

St CHARLES

CATHOLIC PRIMARY SCHOOL

SCHOOL PROSPECTUS 2023/24

Welcome!



A warm welcome to you and thank you for considering St Charles Catholic Primary School for your child. I consider it a privilege to be the Executive Head Teacher of the federated St Charles' and St Mary's Catholic Schools. I hope this prospectus gives you a flavour of life at the school and a sense of what we value for our children.

Our children have positive attitudes to learning, high standards of behaviour and excellent attainment across the curriculum. The school has supportive parents, carers, governors and inspiring, skilled teachers and excellent support staff. Pupils are provided with appropriate academic challenges and the breadth and quality of education beyond the core subjects is one of our strengths.

If you are in the process of applying for school places, please come and visit us on one of our Open Days or simply call us to make an appointment. It is important that you see the school in action and get a sense of it 'at work'; this will help you to make the important decision about your child's primary school education.

We look forward to meeting you.

Miss Ann Slavin, Executive Head Teacher





Our Federation with St Mary's Catholic School



St Charles School is federated with St Mary's Catholic School.

Although both Schools work closely together under one governing body, sharing resources, expertise and training opportunities, we still maintain our own identities and characteristics as two separate establishments.

The School Governors Federation Ethos Statement

As Governors we acknowledge our responsibilities as strategic leaders to ensure every child, in St Charles' and St Mary's Schools, is given the best possible opportunities to reach their full potential, spiritually and academically. We do this by promoting high standards of educational achievement, pastoral care and by modelling the values proclaimed in the Gospel in both communities.



Our Catholic Ethos

Love God, Love your Neighbour

Our Mission Statement

Through God's love, and with guidance from the Holy Spirit, we, the Community of St Charles, share our Catholic faith together. We seek to nurture in our children an understanding of the importance of Christian values and a deep love and lifelong commitment to God.

We value the unique strengths and gifts of the children entrusted to us and strive to provide an excellent education, so that through our teaching, the children may realise their full potential.

In partnership with our families, Governors and Parish, and inspired by our faith, we support the children of St Charles. We encourage them to shine, to have pride in their achievements, to show concern for others and contribute to society as responsible citizens.



St Charles Borromeo

2 October 1538 – 4 November 1584

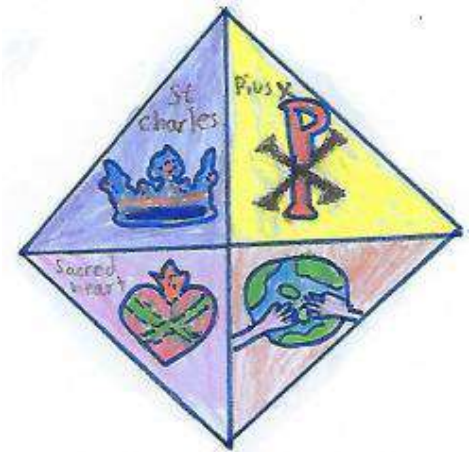


Our Catholic Ethos

Love God, Love your Neighbour

Our Aims

- To appreciate that we are all uniquely created and loved by God.
- To deepen children's understanding of the Catholic faith.
- To nurture in the children an understanding of Christian values and how these help shape our lives and the lives of others.
- To understand the importance of forgiveness and reconciliation.
- To work in partnership with parents and Parish to create a Christian atmosphere enriched through prayer.
- To provide an excellent education so children learn and achieve their potential.
- To respect and care for one another in a happy, welcoming and nurturing community.
- To ensure children care and respect others, develop an understanding of the world and contribute to society as responsible citizens.



Designed by Claudia (Year 5)

Our School Values



Our School values are Respect, Aspiration, Resilience, Gratitude, Individuality and Integrity. The children chose these themselves after much deliberation and class discussions.

We focus on a different value each half term and try to demonstrate it each day. Certificates are awarded for a child in every year group demonstrating the value the most. They wear their own clothes and have afternoon tea with the Executive Head of the School, Ann Slavin



Our Children



At St Charles we aim to educate all our pupils to be independent, resilient, confident, respectful and polite children. We help them as they develop an understanding of the world and prepare them to contribute to society as responsible citizens.

We will support them through the national curriculum so they can achieve their full potential. We will encourage them to have a go, to be unafraid to make mistakes and learn from them, to learn from others around them with a positive attitude and to be confident to work in a team.

We will fully prepare them for the transition to secondary school at the age of 11 so they can continue to pursue and realise their goals and aspirations as young adults and children of God.

Our Call to serve



Our commitment to serve God by serving others is integral to Our Catholic faith and is evident in Our School Motto,

“Love God, Love your Neighbour”.

At St Charles we have a variety of opportunities to do this. In the past these have include Our Harvest Festival food donations to the needy of the Parish, The Catholic Children's Society Easter Appeal, The British Legion Poppy Appeal, the NSPCC and Mary's Meals.



Our Choir visit the Carmelite Convent, St Charles Hospital, Alan Morkle Care Home and Chamberlin House Mental Health unit at Christmas and Easter to perform for them.



Our History

Our first school was founded by the Sisters of the Sacred Heart on 21st January 1907 and was called 'St Charles Demonstration School'.

The Sisters were a teaching Order and, as such, needed a school for their trainee teachers to practise in. The School was built on the site of our present School. It had 154 children on the register and the first head Teacher was called Miss Ada Shepherd.

The School was destroyed during the Blitz on London in 1940.



Our present building, St Charles Catholic Primary School, was opened on the 7th January 1954. It consisted of three infant classes, four junior classes, an assembly hall, a dining Hall and two playgrounds. In 1961 two more classrooms were added to the dining hall to create a reception department. All of these rooms are still in use today. The main building has changed little but, since then, extensions have been added to provide a computer suite, a library, two new classrooms, a larger assembly hall, larger staff room and a music gallery.

Nursery

St Charles Nursery is an excellent introduction to school life for your child.

- For children aged 3-4 years
- Hours are 9:00 to 3:05
- Varied lessons prepare your child for Reception
- Children are taught in a child-led, stimulating environment
- Follows the EYFS Curriculum
- Well-equipped, dedicated outdoor learning areas



Reception

- A large, well-equipped classroom
- Dedicated outdoor learning area
- Learning follows the EYFS Curriculum
- Regular assessments and support ensure pupils are ready for Key Stage 1



Academic Results

Our pupils achieve well across the school. Last year: 2023

Good Level of Development (GLD) in EYF

- 69%

In year 1,

- 88% of pupils passed the phonics screening test

In year 2,

- 82% of pupils achieved the expected standard in reading
- 71% of pupils achieved the expected standard in writing
- 80% of pupils achieved the expected standard in maths

In year 6,

- 85% of pupils achieved the expected standard in reading
- 85% of pupils achieved the expected standard in writing
- 89% of pupils achieved the expected standard in maths

These figures were significantly higher than the national average.



Special Educational Needs

Our ethos is based on inclusion, we aim to help **every** child to reach their highest potential.

If a child has special educational needs, parents and school work together to ensure they are supported in an individual way to ensure they make maximum progress and achievement.

We work with many outside agencies to make sure we give the right support to each individual:

- *Bi-Borough Inclusion Team Ormiston Outreach Team*
 - *Early Help for Families*
- *CAMHS (Child and Adolescent Mental Health Service)*
 - *Family Services*
 - *School Nurse*
 - *Speech and Language Therapist*
 - *Play Therapist*
 - *Occupational Therapist*
 - *Educational Psychologist*
 - *TOD (Teacher of the Deaf)*
 - *Art Therapist*



EAL (English as an Additional Language)

St Charles is very proud of its diversity...

Our children speak over 25 different languages and come from all over the world.

We offer specialised support to ensure that these children can achieve their full potential.

Year 5 & 6 pupils act as “Language Buddies”, supporting younger children in school who speak the same language as them at home.



Enrichment

St Charles makes the most of the opportunities available to us to expand our pupil's experiences, by arranging off-site trips to extend the curriculum. For example:

- ✪ Into University ✪ Forest School ✪ Buckden Towers ✪ PGL ✪ Theatre trips ✪ Royal Albert Hall ✪ Guardian Newspaper ✪ HMS Belfast ✪ Wallace Collection ✪ Maths Challenge ✪ United Nations ✪ Tri-Borough Sports Events ✪ Natural History Museum ✪ Food Explorers ✪ Royal Institution
- ✪ National Theatre



Music Provision

In addition to the curriculum, pupils are encouraged to learn a musical instrument in school from year 3 onwards.

Pupils are prepared for ABRSM music exams which they take either in school or a local examination centre. Traditionally, our pupils achieve very well in these exams.



Every year a number of our children gain a music scholarship either to a secondary school or through the Royal College of Music, Thomas Foundation or London Music Fund.

PE and Sports

Not only does exercise improve a child's overall health and fitness it helps to improve their mental health and cognitive development as well, by doing physical exercise, children are more likely to concentrate and maintain focus in lessons.

In PE lessons and during lunch break we have outstanding support from trained sports professionals who organise structured activities, including:

- ★ Tennis
- ★ Table Tennis
- ★ Football
- ★ Hockey
- ★ Champ
- ★ Basketball
- ★ Running Tracks
- ★ Cricket
- ★ Swimming
- ★ Climbing Frames
- ★ Gymnastics
- ★ Dance



Counselling/Play Therapy

- ❖ We have been offering counselling to our children for over twenty years
- ❖ Our first counsellor was Sr Florence who offered 'systemic' counselling.
- ❖ Although our budgets have been through lean times, we have always prioritised this provision as essential.



St Charles Site

For a school in inner London, we are very fortunate to have access to extensive grounds that can be used for many purposes. Please take time to explore our outdoor play areas and see for yourself.



Parish Links

We have a strong link with Our School Parish, St Pius X, and Our School Chaplain, Fr Peter Wilson. Whole School masses are celebrated throughout the year. These include Holy Days of Obligation as well as special days associated with the School, including the feast days of St Charles Borromeo and the the Sacred Heart. The School Chaplaincy team are commissioned by Fr Peter at the start of the new academic year. They can then serve the School and Parish by promoting the Catholic Life of the School.



School Dinners

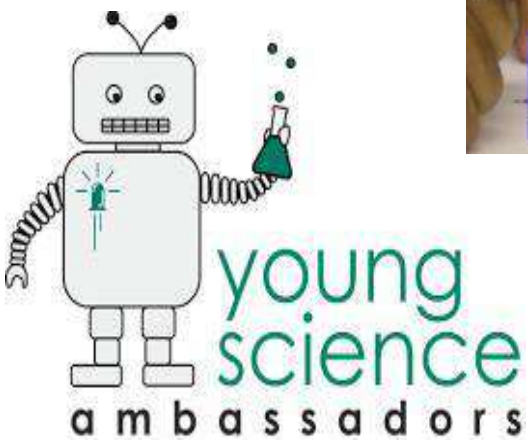
All children in St Charles have the option of a freshly cooked nutritional and wholesome lunch, which they can eat in the dining room with their friends.

- Meals are prepared fresh every day
- Salad bar and vegetarian options
- Healthy desserts and fruit available
- Cultural and allergy requirements are catered for



Pupil Leadership

St Charles promotes leadership amongst its pupils as we value their voices and contributions to the school.



After School Provision

After school football, Drama and art clubs also run for KS1 and KS2. These provide opportunities for children to enrich their experiences in a familiar and friendly environment.



Wrap Around Care

Breakfast Club

We have a very successful, affordable breakfast club, running from 8 o'clock every morning.

Children are served cereals and toast, and have activities to support their learning until school begins at 9 o'clock.



Tea-Time Club

Tea Time Club is available to children from Reception to Year 6.

It runs from Our federation partner School, St Mary's. Children attending this club walk from St Charles at 3.15pm, under supervision, and are collected at 5.30pm from St Mary's by their parent or carer.

Please contact the school for details.

Keeping Healthy

St Charles is committed to helping our children to stay healthy and have respect for the environment around them. In 2022, we won the Gold Award for Healthy Schools. We have support from various specialists:



- MEND: Mind, Exercise, Nutrition and Diet experts
- QPR Football Club nutritionists
- Healthy Eating Campaigns
- Ecology Award: environmental course based on energy saving and recycling
- After School Sports clubs



We also have a St Charles garden, where children are encouraged to plant vegetables and look after them until they are fully grown.

Class Assemblies



Three times a year each class, from nursery to year 6, produces a themed assembly, which encourages confidence and independence in our pupils.

One theme is based on a saint, one is based on their current RE class theme and one is based on their current curriculum topic.

What do our parents/Carers think?

Results from our recent parent questionnaire:

95% said behaviour is good.

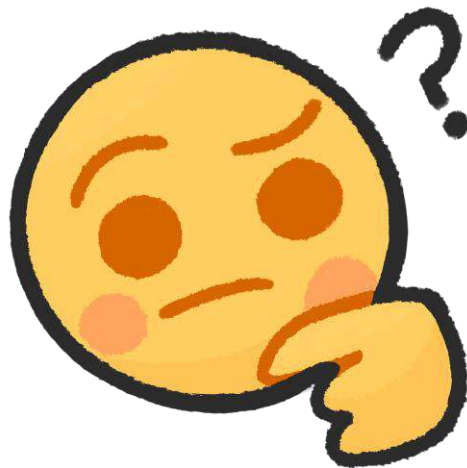
97% said their child is happy at school.

97% said the School has high expectations.

97% said their child does well at school.

94% said the Curriculum is engaging, broad and balanced

98% said they would recommend the School to others.



“There have been numerous trips and experiences my child has had that have contributed towards her personal development. For example singing at the Royal Albert Hall and visiting the Science Museum”.

“St Charles is a friendly and caring environment that encourages pupils learning and development”.

“I love the sense of community at St Charles and how equity not just equality is important so that every child can access a good education and make friends”.

“The best Primary School in North Kensington. I am proud that my child is a student at St Charles”.

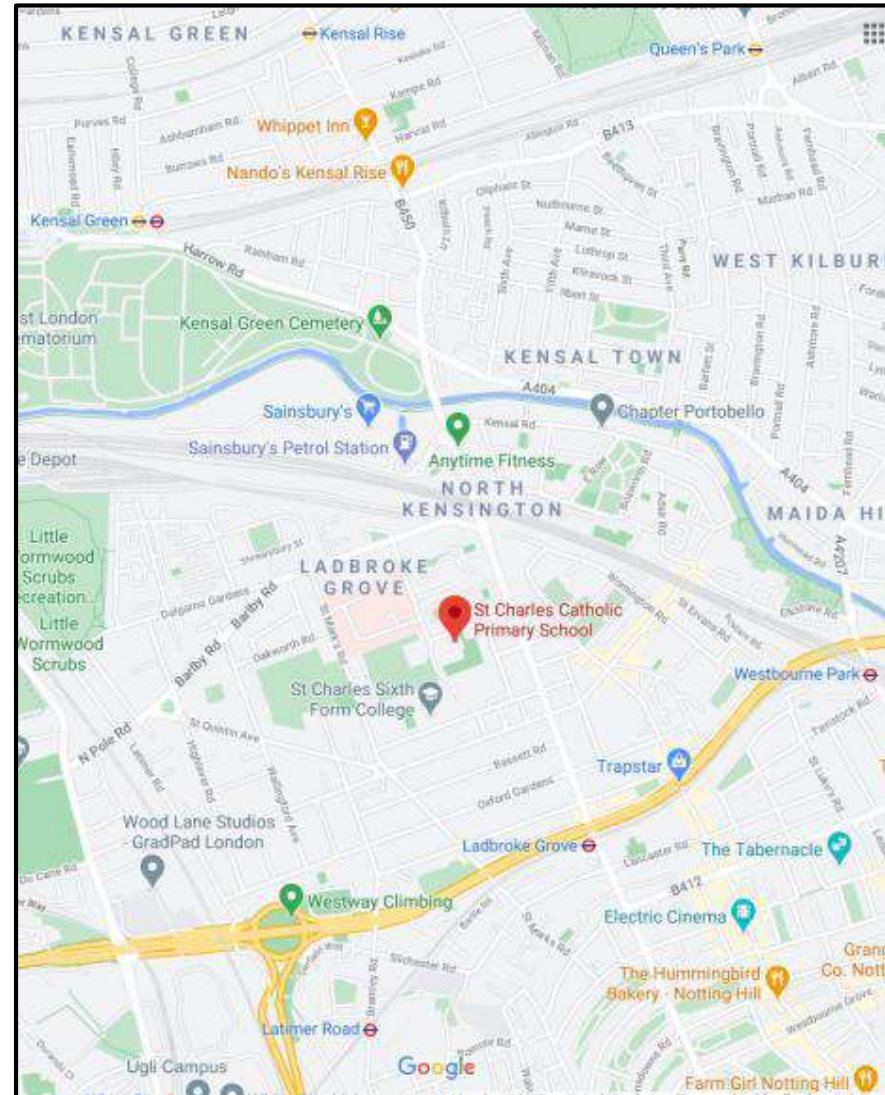
How to Find Us

St Charles is located in St Charles Square in North Kensington, close to Portobello Road and Ladbroke Grove.

It is a short walk from Kensal Rise, Kensal Green and Queen's Park.

Stations: Ladbroke Grove
Kensal Green
Kensal Rise
Latimer Road

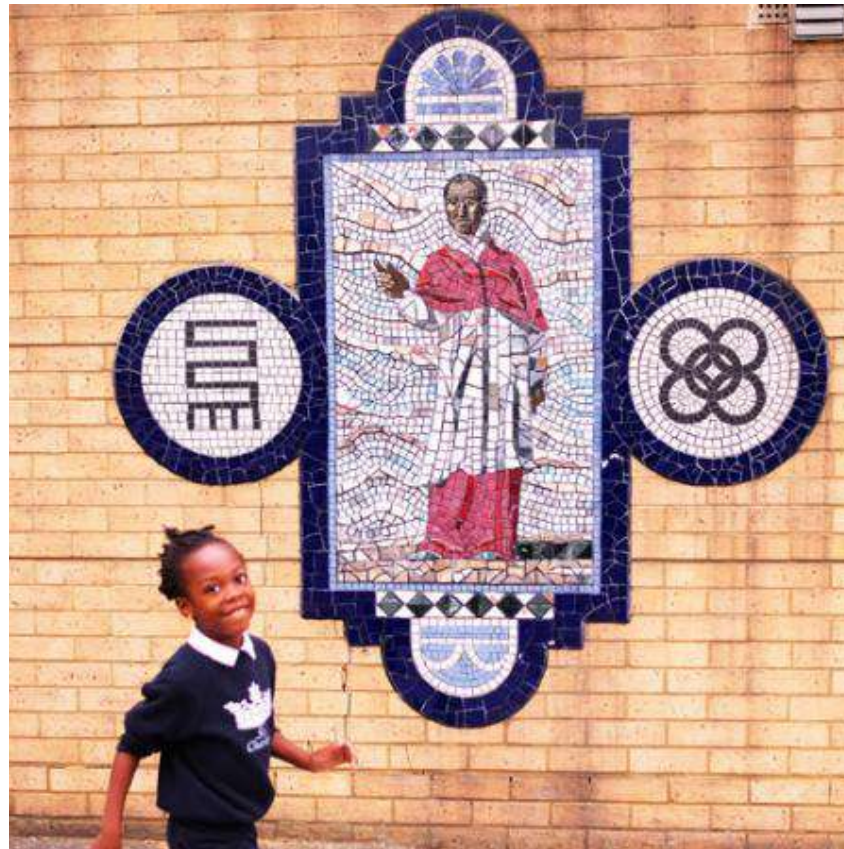
Buses: 52, 452, 295, 7, 18
70, 23, 295, 316



St Charles Website

For more information about the School,
including term dates and admissions,
visit the St Charles website:

www.st-charles.rbkc.sch.uk



St Charles Social Media

Or why not follow us on Our Social Media Platforms?



Twitter



Facebook



Instagram





For all enquiries contact:

Sophie Elliot-O'Dea (School Admin Officer)

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St Charles School - 1963