

Middleton Parish Church School

Nursery Prospectus

Nursery Standard Admission Number: 52 half-time pupils in the Nursery Unit (Up to 26 in the morning session, 26 in the afternoon session). Some of these places will be full-time at a cost of £12 per session.

Approx. number of pupils in the school: Approx. 380 in total, including nursery pupils (September 2016)

Head teacher: Jacqui Potts

Deputy Head teacher: Jackie Brokenbrow

Assistant Headteacher: Susan Armitage

Chair of the School Governing Body: Mr Andrew Slim

Teacher in charge of the Nursery: Sara Thomas

Visiting Arrangements: To arrange a visit to the school parents are asked to contact the Headteacher to make a mutually convenient appointment.

Middleton Parish Church School is a Voluntary Aided Anglican primary school; the Nursery Unit as an integral part of the school.

Church schools exist to be a manifestation of the Church's mission within a community. We are at the heart of the Church's mission and have been in this community for over 170 years.

In previous generations, the Church, the staff and the governors have ensured that as a Church school our ethos is firmly rooted in gospel values with love being the foundation of everything we do. We recognise that our children are made in the image of God and possess unique gifts and qualities.

Therefore Middleton Parish Church School exists to ensure that our children:

- Recognise their own greatness
- Are secure in who they are
- Know that they are loved by God
- Achieve everything that they are capable of whilst with us
- Receive the very best opportunities to succeed in the 21st Century

In order to achieve this we need to: -

- Be a school that worships and celebrates together.
- Welcome parents and recognise that they are the foundation of their children's learning.
- Develop a curriculum that provides challenge and opportunities to grow for each child.
- Have a highly- trained staff that holds the very best interests of the children at the heart of everything they do.
- Serve the community of the parish of St. Leonard's to fulfil the mission of the church in school.

GENERAL INFORMATION

Why you should look for a nursery attached to a good primary school...

Coming to nursery is an important part of the Foundation Stage of the National Curriculum. We consider a nursery place at this school to be far more than just good quality child-care.

In our school setting, we are very aware of what is needed to help children build strong foundations for their future education. Our nursery staff works very closely with the reception class staff to ensure that there is a smooth transition and continuity between attending our nursery and then going on into full-time school and the reception class year.

Our well-equipped and purpose-built Nursery Unit provides a happy, purposeful, environment where every child is encouraged to develop to his or her full potential, as a sound positive preparation for full-time education. Through carefully planned play activities, the children try out new experiences, and develop language, scientific and mathematical skills suitable for such young children.

Equally important, the children are helped to develop social skills in mixing and playing with others, sharing the fun of nursery life. Coming to Nursery is an important first step in a child's school life, and our Nursery's aim is to ensure that this first step is full of fun and happiness as well as providing the necessary mental stimulation and challenge for a child of nursery age.

Children normally attend nursery for either a morning session (8:45 a.m. to 11:45 a.m.) or an afternoon session (12.20 p.m. to 3.20 p.m.) There are also full-time places (8:45 a.m. – 3:20 a.m.) These places are at a cost of £12 per day or £60 per week; full-time children will be expected to bring a packed lunch.

We have a fully-qualified and experienced nursery teacher who runs our nursery and a qualified teaching assistant, who works with our nursery teacher to provide the very high quality educational experiences that the children receive each session. There are other experienced staff working in the nursery setting, your child will get to know these people well.

The school was inspected by Ofsted, in October 2013 and the ensuing report describes the high standards and academic achievement of the whole school in very complimentary terms, the school was deemed to be "Good". Details of this inspection report are available on the school inspection (Ofsted) website at www.ofsted.gov.uk under Rochdale Local Education Authority – primary schools section, or ask at the school office for an official summary of the document. We were also deemed to be an "Outstanding" church school after our church school inspection in 2011.

Facilities for the children and their care

The Foundation Unit facilities provide a first class environment where the children can be cared for and be helped to enjoy their play and activities.

Indoors we have play areas for wet, dry, creative, imaginative and messy activities, child-sized toilets, a nursery kitchen, and access to a very large hall.

We have an excellent range of toys, activities, art and craft and other indoor nursery equipment.

Outdoors we have secure areas for adventurous play, a grassy play area, a purpose made climbing frame with soft surface landing areas underneath, and access to the rest of the school grounds. We have a wide range of outdoor play equipment from which the children can choose, during nursery sessions.

Children are able to move freely between the indoor and outdoor classrooms and operate with children from the school Reception class who present a strong role model.

Children being children, there are bound to be accidents from time to time, of which the vast majority are not serious! In case of an accident at school, the staff will try to contact a parent, and in the meantime carry out such First Aid as staff qualifications allow.

Similar arrangements apply in cases of illness at school. We would encourage parents to keep sick children at home but if they become unwell during the Nursery session they are kept as comfortable as circumstances allow until either the parent or other nominated adult can take the child home.

Parents are asked to ensure that their children attend Nursery regularly. When pupils have to be absent, parents should inform school as to the reason. In cases of unexplained absence, the school may ask the Education Welfare service to investigate and offer help where appropriate. If the absence continues beyond three weeks without good reason, the school will enquire whether the nursery place is still required. If the child continues to be absent and the child's family makes no contact with school, then the place will be withdrawn without further notice. Notification of withdrawal of place will be sent in a letter from the Headteacher.

Staff of the school is very aware of their responsibilities towards such young children. Their aim is to behave towards the children in a way one would normally expect of a reasonable parent. If for instance a child accidentally wets or soils him/herself, if parents are unavailable, staff will clean the child and provide loaned clothing for the child to wear.

The school recognises its obligations to protect the interests of all the children it serves through its acceptance of the need for inter-agency co-operation for the protection of children from abuse. This follows on from the Children Act 1989, and means that there could be occasions where the school is under an obligation to refer specified professional concerns to appropriate agencies within Rochdale's child protection systems.

Reception Class Applications

The school hopes that if children are happy and settled with the staff and children at this school, parents may wish to consider applying for a Reception Class place at the school in September 2017 once the Nursery year is over. However a place in this school's nursery class does not give an automatic right to a place in this school's Reception Class. All parents must follow the application procedure for Reception Class places, for which details and application forms will be available in autumn 2016, this is an on-line process.

Whilst a personal recommendation from friends, neighbours or family on choice of school is always useful, all parents are invited to visit the school's Reception Classes to see for themselves if the school is likely to meet the needs of their child.