For the last couple of years we have combined 'National Sports Week' with 'TSM Sports Week' and this year we have incorporated 'National Walk to School Week' also.

Children with Special Educational Needs

Whether a child needs extra support is a judgement made by the class teacher, our SENCO and relevant external agencies working together with the parents. Children with identified special educational needs receive support in the classroom as well as possibly individual and/or small group work and their needs are discussed with parents and appropriate external agencies. Experts on specific learning and behaviour difficulties, such as Educational Psychologist, Specialist Teachers and Speech and Language Therapists as well as the school medical service may visit the school to assess identified children and offer further support. We also recognise that the more able, gifted and talented children also have special needs of their own. These are identified by each class teacher and our SENCO and have appropriate work planned for them. Opportunities to develop particular talents are given through our curriculum and the extra-

curricular activities we offer. Further information about our SEN provision can be found on our website:

https://www.trinitystmarys.com/sen-1

Wellbeing

As a school we are committed to the wellbeing of our children.

The school has two trained and very experienced wellbeing mentors who work on a one-to-one basis with children who require wellbeing sessions. The sessions focus on building self-confidence and self-esteem which contributes to the children's personal development and growth.

The school also works in partnership with BCCS who are a registered children's charity delivering mental health and emotional wellbeing services. We have a trained counsellor in school for half a day a week providing one-to-one counselling for children who require it.

Each year we have a wellbeing week where the children take part in a range of activities to support their wellbeing which might include learning how to keep fit and healthy, taking part in a sporting activity e.g. Karate or Yoga, learning about nature, and animal encounters.

We have a Wellbeing Snug which is a calm, comfortable, quiet space where children can drop in if feeling upset, anxious or just in need of some time out of the classroom environment. It is also used by children who have special educational needs. The room has lots of comfy seating as well as books and sensory toys.

Enrichment Activities

Clubs

A range of extra-curricular activities are available to your child. These clubs can change each term, but may include: choir, football, drawing, African drumming, fitness and running, Lego and netball. These clubs are in addition to the many sporting events we participate in after school during the year.

Rota Kids

Trinity St Mary's is a Rota Kids school and is led by our Deputy Headteacher, Mrs Allan. The children and Mrs Allan meet regularly and representatives from the South Woodham Ferrers Rotary Club. The aim of Rota Kids is to serve the local community and to discuss and plan local, national and international fundraising events. Children from Reception to Year 6 can be involved in Rota Kids.

Worship Warriors

Our Year 6 children have the opportunity to support our RE and Collective Worship Lead as well as leading services throughout the year such as Harvest, Easter and Christmas.

Kindness School

Trinity St Mary's has signed a pledge with 52 Lives School of Kindness to become a Kindness School. The pledge demonstrates a commitment to encourage a culture of kindness in the classroom to ourselves and to others.

Eco-Committee

The school has an eco-committee and representatives from years 1 to 6 are invited to work with senior leaders and Governors to improve environmental aspects of our school. The Eco-committee meet at least half termly and work on various aspects of improving our environment. The Eco-Committee have taken part in litter picking in the local area with Chelmsford City council. We have achieved the Eco-Schools Green Flag Award demonstrating the commitment of the committee and the whole school.

Pupil Voice

We give our pupils many opportunities to take positions of responsibility and leadership as well as time to tell us what they think about our school and what improvements they would like to see. Our children have a very strong voice at Trinity St Mary's and play an important role in school improvement work. Our children's feedback is really important and we take their views very seriously.

Equal Opportunities

At Trinity St Mary's we aim to give equal opportunity to all our children regardless of gender, ability, race or religion. We work hard so that all members of our community are able to access all areas of our school due to our positive and active steps in respect of inclusion for everyone.

Links with other schools

Our school works closely with the other primary schools and our local secondary school, William De Ferrrers. Events include specialised learning opportunities at times as well as many sporting occasions such as football, rugby, netball and dodgeball tournaments and cross country. We also work with local Church of England schools.

Governors at our school

All our Governors are members of the South Woodham Ferrers community. They are there to support and monitor the strategic direction of the school and we are very lucky that our governors play a really proactive role in our everyday school life. If you are interested in becoming a school governor please talk to Mrs Munro, our Chair of Governors, who will be pleased to give you the relevant information.

Friends of Trinity St Mary's (FOTSMS)

We are very fortunate to have a highly supportive and proactive fundraising body, FOTSMS, made up of parents of children within the school. A member of the Senior Leadership Team attends the monthly meetings. Parents are always encouraged to join FOTSMS – it is a great way of getting to know different parents and to help the children in our school.

Throughout the year FOTMS organise many different kinds of fundraising events, such as discos for the children, coin wars, dress down days, Mother's Day sale and the Summer Fete.

With their valuable fundraising we have been able to undertake a wide range of projects including a sensory garden and new playground equipment

The committee is always on the look-out for help. Regular newsletters keep everyone informed of forthcoming events and the ways in which parents can participate.

Attendance and Absence

As a school we place great emphasis on punctuality and attendance because we consider these to be hugely important aspects of being a responsible citizen. This will feature as part of your child's annual report.

Our Attendance Policy is available on our school website and in the school office.

The School Day

The timings of our school day are as follows:

8.45am: School gates open for all children

8.55am: School gates close for all children

8.55am: Registration
11.45am: Year 2 & Key Stage 2 lunch in at 12.30pm

11.45am: Reception & Year 1 lunch in at 12.45pm
3.25pm: Collection for all children

Charging Policy

Most activities organised for your child during the normal school day are free from any extra charges. However, to enable us to arrange school trips, carry out specialist craft activities and extra-curricular activities it will be necessary from time to time to ask you for a voluntary contribution to cover the cost.

We believe educational visits improve and enhance the quality of the education we can offer your child. Visits can take the form of local trips in South Woodham Ferrers, day trips to support a specific unit of work or teambuilding activities and a residential visit in Year 6.

Legally, you are under no obligation to contribute towards the cost. However, without parental donations, the prospect of future trips is put in jeopardy. Cases of hardship are referred, and dealt with confidentially and sympathetically, by the Headteacher.

School Lunches

The school provides a hot meal service for children and the menus are nutritionally balanced. Alternatively, children can bring a packed lunch. School dinners are free for all pupils in Reception, Year 1 and Year 2 and any child in receipt of free school meals. The charge for all other pupils is £3.05 per meal. Parents pre-book a school meal for their child.

Wrap Around Care

The school provides a breakfast club which is available to all children attending the school. The club operates Monday to Friday during term time from 7.30am until the start of the school day.

The school also operates an after-school club which is available to all children attending the school and operates Monday to Thursday during term time from the end of the school day until 6.00pm.

Further details on breakfast or after school club can be obtained from the school office.

Complaints Procedure

We hope that all problems will be dealt with speedily by informal means. The first person to consult is your child's class teacher and then the Deputy Headteacher and then the Headteacher. Should you still not be satisfied, you will need to contact the Chair of Governors.

Please look at our Complaints Policy which is on our school website and available from the school office for full details.

School Uniform

Please refer to our School Uniform Policy on our website for full details on our school uniform.

Conclusion

We hope that you have found our school prospectus informative and useful and hope that it has given you a real flavour of our school. However, please do not hesitate to contact the school should you require further details or if you would like to arrange a visit to our school. We always welcome visits so that prospective parents can see our wonderful school in action and talk to both staff and children.