

# St Ambrose Barlow Catholic Primary School Prospectus



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# A warm welcome to St Ambrose Barlow Catholic Primary School

St Ambrose Barlow Catholic Primary School provides a happy and stimulating environment for children and the community it serves. We are proud of our happy, friendly school where all staff and governors work hard to provide the best possible start to school. Our learning community is based on Gospel Values and everything we do is underpinned by our Mission Statement.

## Mission Statement.

*'I have come that they may have life and have it to the full'.*

John 10:10

At St Ambrose Barlow we encourage each child's sense of individual worth – developing a child's capacity to live as an independent, self-motivated person in the realization of his/her potential. We are an extension of the Catholic Family and with your co-operation as parents your child has a unique contribution to make to that community. We hope that we shall find much to discover and enjoy together.

*'The Mission Statement is at the very heart of everything that goes on in the school – it is known, owned and lived out by the whole community who are utterly committed to its sentiments.'*

RE Inspection



# School Aims in Order to Live Out our Mission

In partnership with pupils, staff, parents, governors and our community, we aim to:

Live out the Gospel Values each and every day, treating others the way we want to be treated ourselves.

Create a challenging and invigorating Curriculum, in conjunction with the children, which is accessible to all.

Set high expectations for the children and support them to ensure that they achieve their potential.

Develop the spiritual, social, moral, cultural and physical needs of all.

Provide a safe and secure environment which the pupils thrive and relish in, to achieve their very best.

Ensure that children enjoy coming to school and provide equal opportunities in an inclusive and supportive environment by developing responsibility, compassion and tolerance of others.

Draw on the strengths and skills of the opportunities provided by the community and celebrate social and cultural diversity.



# Foundation Stage Curriculum

Our Reception Class children follow their own Foundation Stage Curriculum which leads into the National Curriculum.

In their first year at school children work towards achieving the Early Learning Goals in the following areas:

Personal, Social and Emotional Development  
Communication Language and Literacy  
Mathematical Development  
Knowledge and Understanding  
Physical Development  
Creative Development

At the end of the year, children are assessed using the Foundation Stage Profile which builds up information of a child's development throughout the year.

Every child is special and has their own unique talents. At St Ambrose Barlow we enable all children to fulfil their potential and high aspirations.

*'Our role is to foster the hopes and dreams of our children'.*



# Curriculum Key Stages 1 and 2

Our school offers a broad, balanced and exciting curriculum.

We follow the National Curriculum for all ages from 5 to 11 in the following subject areas:

- English
- Mathematics
- Science
- Computing
- Design & Technology
- Art
- Spanish
- History
- Geography
- Music and Drama
- Physical Education
- Personal, Social, Health and Economic Education

For **Religious Education** we follow the Archdiocesan recommended scheme, '**Come and See**'. Religious Education is the core subject in a Catholic School and opportunities to see Religious Education in all subjects is encouraged.



# Essential Information

## School Times

### Foundation Stage and Key Stage 1

9.00 am to 12.00 noon

1.15 pm to 3.30 pm

### Key Stage 2

9.00 am to 12.30 pm

1.30 pm to 3.30 pm

### Breakfast Club

(bookable and payable weekly)

7.30 am to 9.00 am £4.50

### Admin Office Hours

8.30 am to 4.00 pm



## Punctuality

We aim to encourage the good habits of punctuality from the earliest age. Pupils should be on the school premises for 8.50 am when the doors open. Pupils will be awarded a late mark should they arrive after register closes. Please phone or e-mail the School Office or use the ParentMail App to report any absence.

## Holidays

Holidays during Term Time are not encouraged and are very unlikely to be authorised. The Local Authority can in some cases issue Penalty Notices. We understand the financial benefits, but absence from school, even for a short period, has a negative impact on progress and learning. Only the Headteacher can authorise absence requests and these requests must be submitted in writing. It is also worth noting that holidays in Year 2 and Year 6 can be particularly disruptive.

# Uniform

## Boys

Bottle green v-neck jumper with school badge  
White shirt  
School tie  
Grey trousers

**Summer option** (during Summer term and up to Autumn half term break)

White polo shirt with school badge  
Short trousers

## Footwear

Flat, black shoes (not trainers)

## PE kit

White T-shirt with bottle green sleeves and school badge  
Grey track suit bottoms  
Indoor black pumps  
Outdoor trainers  
Bottle green hoodie with school badge

## Uniform Suppliers

School uniform can be purchased from a number of **local retailers** including :-

Wendy's Uniforms  
428 Tyldesley Road,  
Atherton  
M46 9AT  
(opposite Iceland)

Bang Bang  
87-89 Bradshawgate  
Leigh  
Wigan  
WN7 4ND

Icon Embroidery  
Unit 5, The Gables  
Stour Rd  
Astley  
M29 7PX

## Online at

<https://www.myclothing.com>

## School Office

The following items can be bought from the school office by ordering online via ParentMail -

Ties – regular and elastic  
Sew on badges  
Bottle green caps

PE bags  
Book bags

A book bag is given to each child when they start in reception class. Alternatively children may use a bag of their own choice however parents/carers are requested not to send large backpacks into school due to the storage space available.

## Girls

Bottle green cardigan or v-neck jumper with school badge  
White shirt  
School tie  
Grey skirt, grey pinafore or grey trousers

**Summer option** (during Summer term and up to Autumn half term break)

White polo shirt with school badge  
Short trousers  
Summer dress (green and white check)





# Essential Information

## Jewellery

Children are only allowed to wear plain studs or sleepers and no other types of jewellery.

Ideally ear piercing is done during the summer holidays.

Earrings should not be worn on the day of PE lessons.

Jewellery is considered to be any form of adornment to the body, which is not clothing.

Make-up and nail varnish may not be worn to school.

## Hair

Shavings in hair are not permitted. The school does not allow pupils to dye their hair during the academic year. Long hair should be tied back during PE lessons.

## Lost Property

All items of lost property are placed in a lost property basket, nearly all these items are unmarked. Those items with names inside will be returned to the appropriate classes.

Please ensure all items of clothing are clearly marked with your child's name to assist with this.

## School Meals

School meals are provided by Metrofresh and our dedicated kitchen staff. Pupils in Foundation stage and Key Stage 1 will receive a free school meal. Pupils in Key Stage 2 pay for their meals via the School Grid website. Those pupils not having a school meal may bring their own packed lunch. Sweets, chocolates and fizzy drinks are strongly discouraged.

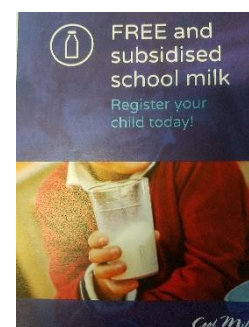
Pupils whose parents are in receipt of benefits could be entitled to a free school meal and are encouraged to apply for them. An eligibility application form can be obtained from the school office and a check made on your behalf.

## Snacks

All Key Stage 1 pupils receive free fruit as their snack. Toast is available for a small fee and can be purchased half termly online using the ParentMail App. Pupils in Key Stage 2 may also buy toast.

## Milk Scheme

Children under the age of 5 will receive free milk. Milk is available to all children at a small cost. Contact the school office for more information.



# Essential Information

## Charges

Parents are not charged for school based activities. These are covered by voluntary contributions. However, if insufficient voluntary contributions are received there is the chance the planned activity may have to be cancelled.

## Medicines

Where any medicines that need to be taken four times per day or more are prescribed by a doctor, we will administer in school provided written consent is given.

For long term conditions a Health Care Plan must be completed.

All medication must be clearly marked with the child's name and be in the original packaging and handed into the school office.

Under no circumstances will the school administer non-prescribed medicines. No medicines should be kept by the children in school.

## Parking

When dropping off and picking up your children from school we advise all parents to use the Church car park situated near to school. Please do not park in neighbouring streets and we ask you to be considerate to our local residents.

## Assessment

Teachers regularly assess children's work against National Expectations for that age group. This is done during each lesson and more formally, through our own regular assessments of Reading, Writing, Mathematics, Science and Religious Education. In this way we ensure that each child is making progress and we are providing the right amount of challenge. Your child's progress will be carefully tracked throughout school. At times, and when appropriate, we may set social and behavioural targets too.

## Special Educational Needs

There may be times when pupils need additional support to ensure that they develop in all areas of learning. The Special Needs and Disability Co-ordinator (SENDCo) oversees the Learning Support that we have to offer. Every class has Teaching Assistants; who help to foster the children's skills in Maths and English, as well as social skills. The SENDCo also works closely with other professionals who are based outside the school, such as the Educational Psychologist, Speech and Language Therapists, Link Teachers, School Nurse and Outreach workers.

## Accessibility

We carry out annual risk assessments and are satisfied that our environment is accessible to the needs of our learners. The Governors are highly committed to ensuring this is a high priority and good access is maintained. We observe the requirements of the Equality Act.

## Security

Your child's security is our number one concern. We have external gates that are locked and monitored by our Site Manager. Access to the building is controlled via the school office. It is our belief that when children feel safe they learn best.

## Communication

Each morning the Headteacher and the Deputy Headteacher will be in the playground available for a chat. Please feel free to say hello. Your child's teacher will also be visible both in the morning and at the end of the day. We have a very 'open door' policy and would like to think all staff are approachable. The school places great importance on regular discussions with parents and the development of a trusting relationship. Many discussions between parents and teachers take place informally as a result of daily contact. We hold Class Celebrations and 'Come and See' Assemblies throughout the year to which parents are invited and there are two parents' evenings, one in the Autumn Term and one in the Spring Term. In the Summer Term your child will receive a written report from their class teacher. In school we also use the ParentMail APP and nearly all letters, emails and messages are sent home this way keeping parents up to date. Classes also use the Seesaw App which enables homework and examples of pupils' work to be shared with families but also affords families the opportunity to directly contact their child's teacher. There is also a school Twitter account @AmbroseBarlow.

Class and School Newsletters are sent out regularly and these are also published on our school website. Our school website has further information regarding school, for example policies, performance data, and diary events.



## Parent and Teacher Association (PTA)

Our PTA is invaluable in fundraising for school. All parents of pupils who attend St Ambrose Barlow are automatically members of the PTA. Meetings are held to organise fundraising events. Any Money raised is spent on items to benefit our children e.g. an outdoor classroom. Please feel free to contribute any new ideas you may have to raise money for school.

## School Levy (Central School Building Fund)

As a voluntary Aided school, the Governing Body is responsible for 10% of any building work carried out on the premises. The other costs are met by the Archdiocese and Local Authority. In order for this to happen school has to pay an annual amount to the Archdiocese and we ask for a £10 contribution from families each year. For every £10 received we are entitled to £100 of work. Please support our School Levy if you can.

## Working Together

We firmly believe that all our children succeed if we work in effective partnership with parents. If you have any ideas or suggestions on ways in which to develop the school please speak to us and share your thoughts. We value everyone's contribution, as a community we all grow and develop together.

*'The first and prime educators of children are their parents'*  
(Vatican II)



# School Rules



**Be Ready**  
**Be Respectful**  
**Be Kind**  
**Be Safe**  
**Be a light for Christ**

