

St Mary's and St Helen's Primary School Partnership

Our Mission: *Growing together, pursuing life in all its fullness*

The communities of St Mary's and St Helen's Primary Schools are passionate about our two schools. We want to see them grow and develop to deliver the best possible opportunities and experiences for our pupils. We believe that a partnership between the two schools is a fantastic way for us to do that.

It is our aim that the two communities grow together, sharing with and learning from each other, respecting and retaining the individuality that we love so much. Rooted firmly in our shared Christian values and distinctive Christian ethos, we believe that partnership will enable us to achieve more. Growing together, we will enhance opportunities for **excellence, enjoyment and exploration** within the schools with the aim of improving pupils' **achievement** and enriching their experiences, preparing them for the next phase of their learning and life.

'To dare more boldly.

To venture on wider seas where storms will show God's mastery;

Where losing sight of land, we shall find the stars.'

Prayer of Sir Francis Drake, explorer, 1540-1596.

Partnership Principles:

Our principles are set to enable us to achieve the aims in our school's individual vision statements, where we found real commonality:

St Helen's: Excellence, Enjoyment and Achievement together

St Mary's: Enjoy, Explore, Excel: Be amazing

Partnership for Excellence	Collaborating at all levels, building capacity for leadership and striving together for excellence. <i>Creating communities for learning where we empower new and innovative development opportunities. Sharing excellent practice and growing leaders of learning across the partnership.</i>
Partnership for Enjoyment	Enriching our learning and experiences, fostering enjoyment. <i>Sharing skills and expertise to enrich and develop a creative and immersive curriculum. Sharing our experiences, creating new and exciting opportunities to have fun and learn together.</i>
Partnership for Exploration	Continuously improving, innovating and exploring. <i>To stretch and challenge each other at all levels to deepen our learning and encourage exploration. To spread the impact of this learning across the partnership and beyond, into the communities.</i>
Partnership for Achievement:	Working together to raise outcomes, keeping children's achievement at the very centre of everything we do. <i>Driving improvements in children's achievement by learning from each other and re-aligning roles so that they can be more sharply focussed on developing the quality of teaching, behaviour, learning and outcomes.</i>

Opportunities for Partnership:

Partnering together provides many different opportunities for growth, both as individual schools and also as a collective. Some key areas where we will realise this are outlined below:

Opportunity	What can partnership bring us?
Building capacity for leadership to drive forward improvements in the quality of education	<p>Partnership offers us a way to build sustainable leadership models for the future, creating leadership opportunities at all levels within the school. We will do this by:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Building and broadening staff development opportunities by enabling leadership development across the schools in our partnership • Creating a leadership structure which will allow leaders in each school to focus more clearly on the core work of developing the quality of teaching, learning and ultimately raise children's achievement • Sharing our resources to provide high quality professional development opportunities for staff
Creating communities for learning	<p>The staff in our schools are our most valuable asset. We want to create a new learning community between our two sets of staff such that they can learn and grow together. We will do this by:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Finding ways to share learning across the partnership • Creating a culture which is positive and inspiring. A place where from the most experienced to the person newest to the profession, we are all keen to learn from others and are confident to share our own experiences • Keeping the work of the partnership focussed on teaching, learning and pupil's achievement • Taking a shared responsibility for continuing development
Enhancing the curriculum	<p>What we teach and how we teach it has a huge impact on the way that our pupils think and grow. Combining knowledge, experiences and ideas can only widen the scope and possibilities within education. We will do this by:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Partnering together across subject areas and year groups to share ideas and plan purposeful learning opportunities which enrich children's learning • Identifying expertise in key areas across the partnership and sharing their knowledge, skills and experiences so that more children and staff can benefit • Creating opportunities for children to learn alongside each other, increasing their awareness of inclusivity difference and diversity in a safe environment
Sharing support structures	<p>We believe that we are stronger together. Our partnership will create opportunities to provide support at many different levels. This could be through sharing support services, accessing expertise from a wider pool of education experts, or by taking advice and learning from each other. Whilst we want to empower decision making and responsibility, we want to ensure that the support is there when our communities need it.</p>