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Headteacher's Introduction

Dear Reader,

Welcome to the latest edition of our school handbook.

St. Bridget's Primary School is a denominational primary school situated in the town of Kilbirnie in North Ayrshire. The primary school roll as of December 2016 was 185. The Early Years Class (the Nursery) has capacity for forty children in the morning and the same in the afternoon.

The school operates a nine class structure, see details on page 16, and is led by a management team of the headteacher, the deputy headteacher and one principal teacher.

The school staff community includes two clerical staff, a very supportive team of classroom assistants, a support for learning teacher and many others. Further details can be found on pages 4 and 5.

The pupil voice is very much encouraged in St. Bridget's Primary and under the umbrella term SPPECH (Students Promoting Ethos, Equality, Citizenship and Harmony) we have a very active network of pupil-led committees, councils and groups.

Our Parent Council is an immensely supportive and active group. Their coordination of pupil activities, parental involvement and fundraising is exhaustive and contributes greatly to the strength of the St. Bridget's community.

St. Bridget's Primary School is very proud and appreciative of our close links with Father Mark Kelly and the whole community of St. Bridget's R.C. Church. Father Mark is a regular visitor to the school to support our curriculum and to provide pastoral care as well as leading us in worship.

Our [website](#) is updated on a regular basis and this handbook can be downloaded from the site.

Please do not hesitate to contact the school at any time should you need any further information, advice or assistance.

My best wishes,

Dennis Hopkins
Headteacher



School Contact Information



St. Bridget's Primary School and Early Years Class
Hagthorn Avenue
Kilbirmie
Ayrshire
KA256EJ

Tel: 01505683293
Fax: 01505683293



email: stbridgets@ea.n-ayrshire.sch.uk

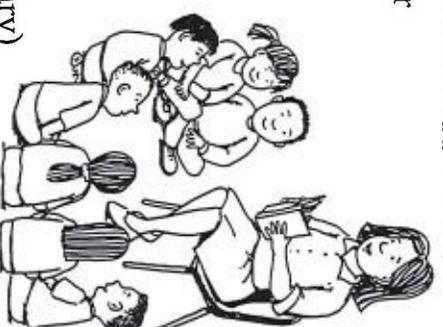
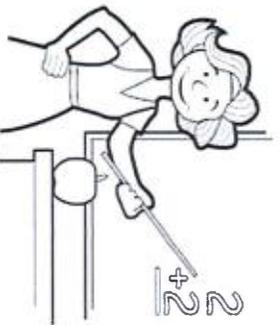
website: www.bridgets.northyreshireschools.co.uk

Twitter: @BridgetPrimary

See us on a map [here](#) Directions [here](#)

School Staff

Dennis Hopkins - Headteacher
Michael Coyle - Depute Headteacher
Steven Mitchell - Principal Teacher and P6/5 Class Teacher
Leigh McBlain - Primary 7 Class Teacher
Emma Hodge - Primary 5 Class Teacher
Jean Booth - Sunshine Class Teacher
Lauren Gemmell - Primary 4 Class Teacher
Allison Buchanan - Support for Learning (0.6)
Lorraine McCafferty - Primary 3 Class Teacher
Louise McVeigh - Primary 3 Class Teacher
Stephen McGuire - Primary 2 Class Teacher (NQT)
Cecilia Walsh - Primary 1C Class Teacher
Kathleen Wilson - Primary 1W Class Teacher
Jennifer Fleeting - NCCCT cover
Sarita Taggart - Lead Practitioner Early Years
Alison Skivington - Early Years Practitioner
Frances Waite - Early Years Practitioner
Nicole Dawson - Early Years Practitioner (Modern Apprentice)
Amanda Waddell - Sunshine Class Practitioner
Evelyn Arnott - Senior Clerical Assistant
Sheila Behan - Clerical Assistant
Alison Ashe - Classroom Assistant
Janice Melrose - Classroom Assistant
Marilyn Russell - Classroom Assistant
Stephen Sloan - Janitor
Stephen Hampson - Janitor's Assistant (voluntary)
Janice Guthrie - Cleaning Supervisor



Visiting Staff

Caroline Amos - Head of Service: Schools

Philip Gosnay - NAC Area Manager

Father Mark Kelly - School Chaplain

Claire Hodgart - Area Inclusion Worker

Brian Kerr - Instrumental Tutor

Linda McIlvain - School Nurse

Katherine Vezza - Educational Psychologist

Alison Ashe - Healthy Start Breakfast Club

Marilyn Russell

Janice Guthrie - Lunchtime Supervisor

Lisa Cordiner - Dental Team



Associated Secondary Contacts

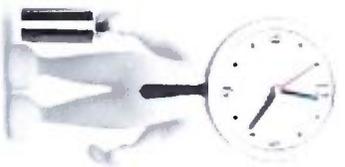
Stephen Colligan - Headteacher, St. Matthew's Academy

Tony Ross - Depute Head, St. Matthew's Academy
(Primary/Secondary Liaison)



**SAINT
MATTHEW'S
ACADEMY
SALTCOATS**

The School Day



9am - start of school day
10.45 - 11am - interval
12.30 - 1.15pm - lunchtime
3pm - school closes

The School Year - 2016/17

First Term	Starts Tuesday August 16th (for pupils) Close Friday October 7th
Second Term	Starts Tuesday October 18th (for pupils) Close Friday December 23rd
Third Term	Starts Monday January 9th Close Friday March 31st
Fourth Term	Starts Tuesday April 18th Close Wednesday June 28th



Local School Holidays

Friday 11 November 2016	Monday 15 August 2016
Monday 14 November 2016	Monday 19 September 2016
Friday 10 February 2017	Monday 17 October 2016
Monday 13 February 2017	Tuesday 14 February 2017
Monday 1 May 2017	Friday 26 May 2017
Monday 29 May 2017	

In-service Days

Full details of 2016/17 holidays can be found [here](#).



NORTH AYRSHIRE COUNCIL

John Butcher

Executive Director

Education and Youth Employment

What We Want to Achieve

Our Overall Aim

Ensuring people have the right skills for learning, life and work.

Our Priorities

- We are reducing inequalities and delivering improved outcomes for children and young people
- High quality learning and teaching is taking place in our establishments
- Self-evaluation and performance improvement are embedded throughout our schools and central support teams
- Levels of attainment and achievement are improving for all learners
- High numbers of our young people are entering positive and sustained post-school destinations



North Ayrshire Council

Comhairle Siorrachd Air a Tuath

AIMS, VISION, VALUES

The mission of St. Bridget's Primary School is to develop as a community of faith and learning, providing the highest quality education, and offering formation through the promotion of Gospel values, through celebration and worship, and through service to the common good.

St. Bridget's Primary School, in honouring Jesus Christ as the Way, the Truth and the Life, will seek to feature the following characteristics:

- a commitment to the integrated education and formation of the whole person, in close partnership with parents as the first educators of their children
- an inclusive ethos which aims to honour the life, dignity and voice of each person, made in the image of God
- a commitment to the search for wisdom in life and to the pursuit of excellence, through the development of each person's unique God-given talents
- a commitment to the spiritual formation of the school community, through the shared experience of prayer and liturgy, and in partnership with local parishes
- the provision of religious education programmes which will enable young people to develop their understanding of Gospel values and of how to apply them to life
- a commitment to uphold the moral teaching, faith tradition and sacramental life of the Catholic Church
- a commitment to communicate Catholic social teaching and thereby to promote social justice and opportunity for all
- a commitment to ecumenical action and the unity of Christians
- the promotion of respect for different beliefs and cultures and for inter-faith dialogue
- a commitment to support the continuing professional and spiritual development of staff



Our school chaplain is Father Mark Kelly from St. Brigid's Parish in Kilbirmie. He attends the school weekly, providing support and guidance for all. Visit the parish website at <http://stbrigidskilbirmie.co.uk/index.html>

SCHOOL DRESS CODE

It is the policy of North Ayrshire Council to support the introduction of a reasonable and flexible dress code in each school in its area. The Council encourages each school to adopt its own code, after discussions with parents, pupils and the Parent Council.

The Council believes that establishing a school dress code has many benefits. These include improvements in safety, security, discipline and community spirit and a decrease in bullying and expense for parents. The Council will support schools in encouraging and helping pupils to conform to the chosen dress code. Some types of clothing will not be allowed at school in any circumstances, for reasons of safety, decency or discipline.

In St. Bridget's we have adopted a uniform which is worn by all of our pupils without exception.

Types of clothing which will not be allowed include:

- clothes which are a health or safety risk
- clothes which may damage the school building
- clothes which may provoke other pupils
- clothes which are offensive or indecent
- clothes which encourage the use of alcohol or tobacco

The Council will support schools taking disciplinary procedures against pupils in serious or persistent cases.

All items of clothing should be clearly labelled with the child's name in case of loss.



It is appreciated that parents and pupils are distressed over the occasional loss of pupils' clothing and/or personal belongings. Parents are asked to assist in this area by ensuring that valuable items of clothing or personal belongings are NOT brought to school. **Parents should note that the authority does not carry insurance to cover the loss of such items.**

FOOTWEAR AND CLOTHING GRANTS

Parents receiving Income Support, Income based Job Seeker's Allowance, any income related element of Employment and Support Allowance, Support under part V1 of the Immigration and Asylum Act 1999, Child Tax Credit (income limit £16,105 per year), Working Tax Credit (income limit of £16,105 per year), Housing Benefit or Council Tax rebate will normally be entitled to grants for footwear and clothing for their children. For further information and application call 0129431000.

In St. Bridget's School our uniform consists of a sweatshirt (round or v-necked or hooded) on which the school logo is embroidered, a polo shirt and a dark coloured skirt or trousers. We also have a simple P.E. kit. Sweatshirts and tee-shirts may be ordered at the school. We are fortunate in that parents support our school uniform and as a result it is in evidence throughout the whole of our school and Early Years Class.