St Nicholas' Primary and Nursery School Prospectus

September 2021

Our Vision: Live, Love, Learn and be Happy

Dear Parents,

A very warm welcome to our school.

Starting school or moving to a new school is a big step and I hope that this booklet will help you to know more about our school.

As well as being a values –led school, we also teach Philosophy for Children and are proud of our diverse and inclusive ethos.

We are a caring and creative community where the education of your child is seen as a partnership between teachers and parents and we look forward to welcoming you to our many events.

This prospectus outlines how the school runs in normal circumstances and how we have adapted for this time of Covid

For the present time, we will be delighted to conduct a virtual tour or we can conduct an outside tour after 3:30. Whichever you choose, I look forward to welcoming you when you visit our school

Julie Holland

Headteacher

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School Information

School Day

8.45am	Doors open – children come into class and engage in an organised activity.
8.55am	Registration
10.30am – 10.50am	Morning break
11.45am	Lunch starts for Foundation Stage
12.15pm	Lunch starts for KS1
12.15pm	Lunch starts for KS2
1.15pm	KS1 and KS2 Afternoon register
3.15pm	School ends

During the time of Covid:

At this time, we are staggering our starts to the beginning and end of the day and also break time and lunchtime in order to keep the children and staff in year group bubbles.

Start of the School Day

At 8.45am teachers are available in their classrooms in the few minutes before registration and, although they will be happy to talk to you, we would appreciate it if parents did not expect to have extended discussions with teachers in the morning. If something is troubling you, or your child, this is a good time to make an appointment to see your child's teacher later in the day or week.

It is important that children arrive on time. Pupils are often quite upset to arrive late and find that they have missed the opportunity to practice their spellings and times tables at the start of the day. If your child arrives late in the morning, please come to the front entrance and report at the reception hatch and tell the office staff who will book you in and ask you if you need a school dinner. If you know your child has a morning appointment but will be back in school for dinner, please let the class teacher know the day before.

During the time of Covid:

During this time, we can only allow parents into the school for pre-arranged meetings or groups and politely request that you wear masks.

Mid-Morning Break

Weather permitting, children usually play outdoors during break time.

Children may bring fruit or vegetable sticks to eat during the mid-morning break. Foundation Stage and KS1 children are provided with a piece of fruit every day. This is eaten in the classroom before or after playtime.

Lunchtime

There are three options for lunch:

- Children may go home
- Children may have a school lunch served in the hall or taken into classrooms depending on which year group the children are in
- Children may bring a packed lunch

Lunch is £2.10 per day, £10.50 for the week. Payment should be made in advance, either half-termly, or weekly, by paying each Monday.

End of the School Day

The school day ends at 3.15pm and parents are encouraged to wait for their children at the exit nearest to their classroom. Children are taken to wait by the office if their parents have not arrived to collect them by 3.25pm. If you have arranged for someone else to pick up your child, please let the school know and ensure that the other person is clear about your arrangements. The school cannot ask other parents to take your child home.

During the time of Covid:

The day ends between 3:00 pm and 3:15 pm depending on the year group. We ask parents to wait outside the gates.

Security

The main school gate is locked between 8.35am - 9.15am and 3.00pm – 3.30pm. Cars are not allowed to drive into school between these times. If you come to school by car, please park considerately in the neighbouring roads.

Bicycles

The school has two bicycle sheds for bicycles and two scooter racks. It is the owner's responsibility to ensure that their bicycle or scooter is securely locked to the racks. The main door to the shed is locked during the day and if you need access during the day please call at the main office. Bicycles must not be ridden on school premises.

During the time of Covid:

We are requesting that you avoid using bikes and scooters and walk to school

Water

It is very important for children to drink water regularly. They are encouraged to bring a sports bottle of water (no fizzy drinks or juice) to school so that they can drink freely throughout the day. There are also water fountains in the playgrounds.

During the time of Covid:

We are unable to use the water fountains so politely request that your child brings a full water bottle for the day

School Uniform

St. Nicholas' has a school uniform. It is expected that every child will wear uniform.

The recommended items include:

- Trousers, skirts, pinafores, short trousers – grey or black
- Shirts, blouses, polo shirts – white or red
- Summer dresses –white/red patterns.
- Pullovers, sweatshirts, cardigans – school sweatshirt or cardigan (red)
- Footwear – sensible, comfortable footwear, flat shoes or black trainers which do not rise above the ankles (no flip flops, jelly shoes or "high" heels)

For health and safety reasons, children are not allowed to wear jewellery to school except for small plain stud earrings. These need to be covered for PE.

The red sweatshirts and cardigans, red fleeces, white polo shirts and school bags can be purchased from Stevensons in Summertown.

Clothing for PE should include shorts and a red/white T-shirt together with plimsolls/trainers, this should be kept in a named bag on the child's peg. If, for any reason a child is without a kit, then they will be expected to wear a kit provided by the school. Children need a letter from parents if they are unable to participate in PE. In the interest of safety long hair must be tied back for PE and any jewellery removed. When the children go swimming they will require a swimming costume, towel and swimming hat. Swimming hats can be purchased from the school office for £1.00. A spare pair of shoes should be kept in school for outdoor use in the winter.

We recommend that all school clothing, PE kit and swimming gear are clearly labelled.

During the time of Covid:

We politely request that children come to school dressed in PE kit on PE days to avoid changing in school.

Lost Property

Named lost property will be returned to your child. Any other items will be placed in a box in near our reception area. Unnamed and unclaimed lost property will be on display and any items still not claimed will be taken to a charity shop.

During the time of Covid:

We will put lost property outside of the school gates

Emergencies

Before your child starts at St. Nicholas' you will be asked to complete an admission form giving the school emergency contact telephone numbers and any medical information which the school needs to know. If your child is taken ill or injured whilst at school, we will use the information on these forms to contact you. It is important that the school office is informed of any changes to the emergency contact details as soon as possible.

The school has three nominated First Aiders at work. When an accident occurs the First Aider decides on the extent of the injury and, if only minor, will deal with it herself. Serious accidents are reported to the Head, who, with the First Aider, will decide if the child needs to go to hospital. Every effort is made to contact parents, but where parents are not available, two members of staff will accompany the child and stay until a family member arrives.

All serious accidents and head injuries are recorded in an Accident Book and reported to the class teacher and green letter is sent home to the parents. If a child has an injury that has required treatment or might not easily be noticed (an 'unseen injury'), an incident form is sent home with the child.

Absences

If your child is absent please contact the school by 8.30am to let us know the reason. When a child is absent without explanation, the class teacher will advise the school office so that contact can be made with the parents/guardians to ask for an explanation. We are required by law to keep detailed records of absence and to report the statistics annually. Routine dental and medical appointments should be taken out of school time.

During the time of Covid:

If your child is away from school as they have been directed to self-isolate, the school will provide remote learning for them. For Nursery, this will be on Tapestry, for KS1 this will be on DoJo and key stage 2 google classroom.

Illness

If your child has been sick or ill during the night, please not send him/her to school next day. The NHS recommends 48hrs absence after the last episode of sickness or diarrhoea.

Ref: When to keep your child off school - NHS Choices
https://www.nhs.uk/Livewell/Yourchildatschool/Pages/Illness.aspx

A child who becomes ill at school may be taken to the office where they are able to lie down while a parent is contacted to come and collect him/her.

Medicine – if a child is receiving medication and then returns to school, remaining dosages should be timed to occur outside school hours. In exceptional circumstances, if medicine is needed at school it is the parent's responsibility to arrange for a responsible adult in school to administer it. Parents are asked to complete an Administration of Medicine Form with the medication and dosage.

If your child uses an inhaler we ask that you supply the class teacher with a named spare one for use as necessary. It is the parent's responsibility to monitor the expiry date of the inhaler and provide a replacement when necessary.

If your child has an epi-pen, please supply two pens for school use. It is the parent's responsibility to monitor the expiry date of the epi-pen and provide replacements when necessary.

During the time of Covid:

Please follow all guidelines set out by the DfE in the event of your child or a family member developing symptoms.

Requested Absence

Holidays are not permitted during term time however, if you have an exceptional circumstance please complete our Leave of Absence Form which can be picked up from the school office.

School Charging Policy

We do not make charges for any activity that takes place during school time, apart from instrumental tuition.

The governors have agreed a charging policy for school visits, as required by law:

- Education visits made within school hours – voluntary contributions may be asked for:
- Non-residential trips made outside school hours – charges will only be made if the activity is not a necessary part of the National Curriculum or religious education;
- Residential visits – mandatory charges (except to parents in receipt of Income Support, Tax Credit, or Jobseekers' Allowance) may be made for board and lodging – and voluntary charges may be sought for other expenses (coach, insurance, entrance fees, etc.).

Where voluntary contributions have been sought, if not enough money is forthcoming the activity may be cancelled. If an educational visit, for which voluntary contributions have been made, does go ahead, no child will be left out (or treated differently in any way) because her/his parents could not or would not make a contribution.

Making Payments to School

The School Administrative Officer handles money every day from many children for various activities. It would be most helpful if you would follow these guidelines when making payments:

- Pay online using our automated ScoPay system (school meals only).

A completed permission slip is always required when trips are being paid for. If you have more than one child going on a trip, please remember to send in separate permission slips to each class teacher, and, if necessary, mark the younger sibling's slip 'money paid by older brother/sister).

Library

The school has its own library and each class from the Nursery through to Year 6 has its own weekly library session when the children are able to visit and read books and magazines, and to borrow a book. There is a wide range of books, both fiction and non-fiction, and children have a free choice on which book to borrow. To protect the books children are provided with a library folder when they start at St. Nicholas' School. This needs to be brought to school every week on your child's library day. Your teacher will tell you what day this is.

There is also a double-decker Book Bus in the playground, where children can drop in and read, draw and chat at break times too. It gives a place where children can relax enjoy a book in their free time.

During the time of Covid:

We are having to limit the use of the libraries at this time

Extra-curricular Activities

St. Nicholas' offers many opportunities for extra-curricular activities, both during and after school hours. A wide range of clubs and activities supplement the statutory curriculum. We feel that children benefit from having the opportunity to be involved in a variety of activities and we welcome parental support in initiating or running new clubs.

In September, January and April a list of available after school activities and costs, is sent out to each pupil. Pupils can then apply to take part in the clubs.

During the time of Covid:

We will start to introduce extra-curricular clubs this September.

After School Club and Breakfast Club

We have a thriving After School Club and a Breakfast Club which provide care both before and after school for children attending St. Nicholas' School. Both clubs are well attended. They have charitable status and are managed by the Governing Body which is responsible for making all policy and procedural arrangements. Parents are required to pay for this provision.

Breakfast Club runs daily from 8am until 8.45am and the charge is £4.00 per session which is paid in advance. The children are offered a breakfast of cereal and/or toast. After this they are able to enjoy quiet play activities and games.

After School Club runs daily from 3.15pm to 5.30pm and the charge is £9.00 per session. KS1 children are collected from their classrooms by a member of the Club staff at the end of the school day and KS2 children are encouraged to arrive independently. The children are offered a variety of activities and are given the opportunity to make their own sandwiches.

More detailed information is available from the office.

During the time of Covid:

Breakfast club runs in three groups – KS1 in Gym and KS2 in the hall, EYFS in Daisy

Home School Liaison

Both formal and informal opportunities exist for you to discuss your child's progress. In Term 1 and Term 3 parents are invited to school consultations with their child's class teacher. In Term 6 you will receive your child's annual report. The staff at St Nicholas' School are very easy to contact on an informal basis at the beginning and end of the school day and longer meetings can be arranged with an individual teacher.

You should always feel able to discuss anything that is concerning you with a member of staff. If possible, please speak first to your child's class teacher as she/he is the person primarily responsible for your child's well - being. If the problem needs discussing at length, then the teacher will probably suggest you arrange an appointment when both of you can talk privately and at leisure.

During the time of Covid:

We are conducting parent interviews via google meet in October and hope to be face-to-face with a virtual option in March.

Home School Link Worker

Our Home School Link Worker, Stephanie Best, is available to offer support and encouragement to children, their parents and carers and families at the school.

Young Carers

Is your child a young carer?

Young carers generally care for members of their immediate family who may be

- A parent with an illness, disability, mental health problems or dependency on alcohol or drugs
- A brother or sister who has a health or disability problem
- An elderly grandparent who is frail, or has a health or disability problem

Here at St Nicholas' School we appreciate that there are many impacts on pupils who provide care, be it physically or emotionally. We have a school wellbeing mentor, Stephanie Best, who runs a group for these young carers offering them support and guidance. Stephanie liaises with the East Oxford Hub and Spurgeons, who are a registered charity supporting young carers. This helps to provide appropriate help and support from agencies outside of the school as well as supporting pupils in their school life.

It would help us greatly to know if there are any family circumstances, such as disability or long term illness, which means that extra support may be needed for your child.

Homework

The main focus of homework is the Chilli Challenge which focuses on Maths, English, the school values and topic work.

In Years 5 and 6, homework tends to be English, Maths and the Chilli Challenge in other subjects (30 minutes per subject), spelling every week and reading three times a week.

Children should either read to their parents/carers, or listen to them reading, for between 10-20 minutes every day. We are keen that children take books home and each child has a reading record book in which the child, a parent and the teacher can all make comments.

We consider it beneficial to set a small amount of homework each week, this helps to reinforce the learning that takes place in the classroom.

As much of this as possible will be sent virtually. Year 6 receive homework books provided by the governing body

St. Nicholas' Parent Teacher Association (FOSNS)

St. Nicholas' has an active and supportive parent-teacher association called FOSNS, Friends of St. Nicholas' School, which organises a range of social and fundraising events. All parents and carers are automatically members of FOSNS and everyone is encouraged to join in and help contribute towards the wellbeing of the children at the school. A FOSNS Committee is elected every year and holds meetings on a regular basis and everyone is welcome to attend.

FOSNS meeting and events are advertised throughout the school, on their notice board in the main entrance and in the newsletter.

Governing Body 2021 – 22

Robert Fletcher – Chair

Shilpa Bhatt – Vice Chair

Julie Holland – Head teacher

Billy Garnett

Emily Flashman

Hilary Greaves

Mariam Ahmed

Sana Dogar

John Batey

Barry Grossman

Mariam Ahmed

Curriculum

School Ethos and Values

St. Nicholas' School is a Values Led School.

It aims to provide a challenging and creative learning environment within which the National Curriculum and the wider curriculum can be effectively delivered.

We encourage positive attitudes to learning so that each child may be helped to achieve his or her full potential and to enjoy learning throughout life.

The school atmosphere is happy, energetic, purposeful, secure, creative and caring. We actively promote trust and respect between children, teachers, parents and others in the life of the school.

We aim to extend children's social, spiritual, moral, environmental and cultural awareness within the school, the community and the world outside, and are committed to providing equal opportunities for all children.

Parents, staff, pupils and governors are all essential working partners in achieving these aims.

The Curriculum

St. Nicholas' is committed to giving children an excellent broad-based education, and nurturing within each child enthusiastic positive attitudes towards life-long learning.

Your child will be working on the four core subjects of Mathematics, English, Science, Computing and the six foundation subjects of Design Technology, History, Geography, Art, Music and Physical Education which are also vitally important aspects of the curriculum. In Art, Music and Drama children are given first hand experiences of observing and performing in the Arts. There are visits from outside performers, musicians and artists during the school year. Religious Education is taught from Oxfordshire County Council's agreed syllabus. Parents are reminded that they may withdraw their children from collective Acts of Worship.

We provide a broad curriculum based on children having practical experiences in a stimulating environment. Work will be developed through a topic-based approach. Each year and term has specific subject areas linked to the school's curriculum map. Schemes of Work are published for each subject area and are supported by teachers' weekly and daily plans.

In all this, care is taken to ensure a balance is maintained across and between subject areas, and time allocations are made to ensure coverage of all National Curriculum subjects in accordance with advice from the Qualifications and Curriculum Authority.

At the end of each Key Stage, end of year expectations will be used to assess children's progress and achievements.

The Foundation Stage

The Foundation Stage can start when a child is three and finishes at the end of the academic year when a child turns five. We also have limited places for Rising 3s. The Foundation Stage is divided into two year groups; F2 (part-time for 3-4 year olds) and F1 (full-time for 4-5 year olds).

Adults working within the Foundation Stage plan a wide range of activities for children to learn both indoors and outdoors. Activities are planned to ensure children get a broad and rich curriculum as well as drawing on children's own interests.

In the Foundation Stage we follow the Early Years Foundation Stage Curriculum. The curriculum is divided into six areas of learning. These are:

Personal, Social and Emotional Development

Children will be offered experiences and support which will help them to develop a positive sense of themselves and others; respect for others; social skills; and a positive disposition to learn. Children will be encouraged to be independent and active learners.

Communication, Language and Literacy

Children will be supported in learning and extending their competence in communicating, speaking and listening, being read to and beginning to read and write. They will be encouraged to use their skills in a range of situations for a variety of purposes.

Problem Solving, Reasoning and Numeracy

Children will develop their understanding of problem solving, reasoning and Numeracy in a broad range of contexts. They will be encouraged to explore, enjoy, learn, practise and talk about their developing understanding.

Knowledge and Understanding of the World

Children will develop the knowledge, skills and understanding that help them to make sense of the world. Children will be offered opportunities to : use a range of tools safely, encounter creatures, people, plants and objects in their natural environments and in real-life situations; undertake practical 'experiments' and work with a range of materials.

Physical Development

Children will be encouraged to be active and interactive in order to improve coordination, control, manipulation and movement. They will be supported in developing an understanding of the importance of physical activity and making healthy choices in relation to food.

Creative Development

Children's creativity will be extended through support and provision to encourage curiosity, exploration and play. They will be given the opportunity to express thoughts, ideas and feelings through art, music, movement, dance, imaginative and role play activities.

Children are encouraged to develop their skills and knowledge through a range of carefully planned adult initiated activities. In addition, children will be encouraged to work independently within child initiated activities in order to develop independence and consolidate thinking.

English

Spoken language, listening, reading, writing, and the ability to effectively use computers are interdependent skills, which allow children to access the social, economic, and cultural context of the world, and as such, we seek to empower our children to develop these skills as a matter of priority. English is an integral part of the learning experience at St Nicholas' Primary School.

Our aims

The overarching aim for English is to promote high standards of language and literacy by equipping children with a strong command of the spoken and written word, and to develop their love of literature through widespread reading for enjoyment. We aim for our children to be able to:

- read easily, fluently and with good understanding;
- develop the habit of reading widely and often, for both pleasure and information;
- acquire a wide vocabulary, an understanding of grammar and knowledge of linguistic conventions for reading, writing and spoken language;
- appreciate our rich and varied literary heritage;
- write clearly, accurately and coherently, adapting their language and style in and for a range of contexts, purposes and audiences;
- use discussion in order to learn; they should be able to elaborate and explain

clearly their understanding and ideas;
- be competent in the arts of speaking and listening, making formal presentations, demonstrating to others and participating in debate.

We have agreed policies on speaking and listening, reading and writing, based on good practice and a combination of approaches. The school has adopted a whole school phonics programme, Read Write Inc.

Class reading books are banded where appropriate, to enable children to choose a book suitable for their reading level and the enjoyment of the subject is further promoted by our book weeks, poetry days, book fairs and theatre group/author/storyteller visits.

We have a well-stocked school library and a Library bus. We encourage children to become literate in the widest sense – through reading, writing, speaking and listening, drama and group discussion.

Mathematics

In St. Nicholas' our main aim is that Mathematics should be full of meaning, enjoyment and stimulation so that the children learn to apply their knowledge and skills in maths to real, everyday situations.

We aim to provide children with challenging, practical experiences that encourage them to investigate and solve problems. We believe that this encourages self-confidence in, and positive attitudes towards, mathematics, enabling the children to:

- Make predictions about outcomes
- Draw conclusions from their observations
- Develop their own methods of doing things
- Work purposefully with enjoyment
- Work with others or on their own, depending on the task
- Apply their knowledge and skills to real life

Science

In science, we give the children the opportunity to develop their knowledge and understanding of the natural world through first hand experiences.

We aim to stimulate a child's creativity through a range of interesting and enjoyable activities. This involves developing their natural curiosity about the environment around them, about how

things work and about why things around us are as they are. From an early age children are provided with the opportunities to question, reflect and draw conclusions.

The children work in a variety of ways including: individual enquiries, interactive group work and whole class investigations. Through lessons, children can develop a basic knowledge of the scientific process and of the practical uses of science.

Philosophy for Children (P4C)

The whole school, from Reception to Year 6, has weekly P4C sessions where the children create philosophical questions which they want to discuss, such as 'Should you still respect your role model even if they do something bad?' or 'Does everyone have a right to be a leader?'.

In a typical P4C session children are shown a starter for thinking, such as a story, a picture or a film clip. Prompted by this, children create questions together in small groups. They share their questions and vote on which question they would like to discuss as a class. The teacher facilitates the discussion of the chosen question by helping children to develop opinions and give supporting reasons; to analyse significant concepts and to search for meaning as a group.

Computing

We believe Computing is a way forward for all the children at St. Nicholas' School. The need to access the curriculum through Computing as often as possible in the week is a school priority.

We have a Computer Suite and 30 tablets for use in the classrooms.

We aim to foster children's enjoyment and understanding of Computing and enable them to approach applications with confidence.

Individual Laptops are available for whole class teaching.

Computing is especially important in school as a way to enhance and extend previous learning.

Modern Foreign Languages

We promote the teaching of Modern Foreign Languages (MFL) as we believe this prepares pupils to participate in a rapidly changing world in which work and other activities are often carried out in languages other than English. At Primary level we emphasise being confident to 'have a go' speaking another language, we concentrate on language learning skills which pupils can apply to any language and we include lessons on intercultural understanding.

The teaching of MFL is now a statutory requirement from Year 3 onwards, however, we also have an Italian teacher who comes to teach Italian to Year 1 and 2. French is taught from Year

3 to Year 6. In Year 6 the children also learn German for one term as they participate in a Transition Project with The Cherwell School.

Every year we have a day trip to Boulogne for Year 5 which is very popular with the children and parents who come with us.

History

The history curriculum encourages children to develop a sense of identity. We aim to equip pupils with the knowledge and skills to interpret the past, an understanding of how people used to live, and some of the reasons for their actions.

British and world history are studied and cross-curricular links and Computing used to consolidate or reinforce learning.

We encourage children to develop their own views and attitudes about the past, as well as positive values such as tolerance, curiosity, respect, open-mindedness and concern for others.

Geography

The geography curriculum encourages children to develop a sense of their own place in the wider world, by undertaking comparative studies and practical investigations. Within a broad, balanced, creative and appropriately differentiated curriculum, we encourage an understanding of different places and the inter-relationship between the human and physical processes, which shape them and the people who live in them.

Each year group will undertake fieldwork. These range from a walk in the locality in EYS and KS1 to residential trips further up the school.

Cross-curricular links are used to reinforce learning. We aim to assist pupils to develop an increasing awareness of *and* responsibility towards the earth, its resources and its peoples, by nurturing a positive outlook in terms of their rights and responsibilities towards places, people and environments.

PE (Physical Education)

St. Nicholas' aims to provide opportunities for all pupils to develop their physical skills and talents, in a wide range of individual and team activities. Importance is attached to participation, development of co-ordination and control, sportsmanship, teamwork and knowledge of rules. The need for exercise for a healthy life-style is promoted.

The School has achieved Gold Activemark status which has enabled every child to receive 2 hours of PE every week.

Pupils will have lessons in; gymnastics, dance, swimming, athletics, football, netball, hockey, basketball, rounders, short tennis and cricket. There are also extra-curricular activities available to pupils.

We follow REAL PE.

R.E. (Religious Education)

During their time at school the children are given the opportunity to learn about four of the major world religions - Christianity and Judaism in both Key Stages, Hinduism in Key Stage 1 and Islam in Key Stage 2. They learn about religions through studying festivals, artefacts and symbols, forms of religious expression, special people, special places and the main beliefs.

The children are given further opportunities to explore the richness and diversity of various religions. Children participate in art and craft work linked to their study of the religions and benefit from hearing stories and presentations by visitors from the faith communities and visits from specialist dance groups.

We hope that the children not only gain an interest in the beliefs of others but also learn to respect their beliefs.

Although it is our hope that all children would participate in R.E. lessons, parents do have a statutory right to withdraw their children from Religious Education if they wish. Parents wishing to do so should contact the Head teacher.

Music

St. Nicholas' School has developed a strong music programme in which children are encouraged to enjoy all aspects of music. There is an emphasis on practical music making from which the children acquire the knowledge, skills and understanding needed to develop their own music skills. Singing together is most important and children meet for a timetabled session of 45 minutes each week. Further musical experiences are available for each child in class groups and also during preparation and performance of seasoned events, such as Christmas plays, Easter, Harvest and other special assemblies. The children in year 5 join with other Oxfordshire children and take part in Festival of Voices at Dorchester Abbey in the Term 6.

Children can learn a variety of musical instruments and Year 4 learn the Clarinet as a class for one year.

DT (Design and Technology)

The main purpose of Design and Technology is to give pupils skills in solving practical design problems. Children examine every-day objects and discuss how suited they are to the purpose for which they were made. They experiment with creative ways of improving various familiar

objects, drawing on and developing their knowledge of materials, templates, mechanisms and tools. Evaluation of their designs is seen as an important part of this process. Whole school DT projects are linked to values weeks.

Art and Design

The art and design curriculum both encourages pupils to use their own creativity and imagination, and teaches them about the creative techniques of others. Children explore a variety of art forms (painting and drawing, sculpting, 3-dimensional design), and learn to observe and analyse the artistic aspects of the world about them. The children take pride in seeing their artwork displayed in our school corridors and on the classroom walls. Classes make visits to local museums, and visiting artists talk with the children about their field and hold special hands-on workshops. We also regularly have whole school art weeks. The most recent one culminated in an interactive exhibition for parents and members of the local community.

PSHCE (Personal, Social, Health and Citizenship Education)

PSHCE is not a required part of the primary school curriculum, but St. Nicholas' is strongly convinced of its value to children in helping to establish attitudes and habits of responsibility for one's own well-being and health. Much of the PSHCE learning takes place through other subjects, although special times are also set aside in which children discuss and learn about specific PSHE topics.

We follow the Jigsaw scheme of work.

In the youngest age groups, sex-education (often sex and relationship education – SRE) is not dealt with as a separate subject but is addressed as and when such issues arise out of other classroom activities – for example as a science or health project, or following the arrival of a new baby in a child's family. Much emphasis is placed on relationships, the family and the need to respect other people. Our school sex education policy is available for parents to read.

A more formal approach to sex education is adopted in Year 5, where it is taught within the context of sex and relationship education. Sex and relationship education forms part of PHSCE and also the science curriculum. The aim is to assist children and to prepare them for adult life by supporting them through their physical, emotional and moral development and helping them understand themselves, respect others and form and sustain healthy relationships.

Parents have the right to withdraw their children from all or part of sex education lessons, but not from the relevant parts of science lessons.

Citizenship, like PHSE, is not required to be taught in primary schools, but St. Nicholas' recognises the importance of encouraging a thoughtful awareness in children of the rights and

responsibilities borne by all members of society, themselves included. Valuing cultural diversity, promoting mutual respect and consideration between people, and developing a self-confident but responsible independence are all aspects of good citizenship. The fundamental principle which is repeatedly encouraged in all our children is that they should treat others as they would like to be treated themselves.

SEN (Special Educational Needs)

We recognise that all children have a right to a broad, balanced, relevant and differentiated curriculum. We aim to create a happy, educationally exciting and positive environment in which all pupils can develop to their full potential and become confident, independent individuals.

St. Nicholas' School believes that a key principle to effective provision is the partnership between staff, children and parents. We aim to plan outcomes collaboratively using a child centred approach.

As a school we are very proud to have a Communication and Interaction Resource Base. The main purpose of the base is to facilitate access to the mainstream curriculum for children and young people with identified C&I needs and to work towards their full and independent inclusion in all aspects of school life, including both learning and social opportunities.

The school encourages children to behave in positive ways, in order to create both a harmonious school community and an environment in which all children are able to learn proficiently. All staff work consistently to nurture positive values and attitudes such as trust, co-operation, mutual respect kindness and concern for others.

A copy of the Special Educational Needs Policy and the Positive Behaviour Policy can be obtained from the school office.

The central principle of our provision for disabled pupils is that wherever possible, disabled pupils should have the same opportunities as non-disabled pupils in their access to education. Legislation requires our governing body to prepare a written Accessibility Plan, designed to :

- Increase the extent to which disabled pupils can participate in the school's curriculum;
- Improve the physical environment of the school; and
- Improve the delivery of information to disabled pupils. (This refers to information which non-disabled pupils receive in writing, but disabled pupils might access more readily in another form.)

Governors have devised an Access Plan and a programme of addressing accessibility needs.

The Wider Curriculum and Extra-Curricular Activities

We try to make sure that as well as providing the formal curriculum we also provide a rich selection of extra-curricular activities, including school visits and residential trips.

School trips help to enrich children's learning and broaden their horizons. Trips are usually linked to curriculum projects, assembly themes, or the children's personal, social and health education. Children in Years 3, 4 and 6 go on residential trips. In addition to these there are many day trips and short local trips for all the school, e.g. to local museums, theatre, farms, local village. To ensure the safety of everyone during these visits, we follow the Out and About in Oxfordshire 3 File. Throughout the year the school welcomes visitors from many different sectors of the community – including the local church, artists, storytellers, authors, poets, firemen and policemen.

A wide range of clubs and activities supplement the statutory curriculum, both during and after school hours. The children benefit from having the opportunity to be involved in a variety of activities, and we welcome parental support. Extra- curricular activities and clubs include:

County Music Lessons
Residential Trips
School Orchestra
Choir
Football Club
Cooking Club
Craft Club
Chess
Athletics
Gardening Club
Football
Cricket

Assessment, Profiling and Reporting

Pupils are assessed throughout their time at St. Nicholas' in a variety of formal and informal ways. Assessment of each child's progress helps us to match work appropriately to his or her abilities, to measure progress and to report this progress to you. We believe that it is very important to communicate regularly with parents as this helps both teachers and parents support the children's learning more fully. Parent/teacher consultations are held in both the autumn and summer terms; and in the summer term a written report is sent to you.

National Expectations

Towards the end of each academic year, in May, children sit tests to show how they are progressing against national standards. Apart from Year 2 and Year 6 these tests are optional and internally marked, but do help to give an indication of achievement (remembering that it is only a snapshot of a child's performance).

OFSTED (Office for Standards in Education)

Every three years all schools are inspected by a team of inspectors from OFSTED. St Nicholas' Primary and Nursery School was inspected in the academic year 2017/2018 to the Framework for inspection introduced in April 1996, which was subsequently amended in January 2015. The judgements from inspections undertaken in these timescales and the resulting composites are comparable. As well as writing the inspection report, inspectors also completed a form which graded their judgements about the school on each of the criteria in the Ofsted Framework for Inspection.

"The school's improvement since its last inspection was judged to be good."

School Positive Behaviour Policy

St. Nicholas' believes that good behaviour should be developed through positive attitudes and praise – leading to self-discipline and high self-esteem. This is encouraged from the very first day at school. The school rules are simple and are primarily concerned with safety and the development of mutual respect and good manners. The school expects everyone to act with courtesy and consideration to others at all times, treating others as they would like to be treated themselves.

We expect the whole school to respect all of its members regardless of gender, race, religion or ability. Unacceptable behaviour including bullying or harassment is dealt with immediately by a member of staff and usually this is sufficient.

Where parents have any concerns they should first consult the class teacher. The school has a Positive Behaviour Policy which is available to parents on request.

Child Protection

Our school will establish and maintain an ethos where our pupils feel secure, are encouraged to talk and are listened to. Children at our school will be able to talk freely to any member of staff or regular visitor to our school if they are worried or concerned about something.

All staff and regular visitors will, either, through training or induction, know how to recognise a disclosure from a child and will know how to manage this. Staff or regular visitors will not make promises to any child or agree to keep secrets. Every child will know what their chosen adult will have to do with the information they have been told. All concerns must be reported immediately to the Headteacher in writing by completing a Safeguarding Concern template.

St Nicholas' Primary School will endeavour to provide activities and opportunities in the PSHCE curriculum that will equip the children with the skills they need to stay safe. This will also be extended to include material that will encourage the children to develop essential life skills.

At all times we will work in partnership with and endeavour to establish effective working relationships with parents, carers and colleagues from other agencies

School Council

Since September 2002 St. Nicholas' has had a School Council. It is a lively addition to the school, run by the children and plays an important part in citizenship education and learning about democracy. Every class has an elected representative who presents their classmates' views and ideas to the council. School council meetings are led by the children, and regular follow-up meetings take place with the Head teacher to discuss the issues raised. Decisions are made by the School Council and are fed into the wider decision-making processes of the school.

Eco Council

The ECO Council has been running since 2005, it is run by the children and each class elects a representative. The school attained Green Flag status in 2011 and to maintain this status we are focusing on recycling, reducing energy consumption and fund raising etc

ST. NICHOLAS' PRIMARY SCHOOL STAFF LIST – September 2021					
Headteacher	Mrs Julie Holland				
Deputy Headteacher	Mrs Sarah Dorling	Cover Supervisor/HLTA	Mrs Kerstin Welp	Business Manager	Mrs Anne Johnson
		Cover Supervisor	Mrs Viv Jones	Admin Officer	Mrs Carol Finch
		Cover Supervisor	Mrs Kirsty Foley	Admin Assistant	Mrs Claire Roberts
SENCO	Mrs Joanna Buckingham			Admin Assistant	Mrs Christine Jacques
Class Teachers		**SCITT**	**Teaching Assistants**		
Mrs Sarah Jackson	Beanstalk		Miss Lisa Pocock	Home School Link Worker	Mrs Stephanie Best
		Teaching Assistants	Mrs Sarah Mowbray	Behaviour Support Assistant	Mr Luke Hudson
		Mrs Charlane Masey	Mrs Safio Ali	Emotional Support Assistant	*tbc*
Miss Annabel Hogan	Sunflower	Mrs Emma West	Mr Daniel Sowah	Caretaker	Mr Maurice Winstone
Mrs Bethan Baldwin	Bluebell	Mrs Lucy Smith	Ms Jacqueline Brooks	Caretaker	Mr Garry Hedger
		Mrs Mobeen Akram	Mrs Sumaira Shahnaz		
Miss Chloe Long	Beech	Mrs Karen Fagg	Mr Matt Smith	Cleaner	Mrs Tracey Ackland
Mrs Jen La Vertue	Palm		Miss Aaliyah Baker	Cleaner	Mrs Alison Duckett
Miss Sarah Browne	Oak	Mrs Pauline Longford	Mrs Janice Beale	Cleaner	Mrs Julie Lewis
		Mrs Louise Austin	Mrs Zahia ElMatrani	Cleaner	Mrs Barbara Krzysztoforska
Mr Tom Cosford	Fir	Mrs Nicky Stansfield	Mrs Taslima Azad	Cleaner	Mr Graham Twycross
Mrs Rosie Thomson	Ash	Miss Lucy Holton	Mrs Faiza Chibane		
Miss Emma Dunkley	Pine	Mrs Agnes Gralak	Mrs Jenny Smith	**Kitchen Staff**	**Lunch Time Supervisors**
Mr Aidan Linge	Lime	Mrs Anu Garnett			All staff
		Mrs Dawn Dickenson			
Miss Lily Higgins	Cherry	Miss Shea Tutty	**CIRB instructor**	Mrs Jenny Barney	

Ms Johanna McNulty / Mr Alex Nicholls	Olive	Miss Suzi Jones	Mrs Chatlotte Starnge	**After School Club**	
Mr James Grundonner	Yew			Mrs Mihaela Georgesou	
Mrs Kasia Croydon	Elm			Mrs Taslima Azad	
Ms Harvi Saini	Maple			Miss Aaliyar Baker	
Mr Al Briggs	CIRB			Mr Luke Hudson	
Mr Simon Robinson Po	CIRB			Parantina Christouli	
Mrs Sophie Scott	CIRB				